

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Division of Plant Industry



CHARLES H. BRONSON
COMMISSIONER

BEEKEEPER COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT

1911 SW 34 Street/P.O. Box 147100, Gainesville, FL 32614-7100

Ph: (352) 372-3505 / Fax: (352) 334-0715

1. NAME & MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER OR AGENT:	2. APIARY(IES) LOCATIONS BY COUNTY
--	------------------------------------

I/we agree to follow the Best Management Practices for maintaining European Honey Bee Queens to minimize the threat of Africanized Honey Bees (AHB) in the state of Florida, I further agree to participate in the dilution process of any feral AHB populations that may become established in Florida, by maintaining gentle managed honey bee colonies that are vital to this effort.

**BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR
PRODUCING HONEY BEE QUEENS IN FLORIDA**

1. Beekeepers will maintain a valid registration with the Florida Department of Agriculture/Division of Plant Industry (FDACS/DPI), and be current with any and all special inspection fees.
2. Mating and Mating Yards:
 - A. Drones. A minimum of 60 European drone source colony (250 square inches of drone comb) equivalents must be established for each 1,000 or fewer mating nuclei. If colonies are divided, the European drone source equivalent of 60 European drone source colonies will still be required for each 1,000 or fewer mating nuclei. Seventy-five per cent of European drone source colony equivalents shall be located within ¼ mile radius of the mating nuclei yard and the remaining 25% shall be located within one mile of the mating yard. No drones or drone brood may be introduced into colonies or mating nuclei unless they originate from colonies with European Honey Bee (EHB) breeder queens or EHB production queens.
 - B. Queens and re-queening. Producers of breeder queens and production queens are required to re-queen drone producing colonies with EHB production queens on an annual basis. Queens used in drone colonies may also be EHB queens produced in an area outside of a detected area or by progeny tests of worker bees using, FDACS/DPI approved identification techniques.
3. Breeder queens and European drone source colonies must be headed by EHB queens.
4. Collected honey bee drone semen for instrumental insemination of honey bee queens shall originate from only drones produced by EHB queens.
5. The beekeeper/queen producer must maintain all documents pertaining to the sale and/or distribution of queens, drones, drone semen from their business and make them available to a FDACS/DPI/Apiary Representative.
6. Florida beekeepers should practice good swarm prevention techniques to prevent an abundance of virgin queens and their ready mating with available Africanized Honey Bees (AHB) drones.
7. Maintain all EHB colonies in a strong, healthy, populous condition to discourage usurpation (take over) swarms of AHB.
8. Do not allow any weak or empty colonies to exist in an Apiary, as they may be attractive to AHB swarms.

9. Recommend re-queening with European stock every six months using marked or clipped queens or produce a bill of sale from a EHB Queen Producer.
10. Maintain one European drone source colony for every 10 colonies in order to reduce supercedure queens mating with AHB drones.
11. To prevent potential interaction with AHB, do not site apiaries in proximity of tethered or confined animals, students, the elderly, general public, drivers on public roadways, or visitors where this may have a higher likelihood of occurring.
12. Florida beekeepers should be discouraged from collecting swarms that cannot be immediately re-queened from EHB queen producers.
13. Treat all honey bees with respect.

5. AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE	6. PRINTED NAME & TITLE	7. DATE SIGNED
The affixing of the signatures below will validate this agreement, which shall remain in effect until canceled or renewed, but may be revised as necessary or revoked for noncompliance. All previous versions of this compliance agreement are superseded and rendered obsolete by this document.		8. AGREEMENT NO.
		9. DATE OF AGREEMENT
10. OFFICIAL NAME & TITLE Gerald W. Hayes, Assistant Chief - Inspection	11. OFFICIAL ADDRESS Division of Plant Industry Apiary Inspection Section P.O. Box 147100 Gainesville, FL 332614-1416	
12. OFFICIAL SIGNATURE		