

Why California Inspects

California Border Protection Stations are the first line of defense in pest exclusion. These stations help prevent unwanted pests from entering the state. Small hive beetles and fire ants are of particular concern when transporting honeybee colonies into CA.

"Ant Free" Certification Program

- In cooperation with several states, CDFA participates in a voluntary apiary certification program.
- Must be issued by state apiarist in the last state where the colonies were placed on the ground.
- Cleaning, inspection and certification must take place no more than 7 days before the hives arrive in California.
- High-pressure wash or brush all hives and beekeeping equipment completely clean of dirt, plant material, or other debris that could hide ants.
- Remove all beehives colonized by ants from the shipment.
- Remove any rotten or broken equipment that could hide ants.
- Place hives and pallets on truck/trailor so that certifying official can see all hives and equipment on vehicle(s), OR
- Place hives and pallets in a staging area on a solid surface such as heavy plastic or concrete.

Before you go... Preparing for California

To reduce colony stress due to heat and dehydration, beekeepers are advised to pre-outfit their trucks with soakers and hoses to attach to hose bibs provided at border stations.

DO NOT add skirting to truck as it impairs visual inspection.

Step 1: After netting colonies, lay a soaker hose on top of load.



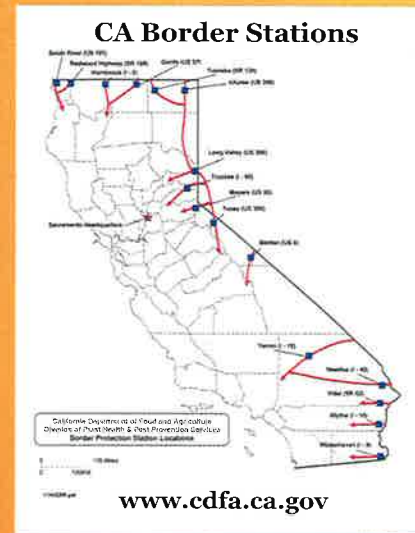
Step 2: Stabilize soaker hose and netting with boards.



Step 3: Join soaker hose and garden hose with a coupling link.



Step 4: Attach garden hose to water source.



IMPORTANT CDFA CONTACTS

Beehive Entry - Quarantine Issues

- Entry Procedures
- Voluntary Ant Free Certification
- Apiary Pest Information

Contact CDFA Pest Exclusion/Bees
Phone (916) 654-0312
Email: peinfo@cdfa.ca.gov

Border Station Issues

- Info Required from Incoming Bee Shippers
- Handling Procedures
- Cleaning Stations

Contact Roger Cline or area manager
Phone (916) 654-0312

Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA) Issues

- RIFA Hotline Reporting
- Infestations/Inspections
- General Information
- Links/Contacts

CDFA Hotline: 1-888-434-7326
www.cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/pdep/rifa

To access BMPs and to view a YouTube video on "Transporting Colonies to CA for Pollination Services," go to:

www.ProjectApism.org

Project Apis m.
6775 Chardonnay Rd.
Paso Robles, CA 93446

PAm is a 501(c)(5) non-profit organization

BMPs for Transporting Honey Bee Colonies to California for Pollination

Self-inspect colonies prior to shipment.

Hives and pallets should be clean, free from dirt, plant material or other debris. High - pressure wash or brush.

Obtain voluntary "Ant Free" certification in state-of- origin.

Do not add any truck skirting as it impairs visual inspection.

Outfit trucks with soakers, hoses and coupling links to hook up to hose bibs at the border stations.

Consider pre-watering colonies prior to arrival at the border station in the event of a delay.

Truck driver must provide the exact physical address of the location of where the colonies will be placed. No P.O. boxes, range/township or GPS coordinates are acceptable.

Plan to arrive at the border station during normal business hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, when pests can be ID'd quickly.

Additional hose bibs have been installed at border inspection stations that have the most volume of colonies passing through. This effort to assist beekeepers has been funded by PAM, CSBA and the Almond Board of California.

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A Guide for Honey Bee Colonies Entering California



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Apiary Shipments to CA (Year/Trucks)

2013 - 3,500

2014 - 3,765

2015 - 4,027

Source: California Department of Food & Ag