



# WORKSHOP



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**Tropilaelaps Biology & Management**  
**Auburn USA | 5-7 November 2024**

**Project *Apis m.***



# Registration

<https://apiaryinspectors.org/events>

## The WHY

This work is in response to heightened awareness of the honey bee mite *Tropilaelaps mercedesae* that parasitizes numerous honey bee species in Asia, including the western honey bee *Apis mellifera*. Recent reports suggest the mite has expanded its range west, towards Europe. If introduced to North America, it would be expected that the mite would cause severe economic penalties for the beekeeping industry and broader agriculture sector.

This workshop is a follow-up to one held in Chiang Mai, Thailand for leaders of the Apiary Inspectors of America in January 2024. The purpose of this workshop is to provide an immersive *Tropilaelaps* education and training opportunity for a broader audience – apiary inspectors and beekeeping industry leaders from the United States and Canada.

## The WHAT

By the end of the workshop, participants should be able to demonstrate knowledge and skills concerning:

- Biology of *Tropilaelaps mercedesae* in *Apis mellifera*, as well as its original host *Apis dorsata*
- Current *Tropilaelaps* beekeeper management techniques in *Apis mellifera*
  - o Monitoring
  - o Management
- Possible U.S. beekeeper *Tropilaelaps* management options
  - o Monitoring
    - Sticky boards
    - Brood uncapping
    - Alcohol wash / Powdered sugar shake
    - Bump test
    - eDNA sampling
  - o Management
    - Synthetic compounds
    - Natural compounds
    - Cultural techniques
- Educational materials concerning *Tropilaelaps* that are available to apiary inspectors and beekeeping leaders
- Appropriate first responses to possible introduction of *Tropilaelaps* to the United States

## The HOW

The workshop will deliver several styles of learning opportunities for participants, including lectures, demonstrations, and discussions. Each activity will be lead by a participant of the previous workshop in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

### Tentative Workshop Schedule

Day	Description
Monday, 4 Nov 2024	Travel day
Tuesday, 5 Nov 2024	AM Breakfast: on your own <i>Tropilaelaps</i> biology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Life cycle</li> <li>- Parasitism</li> <li>- Dispersal</li> </ul> Lunch: with group PM <i>Tropilaelaps</i> monitoring techniques <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sticky boards</li> <li>- Alcohol wash</li> <li>- Powdered sugar shake</li> <li>- Bump test</li> <li>- eDNA sampling</li> </ul> End of day recap and discussion Dinner: with group
Wednesday, 6 Nov 2024	AM Breakfast: on your own Incident command centre / pest first response training Lunch: with group PM Future <i>Tropilaelaps</i> needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Research</li> <li>- Extension</li> <li>- Surveillance</li> </ul> End of day recap and discussion Dinner: on your own
Thursday, 7 Nov 2024	AM Breakfast: on your own <i>Tropilaelaps</i> management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cultural preventions</li> <li>- Non-chemical and chemical treatments</li> </ul> Lunch: with group PM <i>Tropilaelaps</i> Hotwash discussions Dinner: with group
Friday, 8 Nov 2024	Travel day

## The WHERE

The workshop will take place at Auburn University, Auburn AL. Selected workshop participants will be provided accommodation at The Hotel at Auburn University located at 241 South College Street, Auburn AL (auhcc.com). This Four Diamond hotel is at the heart of Auburn University's main campus and provides hotel-as-classroom experiences for students of The Horst Schulze School of Hospitality Management. The Hotel offers a restaurant, café, and lounge, and is neighbored by Auburn University's Hey Day Market food hall.

Instructional activities will take place at the CASIC Building, located in the Research Park at 559 Devall Drive, Auburn AL and at the Ag Heritage Park Pavilion, located on main campus at 620-A S. Donahue Drive, Auburn AL.

CASIC Building Lecture Room (Rm 109):



Ag Heritage Park Pavilion:

