

Documents to apply for Emergency Livestock Assistance Program for Bees

1. Inventory by month and by county starting January 1 up until the event occurred and then after the event.
2. Number of colonies/hives lost, sold, and purchased for each month by county.
3. Invoices of sales, purchases of queens, feed, mite treatment purchases, and trucking invoices.
4. Apiary registration and any inspections conducted by the State.
5. Best Management Practices (See attached Exhibit)
6. Queen clarification if you produce your own queens.
7. If claiming hive losses, pictures of the damaged hives

If you have never registered with FSA before, please provide the following:

1. Attached AD-2047 should be completed for the operator of the bees and if an entity any member that owns the entity.
2. Parcel ID or Folio number of the location of the extracting house.
3. If you lease provide a copy of the leases.

Honeybee Good Management Practices Suggested Checklist

Spring Management

- Remove winter wraps, wind breaks, and/or moisture boards from hives
- Clean bottom board debris from hives and identify hives with good hygienic colonies (hives with few dead bees and clean bottom boards)
- Assess the population size to determine need for entrance reducers
- Perform hive inspection for queen and identify which hives need queens
- Complete needed hive reversals (needed for hives where the bees have moved to the top of the box to prevent swarming)
- Feed colonies that require food
- *--Assess strong colonies that need to be split
- Assess weak colonies that need to be combined--*
- Assess mite loads to determine treatment needs
- Check for signs for swarm preparations
- Monitor the landscape forage availability to meet food needs
- Monitor pesticides (i.e. dead bee traps)
- * * *
- Increase hive size by adding empty supers
- Monitor for disease and health of the colonies
- * * *
- Harvest honey
- Stop honey draws in late summer if bees are to be overwintered

Fall Management

- Check varroa mite levels
- *--Pre-treat for parasites and disease in late summer/early fall
- Treat again for parasites and disease if needed
- Prevent robbing
- Feed colonies that require food--*

Winter Management

- Remove queen excluders
- Reduce entrance
- *--Cover rim hole on inner hive
- Help insulate colonies from extreme temperature changes--*
- Check hives for weight
- Check on cluster location and size
- Check sugar boards for additional food
- Move hives to well protected area to overwinter