



# The PSBA Waggle

Occasional Cyber Postings from the  
Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association

3/10/15

## National Loss Survey

Beekeepers needed! Thank you for your interest in participating in the National Colony Loss Management Survey organized by the Bee Informed Partnership and sponsored by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).



Please go to our online survey

at <http://10.selectsurvey.net/beeinformed/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=BIP2015> and complete the survey there. It will be live on April 1st and close on April 30th. Please do not complete the survey more than once. Information about past Winter Loss and National Management Surveys and the annual reports can be found online at <http://beeinformed.org/>.

The Colony Loss Survey has evolved from our winter loss survey because last year we found that commercial beekeepers lost 25% of their colonies over the summer, and so we are now starting to monitor and report annual, in addition to winter losses. The National Management Survey is conducted annually in conjunction with the Colony Loss Survey. Designed to take about 30 minutes, the 2 surveys are aimed at looking for relationships between colony losses and colony management (including disease treatment strategies, supplemental feeding, etc.) and/or other factors that may influence colony health (such as colony location, honey production, and forage type). Your participation in this research is voluntary and your responses will be kept confidential. In any publication or presentation **resulting from this research**, no personally identifiable information will be disclosed.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at [askbeeinformed@gmail.com](mailto:askbeeinformed@gmail.com). Once again thank you for your participation.

Dr. Dennis vanEngelsdorp

Project Director, Bee Informed Partnership  
University of Maryland  
Karen Rennich

## **Pennsylvania Loss Survey**

Please participate in this year's [Winter Loss Survey](#). Results will be made available here once the survey is complete.

We have included some questions about whether you sold nucs or packages in Pennsylvania. The reason for this is to get some grasp of the economic impact of beekeepers on the state economy and what it costs to re-load the pollinator force from winter losses each year. This is information we can use in lobbying with state and local government.

## **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pa Farm Show**

The PSBA Farm Show Committee is entertaining ideas to help celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pa Farm Show, to be held in January 2016. What gimmick would be a 'real attention getter' ? Give-a-away....'must see'....'wow'...'that's cool', take-home-message ? Balloons and stickers are not options, as they are not permitted by Farm Show Complex policy.

## **PSBA at PSATS**

The PSBA will be attending the PSATS (Pa State Association of Township Supervisors) convention at Hershey Lodge, April 19-21. A PSBA team will be engaging with local officials on ideas and choices about local beekeeping. We want to educate and answer questions before a problem rises. This is a more pro-active approach, rather than defensive.

*The Waggle is not intended to be used for editorials, but rather specific activities or information that may be of interest or value to PSBA membership.*

*Charlie Vorisek*

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