



## Apiary Program Updates

Thanks to our supporters:



### Classes coming up: Bee Courses on Maui

We will be teaching part of our Beekeeping Series at UH Maui campus in Kahului on March 10-12, 2016. Classes will include: Beginning Beekeeping, Intermediate Beekeeping, and Dividing & Catching Swarms. Register online [HERE](#).

### New Website is up!

We have just merged our HawaiiBee.com website with the Hawai`i Department of Agriculture's official website.

Please find us at the link below or type 'Hawai`i Apiary Program' into the search bar at the [hdoa.hawaii.gov](http://hdoa.hawaii.gov) home page. Take a browse and let us know what else you'd like to see on our [website](#)! It will be updated regularly so stay tuned!

### WAS Conference in Hawaii: Oct. 13-15, 2016

We are excited to announce that Hawai`i is hosting the Western Apiculture Society Conference on Oahu this year from October 13-15, 2016. We

wanted to tell you early this year so you can plan to be there! Info [HERE](#).

### Three national bee conferences will be held together:

In January 2017 in Galveston, Texas: American Beekeeping Federation Conference (ABF), American Honey Producers Association Convention (AHPA), and American Bee Research Conference (ABRC).



A wild colony found on Kauai while surveying feral honeybee populations.

## Beekeeping Classes: Schedule one near you!

The Apiary Program offers a series of workshops throughout the state to ensure Hawai`i's beekeeping is sustainable. These courses are designed in the following series:

**Honey Bee Biology**— learn to think like a bee! What they do, how they do it, what's going on in the box?

**Honey Bee Health** issues—beetles, mites and parasites! Oh my! Learn what to watch for and how to keep your hives healthy.

**Honey Bee Queen Rearing**— it is common practice for beekeepers to rear a few queens when they need to, make this part of your practice.

**Management Special Topics** — splitting colonies, catching swarms, honey harvest and products of the hive. Request one!

[Contact us](#) to help us schedule courses near you! We partner with Beekeeping Clubs or similar interested groups, Community Colleges, etc. statewide.

### Hawai`i Apiary Program

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808-339-1977

[Website](#)

Facebook: Hawaii Bee

[Email us!](#)

## National Surveys are starting again

We are beginning our 2015-2016 year of USDA National Honey Bee Surveys. We are one of the 32 participating states in the U.S. that conducts 24 of these surveys statewide each year. Participating beekeepers receive a thorough inspection of 8 colonies in

their apiary, including pest, disease and virus testing — all free of charge! This is a great value for participants and contributes to bee health across Hawai`i and the nation! If you have 8 or more colonies and would like to participate, please

give Noe a call at 808-339-1977 or email at [noelani.waters@hawaii.gov](mailto:noelani.waters@hawaii.gov). For more information, visit <https://beeinformed.org/aphis/>.



Brawny Dine-A-Max blue towels are an excellent mechanical way to control small hive beetle. The bees will fluff the fibers of the towel and then chase the beetles into it where they are trapped.



Hopguard II before and after application.



Maryann Frazier presenting at the Maui Bee Conference.

## Bees and palm trees: conference recaps

### American Beekeepers Federation conference (ABF): Jan. 3-6, 2016, Jacksonville, FL:

Over 600 beekeepers from across the country attended the largest US beekeeping conference in Jacksonville, Florida this January. The ABF is 5 packed days of emerging honeybee research, specialized workshops, and a fantastic tradeshow. The Hawai'i Apiary Program staff had the opportunity to attend the ABF conference and meet apiary inspectors from across the country to discuss the preven-

tion and spread of pests, diseases and pathogens threatening bees nationwide. Next year the ABF will be in Gavelston, TX in January, we would love to see you there!

### Maui Bee Conference: Jan. 30-31, 2016, Haiku, Maui

Held at Hale Akua Farm in Haiku, Maui, the first ever Maui Bee Conference was a great success! Exceptional researchers and beekeepers from the mainland and Hawaii presented to attendees about a variety of applicable subjects through lectures and hands on workshops. Presen-

tations included: effect of pesticides on honeybees, integrated pest management, planting for pollinators in Hawaii, fungicides and bees, creating community beekeeping associations, small scale queen rearing, products of the hive, and even making honey ice cream! It was such a great success we hope it can happen annually. Stay tuned for further developments!

## Newly approved Varroa mite treatments

### Oxalic Acid:

Oxalic acid is a concentrated plant acid found in buttercups, rhubarb, and spinach. It has many positive qualities as a natural mite treatment: it is not lipid soluble, does not build up in wax of your combs, and it is a natural component of honey. It is safe and easy to apply using the drip method on broodless colonies to kill phoretic mites on worker bees. Oxalic acid is available for purchase from Brushy Mountain Bee Supply.

### Hopguard II:

Utilizing the natural plant acid,

hops beta acid, from hops used to brew beer, Hopguard II is a food grade product with no negative effects on normal hive activity and leaves no residues in honey. Hopguard II has the same formula as Hopguard I with a new delivery method to ensure that the strips stay moist and viable for a longer time period in order to effectively kill the phoretic mites on worker bees. Hopguard II is available from Mann Lake beekeeping supply. In December 2015, the Apiary Program helped to conduct a viability study on Hopguard II for Hawai'i and the tropics. We found

Hopguard II to be very effective for mite mortality while showing minimal effects on the brood and worker populations.

### New Mite Shakers:

Chester Lowrey, founder of EasyBotics, has worked with the Apiary Program over the last year to develop a 3-D printed lid for a durable, locally produced mite shaker. Go to [jarfilter.com](http://jarfilter.com) to order your own! Monitoring for Varroa mite levels in your hive is an important part of integrated pest management. We highly recommend having one for your beekeeping operation.

## Finding queen bees near you...

There are several queen producers in Hawai'i, if you need queens check them out! Only Big Island and Oahu have Varroa mites, so if your island is Varroa free, don't order queens from those islands! Only certified queen breeders are allowed to ship off island, if you have questions, don't hesitate to give us a call.

### On Maui:

Maui Queen Co., 269-7619

### On Big Island:

Big Island Queens, 530-0298  
Hawaiian Queens, 328-2656  
Karrus Queens, 854-5308  
Big Island Moonbow Farms, 987-7821  
Ono Queens, 430-7182  
Hawai'i Island Honey Co.,

966-9070

### On Oahu:

Big Island Queens, 530-0298  
Hawaiian Queens, 328-2656  
Karrus Queens, 895-2563  
Big Island Moonbow Farms, 987-7821  
Ono Queens, 430-7182  
Hawai'i Island Honey Co., 966-9070