



Requirements for the Importation of Honey Bees into New Brunswick from Canadian Provinces and Territories for Pollination in 2020

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

Changes to these requirements and associated permit requirements can be made at any time without notice in order to take into consideration new conditions that could affect the NB honey bee industry.

To obtain a Permit to Import for Pollination or for more information please contact:

Chris Maund, Provincial Apiarist
New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries
Hugh John Flemming Complex
1350 Regent Street, P.O. Box 6000, Fredericton, NB, E3B 5H1
chris.maud@gnb.ca , Telephone: (506) 453-3477, Fax: (506) 453-7978

Canada is divided into two regions (A and B) with respect to the importation of colonies into New Brunswick for pollination. Inspection requirements for importing honey bees for pollination from regions A and B are described below:

Region A:

Ontario: entire province.

Quebec: regional county municipalities (RCM): Upper Saint Lawrence, Brome-Missisquoi, Basques, Rimouski-Neigette, Mitis.

British Columbia: Fraser Valley.

Region B: Canada, outside region A.

Importation requirements for New Brunswick blueberry growers:

- ✓ The importer must complete one application form “**Application to import honey bees into New Brunswick from Canadian provinces and territories for pollination in 2020**” 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.

Exportation requirements for beekeepers in another Canadian province or territory moving colonies to NB for pollination:

For region A:

- ✓ Add 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 **labelled** for sale for small hive beetle monitoring (cut into approximately 12 X 15 cm) placed on the top bars in 100% of the colonies. The trap or cloth must be placed 14 days or more prior to the 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 “**BEEKEEPER DECLARATION FORM**”. 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 POLLINATION**” dated within thirty 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 Gabrielle Claing at (450) 778-6542. Extension 5894; email gabrielle.claing@mapaq.gouv.qc.ca .
- ✓ Ensure that imported colonies leave NB immediately after wild blueberry pollination and no later than July 1st of the current calendar year.

Colonies imported for pollination must not to be sold within NB without prior written approval of the NB Provincial Apiarist.

Inspection procedures for importation for pollination:

1) Inspection Procedures for Region A:

Percent of apiaries inspected: For Ontario: Due to the high number of colonies imported from Ontario, the inspection rate is 50% of the apiaries (representing 80% of the colonies) per beekeeper.

For all other provinces: 100%.

American foulbrood (AFB): For the inspected apiaries: 10% 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: For the inspected apiaries: 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 for 14 days or more before inspection. The trap or cloth 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.

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.

2) Inspection Procedures for Region B:

Percent of apiaries inspected: 100%

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, then procedures will change to those in Region A.

3) 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 thirty 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.

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.

If the results of the inspections are acceptable, the NB Provincial Apiarist may then issue a "PERMIT TO IMPORT AND TRANSPORT HONEY BEES FOR POLLINATION" to the beekeeper.

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

Colonies transiting through NB: Colonies that have received an import permit to enter a province other than NB in the current calendar year do not require an additional inspection to enter NB. These colonies, however, will require the following: 1) copy of the import permit from the issuing province; 2) copy of the inspection report. If these documents are acceptable, the NB Provincial Apiarist may then issue a **“PERMIT TO IMPORT AND TRANSPORT HONEY BEES FOR TRANSIT”**.

Importing for purchase of honey bees and hive components:

Refer to the following form: **“Requirements for the Importation of Honey Bees and Hive Components into New Brunswick from Canadian Provinces and Territories for Purchase in 2020”**.

*NOTE: Although the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries has established the 2020 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.*

April 1st, 2020