

Bee aware of what is in your neighbourhood: Resin Bee, *Megachile ustulata* (Hymenoptera: Megachilidae), in Whanganui

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The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) were notified of a suspect exotic bee found in Whanganui on 10 January 2018. MPI's Plant Health and Environment Laboratory identified the bee as *Megachile ustulata* (Hymenoptera: Megachilidae). *M. ustulata* is a species of resin bee native to Australia and little is known about the biology of this bee. Five specimens have been found by the notifier. However, it was not known if a locally established population exists or if these individuals arrived in an isolated incident. The details of the MPI investigation is discussed here.

