



California State Beekeepers Association, Inc.

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Request for Proposals for the 2017 Season

The California State Beekeepers' Association (CSBA) is seeking proposals for research conducted on honey bees. Available funding is moderate (~\$100,000 total for all funded proposals) and preferable projects are designed to cover a **single year of highly focused research** devoted to finding practical solutions to beekeeping problems.

2017 Priorities

This year, funding will be provided for projects addressing the following priorities:

- 1) As last year, we will provide funds for projects addressing novel and viable options for **varroa mite management**. These management strategies should be effective in reducing the number of mites below a threshold damaging to the colony, be safe for the honey bees, should not contaminate hive products, and should be effective in a wide range of environmental conditions (e.g., range of temperatures, humidity, etc.). Preferably they should be low-cost and not too labor-intensive.
- 2) **Quality and health of reproductive castes** continue to be an issue for beekeepers. Having a better understanding of what impacts queen and drone reproductive health and devising effective solutions for these problems is also considered a high priority for CSBA.
- 3) It is very clear that one of the major problems facing honey bees and beekeepers today is the lack of and/or restricted access to proper **nutrition**. Whether it is access to plentiful and diverse foraging opportunities or availability of an optimal artificial diet, proper nutrition is crucial for health of the colonies. Projects under this priority should address development of a complete diet for honey bees that would be economically feasible for beekeepers and would help colonies not only survive but thrive. Sensible solutions for improving access to natural forage will also be reviewed.

Projects addressing other honey bee stressors will be considered as long as they directly propose practical and immediate solutions for beekeepers.

Proposal Format Guidelines

Proposal needs to include:

- 1) Title of the proposal
- 2) Principal investigator(s) with contact information
- 3) Statement of which Priority is being addressed with the proposed project
- 4) Brief introduction and significance of the problem,
- 5) Objective(s) of the study
- 6) Detailed experimental approach to allow for critical evaluation of feasibility
- 7) References
- 8) Detailed budget

Proposals should not exceed **five pages** (this limit does not include references). Financial assistance for travel to the CSBA convention should be included in the budget, since there is an expectation of an oral presentation on research results at the 2017 November convention which is being held in South Lake Tahoe. Please note that as a non-profit, commodity-based organization, **CSBA does not pay overhead** on funded research grants.

The Research Committee of the CSBA meets in conjunction with the Annual Convention, which normally is held the week before Thanksgiving. To allow for sufficient time for beekeeper committee members to read and prioritize them, **the proposals must be e-mailed in a PDF format to Dr. Elina Niño, Research Liaison, no later than Friday, October 7th, 2016**. Notice of award will be sent to the listed PIs within 30 days from the end of the Annual Convention.

Contact information:

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