



Agriculture

Bee Equipment



STERITECH
Protecting what matters





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Bee Equipment

Protecting Australia from exotic pests and diseases matters.

When it comes to maintenance of bee equipment, all beekeepers agree that replacing contaminated hives can be a very costly exercise.

There have been many techniques tried and tested over the years, in an attempt to find the ultimate solution to control disease and insect contamination. Out of all the different techniques tried, Gamma Irradiation stands alone in offering the most effective method of eliminating pathogens and insects from contaminated equipment.

Gamma irradiation kills:

- American Foulbrood
- European Foulbrood
- Nosema Apis
- Nosema Ceranae
- Ascophera Apis
- Small Hive Beetle

How did Gamma Irradiation become a treatment for Bee Equipment?

It was towards the end of 1982 that a large outbreak of AFB was detected. Rather than burn the hives, about 1,400 boxes (including frames) were irradiated by Steritech. This was the first commercial irradiation of bee boxes in the world and was reported in the American Bee Journal:

Hornitzky MAZ and White B (1983 - September) The Commercial Application of Gamma Radiation in the Control of American Foulbrood American Bee Journal 123(9): 652-653.

Since this first consignment came through its irradiation plant, Steritech has provided Gamma Irradiation treatment to hundreds of thousands of beehives, without issue. The process is recognised by the NSW DPI as a proven treatment for elimination of AFB and EFB.





What happens during the treatment process?

Product remains in the chamber for a controlled period of time to ensure the required dose of irradiation is applied. During this time, the gamma rays penetrate all areas of the product. For bee equipment a minimum dose of 15 kilogray is used to eliminate AFB, EFB and all insects and pests.

Customers are then notified the treatment is completed once the dose requirements are reached. The product is safe to collect. The gamma irradiation is chemical free, meaning there are no residues in the equipment, so no quarantine periods are required.

Protecting our customers for more than 40 years.

Steritech is committed to **protecting what matters** to our clients by delivering outstanding, personalised service and results-based solutions that exceed expectation.

That's why we're the partner of choice within many industries, the most prominent processor in the Asia-Pacific region, and one of the largest worldwide.





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