

2017 Summary of Accomplishments

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) coordinates a statewide honey bee registration and inspection program in cooperation with the state’s County Bee Inspectors. The goal of this program is to protect managed honey bees from abiotic and biotic threats through inspection, education and the promotion of best management practices. Below is a summary of the state’s accomplishments for 2017:



State Inspections

- ◆ Hundreds of hives in approximately 170 apiaries were inspected for various maladies.
- ◆ Many diseases were field diagnosed and lab verified: *23 cases of AFB, 15 cases of EFB, 7 cases of Nosema spp., 65 cases of Parasitic Mite Syndrome (PMS), 22 cases of chalkbrood, 15 cases of Deformed Wing Virus (DWV) and 5 cases of sacbrood.*
- ◆ Inspectors worked with beekeepers to clean up or destroy diseased hives.
- ◆ Various life stages of small hive beetles were found in Washington and Davis counties. This is the 2nd consecutive year this exotic pest has been found in Utah.



Veterinarian Training

State bee inspectors trained veterinarians in diagnosis and treatment of brood diseases to prepare for new federal rules regulating antibiotics.



Jack Wilkins, UDAF

Organized nine training events to prepare veterinarians for new Food and Drug Administration (FDA) rules which require veterinary oversight of antibiotic treatment. Nearly 40 veterinarians were taught how to identify and treat American and European foulbrood diseases in workshops and in field trainings.



Pollinator Protection

- Conducted extensive public education efforts regarding best practices for protecting bees from pesticide exposure and creating pollinator-friendly habitat:
- ◆ Pollinator protection displays and literature placed in the pesticide section of 25 retail stores.
 - ◆ Intensive trainings of applicators and arborists on ways to prevent pesticide poisonings of bees.
 - ◆ Hosted a public media event urging citizens in Utah to grow pollinator-friendly plants. Hundreds of seed packets were distributed by the program.



National Bee Survey

Utah participated in the USDA National Honey Bee Survey, which monitors for exotic honey bee pests and assesses overall colony health in the United States. 24 apiaries were sampled statewide. No new exotic pathogens or pests were detected from these efforts.



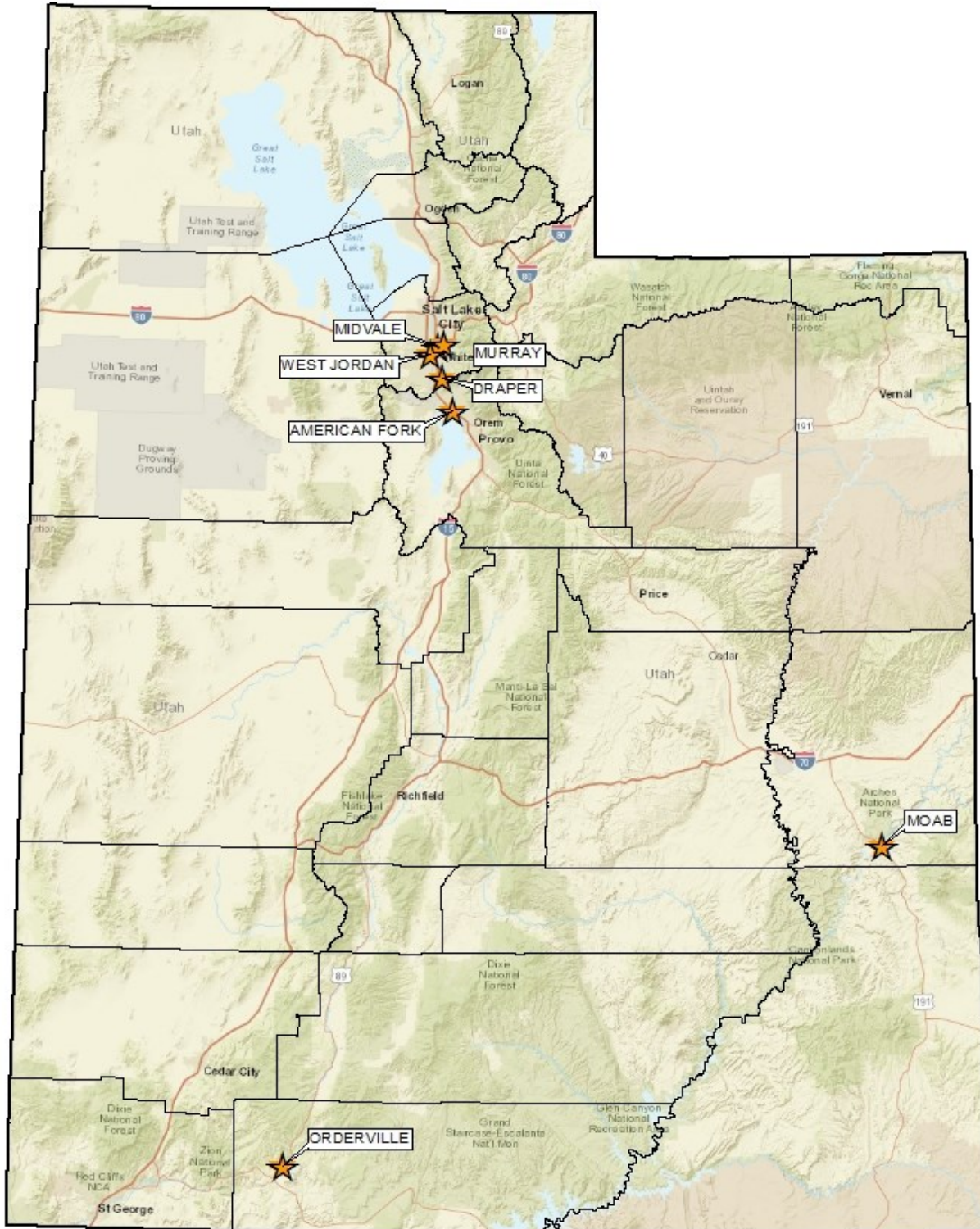
Outreach & Education

- ◆ Conducted three advanced trainings on honey bee disease and pest diagnostics across the state.
- ◆ Fielded hundreds of phone calls and emails related to beekeeping problems.

For more information about Utah’s Apiary Program visit:
<http://ag.utah.gov/plants-pests/beekeeping.html>
 To request an inspection call: (801) 538-4912



Foulbrood Detections—2017



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