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FIRST COMMERCIAL DNA TESTS FOR BEE HEALTH LAUNCHED

Gisborne, NZ, August 06, 2013– In Bee month dnature diagnostics & research ltd are pleased to launch their ApiVirus™ Bee Health DNA tests. This is the first time that tests have been available to commercial bee keepers and producers of honey and honey products.

The virus tests that are now available will mean that bees can be tested prior to any visual symptoms. Viruses such as Deformed Wing Virus (DWV) and the other virus tests being offered are associated with overwintering losses, reduced hive numbers and bee lifespans. All of which impact hive productivity.

The complete suite of tests available are:

Deformed Wing Virus

Acute Paralysis Virus

Chronic Paralysis Virus

Kashmir Bee Virus

Nosema ceranae and *N. apis*

N. ceranae is particularly damaging and causes brood loss, reduced hive numbers and lower honey production.

These tests will allow the early detection and monitoring of potentially fatal hive diseases before any symptoms show.

For more information please visit www.dnature.co.nz/bees

About dnature

dnature diagnostics & research are experts in DNA testing and provide testing or have developed tests for the horticulture, agriculture and aquaculture industries. The work that dnature (“DNA in a range of nature”) does can be described as providing solutions to industry problems where conventional testing is not sufficiently accurate or timely enough.