Summer 2014 Volume 3, Issue 3

Hawai`i Apiary Program



Hawai`i's Apiary Program: Here to Stay!

announce the Apiary Pro- The USDA gave federal legislature has created 4 posigram is now a permanent funds to support Hawai'i's tions in a new Apiary Secpart of the Hawai'i Depart- beekeepers when varroa ar- tion at the Dept. of Ag. Beement of Agriculture. Most rived, and the program constates have an Apiary Pro-tinued only with temporary happen. Thank you!

It is with pleasure that we gram, but Hawai'i never did. funding sources. Now the keepers helped make this

BEE There! Hawai`i's Honey Festival 11/22/14

Last year was the first Ha- The 5th Annual Hawaiian wai'ian Honey Festival, and Natural Honey Challenge: it was a huge success! The festival is scheduled again this year on Big Island, as family fun for all honey and bee lovers. This festival will showcase the 5th Annual Hawai'ian Natural Honey Challenge entries. Taste the prizewinning honeys! Meet the National Honey Queen, and visit vendors of the many special foods and other products of the hive as they demonstrate and sell goods.

Hawai'i Honey Festival When: Sat, Nov. 22, 10a-4p Where: Nani Mau Garden. 421 Makalika Street, Hilo

There will be a Gala Dinner to showcase the American Beekeeping Federation spokesperson, the Nationa-Honey Queen, Wednesday, Nov. 19, in Hilo, contact Peggy to attend

Prepare now, and submit your honey entries to Peggy, 8 0 8 - 9 6 3 - 6 3 6 1 peggy@thebeecompany.buzz

MAINLAND EVENTS

If you are able to go to a beekeeping conference, you will surely find it inspiring and educational! Here are some upcoming events to consider.

British Columbia Honey Producers Association Annual Conference Sept 25 - 27 Richmond, BC www.bcbeekeepers.com

14th Annual North American Pollinator Protection Campaign International Conference - NAPPC Oct 21 - 23 Washington, D.C. pollinator.org/nappc/conference.

The Russians Are Coming: Migratory Beekeeping, Almond Pollination & Honey Production Oct 25 - 26 Medina, OH www.medinabeekeepers.com

Oregon State Beekeepers Association Conference Nov 6 - 8 Seaside, OR www.orsba.org/htdocs/bee schools and events

> Colorado State Beekeepers Nov 8 Castle Rock, CO www.coloradobeekeepers.org

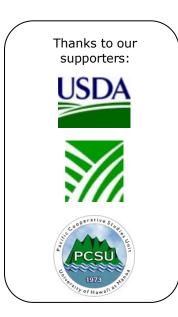
California State Beekeepers Association - 125th Annual Nov 18 - 20 Valencia, CA www.californiastatebeekeepers.com

Idaho Honey Association Meeting Dec 4 – 5 Boise, ID 208-888-0988, rick@amgidaho.com

> Almond Board Conference Dec 9 - 11 Sacramento, CA almondconference.com

North American Beekeeping (ABF) Conference and Tradeshow Jan 6 – 10 Anaheim, CA www.abfnet.org

American Honey Producers (AHPA) Convention & Tradeshow Jan 6 - 10 Manhattan Beach, CA americanhoneyproducers.org





Hawai'i Pollinator Week 2014. Governor Neil Abercrombie with staff from the HDOA Apiary Program, the UH Bee Project, President of the Hawai'i Beekeepers' Association and Honey Girl Organics Cosmetics.

> Hawai`i Apiary Program Where we're at:

16 E. Lanikaula Street Hilo, HI 96720 808-352-3010

www.Hawaiibee.com

Facebook: Hawaii Bee

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Activity Update: What We Do Statewide





Top: Danielle Downey demonstrating how to assemble comb into a frame to adopt a feral hive.

Bottom: Lauren Rusert helps students learn how to graft larvae in the Queen Rearing class.

gram serves many functions; here are a few highlights that show our efforts statewide.

Educational workshops and classes. To date in 2014 we have taught 378 students in 20 classes on 5 islands!

Introduction to Bee Biology O'ahu: 2 classes, 59 students Maui: 3 classes, 56 students

Bee Health O'ahu: 2 classes, 61 students Maui: 2 classes, 42 students

Queen Rearing Big Island: 2 classes, 38 students O'ahu: 3 classes, 37 students Kaua'i: 2 classes, 32 students Maui: 1 class, 23 students

Hive Removal Maui: 1 class, 25 students Lana'i: 2 demos, 3 students

queen export. Businesses that sell queen bees off island must have a health certificate, which is valid for 90 days. So far in 2014, we have provided 23 inspections on 3 islands.

Biosecurity. The Apiary Program maintains almost 100 swarm traps throughout the state, all within a mile of Beekeeper Registry. Haairports and shipping ports. These traps are to intercept any bees or bee pests moved in with cargo. It is in this security system where varroa was first discovered on Big Island. We look for mites, Africanized bees, and many other bee pests of concern.

The Hawai'i Apiary Pro- Apiary Inspections for Honey Bee National Survey Sampling. As the whole world watches pollinator health trends, Hawai'i's samples are also analyzed. We collect and submit 24 samples every year from throughout the state to keep information about Hawai'i's bee health trends. http:// beeinformed.org/aphis/

> wai'i has a Voluntary Beekeeper Registry, which we use to keep in touch with important news (and this newsletter), and also referrals for swarm catching and pollination. We have over 200 registered beekeepers with over 14,000 hives!

How many varroa do you see? Come learn! We will be training Volunteer Apiary Inspectors to detect varroa.



Seeking Volunteers for Apiary Training

When varroa mites were first discovered on O'ahu in 2007, HDOA immediately surveyed to determine how widespread they were. Unfortunately, they were so widespread that they had been present for at least a year, probably longer. WHY? Because its hard to see something you have never seen before! We want to train your eyes to see honey bee health concerns, like varroa mites!

HDOA recently received funding from the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council to bring volunteers from the varroa-free islands (Maui, Moloka'i, Lana'i and Kaua'i) to a training event on Big Island. The training will have classroom, lab and field components. Volunteers learn how to recognize and sample for varroa mites, foulbrood, nosema, Africanized bees, and the symptoms of pesticide poisoning.

Travel to the Big Island and an overnight stay will be provided in exchange for participants volunteering to share this knowledge on their resident islands.

For example, if Kaua'i beekeepers have concerns about their hives, they may call the trained volunteer to ask questions, come take a look, and collect samples or take photos. With this program we hope to extend the Apiary Program support and shorten response time on the outer islands by working closely with trained volunteers who want to protect honey bee health on their varroa-free islands!

Space is limited: if you are interested please contact us!