



## 2023 BMP Checklist for Beekeeping Tier C (21+ hives)

This checklist must be completed and submitted each year by beekeepers with apiaries located in the unincorporated area of San Diego County. It summarizes the Best Management Practices (BMPs) required by the County bee ordinance. This form can be used for all registered apiary locations of the same Tier level.

Please check “Yes” for BMP requirements that are practiced at your apiary and submit this form with your registration. If a BMP is not applicable, select N/A and explain in the comments box on page 2.

- Yes N/A **Online Course:** If you are a first-time registrant, have you completed the required UCCE online beekeeping course?: [https://ucanr.edu/sites/sandiego bees/Online\\_Beekeeping\\_Course/](https://ucanr.edu/sites/sandiego bees/Online_Beekeeping_Course/).
- Yes N/A **Registration:** Are each of your apiary locations registered for this calendar year?
- Yes N/A **Water Supply:** Is there an adequate water source provided for your hives at each location? If the water source was not introduced prior to moving bees to location, not maintained, and/or bees are visiting an unintended water source (ex. swimming pool, water fountain), beekeeper will be required to relocate bees to resolve the issue.
- Yes N/A **Fire Prevention:** Do you practice weed suppression, have a shovel, and operable water hose or fire extinguisher available at all times to suppress accidental fires?
- Yes N/A **Bee Smokers:** Do you use a fire resistant smoker plug to prevent embers from escaping smoker? Do you place the smoker in a noncombustible container with secure lid during hand-carry transport?
- Yes N/A **Re-Queen:** Have you requeened your hives with known European honey bee (EHB) mated queens (preferably marked) whenever:
- you establish hives from wild swarms and colonies OR
  - you observe your bees displaying over-defensive behavior OR
  - your queen becomes less productive or weak, such as every two years?
- Yes N/A **Regular Hive Check by Beekeeper:** Do you open your hives at least once monthly to check for over-defensiveness, presence of a productive EHB queen, apiary pests/diseases, sufficient food stores and swarm prevention? When needed, do you take corrective action in a timely manner?
- Yes N/A **Identification Information on Hives:** Do you have your name and phone number displayed on each of your hives in black letters, not less than one inch high?
- Yes N/A **Location:** If you have 21 or more hives per property location, are they kept on the interior of the property in a location that is at least 100 feet from the road and 300 feet from neighboring dwellings?
- Yes N/A **Sensitive Sites:** If you have 21 or more hives per property location, are they kept at least 450 feet from the property line of sensitive sites?  
Examples of sensitive sites are schools, daycare centers, playgrounds, picnic areas, and facilities for outdoor sports, senior care, medical treatments, and animal housing. A sensitive site could be designated in your area at any time; you will be notified in writing and required to move hive(s) to the required setback distance. For more details on sensitive sites please contact our office.
- Yes N/A **Equipment Maintained:** Do you practice good housekeeping at your apiary location to prevent the vector or spread of apiary pests/disease, undesirable bee behavior, and/or robbing? This includes, but is not limited to, maintaining and cleaning equipment, not leaving frames of wax comb with honey exposed for

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bees to clean, properly storing wax comb, hive boxes, and frames with wax foundation in building that bees cannot access, placing wax and debris from inside the hive or found on the ground into a container with lid, and not allowing the apiary or equipment to become abandoned as defined in the County bee ordinance?

**Additional Comments – Explain any items marked N/A**

*I am aware that San Diego County Ordinances are meant to complement and enforce existing state laws and regulations on apiaries as defined under California Food and Agricultural Code and California Code of Regulations (<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/pollinators/docs/Laws-Bee-Management.pdf>). I have reviewed and understand the current San Diego County Ordinance on Bees and Apiaries (<http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/awm/bees.html>).*  
*I hereby certify the foregoing to be true and correct.*

Company Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Beekeeper's Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Rep. Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date