2023 AIA Member Survey

Prepared by the Survey/Annual Health Data Committee

Participants (26)

Alaska
Arkansas
Delaware
District of Columbia
Georgia
Guam
Hawaii (the great and powerful)
Kentucky
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Montana
Nebraska
New York
North Carolina
North Dakota
Ohio
Tennessee
Utah
Vermont
Virginia
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming
Alberta
Nova Scotia

25 participants are affiliated with state, provincial, or territory government. One (1) is affiliated with an academic institution.

Which of the following services or programs did your organization offer this year?

	N	%
Workshops	12	46.2
Educational Materials	21	80.8
Lab Analysis	15	57.7
Beekeeper Classes	12	46.2
Bee Kill Investigations	21	80.8
Pesticide applicator notification	12	46.2
Certification related to bee health	21	80.8
Monitoring/ surveillance/ gathering data on health status separate from USDA-APHIS survey	17	65.4
Certification related to bee products (i.e. food safety)	5	19.2
Veterinarian Training	4	15.4

Did your state/territory participate in the USDA-APHIS HB Survey this year?

22/26 US states and territories reported they did!

	N	%
Funding/Budget	13	50.0
Staff/Personnel	16	61.5
Administration	6	23.1
Beekeepers	15	57.7
The Public	8	30.8
Training	3	11.5
Legislature	4	15.4

What are the greatest challenges of your Apiary Program or Apiary Inspection services?

What is the status of registration in your state/province/territory?

	N	%
Mandatory	17	65.4
Voluntary	5	19.2
No Registration	4	15.4

What are the fees associated with registration?

	N	%
Flat	5	22.7
Graduated	5	22.7
Free	12	54.5

What is the frequency of registration in your state/province/territory?

	N	%
Annual	15	78.9
3 year	1	5.3
Once/Lifetime	3	15.8

Which honey bee health issues are regulated in your state, province, or territory?

	N	%
American Foulbrood	23	88.5
European Foulbrood	12	46.2
Aggressive or Africanized Stock	18	69.2
Exotic Honey Bee Species	11	42.3
Illegal Use of Miticides	18	69.2
Spotted Lanternfly	10	38.5
Varroa Mites	8	30.8
Tracheal Mites	9	34.6
Small Hive Beetle	8	30.8
Exotic Hornets/Wasps	13	50.0
Tropilaelaps	14	53.8
Resistant Pests and Diseases	3	11.5
Chalkbrood	6	23.1
Ants	8	30.8
Nosema	7	26.9

Does your state/province/territory have specific laws, regulations or programming related the following?

	N	%
Urban beekeeping	5	19.2
Distance requirements of apiaries	6	23.1
Distance requirements of colonies in proximity to dwellings	3	11.5
Best management practices related to honey bees and beekeeping	13	50.0
Animal health (i.e. movement, etc.)	17	65.4
Interstate/province/territory and domestic movement and bee sales	17	65.4
Compensation for hive loss - mandated destruction, dead out, natural disaster, bear damage, etc.	6	23.1
Tax benefits or incentives for beekeeping	6	23.1
Honey certification or testing	2	7.7
Agricultural theft	2	7.7

Does your state, province, or territory have the following?

	N	%
Honey certification or promotional program	4	15.4
New legislation this year pertaining to bees, beekeeping, beekeepers, bee health, pollinators, etc.	3	11.5
Extension or university program dedicated to honey bee health and/or research	13	50.0

Does your program charge a fee or fine for any the following?

	N	%
Registration	8	30.8
Non-compliance of honey bee/ apiary laws/regulations	10	38.5
Health certificates/certification	3	11.5
Inspection	2	7.7
Permits for sale	1	3.8

Total estimate of beekeepers currently keeping bees in participating states, provinces, or territories

N = 21

145,997 Beekeepers

Total registered colonies in participating states, provinces or territories

N = 21

1,736,769 Colonies

Total registered beekeepers in participating states, provinces, or territories

N = 21

36,060 Beekeepers

What percentage of these beekeepers are:

N = 24	%
Hobbyist (<50 colonies)	83.6
Sideliners (51-100 colonies)	9.2
Commercial (100+ colonies)	7.2

Total number of apiaries visited by participating states, provinces, or territories

N = 23
7,055 Apiaries

Total number of beekeepers visited by participating states, provinces, or territories

N = 23
3,734 Beekeepers

Total number of colonies inspected by participating states, provinces, or territories

N = 24
105,310 colonies

Total number of queen producers in participating states, provinces, or territories

N = 15
1,354 Queen Producers

Total number of IMPORTS reported by participating states, provinces, or territories

	N	#
Colonies	17	1,307,988
Packages	8	103,363
Nucs	10	33,101
Queens	5	23,219

Range inspected = 0-100%
Most common = 5-25%

Total number of EXPORTS reported by participating states, provinces, or territories

	N	#
Colonies	18	1,324,179
Queens	6	500,035

Range inspected = 0-100%
Most common = 5-25%

Total number of American Foulbrood (AFB) cases reported by participating states, provinces, or territories

N = 24
159 Colonies

Total number of European Foulbrood (EFB) cases reported by participating states, provinces, or territories

N = 23
721 Colonies

Total number of pesticides related bee kill cases reported/investigated by participating states, provinces, or territories

N = 24
68 Cases

Total number POSITIVE pesticides related bee kill cases reported by participating states, provinces, or territories

N = 23
6 Cases

What field or lab diagnostic services did your program provide for beekeepers this year?

	N	%
Varroa Mite	20	76.9
Nosema	12	46.2
American Foulbrood	17	65.4
European Foulbrood	16	61.5
Virus	9	34.6
Pesticides	15	57.7
Miticide Resistance	1	3.8
Bee Genetic	3	11.5
Tropilaelaps Debris	2	7.7
None	2	7.7

What lab(s) do you use for analyzing samples?

	N	%
In house lab (state, academic or provincial lab)	15	57.7
USDA Beltsville Bee Lab	18	69.2
National Agricultural Genotyping Center (NAGC)	10	38.4
National Bee Diagnostic Centre (NBDC)	2	7.7
NC State Honey Bee Queen & Disease Clinic	2	7.7
Other	4	15.4

How are lab diagnostic service fees/costs covered?

	N	%
Apiary Program Budget	18	69.2
Beekeeper	2	7.7
Other (grants, HBHS, other state funds, etc.)	3	11.5

What do you think is the greatest challenge facing honey bees and/or beekeepers in your state/province/territory?

Varroa mites and associated viruses (16)

Climate change (3)

Lack of forage/habitat (3)

Invasives – wasps, pests, plants (3)

Pesticide mis-use in ag and by beekeepers (2)

Poor beekeeper management techniques (2)

Synergistic virus/pest/pathogen loads (2)

Lack of honey bee extension personnel (2)

Under-supported apiary program

Miticide resistance

What do you think is the greatest challenge facing honey bees and beekeepers in North America?

Varroa mites and associated viruses (14)

Pests and disease - general (3)

Climate change (3)

Beekeeper lack of knowledge/education/experience (3)

Synergistic virus/pest/pathogen loads (2)

Invasive species (2)

Miticide resistance (2)

Lack of funding for apiary programs (2)

International trade

Pesticide misuse/overuse

Honey bee genetic bottleneck

No field test for viruses