

SELECT YOUR TOP THREE FAVOURITE NEW CANDIDATES FOR 2024

Of course there will be a new **Bugs of Aotearoa** poster by Lily Duval with the candidates for 2024 Bug of the Year.

Available at www.lilyduval.com.

[HTTPS://BUGOFTHEYEAR.ENTO.ORG.NZ](https://bugoftheyear.ento.org.nz)

On Twitter, use #bugoftheyear2023
and tag us @NZEntoSoc

Email us on BugOfTheYear@ento.org.nz

All candidates are on iNaturalist



SPONSORSHIP

NZ Bug of the Year
is sponsored by the
Entomological Society
of New Zealand.



COMMITTEE

Jenny Jandt
Lily Duval
Julia Kasper
Morgane Merien
Phil Sirvid
Tara Murray



NGARO HURUHURU

NEW ZEALAND'S FIRST

BUG OF THE YEAR

2023

NEW ZEALAND'S FIRST

THE WINNER

2023



ngaru huruhuru

NATIVE BEES ARE AT RISK

**...due to climate change
and changing land use.
You can support native
bees by planting
suitable native plants
and trees for them to
feed from, and keep
patches of soil or clay
for them to nest in.**

www.kings.co.nz/garden-supplies/seeds/native-seeds

www.seedsource.kiwi.html

www.fortheloveofbees.co.nz/

Leioproctus fulvescens

Leioproctus fulvescens is endemic to the South Island of NZ. They are small bees (~10mm long) with dense yellowish hairs. The 17 other *Leioproctus* species in New Zealand (also native and very hairy) are mostly black and range in size from 5-12mm. NZ has 28 ngaru huruhuru (native bee) species. Each female has her own nest where she lives a solitary life. On her own, she digs a tunnel up to 30cm into the ground, and lays ~8-12 eggs. She forages (collects nectar and pollen) to feed her developing larvae. Once her larvae metamorphose into pupae, they no longer need to eat; the female dies soon after. New females that emerge and begin excavating their own nests, while males visit flowers and wait for the chance to mate.. Native bees tend to have short tongues that are perfect for taking nectar from small flowers of NZ native plants, e.g., mānuka and kānuka. As flower visitors, ngaru huruhuru also provide pollination services to orchards and some vegetable crops too.