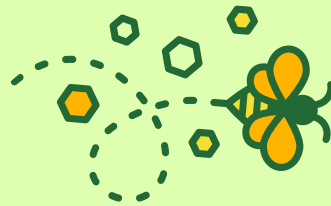


National Honeybee Survey

Honeybee pollination contributes over 15 billion dollars annually to the agricultural industry in the United States. There has been a marked decline in honeybee health for nearly 20 years, which threatens nationwide agriculture and in particular specialty crops such as nuts, berries, fruits, and vegetables. The decline is likely caused by compounding factors, like reduction of forage, new pathogens, pests, and pesticide use.



The National Honeybee Survey is a cooperative project funded by USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (USDA-APHIS) to monitor overall trends in honeybee health and provide early detection of diseases/parasites/pests not currently found in the US. State agencies, universities, and nonprofit organizations assist in data collection. The body responsible for data collection in Alaska is the Department of Natural Resources- Division of Agriculture (DoAg). The DoAg State Survey Coordinator (SSC) will visit a total of 19 apiaries throughout the state and take samples from 8 hives each. Participating apiaries must have a minimum of 10 hives. A visual survey for disease such as American/European Foulbrood is conducted simultaneously. Samples are packed and transported to the University of Maryland Honey Bee Research Lab for analysis. Beekeepers receive a molecular pathogen report outlining Nosema and Varroa loads as well as the presence or absence of other common viruses.



IF INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THIS PROGRAM (AT NO COST TO THE BEEKEEPER) PLEASE SEND US AN EMAIL.



(907) 745-7200



www.dnr.ag.ssc@alaska.gov

