

WHY ARE BEES IMPORTANT?

Imagine a world without strawberries, kiwifruit, apples, nuts, coffee, chocolate or even denim jeans! And that's only the beginning.

One mouthful in three and nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of the diversity of our daily food is directly attributed to Bee pollination. Billions of dollars in NZ export earnings depend on bee pollination. And so do many plants in your garden.

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO OUR BEES?

Honey bees all around the world are in decline because of Varroa mite infestations and other threats. Pesticide misuse is killing bees. Habitat degradation takes away flowers which supply nectar and pollen, their essential food. Bees are now dependent on humans to protect them.

Bees Need Your Help Now

WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT? BEE FRIENDLY!

- ✓ Do not spray when plants are in flower or bees are present. Spray early morning or at sunset.
- ✓ Provide fresh pesticide-free drinking water for bees.
- ✓ Plant good nectar and pollen sources in your garden to nourish bees.

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**BEES in NZ cannot
survive without our help
and we cannot survive
without the BEES**

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For more information ask your local garden centre
or visit us at www.nba.org.nz
or www.treesforbeesnz.org
or contact treesforbeesnz@gmail.com

A joint project of the National Beekeepers' Association, Trees for Bees NZ and Natural Habitats. Trees for Bees NZ provides data and information about the best flowers to plant for Bees.

Natural Habitats creates bee friendly gardens and parks and is a trusted provider and maintainer of bee hives.

www.naturalhabitats.co.nz



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Auckland Beekeepers Club Inc.
www.aucklandbeekeepersclub.org.nz
NZ Comb Honey Producers Association
www.wildforage.co.nz

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Urban Trees for Bees



Front Cover Photo by Niel Fitzgerald ©Landcare Research

URBAN TREES FOR BEES PLANTING FOR BEES IN YOUR GARDEN

✓ Plant in generous clusters of the same species for wow factor and Bee Appeal

Large clusters of each species will attract bees into your garden

✓ Plant flowers for each season

A steady source of nectar and pollen all year round sustains bees

✓ Do not plant prohibited or controlled weeds

If in doubt check it out at the National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA) www.biosecurity.govt.nz/nppa

and your Council website

For example for Auckland area contact Auckland Council

Ph: 09 366 2000 or 0800 80 60 40

enquiry@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Honey bees pollinating squash flower
Photo by Remco Baars
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BEE-FRIENDLY KITCHEN AND HERB PLANT SUGGESTIONS

Herbaceous

- Basil (*Ocimum basilicum*)
- Chives (*Allium schoenoprasum*)
- Cucumber, melon (*Cucumis* spp.)
- Echinacea (*Echinacea purpurea*)
- Fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*)
- Pot marigold (*Calendula officinalis*)
- Sage (*Salvia officinalis*)
- Squash, pumpkin (*Cucurbita* spp.)
- Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*)

Trees, shrubs and climbers

- Apple (*Malus* spp.)
- Bay laurel (*Laurus nobilis*)
- Kiwifruit (*Actinidia deliciosa*)
- Lavender (*Lavandula* spp.)
- Lemon, orange, grapefruit (*Citrus* spp.)
- Pear (*Pyrus* spp.)
- Plum, peach (*Prunus* spp.)
- Rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*)

Be sure to select cultivars that attract bees:

- Select "single" flowers not "doubles" or "triples"
- Choose simple traditional flowers not highly modified flowers
- Garden catalogues often mark which cultivars attract bees

BEE-FRIENDLY ORNAMENTAL FLOWER PLANT SUGGESTIONS

Herbaceous

- Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*)
- Cornflower (*Centaurea* spp.)
- Hollyhock (*Alcea* spp.)
- Michaelmas daisy (*Aster novae-angliae*)
- Phacelia (*Phacelia tanacetifolia*)
- Penstemon (*Penstemon* spp.)
- Salvia (*Salvia* spp.)
- Sweet alyssum (*Lobularia maritima*)
- Zinnia (*Zinnia* spp.)

Trees, shrubs and climbers

- Australian gum (*Eucalyptus* spp.)
- Bottlebrush (*Callistemon* spp.)
- Cabbage tree (*Cordyline australis*)*
- Camellia (*Camellia japonica*)
- Harakeke, NZ Flax (*Phormium tenax*)*
- Koromiko (*Hebe* spp., e.g., *H. macrocarpa*)*
- Lemonwood, koru (*Pittosporum* spp.)*
- NZ jasmine (*Parsonsia heterophylla*)*
- NZ Lacebark (*Hoheria populnea*)*
- Pohutukawa, rata (*Metrosideros* spp.)*
- Rewarewa (*Knightia excelsa*)*
- Wisteria (*Wisteria sinensis*)

* indicates NZ native plant species; spp. = species