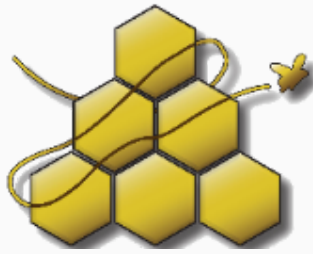


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American Honey Producers Association



Photo Credit: Ben Sallmann, Honey Bee Field Specialists (bensallmann@gmail.com)

We are working on updating the Website, we still have a long ways to go, but we are making progress every week. We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your patience!

www.AHPANET.com

Almond News & More...

by Chris Hiatt, President

Greetings AHPA members!

I hope life find you well and your hives are in good shape in the almonds or growing wherever they are. For the past 10 years or so, I've given an almond update for AHPA. It was difficult getting hives out of stockpiles and into orchards the first and second week of February with all the rain (It was a relatively dry winter until January). Many beekeepers started early moving bees and got the notoriously muddy orchards in before they got too bad.

It seems that the supply was close this year, unlike last year, which was short. I've heard from a few members and other beekeepers who have several hundred

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hive per acre to save money while the almond price still remains below what we have been used to. If growers would not have gone down in hives per acre I think the supply would have been right on. As of February 21st, all the early varieties are in full bloom or close to it. We have had above-average temperatures which is helping dry out the blossoms after several shots of rain the past week. Overall, we are at more flight hours now than at this time last year.

Now for an anti-dumping update. Unfortunately, the packers filed an appeal of the critical circumstances issue with the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. According to our counsel this is pretty unusual. So we will be paying a little more on the defense of critical circumstance. In CAFC appeals, a three-judge panel hears cases and reviews the agency's decision-making under the same deferential standard of review at the Court of International Trade ("CIT"). We had hoped the packers would accept the CIT's decision, which completely rejected all of their legal and evidentiary arguments, but unfortunately it looks like they are pressing ahead. Early 2025, most likely, the decision will be made. The Commerce Department's first administrative review of the antidumping order on raw honey from Vietnam and India are coming up. Right now the preliminary results are due in March, but those can be extended to June if Commerce needs more time, which I've been told they will. As I mentioned in my talk at the December convention in San Diego, we are asking our membership for another 2 cents on your average honey crop. We expect to pay another \$600,000 in reviews. If India gets the higher duty rate (which on paper, they totally should) we think our domestic price will start ticking up again. Please help finish what we started on this suit. We had immediate relief the first two years of the suit, it is softening now (just like the 2001 Chinese dumping suit price did) but we need to finish what we started.

On a final note, I spoke at the Canadian Honey Council meeting Super Bowl weekend (I know: Who schedules a convention Super Bowl weekend! Leave it to the Canadians, eh?). I was a part of two panel discussions, one being on what US-Canada beekeeping relations should look like. For the most part our communication has been great. We agreed that standardization of honey testing should be a priority. NMR and HRMS tests should show the full report and not just parts of it. Test results can be cherry-picked to get the results packers want for imported honey. Also discussed was research coordination and data sharing that would help products get registered on both sides of the border. Opening the border to packages from the US to Canada was also discussed. It sounds like the CHC is letting the Canadian Beekeeping Federation (basically the commercial guys up there that want the border open) take the lead on this issue. They expect an answer from CFIA within the next few months.

We would again like to thank Cassie Cox for her more than a decade of work as AHPA secretary. She's been a great help to our industry and has worked hard for you, our members. We welcome Anne Marie Fauvel, our new addition to the AHPA

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board! He has moved to our legislative committee. Also, thanks to JB Meyer for serving on the board the last 3 years. Wes Card and Andy Drange have both stepped up to be our newest executive board members. We are excited to have your unique perspectives and future input on the board.

I hope you have a great spring making divides, raising queens, shaking packages and pulling honey. Keep up the good work! Many depend on you!

Chris

REPORT UNUSUAL COLONY LOSSES HERE

4-Minute Survey For Commercial Beekeepers.



PAm

SCAN QR CODE TO TAKE THE SURVEY

To bring perspective to colony losses again this season, Project Apis m. is asking commercial beekeepers bringing their colonies to almonds to fill out a brief, 4-minute, take the [SURVEY HERE](#), or click on the QR code below.

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you are not a commercial beekeeper, but know one, please share this with them! **All responses will be kept anonymous.**



SAVE THE DATE
December 3-6, 2024

American Honey Producers' Association
2024 Convention
Westin San Antonio North
9821 Colonnade Blvd,
San Antonio TX 78230

The graphic features a central image of a bee on a pink flower, surrounded by four smaller images: a beehive, a close-up of a bee on a wooden structure, a beekeeper in a white suit, and a large beehive structure in a field.



USDA
Farm Service Agency
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The logo includes the USDA shield and stylized green and blue waves representing a field.

BEAR Issue UPDATE

One of our members wrote to the Farm Service Agency and received important information regarding Bear Damage. You can read the full response [HERE!](#)

Important Excerpt:

..."ELAP provides emergency assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees, and farm-raised fish that have losses because of disease, adverse weather, or other conditions, including losses due to a federally protected species attack including Grizzly bears. ELAP assistance is for losses not covered by other USDA disaster assistance programs."...

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Published Science

Life-history stage determines the diet of ectoparasitic mites on their honey bee hosts - Have you seen this headline?

The study concludes that "adult mites feed mainly on the fat body of adult bees during the dispersal stage, while adults and offspring mites rely primarily on the hemolymph of honey bee pupae during the reproductive stage in the capped brood cells. Read more [HERE!](#)

So what you might ask? With better understanding of the biology and life cycle of *Varroa*, we can hope to better target the pest. This could lead to more precise management, potential new Varroacide delivery methods, like RNAi technology for example.



USDA POLLINATOR SUBCOMMITTEE

Read the news in Bee Culture Catch the Buzz 2.23.24 [HERE!](#)

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FORAGE TO FEEDING SEMINAR

Explore New Frontiers in Nutrition



Dr. Priyadarshini Chakrabarti Basu

Mississippi State University



Dr. Diana Cox-Foster

USDA-ARS Pollinating Insect Research Unit, Logan Utah



Dr. Vanessa Corby-Harris

USDA-ARS Carl Hayden Bee Research Center in Tucson, AZ

Free to attend. Register for event below.



6 March, 2024



11:00 am - 1:30 pm EST

For more information and registration, click [HERE!](#)

Honey Market Overview in Newstrail:

Honey Market Surges Amid Rising Health Consciousness

Read the whole article [HERE!](#)

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Apimondia Newsletter - February 2024
Read it [HERE](#)



AHPA App

As AHPA continues to work on behalf of all beekeepers, one of our initiatives is advocating with the FDA in Washington D.C. to update honey labeling guidelines. As part of this effort, we need your help to collect pictures of honey labels from around the United States. Our goal is primarily to find honey that is mislabeled according to current FDA guidelines. Secondly, we need examples of any labels which misrepresent country of origin or are purposefully confusing to consumers so that we can advocate for positive changes and updates.

Search the App Store or Google Play for "AHPA app". We need to collect as many pictures from honey on the store shelf as possible. Please take a few minutes to help collect this data.

Please do not respond to this message.

This email is sent from an unattended mailbox, email info@ahpanet.com

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for all inquiries.

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