

# HONEY BEE REGISTRATION

## ★ ★ ★ HISTORY, PURPOSE AND BENEFITS ★ ★ ★

In 1892, beekeepers successfully lobbied the Utah territorial legislature to pass the first bee inspection act. The legislation was needed to reduce the spread of deadly foulbrood diseases, which had become rampant.



The law allowed beekeepers to elect a honey bee inspector in every county. Later, registration was introduced to help bee inspectors communicate American foulbrood outbreaks to beekeepers at risk. These efforts significantly reduced the spread of foulbrood.

Over a century has passed since the first bee law, but inspection is still relevant today! Despite the advent of antibiotics and other advances in beekeeping, American foulbrood continues to threaten beekeepers and Utah's honey industry. Registration and inspection serve to mitigate the spread of this disease and other threats to honey bees.



The distinguished entomologist A.J. Cook helped organize the Utah Beekeepers Association, which lobbied for passage of Utah's first bee law.

# BENEFITS OF REGISTRATION

### Benefits to Individual Beekeepers

As a registered beekeeper, the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) will provide you with:

- Health inspection and lab testing services.
- Alerts regarding outbreaks of American foulbrood or other diseases or pests of concern in your area.
- Warnings if there are movements of Africanized honey bees in the state.



As a registered beekeeper, you may request a health inspection if you have any concerns regarding diseases or pests. The inspection and testing services provided are complementary. To request an inspection contact your state or county bee inspector.

### Benefits to the Beekeeping & Specialty Crop Industry

Honey bee pests and diseases have the capacity to cause great economic devastation. State and county bee inspectors help detect and mitigate these problems. These early detection and rapid response efforts help prevent the maladies from becoming epidemic. This provides stability to the beekeeping industry and ensures that bees will be available for pollination services to crop growers.

### What happens to registration fees?

The modest registration fees are used to provide sanitation supplies to bee inspectors, dispose of abandoned beekeeping equipment and assist in the treatment or destruction of colonies infected with American foulbrood. Fees also provide funds for statewide honey bee health surveys and Africanized honey bee monitoring.

### REGISTER YOUR BEEHIVES

Online honey bee registration:

<http://ag.utah.gov/plants-pests/beekeeping.html>

To request an inspection call:

801-982-2313

