



2024 NEW BRUNSWICK HONEY BEE IMPORTATION PROTOCOL

The 2024 New Brunswick Honey Bee Importation Protocol for the importation or transit 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*, a person must apply to obtain a permit if the person intends to import honey bees or used beekeeping equipment on a temporary or permanent basis within Canada, or transport honey bees or used beekeeping equipment from one province to another through New Brunswick.

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.

This protocol contains three sections:

- 1- [Importation Protocol for Temporary Residence](#) - requirements for the importation of honey bees and used beekeeping equipment, for temporary residence, in the province of New Brunswick from another province or territory of Canada for the time period stated on the permit.
- 2- [Importation Protocol for Permanent Residence](#) - requirements for the importation of honey bees and used beekeeping equipment into the province of New Brunswick from another province or territory of Canada for permanent residence for the time period stated on the permit.
- 3- [Importation Protocol for Transit through New Brunswick](#) - requirements for transporting of honey bees and used beekeeping equipment from one province to another province through New Brunswick for the time period stated on the permit.

Importation requirements vary depending on the region in Canada. Regions are defined as:

Region A: Province of Ontario. Quebec: Regional County Municipalities (RCM), Rouville, Les Jardins-de-Napierville, La Vallée-du-Richelieu, Le Haut-Richelieu, Beauharnois-Salaberry (in the Montérégie region), Arthabaska, L'Érable, Bécancour, Drummond (in the Centre-du-Québec region), Nicolet-Yamaska, Le Haut-Saint-Laurent.

Region B: all other locations outside of Region A.

1- IMPORTATION PROTOCOL FOR TEMPORARY RESIDENCE

1.1 Requirements for Importers (e.g., people residing in New Brunswick)

	Region A	Region B
The importer must complete and submit one application for a permit to import for each beekeeper supplying bees to the New Brunswick Provincial Apiarist at least five business days prior to the expected date of transport.	✓	✓
If inspection results are acceptable, a permit will be issued to the beekeeper in the exporting province, and a copy to the importer and the Provincial Apiarist in the exporting and transiting provinces.	✓	✓
The importer must ensure that the imported colonies leave NB immediately after pollination or before July 15. Applications for an extension beyond July 15 will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by contacting the NB Provincial Apiarist.	✓	✓

1.2 Requirements for Beekeepers in the Exporting Province

	Region A	Region B
Five to ten days prior to inspection: Place an unfolded Beetle-Bee Gone ®, a Brawny Dine-A-Max ® Beetle Towel, or a similar cloth labelled for sale for small hive beetle monitoring (cut into approximately 12 X 15 cm strips) on the top bars in 100% of the colonies. The cloth must remain in hives being exported for a potential inspection in New Brunswick. Please contact the NB Provincial Apiarist if you would like to use a Beetle Blaster Trap ® instead. Traps must be removed before transit.	✓	
Cover the colonies with a net (mesh size ≤ 2 X 2 mm) to prevent honey bees and small hive beetles (SHB), <i>Aethina tumida</i> Murray, from escaping during transit. Alternatively, transport the colonies in a sealed and refrigerated truck.	✓	
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.	✓	✓
Sign and date the Exporter Beekeeper Declaration Form – for Temporary Residence . This form must be submitted by email or fax to the NB Provincial Apiarist at least five business days prior to transport.	✓	
Ensure that the bees are accompanied by a Permit to Import and Transport Honey Bees and Equipment for Temporary Residence dated within 45 days of inspection	✓	✓
Ensure that colonies transported through another province comply with that province's requirements by contacting the respective Provincial Apiarist. For colonies being transported through the province of Quebec, contact Julie Ferland by phone (418) 380-2100 extension 2067 or by email abeille@mapaq.gouv.qc.ca .	✓	✓

1.3 Inspection Requirements for Temporary Residence

	Region A	Region B
Percent of apiaries inspected <u>for the province of Ontario only</u> : apiaries representing 80% of the colonies per beekeeper.	✓	
Percent of apiaries inspected <u>for other provinces within Region A</u> : 100% of the apiaries per beekeeper.	✓	
Percent of apiaries inspected: the inspection rate is 100% of the apiaries per beekeeper.		✓
American foulbrood (AFB): the inspection rate is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10% of colonies, or a minimum of eight colonies per apiary inspected, whichever is greater, must be inspected for visible signs of AFB. - 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. If any colonies show visible signs of AFB, then every colony from that apiary must be inspected for AFB. - Colonies from an apiary where oxytetracycline resistant American foulbrood (rAFB) has been diagnosed within the previous two years are not permitted to enter NB. - Colonies from any apiary that has had 2% or more of colonies with visible signs of AFB from an inspection made within the previous six months of the importation date are not permitted to enter NB. - Each colony with visible signs of AFB must be tested for sensitivity to oxytetracycline and the results must be received by the NB Provincial Apiarist at least five business days prior to export. 	✓	✓
Small hive beetle (SHB), <i>Aethina tumida</i> Murray: the inspection rate is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10% of colonies from each inspected apiary, or a minimum of eight colonies, whichever is greater must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 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. o Additionally, the underside of the top cover (or inner cover) of the colonies plus the top of all frames under the cover must be inspected. The supers must also be removed and inspected. The bottom board must also be inspected if accessible. The trap or cloth must also be inspected for the 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. 	✓	<p>Top bar inspection or SHB trap or cloth is not required.</p> <p>If any SHB are found, the protocol will change to the protocol used for Region A.</p>

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.	✓	✓
The bees must be inspected by an authorized honey bee inspector in the province of origin within 45 days of the expected importation date into NB.	✓	✓
The inspection reports must be submitted by email to the NB Provincial Apiarist at least five business days prior to the expected transport date.	✓	✓
Apiaries detained or quarantined after inspection will not be permitted to enter NB unless they are re-inspected according to NB's requirements and receive an order from the exporting province that they are released from detainment or quarantine.	✓	✓
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.	✓	✓

2- IMPORTATION PROTOCOL FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCE

2.1 Requirements for Permanent Residence- Region A

Applications for permanent residence for honey bee colonies, nucleus colonies (nucs), packages of honey bees, used hive components, and used beekeeping utensils (e.g., utensils used in the maintenance and keeping of bees, honey, wax, pollen and royal jelly) will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Contact the NB Provincial Apiarist.

2.2 Requirement for Permanent Residence- Region B

This section applies to applications for permanent residence for honey bee colonies, nucleus colonies (nucs), packages of honey bees, used hive components, and used beekeeping utensils (e.g., utensils used in the maintenance and keeping of bees, honey, wax, pollen and royal jelly).

2.2.1 Requirements for Importers (e.g., people residing in New Brunswick)

The importer must complete and submit one [application for a permit to import](#) for each beekeeper supplying bees to the New Brunswick Provincial Apiarist at least five business days prior to the expected date of transport.

If inspection results are acceptable, a permit will be issued to the beekeeper in the exporting province, and a copy to the importer and the Provincial Apiarists in the exporting and transiting provinces.

2.2.2 Requirements for Beekeepers in the Exporting Province

Each form must be accompanied by a signed letter or document from each owner of the out-of-province bees, used beekeeping equipment or used beekeeping utensils, stating that these do not originate from an apiary where the small hive beetle has been found in the current calendar year and the previous two calendar years. The letter must be submitted by email or fax to the NB Provincial Apiarist at least five business days prior to transport.

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.

Ensure that colonies transported through another province comply with that province's requirements by contacting the respective Provincial Apiarist. For colonies being transported through the province of Quebec, contact Julie Ferland by phone (418) 380-2100 extension 2067 or by email abeille@mapaq.gouv.qc.ca

2.2.3 Inspection Requirements for Permanent Residence

American foulbrood (AFB): the inspection rate is:

- 10% of colonies, or a minimum of eight colonies per apiary inspected, whichever is greater, must be inspected for visible signs of AFB.
- 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. If any colonies show visible signs of AFB, then every colony from that apiary must be inspected for AFB.
- Colonies from an apiary where oxytetracycline resistant American foulbrood (rAFB) has been diagnosed within the previous two years are not permitted to enter NB.
- Colonies from any apiary that has had 2% or more of colonies with visible signs of AFB from an inspection made within the previous six months of the importation date are not permitted to enter NB.
- Each colony with visible signs of AFB must be tested for sensitivity to oxytetracycline and the results must be received by the NB Provincial Apiarist at least five business days prior to export.

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.

The bees must be inspected by an authorized honey bee inspector in the province of origin, within 45 days of the expected importation date into NB.

Apiaries detained or quarantined after inspection will not be permitted to enter NB unless they are re-inspected according to NB's requirements and receive an order from the exporting province that they are released from detainment or quarantine.

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.

The inspection reports must be submitted to the NB Provincial Apiarist at least five business days prior to the expected transport date.

2.3 Requirements for Importing Queens

Queens are permitted to be imported for permanent residence in New Brunswick from anywhere in Canada.

The importer must complete and submit [one application for a permit to import](#) for each beekeeper supplying queens to the New Brunswick Provincial Apiarist at least five business days prior to the expected date of transport.

Queens must not come from an apiary that has had any visible signs of American foulbrood from an inspection made within the previous twelve months of the importation date. Inspections for American foulbrood must be done according to the current NB Honey Bee Importation Protocol.

The bees must be inspected by an authorized honey bee inspector in the province of origin, within 45 days of the expected importation date into NB.

The inspection reports must be received from the Provincial Apiarist in the exporting province by the

Provincial Apiarist in NB at least five business days prior to the expected transport date.

If inspection results are acceptable, a permit will be issued to the beekeeper in the exporting province, and a copy to the importer and the Provincial Apiarists in the exporting and transiting provinces.

3- PROTOCOL FOR TRANSIT THROUGH NEW BRUNSWICK

Requirements:

The importer (e.g., the person receiving the bees) must complete [one application for a permit to transit](#) for each beekeeper supplying bees to the NB Provincial Apiarist at least seven days prior to the expected transport date.

Inspection requirements: bees must be inspected by an authorized honey bee inspector in the province of origin within 45 days of the expected transit date through NB.

The exporter must ensure that a copy of the Permit to Transit Honey Bees and used Beekeeping Equipment through New Brunswick accompanies the honey bee colonies, nucleus colonies (nucs), packages of honey bees, queens, used hive components, used beekeeping utensils during transportation.

For more information, please contact:

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