

Annual Colony Loss Report

Since 2007, CAPA has compiled and published statistics for Canadian honey bee colony losses. These statistics provide an ongoing picture of the health of apiculture in Canada.

Find the report at:

<https://capabees.com/capa-statement-on-honey-bees/>

CAPA Publication

♦ Honey Bee Diseases and Pests—3rd edition

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Canadian Honey Council letter

Congratulations to CAPA and its membership for initiating a newsletter updating everyone on activities in the apicultural field. The Canadian Honey Council (CHC) and CAPA have had a long- and well-established relationship that has enhanced the knowledge and expertise of beekeepers and bee keeping enthusiasts from across the country. For decades there have been joint meetings and exchanges of information, not to mention involvement in numerous provincial meetings and of course, outstanding support for hosting Apimondia congresses in both Vancouver in 1999 and Montreal in 2019.

In days past, the distribution of scientific data was mainly done through published papers and in person presentations. This, however, has changed dramatically in the most recent of times as the internet has opened up the world to an endless stream of information, some of it science based, some of it, not so much so. This has made the work that CAPA does come under much more scrutiny. At the same time, the relationship with the apicultural industry has strengthened as the issue of bee health has grown in importance. In the past decade the CHC has put forward suggestions to CAPA to work on such things as blueberry pollination health concerns, developing better and improved IPM strategies, pushing for *Varroa* control procedures and the development of *Varroa* control products, all of which CAPA and its members have worked studiously towards finding solutions.

While bee health is still, and will always remain, the primary concern of beekeepers, the CHC is dealing with a myriad of other concerns in the industry including labour and issues with the temporary foreign worker program, honey sales both domestic and international, rising input costs, trade irritants, government support or lack thereof, pests, pesticides and impending threats, climate change and stock replacement among other issues. Often, the expertise of CAPA members is called upon to provide valuable insight and research into these topics. Differentiating between CAPA and individuals with expertise in the apiculture industry is sometime misunderstood but the relationship that has been built up between CAPA and the CHC is, and will continue to be, strong.

The upcoming announcement concerning the CFIA risk assessment for U.S. packaged bees will no doubt prove to be an interesting time for the beekeeping community. The expertise of CAPA members will certainly be leaned upon by beekeepers to ensure the proper and safe conclusions are reached.

Again, congratulations to CAPA on its inaugural newsletter and I will endeavour to provide the readers with far greater detail on some of the important work that the CHC does for its members. [Rod Scarlett/ Executive Director Canadian Honey Council (CHC)].