



Hawai`i's Apiary Program: Here to Stay!

It is with pleasure that we announce the Apiary Program is now a permanent part of the Hawai`i Department of Agriculture. Most states have an Apiary Pro-

gram, but Hawai`i never did. The USDA gave federal funds to support Hawai`i's beekeepers when varroa arrived, and the program continued only with temporary

funding sources. Now the legislature has created 4 positions in a new Apiary Section at the Dept. of Ag. Beekeepers helped make this happen. Thank you!

BEE There! Hawai`i's Honey Festival 11/22/14

Last year was the first Hawai`ian Honey Festival, and it was a huge success! The festival is scheduled again this year on Big Island, as family fun for all honey and bee lovers. This festival will showcase the 5th Annual Hawai`ian Natural Honey Challenge entries. Taste the prize-winning honeys! Meet the National Honey Queen, and visit vendors of the many special foods and other products of the hive as they demonstrate and sell goods.

The 5th Annual Hawaiian Natural Honey Challenge:

Prepare now, and submit your honey entries to Peggy, 8 0 8 - 9 6 3 - 6 3 6 1 peggy@thebeecompany.buzz

MAINLAND EVENTS
If you are able to go to a beekeeping conference, you will surely find it inspiring and educational! Here are some upcoming events to consider.

British Columbia Honey Producers Association Annual Conference
Sept 25 – 27 Richmond, BC
www.bcbeekeepers.com

14th Annual North American Pollinator Protection Campaign International Conference - NAPPC
Oct 21 – 23 Washington, D.C.
pollinator.org/napcc/conference.

The Russians Are Coming: Migratory Beekeeping, Almond Pollination & Honey Production
Oct 25 – 26 Medina, OH
www.medinabeekeepers.com

Oregon State Beekeepers Association Conference
Nov 6 – 8 Seaside, OR
www.orsba.org/hdocs/bee_schools_and_events

Colorado State Beekeepers
Nov 8 Castle Rock, CO
www.coloradobeekeepers.org

California State Beekeepers Association - 125th Annual
Nov 18 – 20 Valencia, CA
www.californiastatebeekeepers.com

Idaho Honey Association Meeting
Dec 4 – 5 Boise, ID
208-888-0988, rick@amgidaho.com

Almond Board Conference
Dec 9 – 11 Sacramento, CA
almondconference.com

North American Beekeeping (ABF) Conference and Tradeshow
Jan 6 – 10 Anaheim, CA
www.abfnet.org

American Honey Producers (AHPA) Convention & Tradeshow
Jan 6 – 10 Manhattan Beach, CA
americanhoneyproducers.org

Thanks to our supporters:



Hawai`i Pollinator Week 2014. Governor Neil Abercrombie with staff from the HDOA Apiary Program, the UH Bee Project, President of the Hawai`i Beekeepers' Association and Honey Girl Organics Cosmetics.

Hawai`i Apiary Program

Where we're at:

16 E. Lanikaula Street
Hilo, HI 96720
808-352-3010

www.HawaiiBee.com

Facebook: Hawaii Bee

Hawai`i Honey Festival

When: Sat, Nov. 22, 10a-4p

Where: Nani Mau Garden, 421 Makalika Street, Hilo

There will be a Gala Dinner to showcase the American Beekeeping Federation spokesperson, the National Honey Queen, **Wednesday, Nov. 19, in Hilo**, contact Peggy to attend

Activity Update: What We Do Statewide



Top: Danielle Downey demonstrating how to assemble comb into a frame to adopt a feral hive.

Bottom: Lauren Rusert helps students learn how to graft larvae in the Queen Rearing class.

The Hawai`i Apiary Program serves many functions; here are a few highlights that show our efforts statewide.

Educational workshops and classes. To date in 2014 we have taught 378 students in 20 classes on 5 islands!

Introduction to Bee Biology
O`ahu: 2 classes, 59 students
Maui: 3 classes, 56 students

Bee Health
O`ahu: 2 classes, 61 students
Maui: 2 classes, 42 students

Queen Rearing
Big Island: 2 classes, 38 students
O`ahu: 3 classes, 37 students
Kaua`i: 2 classes, 32 students
Maui: 1 class, 23 students

Hive Removal
Maui: 1 class, 25 students
Lana`i: 2 demos, 3 students

Apiary Inspections for queen export. Businesses that sell queen bees off island must have a health certificate, which is valid for 90 days. So far in 2014, we have provided 23 inspections on 3 islands.

Biosecurity. The Apiary Program maintains almost 100 swarm traps throughout the state, all within a mile of airports and shipping ports. These traps are to intercept any bees or bee pests moved in with cargo. It is in this security system where varroa was first discovered on Big Island. We look for mites, Africanized bees, and many other bee pests of concern.

Honey Bee National Survey Sampling. As the whole world watches pollinator health trends, Hawai`i's samples are also analyzed. We collect and submit 24 samples every year from throughout the state to keep information about Hawai`i's bee health trends. <http://beeinformed.org/aphis/>

Beekeeper Registry. Hawai`i has a Voluntary Beekeeper Registry, which we use to keep in touch with important news (and this newsletter), and also referrals for swarm catching and pollination. We have over 200 registered beekeepers with over 14,000 hives!

Seeking Volunteers for Apiary Training



How many varroa do you see? Come learn! We will be training Volunteer Apiary Inspectors to detect varroa.



When varroa mites were first discovered on O`ahu in 2007, HDOA immediately surveyed to determine how widespread they were. Unfortunately, they were so widespread that they had been present for at least a year, probably longer. WHY? Because its hard to see something you have never seen before! We want to train your eyes to see honey bee health concerns, like varroa mites!

HDOA recently received funding from the Hawai`i Invasive Species Council to bring volunteers from the

varroa-free islands (Maui, Moloka`i, Lana`i and Kaua`i) to a training event on Big Island. The training will have classroom, lab and field components. Volunteers will learn how to recognize and sample for varroa mites, foulbrood, nosema, Africanized bees, and the symptoms of pesticide poisoning.

Travel to the Big Island and an overnight stay will be provided in exchange for participants volunteering to share this knowledge on their resident islands.

For example, if Kaua`i beekeepers have concerns about their hives, they may call the trained volunteer to ask questions, come take a look, and collect samples or take photos. With this program we hope to extend the Apiary Program support and shorten response time on the outer islands by working closely with trained volunteers who want to protect honey bee health on their varroa-free islands!

Space is limited: if you are interested please contact us!