

AMERICAN HONEY PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION RESOLUTIONS 2007

PREAMBLE

All past policies and resolutions are subject to annual review by the voting delegates of the American Honey Producers Association (AHPA) at any official meeting. The Resolutions Committee has attempted to develop policy positions on the various issues that are important to the membership of AHPA. It is our intent to keep the resolutions concise and current, eliminating redundancy where possible.

AHPA Resolutions

1. The officers and members of the AHPA resolve to continue the campaign to:
 - A. Work to enhance the profitability of beekeeping.
 - B. Motivate beekeepers to establish a meaningful rapport with their Congressional delegates.
 - C. Promote the honey bee pollination story with members of congress.
 - D. Open a meaningful line of communication with the Administration.
 - E. Work with other organized groups whose goals are compatible with the goals of the AHPA.
 - F. Provide the necessary funds for the AHPA to implement the 2007 AHPA Program.

2. Be it resolved that the AHPA goes on record encouraging all beekeepers, related industries, state associations, recipients of Byrd Amendment funds, and state entities to immediately send contributions to help pay for the continued cost of the anti-dumping lawsuit and AHPA legal expenses in Washington, DC for market protection .

3. Whereas the I.T.C. has ruled unanimously that cheap imports from China and Argentina are injuring the domestic honey industry and whereas significant dumping duties were imposed on imports from China and Argentina, therefore be it resolved that the AHPA go on record supporting aggressive collection of duties to protect the effectiveness of the I.T.C. ruling and monitor circumvention of duties by shipping honey through intermediate countries.

4. Be it resolved that the AHPA goes on record thanking the Senators and Congressman for their work in appropriating funds for bee research and for the support on the New Shipper Review legislation.

5. Whereas Byrd money recipients have received their money from antidumping efforts, be it resolved that the AHPA requests that Byrd money recipients donate 75% or more of their Byrd funds to the continuing antidumping effort.

6. Whereas the anti-dumping suit has brought a considerable amount of money to the beekeeping industry, therefore be it resolved that the AHPA fund the review of shippers and new shipper request by having beekeepers contribute to the antidumping fund through the self assessment of at least one cent per pound or \$1.00 per hive.

7. Whereas imported honey is being blended with domestic honey at the bulk and retail level, and whereas this co-mingled honey is labeled as a product of several different countries thereby making the country of origin label meaningless to the consumer, therefore be it resolved the AHPA go on record asking Congress and the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit the blending of foreign honey, other than Canadian, with domestic honey.

8. Be it resolved the AHPA ask Congress and the Secretary of Agriculture to include honey with other commodities seeking to enforce meaningful country of origin labeling by immediately implementing the COOL Program.

9. Whereas the sweeteners ultrafiltered, imitation, or other adulterated "honey" is being labeled and sold as honey, be it resolved that the AHPA go on record to encourage FDA to prohibit all products of this nature from using the word "honey" anywhere in the label.

10. Whereas the US honey market is currently faced with a barrage of mislabeled, adulterated, counterfeit, and/or contaminated products, therefore be it resolved that the AHPA support federal and state legislation for a honey standard of identity.

11. Whereas the National Honey Board is not able to promote US honey and whereas any market expansion created by the NHB will be filled by imported honey, therefore be it resolved that the AHPA work to replace the current National Honey Board with a US Honey Promotion and Research Board, thereby making it possible to promote US honey.

12. Whereas a Federal Crop Insurance program will benefit all beekeepers, therefore be it resolved that the AHPA shall continue working to develop a Federal Crop Insurance program that will provide compensation from production and revenue losses.

13. Whereas there has been closure of public road access to federal lands and whereas the value of plants pollinated by bees on federal lands is immeasurable in the food chain for wildlife and also for enhancing the biodiversity of federal lands, therefore be it resolved that the AHPA go on record supporting the reopening of roads accessing federal lands to allow placement of bees.

14. Whereas some US counties are objecting to the placements of bee colonies on CRP land and whereas there is not a national policy on such placement, therefore be it resolved that the AHPA work with the USDA to develop a national policy to allow the placement of bees on CRP land.

15. Whereas the beekeeping industry wants and **Needs** research from the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), therefore be it resolved that the AHPA suggest to the ARS a prioritized list of research areas that are most beneficial and necessary but not limited to the following:

- A. Mite Research
- B. Small hive beetle research
- C. Bee Genetics
- D. Pollination research
- E. Practical wax moth control
- F. Chalk brood
- G. Supplemental protein research
- H. OTC Resistant American Foul Brood
- I. The development of pesticides that are nontoxic to honey bees.
- J. Biological controls for honeybee pests.

16. Be it resolved that the AHPA ask USDA and ARS to continue research regarding the risk or benefit to bees and beehive products from genetically altered crops.

17. Whereas, Aluminum Phosphide, commonly known as Phostoxin, is labeled for use on honey comb, be it resolved that the AHPA request IR-4 to work with Degeesch America Inc., to make an amendment to the label to include honey in comb for control of small hive beetle in the honey house.

18. Be it resolved that the AHPA opposes the EPA's new hazard warning statement on pesticides, and recommends the current label language should remain in effect until such time as the many questions which surround bee protection are answered adequately.

19. Where as the unfettered use of pesticides is causing significant loss of insect pollinators, including honeybees, be it resolved that the AHPA request the Environmental Hazards portion of Pesticide Labels be actively and fully enforced.

20. Be it resolved that the AHPA encourage the USDA to continue to appoint members of the AHPA to Apiculture Research and Review Committees of ARS for research projects on honey bees.

21. Whereas the U.S. beekeeping industry is facing catastrophic bee hive losses, due to varroa and tracheal mite resistance to many registered miticide products, thereby threatening pollination of almonds and many other agricultural crops, and whereas formic acid is an unregulated product commonly available from many sources and used in many applications and whereas there is no monetary incentive for any commercial entity to sponsor the registration of formic acid, be it resolved that AHPA ask Congress and the Secretary of Agriculture to direct the EPA to release, register, or exempt from registration formic acid in liquid form, at 65% dilution of technical grade formic acid, for use in beehives.

22. Be it resolved that the AHPA request the US Department of Labor to implement a H2A Special Provisions Application to assist beekeepers who employ H2A workers and travel from state to state.

23. Be it resolved that the AHPA go on record supporting the idea of the Harry Laidlaw UC Davis Endowment Program with a letter sent to the University from the AHPA.

24. Be it resolved that the AHPA support research to address bee loss, and be it further resolved that AHPA work with other industry organizations, researchers, and other honey bee dependent industries to procure funding for research and solutions.

25. Be it resolved that the AHPA express deepest sympathy to the families of the following who have lost their loved ones in the year 2006:

Wayne Morris, Jim Cagle, John French,

26. The AHPA extends a sincere thank you to all those who have contributed to the success of our 38th Annual convention in Phoenix, Arizona:

- * All of the informative speakers.
- * Carrie Jensen, Donette Brown, Brit Brown, Sharon Park, Cindy Haff, Beth Haff, and Peggy Brady
- * Harold and Brian Nipper of Crocket Honey company and the Rustler's Rooste for the tour.
- * Dean Voss of A&O Forklifts for sponsorship of the Forklift Rodeo.
- * The Vendors & Dealers for their handsome display of wares, much needed coffee breaks, and advertising in the convention program.
- * All donors for the Get Acquainted Reception.
- * All auction donors.
- * All the friendly and helpful staff of the Phoenix Sheraton Crescent Hotel for their excellent cooperation and support before and during the convention.
- * All individuals not listed who contributed to the success of the convention.