

What's Happening in Canada 2020

A CHC Report



Canadian Honeybee Industry

Colony Numbers

- 2004: 597,890
- 2018: 796,764

Beekeepers

- 2004: 7925
- 2018: 10,629

Honey Production

- 2004: 75,490,000lbs (126 lbs/colony)
- 2018: 93,217,000lbs (123 lbs/colony)

Honey Production (in \$CAN)

- 2004: \$121,105,000
- 2018: \$196,566,000

*(2018 Statistics Canada CANSIM Table 001-0007)



Canadian Honeybee Industry

- Overwinter Bee Losses (Canada)*
 - 2009: 33.9%
 - 2017: 25.1%
 - 2018: 32.6%
 - 2019: 25.7%

*(Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists)

For 2019, the most frequently cited causes of loss in order from high to low were: weather, starvation, poor queens, and weak colonies in the fall



Industry Growth and issues

Re-introduction of Fumagilin-B

- CHC, in co-operation with the Vita Bee Health successfully reintroduced Fumagilin-B into the Canadian market thereby securing an economically reasonable and reliable supply.



Direction For CHC

- Labour
- Growth in Honey Market
- Social License/Public trust
- Bee Stock

- Any other problem that arises in the bee world



Labour

**Reduce Admin Burden of TFW paperwork
Increase in available labour supply**

GROWING THE HONEY MARKET

**Improved Canadian Honey
promotion – Domestic & International**



SOCIAL LICENSE / PUBLIC TRUST

**Find path forward that considers
different needs of large & small scale
producers**

BEE STOCK

**Increase in Canadian bee supply,
Canadian queens/Packages**



Canadian Honey Council

Nine provincial/commodity members &
executive Director

Seven committees

Committees made of directors and industry people

Hive Health

Food Safety

Labour

Stock replacement

Organic

Honey

Pollination



Atlantic Beekeepers

- New Foundland & Labrador
- New Brunswick
- Prince Edward Island
- Nova scotia



Industry Growth and issues

Food safety/ biosecurity (SHB)

- Biosecurity affects interprovincial transport which affect domestic stock security
- Safe Food for Canada Act and licencing all food production
- Development of a national surveillance program



Industry Growth and issues

Adulteration and transshipping

- Biggest international issue and impacts everyone
- NMR testing in Canada, first ever sponsored by a nations government
- A cooperative effort by CFIA to test imported and domestic honey



Industry Growth and Issues

Stock and Stock Replacement

- Recent closure of Queen Exports to the USA
- Queen Imports from Malta/Italy
- Possibility of Ukraine
- Threats to California queens



Industry Growth and issues

Labour

- Still the biggest issue facing commercial operations
- Introduction of biometric testing of TFW's last year



Work of the Bee Health Roundtable

Referenced guides produced

Canadian Best Management Practices for Honey Bee Health

Planting Forage for Honey Bees in Canada

Consolidated Reference of Practices to Reduce Bee Poisoning from Agricultural Pesticides (NEW)

- A guide to enhance the cooperation between growers and beekeepers

Currently working to develop a National Pollinator Strategy for Canada



Industry Growth and issues

Expansion and diversifying honey markets

- The CHC, through AgriMarketing grants and Canadian Pavillion grants plan to attend and market Canadian honey at the following:
- January 7-11 American Beekeepers Federation AGM and Trade Show - Chicago
- January 8-11 AHPA Sacramento
- March 10-13 2020 FoodEx, Chiba, Japan
- April 15 -17 2020 SIAL Canada Montreal at the Palais
- May 13-15 2020 SIAL China in Shanghai
- December 2020 Sial Middle East Abu Dhabi UAE.



Questions??

Atlantic CHC Director
Mario Swinkels

Office:
#218, 51519 R.R. 220
Sherwood Park, AB
T8E 1H1
Phone: 1-877-356-8935

Thank You!

