

# 2025 NEW BRUNSWICK HONEY BEE IMPORTATION PROTOCOL

## OVERVIEW

The 2025 New Brunswick Honey Bee Importation Protocol for the importation of honey bees and used beekeeping equipment from within Canada is reviewed on an annual basis and is subject to change without notice.

According to the New Brunswick *Bee Act*, section 18, a person who wishes to import, or cause to be imported, bees or used beekeeping equipment into the province from another province or territory of Canada shall apply to the Provincial Apiarist for an Import and Transport Permit.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is responsible for issuing an import permit for bee packages or queens imported into Canada. These do not require an additional import or transit permit from New Brunswick if they are in the original packaging and have not been potentially exposed to honey bees or honey bee pests or diseases in Canada.

The New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries (DAAF) reserves the right to refuse the entry of all colonies or used beekeeping equipment from an apiary or beekeeper. DAAF is not responsible for damage or loss caused by imported and/or New Brunswick honey bee colonies infested with honey bee pests and diseases. The Department does not guarantee, represent, or warrant that the imported colonies and/or New Brunswick colonies are pest free.

## IMPORTATION PROTOCOL FOR TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT RESIDENCE

1. The importer must complete and submit one **Application for Import and Transport Honey Bees and used Beekeeping Equipment from within Canada to New Brunswick in 2025** for each beekeeper supplying bees to the New Brunswick Provincial Apiarist at least **ten (10)** business days prior to the expected date of transport.
2. The exporting beekeeper must complete and submit the **Exporter Beekeeper Declaration Form** by email or fax to the New Brunswick Provincial Apiarist at least **ten (10)** business days prior to transport.
3. If inspection results are acceptable, an Import and Transport Honey Bees and Used Equipment from within Canada permit will be issued to the exporting beekeeper, the Provincial Apiarist in the exporting and transiting provinces and the importer.
4. The exporting beekeeper must ensure that the bees are accompanied by a Permit to Import and Transport Honey Bees and Used Equipment from within Canada dated within 45 days of inspection.

5. The exporting beekeeper must ensure that colonies transported through another province comply with that province's requirements by contacting the respective Provincial Apiarist.
6. The exporting beekeeper must identify one hive per pallet and every hive not on a pallet with the beekeeper's name or beekeeper's registration number and the bee yard number (i.e., apiary number) number from the province of origin. The identification label must be placed on the front of the hive.

## INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

1. The bees must be inspected by an authorized honey bee inspector in the province of origin within 45 days of the anticipated importation date into New Brunswick.
2. Percent of apiaries inspected:
  - a. Beekeeping operations exporting more than 2,000 colonies:
    - i. Hives inspected must represent 70% of the number of hives being exported.
    - ii. A minimum of 70% of the yards with hives being exported must be inspected.
    - iii. 10% or a minimum of eight (8) hives from each yard must be inspected.
  - b. Beekeeping operation exporting between 500 and 1999 colonies:
    - i. Hives inspected must represent 80% of the number of hives being exported.
    - ii. A minimum of 80% of the yards with hives being exported must be inspected.
    - iii. 10% or a minimum of eight (8) hives from each yard must be inspected.
  - c. Beekeeping operation exported less than 500 colonies:
    - i. 100% of the yards with hives being exported must be inspected.
    - ii. 10% or a minimum of eight (8) hives from each yard being exported must be inspected.
3. American foulbrood (AFB):
  - a. Colonies are inspected for AFB with a full brood inspection by visually examining a minimum of three brood frames which have approximately 75% or greater brood coverage.
    - i. If any colonies show visible signs of AFB, then every colony from that apiary must be inspected for AFB.
    - ii. If any colonies show visible signs of AFB, all yards from that beekeeping operation must be inspected.
  - b. Colonies from any apiary that has had 2% or more of colonies with visible signs of AFB from an inspection are not permitted to enter New Brunswick.
  - c. Colonies from an apiary where oxytetracycline resistant American foulbrood (rAFB) has been diagnosed within the previous two years are not permitted to enter New Brunswick.
  - d. Each colony with visible signs of AFB must be tested for sensitivity to oxytetracycline and the results must be received by the New Brunswick Provincial Apiarist at least **ten (10)** business days prior to export.

4. Small hive beetle (SHB), *Aethina tumida* Murray:
  - a. Colonies must be inspected for the presence of the larval and adult stages of the SHB with a full brood inspection by visually examining a minimum of three brood frames per brood chamber.
  - b. In beekeeping operations with a history of SHB, an additional 20% of colonies from each inspected apiary must be inspected for the presence of the SHB with a top bar inspection (e.g., underside of the top cover (or inner cover) plus the top of all frames under the cover). The bottom board must also be inspected if accessible. The trap or cloth must also be inspected for larval and adult stages of the SHB.
5. Every colony inspected must also be inspected for European foulbrood (EFB), obvious signs of Varroa mite, chalkbrood and any obvious signs of any other pests or diseases which may be considered detrimental to the colony.
6. Apiaries detained or quarantined after inspection will not be permitted to enter New Brunswick unless they are re-inspected according to New Brunswick's requirements and receive an order from the exporting province that they are released from detainment or quarantine.
7. The inspector must place a numbered inspection label on the front of the hive on each colony opened for a full brood inspection in the province of origin.

**For more information, please contact:**

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