

# North American Pollinator Protection Campaign Call for Research Proposals Related to Honey Bee Health

#### **Background**

The North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC) is seeking proposals for research related to improving the health of honey bees. Proposals should focus on research to manage, suppress, and eradicate Varroa mites, small hive beetles, and other pests, pathogens, and diseases contributing to colony losses. Summaries of previously funded projects can be found at <a href="http://pollinator.org/honeybee\_health.htm">http://pollinator.org/honeybee\_health.htm</a>. Review and selection of proposals will be conducted by members of the Honey Bee Health Task Force.

#### **Research Needs**

We anticipate supporting several proposals, for a maximum of \$10,000 for each individual proposal. Students and post-doctoral research fellows are encouraged to apply. Funds must be used within a one-year period. Focused, targeted projects with a high likelihood of providing tangible results that can be applied to improving bee health are preferred. Proposals providing valuable extensions of previously funded projects will be considered. Principal investigators of funded projects will be expected to present the results at the 2015 NAPPC meeting. Conference travel and registration costs may be taken from the grant award.

## **Priority Areas**

The Honey Bee Health Task Force has identified seven priority areas for funding, though other areas will be considered as well.

- Effects of pathogens and pests on honey bee behavior, physiology and/or colony health; including the development of novel methods to mitigate these effects, such as RNAi technology.
- 2. Effects of **nutrition** on pest, pathogen, and disease incidence.
- 3. Effects of **pesticides** on pest, pathogen, and disease incidence.
- 4. Effects of parasite and pathogen **spillover** from other bee species to honey bees.
- 5. Development of approaches for **genetic stock** improvement of honey bee populations to enhance resistance to pathogens and parasites.
- 6. Effects of **climate or environmental variables** on pest, pathogen, and disease incidence.

7. The development of **diagnostics** or indicators for the presence of pests, pathogens and diseases that affect honey bee health, particularly those that can be used by beekeepers.

## **Proposal Requirements**

- 1) Proposal title.
- 2) Priority area focus/focuses.
- 3) 3 page-project description (Arial, 12-pt font, single spaced, with page numbers, references are not included in this page limit) with sufficient background and description of methods to ascertain the importance and feasibility of the studies.
- 4) Detailed budget. As a non-profit organization the Pollinator Partnership/NAPPC does not pay overhead on funded research grants.
- 5) Research timeline by month (approximately May 2015 to May 2016).
- 6) 2-page resume of the principal investigator(s).
- 7) Contact information including email(s), physical mailing address, and telephone number(s).
- 8) Please include if the proposal is under consideration by other funding organizations.
- 9) If the PI has previously received funding from NAPPC, please include information about the outcomes of that funding, including publications, presentations, and/or leveraging to obtain additional funding (up to 1 additional page).

#### **Submission**

Email your proposal packets as a single PDF file to Kelly Rourke (<a href="mailto:kr@pollinator.org">kr@pollinator.org</a>) by 3PM PST on Friday, January 23<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Please contact Kelly Rourke, Robyn Rose (<u>robyn.i.rose@aphis.usda.gov</u>), or Christina Grozinger (<u>cmgrozinger@psu.edu</u>) with questions.

## **Funding Decisions**

The proposals will be evaluated by members of the Honey Bee Health Task Force and funding decisions will be made by Monday, March 16, 2015.