



New Zealand is lucky to have a large bee population with around 850,000 registered hives (and many thousands of bees in each hive).

Apiculture NZ wants to keep our bee population healthy, so we are asking Kiwis to Feed the Bees by planting bee-friendly trees and plants this Bee Aware Month.

Bees need nectar, pollen and water to thrive. By growing a diverse range of plants for bees, you are helping to build a strong, resilient bee population.

## USEFUL LINKS AND RESOURCES

### Apiculture New Zealand

[apinz.org.nz](http://apinz.org.nz)



### Bee Aware Month

[apinz.org.nz/bee-aware-month-2021](http://apinz.org.nz/bee-aware-month-2021)



### Trees for Bees Research Trust

[treesforbeesnz.org](http://treesforbeesnz.org)



# FEED THE BEEES.

# FEED THE BEES NEW ZEALAND.

By planting for bees you are providing nature's tiniest superheroes with the nutrition they need to put up a strong fight against the many threats they face - pests, diseases, climate change and habitat loss.

Some plants are better sources of pollen and nectar for bees than others. Other plants produce pollen and nectar at critical times of the year when there is little else available for bees to feed on.

We have highlighted a few best bee plants in this brochure but there are many more!

**THIS SEPTEMBER,  
PLANT FOR THE BEES!**

## TOP PERFORMERS

### ROSEMARY

This bee favourite is nearly always in flower, offering bees food all year round.



### HARAKEKE (FLAX)

With protein-packed pollen and flowers sometimes overflowing with nectar, this is a bee super food.



### PIP FRUIT TREES

In spring, pear, apple, crab apple and quince trees are covered in blossoms providing a feast for bees.



### SUNFLOWERS

These garden favourites produce nectar and pollen over many weeks - the flower that keeps on giving.



### ROCK ROSES

The large flowers of the rock rose are like a big bowl of pollen for bees!



### CITRUS TREES

Lemons, limes, grapefruit and orange trees are irresistible to bees and produce lots of nectar.



## TOP TIPS FOR BEE-FRIENDLY PLANTING

- 1 Plant for each season so bees can feed all year.
- 2 Plant clusters of the same plant type to attract bees into your garden.
- 3 Choose plants with single flowers - flowers with one set of petals - as these are easier for bees to feed from.
- 4 Provide a saucer of clean water for bees. Put a few pebbles or sticks in the water so the bees have something to stand on.
- 5 Never use pesticides in your garden when plants are flowering.

## OTHER GREAT BEE PLANTS.

*Basil, zinnia, cornflower, koromiko, rewarewa, cabbage tree, lavender, kiwifruit, phacelia, camellia, thyme, chives, pumpkin, echinacea, salvia and more...*