

Remember!



Don't be afraid to ask questions.
The health of bees is in your hands.



Get an American Foulbrood (AFB) disease inspection from a qualified beekeeper once per year.



Your hive will need to be managed regularly.



AFB Disease Recognition training courses are available nationally.
afb.org.nz/training

Join Apiculture New Zealand!

Apiculture New Zealand is the national industry body representing the apiculture industry. Membership is voluntary, with membership fees helping to fund industry science and research, nationwide advocacy on issues affecting beekeepers, a widely respected monthly journal The New Zealand Beekeeper and a variety of services for beekeepers.

Join by going to:
www.apinz.org.nz

Apiculture New Zealand Code of Conduct

Apiculture New Zealand has a voluntary Code of Conduct which you can download from www.apinz.org.nz. The code's objectives are to maintain good relations among all beekeepers and stakeholders, be considerate of public safety, and through good beekeeping practice, ensure the sustainability of bees and their environment.

Important Links & Resources

American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan
(to register as a new beekeeper)
afb.org.nz/new-to-beekeeping-apiary-registration-form

AssureQuality (to update apiary registration)
assurequality.com/our-industries/apiculture

Apiculture New Zealand
apinz.org.nz

Food safety
foodsafety.govt.nz/industry/sectors/honey-bee/organisations.

Books
Practical Beekeeping in New Zealand – Andrew Matheson & Murray Reid
Starting with Bees – order from: apinz.org.nz



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Becoming a beekeeper in New Zealand



APICULTURE
NEW ZEALAND

Introduction

Beekeeping is a great way to help improve pollination in your garden and neighbourhood and it brings many rewards. But there is lots to learn and you need to be committed to using beekeeping best practice.

By putting in place good beekeeping practice, you can maximise your bees' health. It means you will be able to recognise diseases which, if not treated, will not only affect your bees but may adversely affect all bees in New Zealand.

Beekeeping comes with responsibilities

Use the checklist to make sure you've covered your bases as a beekeeper in New Zealand.



New beekeeper checklist

- ✓ **Register yourself as a beekeeper.**
All beekeepers in New Zealand have a legal obligation under the Biosecurity Act 1993 to register as a beekeeper and part of the registration process involves registering your apiaries as well. You can register on www.afb.org.nz
- ✓ **Only buy hives of bees from a registered beekeeper who can verify AFB disease status. Start small with 1-5 hives whilst you are still learning.**
- ✓ **Display your registration number on your hive/s and at your apiary/s.**
- ✓ **Learn safety requirements around beekeeping.**
From safe handling of bees, hives, equipment to smoker & fire safety.
- ✓ **Understand health allergic reactions and risks.**
- ✓ **Seek advice on the legal requirements.**
Go to www.foodsafety.govt.nz for more information on safe food handling and the risk of tutin honey.
- ✓ **Check your local council bylaw requirements for beekeeping.**

Check out all the useful links on the back of this brochure.

More tips for beekeeping success

Learn about the honey bee

Understand the life cycle, learn the terms used in the bee world, and get to know the legal requirements needed within New Zealand. See Resources & Links for recommended sources.

Learn the style of beekeeping

Read information specific to New Zealand beekeeping with hive options to house your bees here. For example, bees can be housed in different structures but legal requirements need to be met.

Find out more about seasons, pests and diseases that affect the honey bee in New Zealand and how these are managed.

Decide what protective clothing you will wear while beekeeping

Obtain tools to support your beekeeping management.

Join a beekeeping Club

Meeting other beekeepers is a fantastic opportunity to learn, share and find support. A list of clubs affiliated with Apiculture New Zealand can be found on:

apinz.org.nz/contact/clubs-speciality-groups