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Manuka Health information regarding pesticides and herbicides in relation to Manuka honey.

Manuka Health has a strict quality testing process that ensures all honey is tested for a range of parameters including microbiology, toxins, sugars, pollen, moisture content, flavour, colour and enzyme activity. This ensures all honey entering our packing facility and all finished batches leaving are of the highest quality.

In New Zealand we are also governed by two government agencies who regulate to protect the bees and food sources:

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) leads New Zealand's food safety system and set and monitor food standards. MPI runs a national screening programme in which Manuka Health partakes, additional to our own batch monitoring programme. Section 8.0 of the MPI Consolidated List of Tests for Animal Products details the Chemical Residue Testing programme covering honey (and other animal products such as mammals, fish, and dairy). See more here: http://www.foodsafety.govt.nz/elibrary/industry/consolidated-list-of-tests-for-animal-products.pdf)

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) 'protects bees and other pollinators, such as moths, butterflies, hoverflies and birds, by setting the rules around when, how and where insecticides should be used'. 'In New Zealand strict regulations have been in place for many years around the use of a class of insecticides that contain neonicotinoids. As we are New Zealand's environmental regulator, it is the Environmental Protection Authority's job to manage those risks. We do that by setting rules around neonicotinoid use that include special measures solely to protect bees'. (see more here: http://www.epa.govt.nz/hazardous-substances/pop_hs_topics/Neonicotinoids_bees/Pages/default.aspx)

The most significant protection to our Manuka honey is our hive placement – we access remote, pristine environments that are away from agricultural land, therefore there is very little risk of herbicides and pesticides being present in the environment.

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