

# Pests & Biosecurity on the Chatham Islands



## MOVING TO THE CHATHAMS?



### *What you need to know ...*

The Chatham Islands environment is unique and beautiful and the economy is highly dependent on farming and fishing. The Chatham Islands are free of many pests and diseases which cause economic and environmental problems on mainland New Zealand.

### **The importance of biosecurity**

The Chatham Islands has a Pest Management Strategy to help protect the environment and economy from unwanted pests and diseases. For anyone visiting or moving to the Chathams it is important to know not to bring plants, animals or personal effects which could pose a pest risk.

### **Packing your personal effects**

Visually inspect the items you are packing for potential pest risks, particularly if they have been stored. Things to look for which might indicate the presence of biosecurity risks include:

- rodent damage, droppings or nesting
- spider webs
- dead insects
- bird nests
- insect eggs or pupal cases
- ant trails.

### **Items that might be a risk and need inspection by the Chatham Islands Biosecurity Officer include:**

- Bee-keeping equipment including hives and combs (the Chathams are free of varroa mite and foul brood bacteria)
- Plants, bulbs, cuttings, corms, rhizomes, or tubers
- Packaging such as straw, soil, or old sacks
- Outdoor sporting equipment that could be contaminated with soil, seeds, plant material or water
- Animal grooming and veterinary equipment and bird cages
- Gardening equipment and outdoor furniture.





### Treatments

- Use traps or bait stations in the area where your goods are stored, if you suspect rodents.
- For insects other than ants use a residual pyrethrum fly spray such as Black Flag, and remove webbing or pupal cases.
- Some ant species pose a high biosecurity risk to the Chathams and infestations can be difficult to treat with fly sprays. If you note ants in your items to be shipped, please contact the Chatham Island Biosecurity Officer before the shipping date.
- For outdoor equipment and furniture, clean and check harbourages for potential pests. Carefully inspect crevices and layered material which could harbour lizards.

**For further information about biosecurity or moving to the Chatham Islands, please contact the Biosecurity Officer on 03 305 0013 or email [info@cic.govt.nz](mailto:info@cic.govt.nz).**



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