



2022 PROTOCOL FOR THE IMPORTATION OR TRANSIT OF HONEY BEES WITHIN CANADA FOR NEW BRUNSWICK

The New Brunswick Honey Bee Importation protocol is established annually under the *Apiary Inspection Act* and describes the requirements under which honey bees may be imported into New Brunswick.

This protocol is subject to change without notice.

*NOTE: Although the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries has established the 2022 honey bee importation requirements, the Department is not responsible for damage or loss caused by imported and/or New Brunswick honey bee colonies infested with honey bee pests, including the small hive beetle, *Aethina tumida*. The Department does not guarantee, represent or warrant that the imported colonies and/or New Brunswick colonies are pest free with respect to the small hive beetle. Beekeepers should regularly monitor their colonies in accordance with recommended beekeeping practices.*

This document is divided into three parts:

- Part 1: Protocol for importation for temporary residence (e.g. pollination) (page 1);
- Part 2: Protocol for importation for permanent residence, and (page 5);
- Part 3: Protocol for importation for transit through New Brunswick (page 6).

Canada is divided into two regions (A and B) with respect to the inspection protocol for importation for temporary residence. Inspection protocols for importing honey bees from regions A and B are described below:

Region A:

Ontario: entire province.

Quebec: Regional County Municipalities (RCM): L'Assomption, Basques, Brome-Missisquoi, Les Chenaux, Coaticook, Haut-Richelieu, Haut-St-Laurent, Haute-Yamaska, Île-d'Orléans, Jardins-de-Napierville, Les Laurentides, Longueuil, La Matanie, Memphrémagog, Mitis, Pierre-de Saurel, Rimouski-Neigette, Rouville, Thérèse-De Blainville, Vallée-du-Richelieu, Ville de Québec.

Region B: Canada, outside region A.

Part 1: PROTOCOL FOR IMPORTATION FOR TEMPORARY RESIDENCE

1) Importation Requirements:

- **For importer (e.g. New Brunswick blueberry grower):**

- ✓ The importer must complete one application form "**Application to import or transit honey bees from within Canada for New Brunswick in 2022**" for each beekeeper supplying the bees.
- ✓ The application form must be received by the Provincial Apiarist in New Brunswick (NB) at least five business days prior to the expected date of transport of colonies into NB.

When the application form is completed with all the required information, the NB Provincial Apiarist will forward a copy to the Provincial Apiarist and the beekeeper in the exporting province (or territory).

➤ **For beekeeper within Canada sending colonies to NB for temporary residence:**

For region A:

- ✓ Place a Beetle Blaster Trap ®, with vegetable or mineral oil, or an unfolded Beetle-Bee Gone ®, or a Brawny Dine-A-Max ® Beetle Towel, or a similar cloth **labeled** for sale for small hive beetle monitoring (cut into approximately 12 X 15 cm) on the top bars in 100% of the colonies. The trap must be placed at least 7 days prior to inspection or the cloth must be placed 5 to 10 days prior to inspection and must remain in hives exported to New Brunswick for a possible inspection in NB.
- ✓ Cover the colonies with a net (mesh size $\leq 2 \times 2$ mm) to prevent honey bees and small hive beetles (SHB), *Aethina tumida* Murray, from escaping during transit. Alternatively, send the colonies in a refrigerated truck.

For all regions:

- ✓ Sign and date the "**EXPORTER BEEKEEPER DECLARATION FORM – FOR TEMPORARY RESIDENCE (2022)**". This form must be received by 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 FOR TEMPORARY RESIDENCE**" dated within 45 days of transport (issued by the NB Provincial Apiarist).
- ✓ Identify the colonies. It is the beekeeper's responsibility to 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 (apiary 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. Contact the Provincial Apiarist for details for that Province. For colonies being transported through the province of Quebec, contact Julie Ferland at (418) 380-2100, extension 2067; email julie.ferland2@mapaq.gouv.qc.ca .
- ✓ Ensure that imported colonies leave NB immediately after pollination and no later than July 15th of the current calendar year.

NOTE: Colonies imported for temporary residence (for example, pollination) are not permitted to remain in NB for permanent residence. To be eligible for permanent residence, a separate import permit, called

a Permit to Import and Transport Honey Bees for Permanent Residence, is required. New Brunswick importation requirements for temporary residence are different from importation requirements for permanent residence.

2) Inspection procedures for importation for temporary residence:

➤ Inspection Procedures for Region A:

Percent of apiaries inspected: For Ontario, the inspection rate is 50% of the apiaries (representing 80% of the colonies) per beekeeper due to the high number of colonies imported. For all other provinces: 100%.

- **American foulbrood (AFB):** Ten percent of colonies, or a minimum of eight colonies per apiary, whichever is greater, must be inspected for visible signs of AFB.

Colonies are inspected for American foulbrood 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.

Only colonies free of AFB will be permitted to enter NB. Colonies are not allowed to enter New Brunswick from an apiary where oxytetracycline resistant American foulbrood (rAFB) has been diagnosed within the previous two years of the importation date. Colonies must not enter NB from any apiary that has had two percent or more of colonies with visible signs of AFB from an inspection made within the previous six months of the importation date.

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 five working days prior to export.

- **Small hive beetle (SHB), *Aethina tumida* Murray:** 10% full brood inspection, or a minimum of eight colonies per apiary, whichever is greater, and inspect an additional 20% with a top bar inspection with a SHB trap or cloth.
 - Colonies will only be inspected if the Beetle Blaster Trap ®, with vegetable or mineral oil, or an unfolded Beetle-Bee Gone ® or a Brawny Dine-A-Max ® Beetle Towel or a similar SHB monitoring cloth **labelled** for small hive beetle monitoring (cut into approximately 12 X 15 cm) has been placed on the top bars in 100% of colonies. The trap must be placed at least 7 days prior to inspection or the cloth must be placed 5 to 10 days prior to inspection and must remain in hives exported to New Brunswick for a possible inspection in NB.
 - Ten percent of colonies from each inspected apiary, or a minimum of eight colonies per apiary, whichever is greater, 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. 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 twenty percent of colonies from each inspected apiary must be inspected for the presence of the SHB with a **top bar inspection:** 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.

- The following information will be stated on the inspection form: Number of colonies with 1 to 5 adult SHB. Number of colonies with greater than 5 adult SHB.

New Brunswick reserves the right to refuse the entry of all colonies from an apiary or beekeeper based on information on the inspection report and comments resulting from inspections.

➤ **Inspection Procedures for Region B:**

Percent of apiaries inspected: The inspection rate is 100% of the apiaries per beekeeper for region B provinces.

- **American foulbrood (AFB):** Procedures are described in the section for region A.
- **Small hive beetle (SHB), *Aethina tumida* Murray:** No requirement for a top bar inspection or SHB trap or cloth.

If any SHB are found, the protocol will change to the protocol used for region A.

➤ **For all Regions:**

- a) 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.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) Ensure that colonies transported through another province comply with that Province's requirements.

Apiaries detained or quarantined after inspection will not be permitted to enter NB unless they are re-inspected according to NB requirements and receive an order from the exporting province to be released from detainment or quarantine. All forms for re-inspections and forms for release from detainment or release from quarantine have to be received by the NB Provincial Apiarist five working days or more prior to the expected transport date.

Other Pests or Diseases: Colonies 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.

New Brunswick reserves the right to refuse the entry of all colonies from an apiary or beekeeper based on information on the inspection report and comments resulting from inspections.

If the results of the inspections are acceptable, the NB Provincial Apiarist may then issue a "**PERMIT TO IMPORT AND TRANSPORT HONEY BEES FOR TEMPORARY RESIDENCE**" to the beekeeper in the exporting province.

After inspection, colonies must be transported directly to NB and must not be modified.

Part 2: PROTOCOL FOR IMPORTATION FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCE

Part 2 is divided into two sections:

Section A: Honey bee colonies, nucleus colonies (nucs), packages of honey bees¹, used hive components, used beekeeping utensils. Beekeeping utensils are used in the maintenance and keeping of bees, honey, wax, pollen and royal jelly.

Section B: Queens¹.

➤ **Section A:**

Honey bee colonies, nucleus colonies (nucs), packages of honey bees¹, used hive components or used beekeeping utensils must not be imported with the intent for permanent residence in New Brunswick from the following areas:

- **All of Ontario.**
- **Quebec:** Regional County Municipalities (RCM): L'Assomption, Basques, Brome-Missisquoi, Les Chenaux, Coaticook, Haut-Richelieu, Haut-St-Laurent, Haute-Yamaska, Île-d'Orléans, Jardins-de-Napierville, Les Laurentides, Longueuil, La Matanie, Memphrémagog, Mitis, Pierre-de Saurel, Rimouski-Neigette, Rouville, Thérèse-De Blainville, Vallée-du-Richelieu, Ville de Québec.
- **Any County or Regional County Municipality (RCM) in Canada infested with the small hive beetle, *Aethina tumida* Murray, in the current calendar year or in the previous two calendar years.**
- Honey bees, used beekeeping equipment or used beekeeping utensils obtained from **any beekeeper's apiaries where any stage of the small hive beetle was detected in the current or previous two calendar years.**

To obtain a “**PERMIT TO IMPORT AND TRANSPORT HONEY BEES FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCE**”, the importer (person in New Brunswick) must complete the [Application to Import or Transit Honey Bees within Canada for New Brunswick in 2022](#) form and submit it to the NB Provincial Apiarist. The importer must also submit a signed letter or document from the 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.

Inspections and additional requirements:

a) Colonies must not enter NB 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

¹ The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is responsible for issuing an import permit for bee packages or queens imported into Canada. These do not require an additional import permit from New Brunswick if they are in the original packaging and have not been potentially exposed to honey bees or honey bee diseases or pests in Canada.

foulbrood must be done according to the **“2022 Protocol for the Importation or Transit of Honey Bees within Canada for New Brunswick”**.

- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) 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.
- e) Ensure that colonies transported through another province comply with that Province’s requirements.

➤ **Section B:**

Queens are permitted to be imported with the intent for permanent residence in New Brunswick from anywhere in Canada.¹

To obtain a **“PERMIT TO IMPORT AND TRANSPORT HONEY BEES FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCE”**, the importer (person in New Brunswick) must complete the [Application to Import or Transit Honey Bees within Canada for New Brunswick in 2022](#) form and submit it to the NB Provincial Apiarist.

Inspections and additional requirements:

- a) Colonies must not enter NB 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 **“2022 Protocol for the Importation or Transit of Honey Bees within Canada for New Brunswick”**.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) 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.
- e) Ensure that colonies transported through another province comply with that Province’s requirements.

Part 3: PROTOCOL FOR IMPORTATION FOR TRANSIT THROUGH NEW BRUNSWICK

Honey bee colonies, nucleus colonies (nucs), packages of honey bees, queens, used hive components, used beekeeping utensils require the following:

1. copy of the import permit from the issuing province (or territory);
2. copy of the inspection report

Notes:

- An additional inspection to transit through NB is not required if an import permit to enter the issuing province (or territory) was received in the current calendar year.

Additional requirements:

- a) The 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.
- b) 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.
- c) Ensure that colonies transported through another province comply with that Province's requirements.

For more information please contact:

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