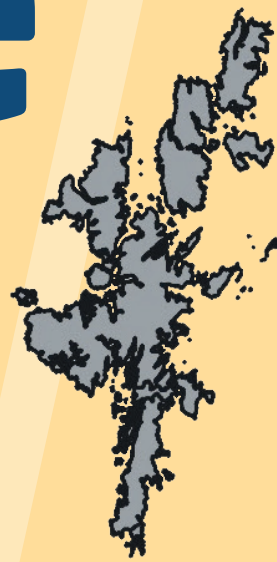


Varroa Mite - Scotland

How you can help to protect the health of our honey bees



Varroa is a major threat to the health of honey bees in Scotland. Beekeepers in Scotland still report absence of Varroa in some areas and movement of honey bees from infected areas is the most likely route of Varroa invasion into these areas.

DO'S

- ✓ We recommend that you contact the local beekeeping associations for advice before moving honey bees into the white coloured areas where small localised parts of these areas have not been recorded as infected.
- ✓ Register with BeeBase to keep up to date with disease and pest information.
- ✓ Regularly monitor and report any suspicion of notifiable diseases or pests to the Scottish Government Bees Mailbox at bees_mailbox@gov.scot

DON'TS

- ✗ Colonsay and Oronsay (coloured turquoise) are currently considered Varroa-free, and are nature reserves for *Apis mellifera mellifera* (Amm, Black Bee). It is prohibited to keep any honey bee other than a black bee (Amm) in these islands.
- ✗ In addition to Colonsay and Oronsay, the Orkney islands are also currently reported as free from Varroa. We therefore recommend that you do not move bees from any other location into these islands.
- ✗ Other islands and localities (coloured grey) are currently reporting the absence of Varroa. We recommend that you do not move bees from the British mainland into these areas.

Varroa present
Mixed status
Varroa absent
Black Bee nature reserve



For further information about how to identify, manage and report varroa, please see www.nationalbeeunit.com - or scan here [QR code]



*data accurate as of June 2025



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba