

Frequently Asked Questions - Import and Transport Permit and Transit Permit

Q1. Where can I find more information on importing and transiting honey bees within Canada for New Brunswick?

For more information, please see the Protocol for the Importation and Transit of Honey Bees within Canada for New Brunswick found online at:

Protocol for the Importation or Transit of Honey Bees

Q2. Why do I need an Import and Transport Permit to bring honey bees into New Brunswick from other provinces?

To help prevent the spread of pests and diseases from other provinces, a person must be issued an Import and Transport Permit to bring honey bees and used beekeeping equipment into New Brunswick. Knowing where pests and diseases are, and where they've been is important to ensure a rapid response to limit the spread.

An inspection is required prior to the issuance of an Import and Transport Permit. It is a punishable offence to import honey bees into New Brunswick without a valid Import and Transport Permit.

An Application for an Import and Transport Permit can be found online at: Application to Import and Transit Honey Bees

Q3. What is the difference between importing honey bees for permanent residence and temporary residence?

Importing honey bees into New Brunswick from another province for permanent residence means that the bees will remain in New Brunswick permanently. Importing for temporary residence means that the bees are intended to temporarily reside in New Brunswick for pollination purposes.

Q4. When an Import and Transport Permit is obtained to import bees into New Brunswick on a temporary basis, do the hives need to be identified with the Beekeeper Registration Code?

Hives that are imported into New Brunswick with an Import and Transport Permit for temporary purposes, must be identified with the Beekeeper Registration Code or equivalent, from the Canadian province of the origin of the bees.

Q5. What is a Transit Permit?

In order for honey bees or used beekeeping equipment to travel between two provinces while passing through New Brunswick, a Transit Permit must be obtained. The purpose of this permit is to help prevent the spread of pests and diseases from other provinces.

An Application for a Transit Permit can be found online at: Application to Import and Transit Honey Bees Q6. If I am purchasing queens and packaged bees that have been imported into Canada with a valid federal import permit issued by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), do I also need an Import and Transport Permit in order to bring them into the province?

No. Beekeepers in New Brunswick order imported queens and packages of bees from another country through a Canadian supplier located in another province because New Brunswick does not have an airport that receives bees from other countries. The supplier of imported queens and packages of bees requires an import permit issued by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). You do not need an additional import permit, provided the bees, after passing inspection, have not been potentially exposed to other honey bee pests or diseases.

Approved sources of queens include: Chile, Denmark, Malta, Ukraine, California and Hawaii. Approved sources of packages of bees include: Australia, Chile, Italy, New Zealand and Ukraine.

These approved sources may change due to the presence of honey bee diseases and pests. Please visit the CFIA website for approved sources at: https://inspection.canada.ca/