

Summary of unwanted exotic bee pests and diseases

Exotic Pests / Diseases	Effects	Spread status	Caused by
European foulbrood <i>Melissococcus plutonius</i>	Invades honeybee larva gut leading to starvation.	Worldwide where honeybees are kept Not in NZ.	Bacterium.
Small hive beetle <i>Aethina tumida</i>	Larvae burrow to and damage comb, honey, brood, pollen.	Sub-Sahara , Canada, USA, Italy, Mexico, Korea and Australia (2002).	Beetle.
Tracheal mite <i>Acarapis woodi</i>	Invade honeybee breathing tubes reducing lifespan.	In most countries except NZ and Australian.	Mites.
<i>Tropilaelaps</i> mites	Parasitise brood and transmit viruses.	Across Asia and Papua New Guinea.	Mites.
Braula Fly <i>Braula coeca</i>	Interfere with nectar and pollen feeding of queen bees and drones.	In most countries, except NZ.	Wingless fly.
Unwanted bee species (various)	Disrupt hives including via transmission of new pests and diseases.	SE Asia and Australia (Asian honey bee); South Africa (Cape honey bee); Africa, South America (African honey bee and hybrids).	Bee species (various).

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Summary of bee pests and diseases present in New Zealand

Pests / Diseases in NZ	Effects	Spread	Caused by
American Foulbrood (AFB*) , <i>Paenibacillus larvae</i>	Multiply in larvae causing death of pupae.	Detected (NZ) in 1877 Countrywide except Chatham Islands.	Bacterium.
Varroa Mite <i>Varroa destructor</i>	Feed on bee body tissues, transfer viruses and can cause parasitic mite syndrome.	Detected (NZ) in 2000 Countrywide except Chatham islands.	Mites.
Nosema <i>Nosema apis</i> , <i>N. ceranae</i>	Affect bee's digestive systems.	Present across NZ.	Microsporidian parasites.
Chalkbrood <i>Ascospaera apis</i>	Kills developing brood.	Present across NZ.	Fungus.
Sacbrood <i>Sacbrood virus</i>	Prevents honeybee larvae development to pupa.	Present across NZ.	Virus.
Deformed wing virus (<i>various virus subtypes</i>)	Affects all life stages.	Present across NZ. (can spread by varroa)	Virus.

(AFB*) a National American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan is in place for AFB.

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