



Public Meeting

Apiary Hobbyist Listening Session

Hobbyist Beekeepers
with 1-9 Colonies

January 18, 2024

Agenda



Welcome and Agenda Review



Overview / Engagement Process of
Survey and Meeting



Q & A on State Registration



Facilitated Listening Session



Closing and Next Steps

CDFA – Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services



Jennifer Berger

Senior Environmental Scientist, Specialist
Apiary Protection Program

Chris Borkent

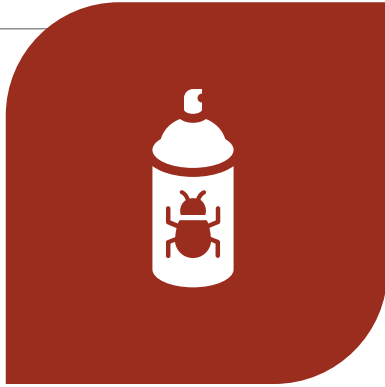
Senior Environmental Scientist, Supervisor
Integrated Pest Control Branch

Ariel Ambruster

Facilitator
California State University, Sacramento

Introductions

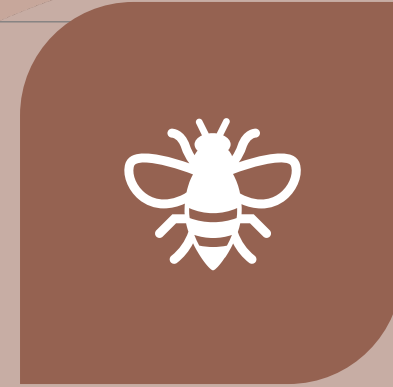
Registration Process



THE REGISTRATION PROCESS IS DESIGNED TO SAFEGUARD BEES FROM PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS THROUGH THE NOTIFICATION PROCESS IN PLACE AT THE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONERS OFFICE AND BEEWHERE.



BY REGISTERING THEIR HIVES AND LOCATION, BEEKEEPERS RECEIVE NOTICE OF ANY APPLICATION OF PESTICIDES FOUND HARMFUL TO BEES.



THIS PROTECTIVE MEASURE AIMS TO BALANCE AGRICULTURAL NEEDS WHILE PROTECTING OUR BEES USED IN POLLINATION AND AS A HOBBY.

Food & Agriculture Code

The Law

The California Food and Agricultural Code
Section 29044(a):

“...person in possession of any apiary,
shall pay...an annual registration fee not
to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250)
to the secretary on January 1 of each
year...”

Food & Agriculture Code

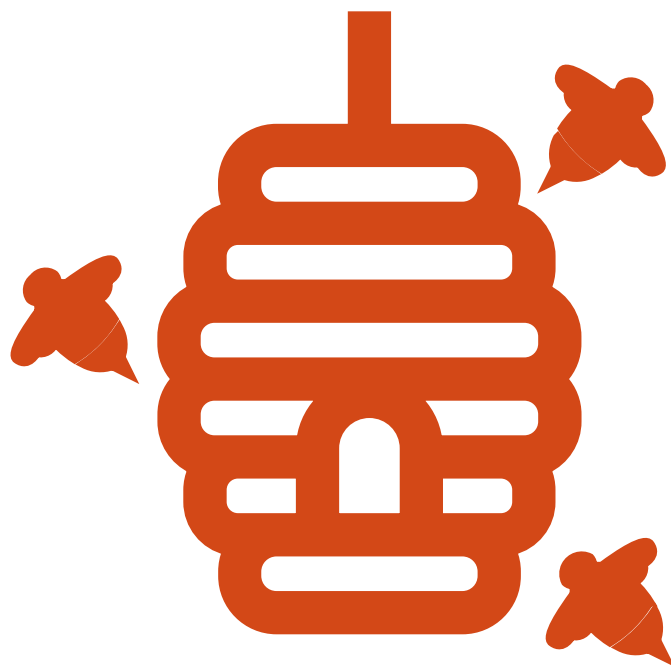
The Exemption

The California Food and Agricultural Code Section 29044(a) also includes an exemption clause:

“The **board of supervisors of any county**, with the approval of the secretary, may **waive** the registration fee for any beekeeper, apiary owner, apiary operator, or person, who is a hobbyist not in the business of beekeeping and who possesses nine or fewer colonies.”

- In some counties, the exemption may cost more than the fee!

Registration Fee Schedule

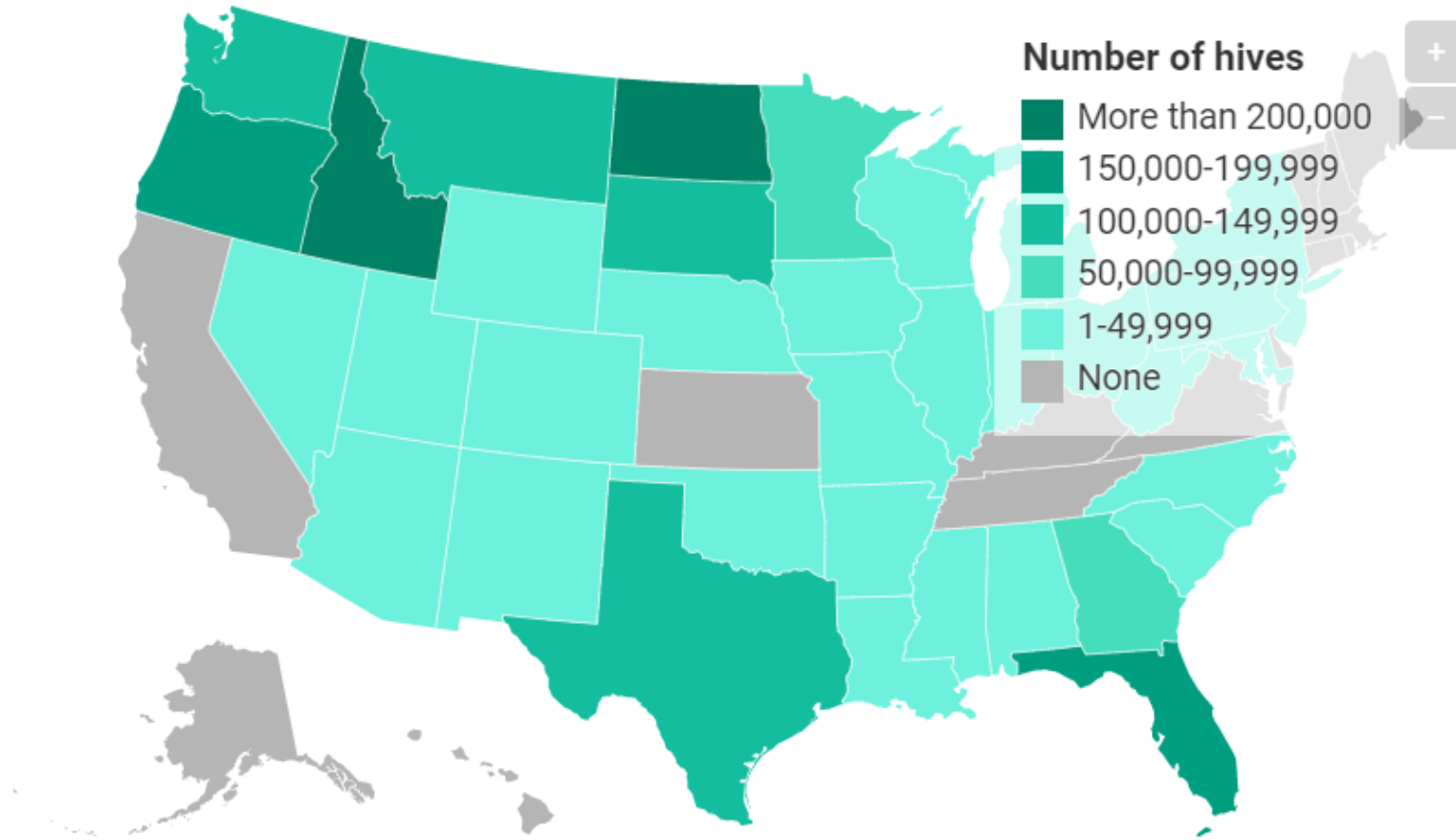


This section establishes the following annual registration fee schedule for any person in possession of an apiary.

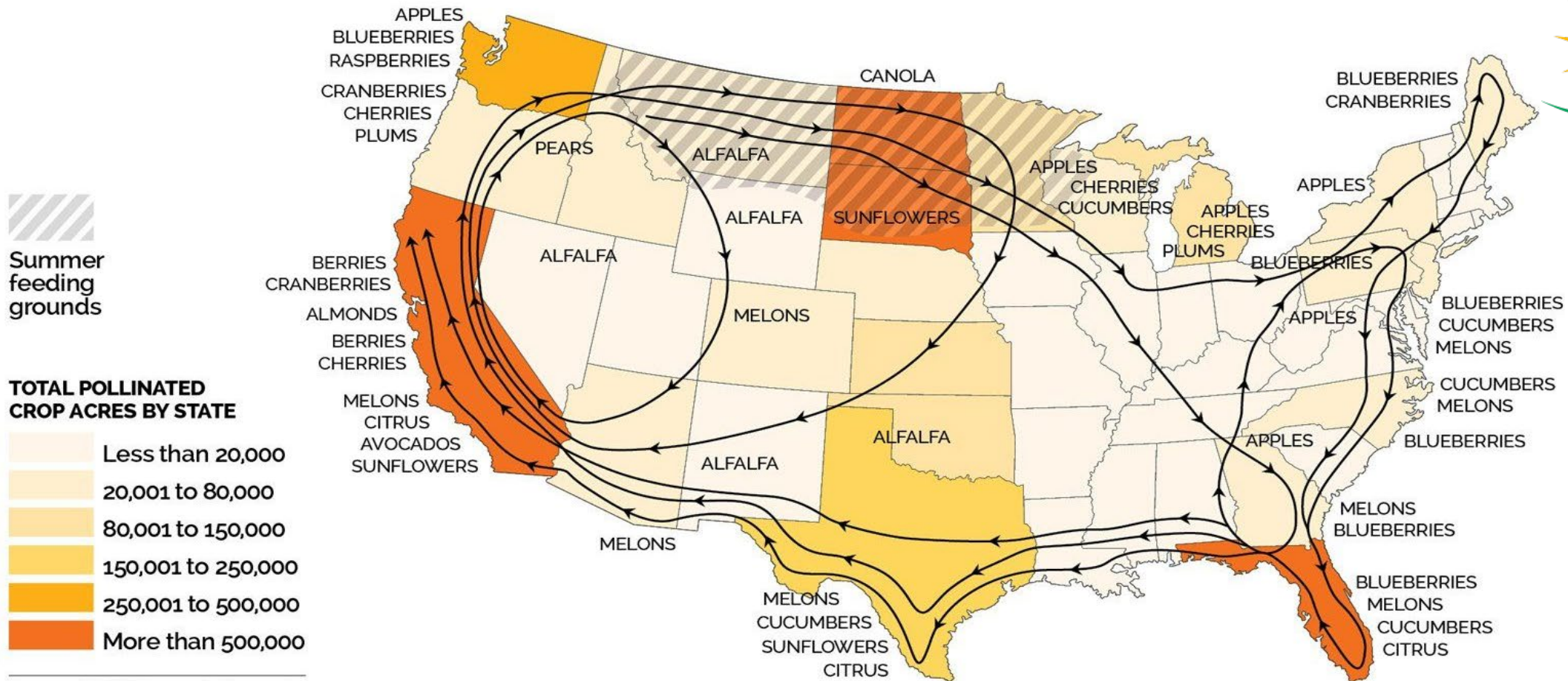
<u>Number of colonies</u>	<u>Fee</u>
1-9 colonies	\$10 – Today’s discussion
10-50 colonies	\$100
51+ colonies	\$250

Note: Fees for hobbyist beekeepers are delayed until January 1, 2025, but registration with the county agricultural commissioner is still required.

The honey bees that were shipped to California to pollinate its almond trees in 2017 came from all over the U.S.



Incoming Hives to CA: Almond Pollination



Honey Bee Movement in CA and the USA

Questions



1. Please share your perspective on state registration requirements for hobbyist beekeepers

2. Please share your perspective on the registration fee, and the fee approach. What approach would you recommend for fees, and why?

3. What services, information or opportunities would you envision to involve hobbyist beekeepers in protecting and supporting CA bees and pollinators?

4. What are your thoughts on the services suggestion, and what ideas do you have for services that are within a reasonable cost range?

5. Do you have other thoughts on this issue you would like to share?

Questions

Engagement Process

Today's listening session

Second meeting in March to
report what CDFA heard

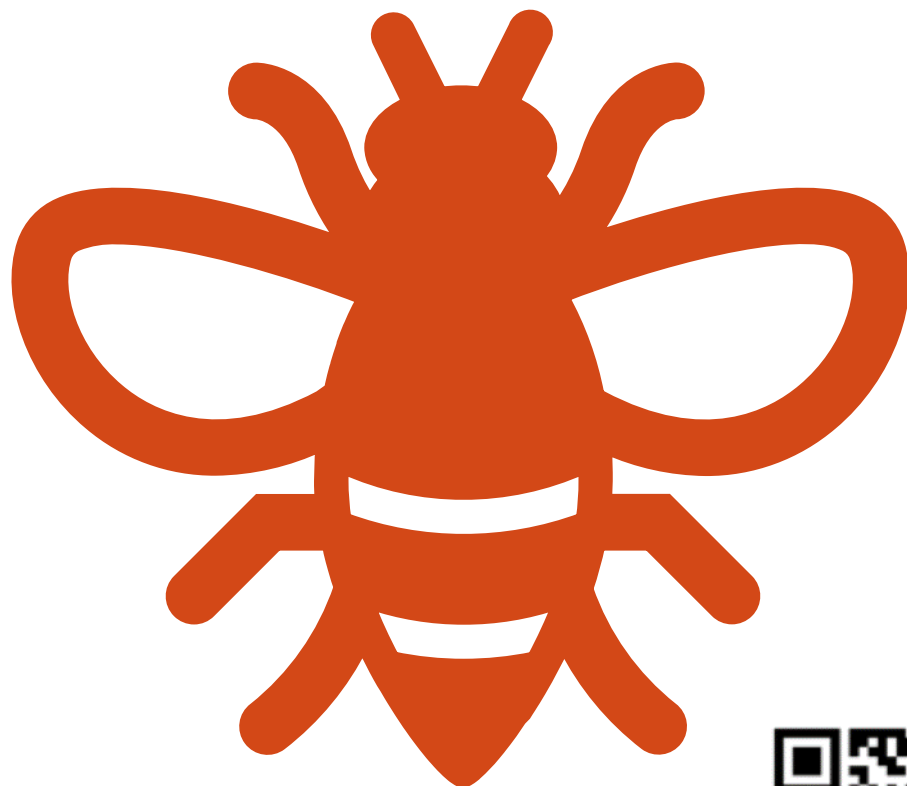


NEXT STEPS

- Second meeting in early March based on results of this meeting and the survey.
- Survey open until February 28th for additional comments.
- Compile comments to inform writing of draft regulation.
- Draft regulation posted on Office of Administrative Law (OAL) website for public comment.
https://oal.ca.gov/california_regulatory_notice_online/
- After comments are considered, final regulation is published and becomes effective.



Thank You
We appreciate your
valuable input



CDFA – Apiary Protection Program

[https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/pollinators/
ApiaryProtection.html](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/pollinators/ApiaryProtection.html)

**Link to online survey open until
February 28, 2024:**

[*Apiary Hobbyist Survey link \(please click\)*](#)

