



August 26, 2019

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RE: Request for Proposals for the 2020 Season

The California State Beekeepers' Association (CSBA) is seeking proposals for research conducted in the area of honey bee health and management. Proposals should be designed to cover a single year of highly focused research devoted to finding practical solutions to beekeeping problems.

2020 Priorities

This year, priority funding will be provided for well-designed projects addressing the following contemporary issues:

- Novel and viable options for varroa mite management. 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. Preferably, they should be low-cost and not too labor-intensive.
- Proper nutrition. Access to plentiful and diverse foraging opportunities or availability of an optimal artificial diet are crucial for colony success. 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.
- Microbial/probiotic supplementation. It has been noted that honey bee colonies can benefit from microbial/probiotic application. CSBA is interested in research addressing the question of effectiveness of novel and already available microbial/probiotic supplements on honey bee colony health in field settings.
- 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.
- Pesticide hazards to bees. Understanding the effects on honey bee health of various pesticides used in commercial operations is of interest. Research proposing solutions to this issue are also welcome.
- Other proposed research exploring practical and immediate solutions for beekeepers will be considered. Some examples include, effect of extreme hot and cold temperatures found in field settings on relative honey bee colony health; evaluation of novel and viable and/or optimization of established control strategies for wax moth; optimization of indoor or controlled storage strategies for control of varroa and/or Nosema and influence on relative honey bee colony health.

Proposal Format Guidelines

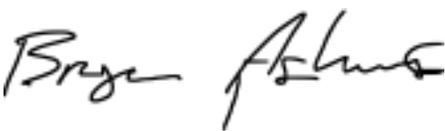
Proposal needs to include:

- Title of the proposal
- Principal investigator(s) name(s) and contact information
- Statement of which Priority is being addressed with the proposed project
- Brief introduction and significance of the problem
- Objective(s) of the study
- Detailed experimental approach to allow for critical evaluation of feasibility
- References
- Detailed budget

Proposals should not exceed five pages, excluding references. Financial assistance for travel to the 2020 CSBA convention should be included in the budget. There is an expectation of an oral presentation of the project findings at the Annual Convention, which will be held at Harrah's South Lake Tahoe, November 17-19, 2020. Please note that as a non-profit, commodity-based organization, CSBA does not pay overhead/indirect costs on funded research grants.

The Research Committee of the CSBA meets in conjunction with the Annual Convention, which this year is being held November 19-21 at Pechanga Resort Casino in Temecula, CA. To allow for sufficient time for committee members to read and prioritize the proposals, they must be e-mailed in a PDF format to Tyler Rood (tyler@agamsi.com), no later than Friday, October 25th, 2019. A rolling deadline will be granted to proposals with approval from the board. Notice of award will be sent to the listed Principal Investigators within 30 days from the end of the Annual Convention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryan Ashurst". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bryan Ashurst

CSBA Research Committee Chair