

LOVE OUR BEES

Bees play a crucial role in our environment and need our protection.



<https://apinz.org.nz/bee-aware-month/>

New Zealand has 28 types of native bee.

Bees need to visit around 4 million flowers to make 1 kg of honey.

A third of the food we eat is the result of pollination by bees and other insects.

BEE AWARE MONTH SEPTEMBER



Photo: Cryn Russell.

Top Tips

BEE-FRIENDLY HABITS

- 1** Plant bee-friendly plants each season so bees can feed all year.
- 2** Choose plants with single flowers – flowers with one set of petals – as these are easier for bees to feed from.
See below for some bee favourites.
- 3** 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.
- 4** Avoid using pesticides in your garden when plants are flowering. If you must spray avoid flowers and buds and spray after sunset when bees are not active.
- 5** Take a break from lawnmowing – don't mow so often and let the clover flowers grow.



Photo: Wikimedia Commons

Flowering plants bees love:

Rosemary, harakeke (flax),
pip fruit trees (pear, apple,
crab apple, quince),
sunflowers, rock roses,
citrus trees (lemon, lime,
grapefruit, orange)

Useful link: treesforbees.org.nz

Photo: Ilona Hart.