

THE BUZZ ON BEES + ALMONDS



Committed to Honey Bee Health

The California Almond community is acutely aware of honey bee health concerns and continues to take extraordinary steps to ensure bees remain safe and healthy, both inside their orchards and throughout the year.

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Almond Board funds more honey bee health research than any other crop group!

BMPs have been presented at over **50** INDUSTRY MEETINGS more than **7,000** COPIES have been distributed.



The Almond Board's Honey Bee Best Management Practices (BMPs) are having an on-the-ground impact on protecting honey bees in the orchard and beyond.



\$2 MILLION in honey bee health research
100 HONEY BEE HEALTH PROJECTS since 1995



Almond Board of California participated in White House meetings on the recently released *National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators*.

“BMPs GO FAR BEYOND THE ALMOND ORCHARD also providing important insights for all crops when it comes to **PROMOTING HONEY BEE HEALTH.**”

- Eric Mussen, Apiculturist Emeritus, University of California Cooperative Extension



ABC has taken a leadership position engaging and collaborating with universities, government agencies, nonprofits and beekeeping groups to communicate, educate and inform honey bee research, policy, education and outreach.

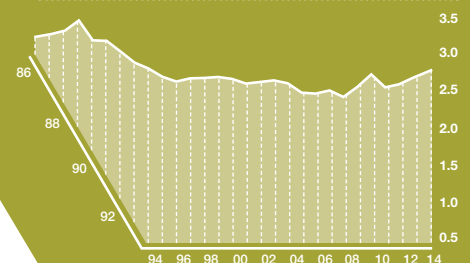
Almonds + Honey Bees are Essential to Each Other

1. Hives arrive in California Almond orchards just before the trees blossom.
2. As the trees blossom, bees forage for pollen and nectar in the orchard.
3. When the bees move from tree to tree, they pollinate almond blossoms along the way. Each fertilized flower will grow into an almond.
4. Almonds are bees' first natural food source after winter. The nutritious pollen helps hives grow stronger so that after almond bloom, many beekeepers split hives to grow their apiaries.
5. After almonds, honey bees move throughout the United States, pollinating over 90 other crops and making honey.



The number of honey bee colonies in the U.S. is at a 20-year high?

Yet, at the same time, summer and overwintering hive losses continue and are of concern, requiring beekeepers to work harder to keep a healthy apiary.



HONEY-PRODUCING BEE COLONIES IN THE U.S. 1986-2014 IN MILLIONS?

1. Gene Brandt, Vice President, American Beekeeping Federation. 2. USDA-NASS. Honey Production Report, 1986-2014. © 2015 Almond Board of California. Document #2015IR0169.