



# Apiary Inspectors of America

Dear State Apiary Inspector,

On behalf of the Apiary Inspectors of America (AIA) and Auburn University, we would like to invite you to participate in a hands-on workshop concerning the biology and management of *Tropilaelaps*. The workshop is funded by a joint grant provided by Project *Apis m.* and the North Dakota Department of Agriculture Honey Bee Research Grant Program.

The workshop will take place at Auburn University from November 4-8, 2024. *Tropilaelaps mercedesae* is an emerging threat to the honey bee industry. This workshop will teach inspectors techniques to identify and manage *Tropilaelaps* and lead to the development of an action plan. This workshop consists of lectures and hands-on activities including identifying *Tropilaelaps* specimens and incident command.

The workshop will take place on Tuesday, November 5, through Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. Monday and Friday (November 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>) will be travel days.

If needed, AIA and Auburn University have funds available to assist with travel costs. This includes assistance with transportation, meals, and lodging. Cost associated with the workshop are as follows:

Transportation: Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL) is the nearest airport. There is a shuttle service from ATL to Auburn, Groome Transportation \$55/one-way.

Lodging: We have secured a block of rooms at the Auburn University Hotel and Conference Center. The workshop rate is \$161/night.

Meals: Lunch will be provided during the workshop. Two dinners will also be provided. Participants will need to pay for breakfast and one dinner on their own during the workshop as well as all meals during travel days.

Spots and funds are limited. Please RSVP your spot on the AIA website ([www.apiaryinspectors.org](http://www.apiaryinspectors.org)) by May 15, 2024. Spots are limited to one per state, but more may become available after the May 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. Feel free to email me if you have any questions, [natasha.garcia-andersen@dc.gov](mailto:natasha.garcia-andersen@dc.gov)

We hope to see you in Auburn.

Best,

Natasha Garcia Andersen

President, Apiary Inspectors of America