Ngaro huruhuru o Aotearoa
Native bees of New Zealand



Sweat bees



Lasioglossum cognatum (female)



L. mataroa (female)



L. maunga (female)



L. sordidum (female)



Lasioglossum cognatum (male)



L. mataroa (male)



L. maunga (male)



L. sordidum (male)

Scale



5 mm

MASKED BEE
Hylaeus Murihiku – male



5 mm

HONEY BEE
Apis melilifera – worker



5 mm

BUMBLE BEE
Bombus ruderatus - worker

Quick facts

- NZ has around 4 species of native bees from the genus *Lasioglossum.*
- Each type has their own *unique* characteristics, but they are all very tiny compared to other bees.
- They are commonly called *sweat bees*, because on hot summer days they like to sup human sweat when ever they get a chance.
- Mother bees make their nests in the ground, and often more than one female bee will help to raise baby bees. In this regard, they are described as *semi-social*.
- Mother bees overwinter, and in the summer baby bees emerge as fully grown adults.
- Sweat bees carry pollen on their fluffy tummy and their hairy legs.
- They love native flowers and introduced flowers and are not especially fussy.

This poster was made possible by a collaboration with photographer Birgit Rhode on behalf of © Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research,
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