

# ALL ABOUT THE BEE PATHOGEN PROGRAMME

The largest and most detailed study of honey bee health ever undertaken in New Zealand. It will help us better understand the effect that diseases, climate and apiary management practices have on colony loss and productivity.



**132,100**

Bees archived in our freezer, taken from all over New Zealand, including Chatham Island, Great Barrier Island and Stewart Island



**111**

Face-to-face meetings with beekeepers and industry



**2,595**

Beehive lids lifted for inspection and sampling. Representing every region of New Zealand. The hives were checked each spring and autumn, over 2.5 years

**1,693**

Hours spent looking inside beehives, doing inspections, and collecting bees

**51,024**

Kilometres travelled between apiaries



**16,300**

Bees counted out by hand using tweezers, in preparation for diagnostic testing



**652**

Boxes and bottles of bees shipped from the 85 participating apiaries, back to our labs



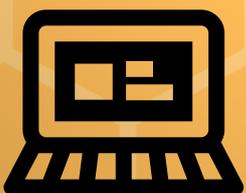
**15**

Pathogens and pests tested for, including varroa mites, nosema, parasites, viruses and bacteria



**4,235**

Diagnostic tests performed using microscopy and DNA-based molecular methods



**31,344**

Datapoints collected representing over 180 years of apiary data



**100%**

Positive feedback from beekeepers who participated in the research programme

For more information visit:

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/readiness/bee-pathogen-programme/>