

Small Hive Beetle Update, August 4, 2017

As of today, four adult small hive beetles (SHB) were found in four NB beekeepers' honey bee colonies. These colonies were within three kilometers of honey bee colonies imported from Ontario for wild blueberry pollination which were infested with the small hive beetle. These NB colonies are currently located in Sea Side and Black-Point (Restigouche County), Rivière du Portage (near Tracadie) and Aulac (near Sackville).

Another suspected small hive beetle was found in a fifth NB beekeeper's colony. The beetle was sent to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada for confirmation.

Monitoring with beetle traps and inspections is well underway on the quarantined colonies of the twelve NB beekeepers.

The NB Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries (NBDAAF) will provide SHB traps to NB beekeepers who have honey bee colonies in close proximity to the areas where the SHB was found. These traps are useful for detecting the SHB. NB beekeepers interested in beetle traps should call (506) 453-2108 or communicate with the nearest NBDAAF office.

Information on small hive beetle can be found at:

<http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/10/agriculture/content/bees.html>

If you think you have found a small hive beetle, please immediately contact the Provincial Apiarist for directions on how to submit the specimen for identification.

Small Hive Beetle Update, July 28, 2017

Monitoring is now underway on quarantined honey bee colonies from all twelve NB beekeepers. Since the July 21st update, two more adult beetles, suspected of being the small hive beetle, *Aethina tumida* Murray, have been found in colonies from two other beekeepers with quarantined colonies. These beetles are being sent to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada for identification.

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If you think you have found a small hive beetle, please immediately contact the Provincial Apiarist for directions on how to submit the specimen for identification.

Small Hive Beetle Update, July 21, 2017

Monitoring for small hive beetles has started on eleven of the twelve NB beekeepers' quarantined honey bee colonies. Monitoring protocol makes use of beetle traps, pollen patties and visual inspection of the colonies.

The small hive beetle, *Aethina tumida* Murray, has been found for the first time in NB honey bee colonies owned

by two NB beekeepers whose colonies were in the Acadian Peninsula for wild blueberry pollination.

Identification was confirmed by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada on July 18.

One adult small hive beetle was found in each of the two NB beekeepers' colonies.

These colonies were located within three kilometers of the Ontario beekeeper's SHB positive colonies. The colonies from these two NB beekeepers are currently quarantined in isolated bee yards near their points of origin in Rivière du Portage (near Tracadie) and Aulac (near Sackville).

Information on small hive beetle can be found at:

<http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/10/agriculture/content/bees.html>

It is important to note that all suspected small hive beetle specimens must be immediately reported to the Provincial Apiarist.

Small Hive Beetle Update, July 14, 2017

The following is an update on the quarantined honey bee colonies used for wild blueberry pollination in the Acadian Peninsula as a result of the small hive beetle (SHB), *Aethina tumida* Murray, being found in imported colonies from one Ontario beekeeper.

All Ontario and Quebec quarantined colonies have returned to their province of origin and the New Brunswick quarantined colonies have returned to isolated areas near their home apiaries.

The NB Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries in collaboration with the New Brunswick Beekeepers' Association is carrying out an enhanced monitoring project for the SHB in the quarantined NB honey bee colonies. Monitoring has started on colonies from eight of the twelve quarantined NB beekeepers' colonies. To date, two suspected small hive beetles have been found and sent to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada for identification. The enhanced monitoring project will take approximately ten weeks to complete.

Small Hive Beetle Update, June 21, 2017

An invasive honey bee pest, the small hive beetle, *Aethina tumida* Murray has been reported in New Brunswick for the first time.

Previously, the presence of small hive beetles had never been reported in New Brunswick; however, over the past decade colonies infested with this beetle have been confirmed in Ontario, Maine as well as many other US States. Consequently, in 2016, the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries increased its monitoring program for small hive beetle in NB and imposed enhanced import inspection requirements for honey bees from provinces where the small hive beetle had been reported.

This year, the small hive beetle was found in honey bee colonies belonging to one beekeeper from Ontario. The colonies were used for pollination in wild blueberry fields in the Acadian Peninsula at the following locations: Val Doucet; Tilley Road, Lord and Foy; Block F; Brantville; Kenny Portage and Pointe à Tom. The findings have also been reported to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, to other provincial apiarists and to the New Brunswick Beekeepers' Association.

As of June 21, six beekeepers from Ontario, one beekeeper from Quebec and eleven beekeepers from New Brunswick had honey bee colonies quarantined by either the Provincial Apiarist or the Chief Apiary Inspector. These colonies were quarantined because they were located within approximately 2-3 km radius from confirmed findings of small hive beetle which put them at risk of becoming infested with small hive beetle.

Approval has been granted for out of province colonies in quarantine to return to Ontario and Quebec under specific conditions, including covering hives with mesh and requiring that they return directly to their province of origin. These quarantined colonies were to be removed from NB before ten percent bloom remains on the blueberry plant or no later than June 22, 2017.

New Brunswick colonies may be removed from their current quarantined location and relocated to isolated sites where they will remain in quarantine. Beekeepers are being informed of the specific requirements for the movement and management of these colonies.

During the next few months, the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries, in partnership with the New Brunswick Beekeepers' Association, will intensify its monitoring program for the small hive beetle.

For more information on small hive beetle, visit:

<http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/10/agriculture/content/bees.html>