



September 25, 2023

## RE: Request for Proposals for the 2024 Season

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

### 2024 Priorities

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

- **Tropilaelaps mites.** Tropilaelaps is a looming threat to the US Honeybee and CSBA is interested in research that will address the threat before it arrives on North American soil.
- **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 honeybees, 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 honeybees that would be economically feasible for beekeepers and would help colonies not only survive but thrive.
- **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 honeybee health of various pesticides used in commercial farming 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 honeybee 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 honeybee colony health.

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## 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
- If this proposal is being submitted for consideration by other organizations, please list the organization and the amount requested.

Proposals should not exceed five pages, excluding references. Please note that as a non-profit, commodity-based organization, CSBA does not pay overhead/indirect costs on funded research grants.

## Project Findings Guidelines

- There is an expectation of an oral presentation of the project findings at the 2024 Annual Convention, which will be held at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nevada, November 19-21, 2024.
- Written report on findings that will be shared with the CSBA membership, due by end of 2024.

Proposals are due in PDF format to Brooke Palmer ([brooke@agamsi.com](mailto:brooke@agamsi.com)) by **October 31st, 2023**.

The Research Committee of the CSBA meets in conjunction with the Annual Convention, which this year is being held November 14-16, 2023, at the Hilton Costa Mesa/Orange County. To allow for sufficient time for committee members to read and prioritize the proposals, they must be e-mailed in a PDF format to Brooke Palmer ([brooke@agamsi.com](mailto:brooke@agamsi.com)), no later than October 31st, 2023. 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,



Bryan Ashurst  
CSBA Research Committee Chair