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**NATIONAL STANDARD OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

GB/T 47219-2026

Bee breeds - Italian honey bee (*Apis mellifera ligustica* Spinola)

蜂品种 意大利蜜蜂

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Table of Contents

- 1 Scope
- 2 Normative references
- 3 Terms and Definitions
- 4 Variety origin and characteristics
- 5 Morphological characteristics
- 5.1 Body color

Foreword

This document complies with the provisions of GB/T 1.1-2020 "Standardization Work Guidelines Part

1. Structure and Drafting Rules of Standardization Documents". Drafting. Please note that some content in this document may involve patents. The issuing organization of this document assumes no responsibility for identifying patents. This document was proposed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China. This document is under the jurisdiction of the National Technical Committee on Standardization of Animal Husbandry (SAC/TC274). This document was drafted by: Institute of Apiculture, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences; Jilin Provincial Apiculture Research Institute; Jiangxi Provincial Apiculture Research Institute; and Tibet... Agricultural Research Institute of the Academy of Agricultural and Animal Husbandry Sciences of the Autonomous Region. The main drafters of this document are. Chen Chao, Xu Kai, Liu Feng, Shan Jinqiong, Duan Yujie, Cheng Ruiyi, Zhaluo, Hao Jingyu, Liu Yuling, and Wu Guoqiang. Italian honeybee

1 Scope

GB/T 47219-2026 is the Chinese national standard covering the Italian honey bee as a recognised breed - the appearance and morphometry, the colony behaviour, the honey and royal jelly production, the wintering ability and the requirements for a colony to be registered as breeding stock. It is the most widely kept bee in Chinese commercial apiaries, and this is the first national standard describing it as a breed. It was issued on 27 February 2026 and has been in force since 1 September 2026, as a first edition. The document is under the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs. This page is published from the official record of the 2026 edition; the clause text of a standard this recent is not yet in circulation, and the figures, limits and tables it contains are those of the document itself, delivered in full with the English translation.

The basic requirements for performance and seed use are described, along with the testing methods. This document applies to the identification of Italian bee breeds.

2 Normative references

The contents of the following documents, through normative references within the text, constitute essential provisions of this document. Dated citations are not included. For references to documents, only the version corresponding to that date applies to this document; for undated references, the latest version (including all amendments) applies. This document.

GB/T 45550 Technical Specification for Survey of Honeybee Genetic Resources

GB/T 45551 Technical Specification for Testing Bee Productivity

3 Terms and Definitions

The terms and definitions defined in GB/T 45550 and GB/T 45551 apply to this document.

4 Variety origin and characteristics

4.1 Origin of Varieties Introduced at the beginning of the century, it is mainly distributed in the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River, North China, Northwest China and Northeast China.

4.2 Characteristics Yellow bees are highly adaptable, docile, and prolific, adept at utilizing abundant nectar sources, and have a strong honey-secreting capacity. They are found in most parts of the world. Raising.

5.1 Body color

5.1.1 Queen Bee's Body Color The queen bee's body is yellow, with the tergites of the 5th and 6th abdominal segments being darker. The tergites of the 6th abdominal segment are usually brownish-black (a few are black). Queen bee body See Appendix A for color details.

5.1.2 Male bee body color The male bee's body is yellow with black spots or black rings, and its downy hairs are pale yellow. See Appendix A for the male bee's body color.