



Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership

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Honey Bee Health Initiative – Training Requirement

To be eligible for cost-share funding, applicants to the Honey Bee Health Initiative must show proof of having completed a pest management course related to honey bees, specific to Ontario, within the last two (2) years (on or after **April 1, 2022**) from a recognized institution (e.g., the Ontario Beekeepers’ Association’s Technology Transfer Program), or a diploma or degree in beekeeping from a recognized institution (e.g., University of Guelph, Niagara College) within the last five (5) years (on or after **April 1, 2019**). Eligible courses must cover management for pests and diseases specific to honey bees and Ontario conditions. This requirement will help address bee mortality and support long-term sustainability of the sector.

A list of programs that meet this requirement are shown below.

Please note that costs to attend a course/workshop are not supported under the cost-share funding program. Program details for the Honey Bee Health Initiative are available [here](#).

Ontario Training Programs Deemed Eligible under the Honey Bee Health Initiative

Ontario Beekeepers’ Association’s Technology Transfer Program

Course	When Offered	Course/Workshop Content
<p>Pest Management (IPM) for Beekeeping (Beginner; 1-day workshop)</p> <p>This beginner beekeeping workshop consists of classroom sessions and hands-on lessons in the bee yard.</p> <p>Information: https://www.ontariobee.com/outreach/workshops/springworkshops</p>	<p>Spring workshop (May and June)</p>	<p>Topics include pest and disease biology and identification, monitoring for pests and diseases, record keeping, treatments and integrated pest management strategies. Each participant will receive a copy of the Integrated Pest Management for Beekeeping in Ontario Manual.</p>
<p>Advanced IPM *Having completed the original IPM for Beekeeping workshop is a prerequisite for this workshop.</p> <p>Information: https://www.ontariobee.com/outreach/workshops/oba-ttp-further-advanced-beekeeping-workshops</p>	<p>Winter workshop (November to March)</p>	<p>The Advanced IPM course is the next step for beekeepers who have taken our Integrated Pest Management workshop and want to dive deeper into colony health. This workshop will provide an in-depth look at the biology and life cycles of honey bee pests and diseases, such as Varroa mites and Nosema, in order to inform colony health management decisions. The workshop will also cover monitoring and diagnosing pests and diseases, biosecurity best practices, the impacts of pesticide exposure and nutrition, and creating an IPM plan. A lab component will demonstrate testing for Nosema and tracheal mites using a microscope.</p>

<p>Online Pest Management (IPM) for Beekeeping Course</p> <p>Information: https://www.ontariobee.com/outreach/workshops/apiology101</p>	Active	This intermediate beekeeping online course consists of modules that teach you everything you need to know to keep your bees alive and healthy. Topics include pest and disease biology and identification, monitoring for pests and diseases, record keeping, treatments and integrated pest management principles. You will also learn how to make an IPM plan. There is approximately 10 hours of learning involved.
<p>Train the Trainer</p> <p>Participants will need to attend a full-day live virtual session followed-up by an exam. Participants will have 3 attempts to successfully complete the exam with 90% or greater score.</p> <p>Contact the Ontario Beekeepers' Association for details at: www.ontariobee.com/inside-oba/contact-us</p>		These workshops are designed for beekeepers who are interested in upgrading their knowledge on pests and diseases, as well as best management practices. The training is designed to make them local leaders in their beekeeping communities. These beekeepers will then be available as a resource for questions, guidance and training for new members.

Niagara College's Commercial Beekeeper Program		
Course	When Offered	Course/ Workshop Content
<p>Commercial Beekeeper Program</p> <p>Information: https://www.niagaracollege.ca/environment/program/beekeeping/#courses</p>	3-semester program (3 consecutive terms) that coincides with the normal annual lifecycle of a honey bee.	Addresses management for pests and diseases specific to honey bees and Ontario conditions.

University of Guelph's Honey Bee Research Centre		
Course	When Offered	Course/ Workshop Content
<p>Undergraduate Course: Apiculture & Honey Bee Biology</p> <p>Information: Fall semester: https://ses.uoguelph.ca/course-outlines/apiculture-and-honey-bee-biology-envs2210 or Distance Education (Open Ed): https://courses.opened.uoguelph.ca/search/publicCourseSearchDetails.do?method=load&courseId=18726</p>	<p>Fall Semester: Lectures and two hands-on labs</p> <p>Winter Semester: Offered through Distance Education format through School of Environmental Sciences</p>	<p>This course is designed to acquaint the student with the broad field of beekeeping. It will include honey bee biology and behaviour, management for honey production, products of the hive, pests and enemies and the value of bees as pollinators of agricultural crops.</p> <p>Learning Outcomes By the end of the course, the learning should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and describe the fundamentals and scientific basis of beekeeping; 2. Recognize biological principles applicable to many organisms by using the honey bee as a study subject; 3. Appreciate the importance of honey bees as beneficial insects involved in food production and in ecosystem sustainability;

		<p>4. Explain management practices involved in keeping honey bees healthy and productive; and</p> <p>5. Search, interpret, discuss and communicate in writing aspects of scientific literature relating to honey bee biology.</p> <p>Course Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honey Bees and Beekeeping • Development, Structure and Functions of Honey Bees • Honey Bee Types, Nests and Colony Cycle • Foraging, Queens and Mating • Colony Reproduction and Sex Determination • Honey Bee Adaptation and Diversity: Races, Strains and Hybrids • Beekeeping: What's needed? • Managing the Bees • Honey Production and Pre-Winter Management • Other Products and Benefits from Bees • Diseases and Parasites • Pests and Pesticides
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Lacelle's Apiary and Beekeeping Supplies

Course	When Offered	Course/ Workshop Content
<p>Integrated Pest Management Course</p> <p>Information: https://laclesapiary.com/pages/lacelles-apiary-beekeeping-workshops-courses</p>	<p>Offered throughout the winter of 2023 and into June 2023 in eastern Ontario</p>	<p>This course is designed to teach beekeepers to effectively manage pests and diseases to maintain healthy colonies.</p> <p>Beekeepers will learn multiple tactics to reduce pest populations using multiple tools to find the most effective, least intrusive solutions to problems.</p> <p>Learn to identify, prevent, and manage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ pests and diseases ○ viruses ○ signs of poor health

