

# **Mississippi Honeybee Stewardship Program**

**MP3 Symposium  
March 10-11, 2016**

# The Importance of State Programs

- **Raise Awareness**
- **Proactive Approach**
- **Flexibility in Design and Implementation**
- **Encourage cooperation**



# Ingredients

- **People are the main ingredient!**
- **Knead Farmers**
- **Add beekeepers, mix thoroughly and whip until smooth.**





# **Ingredients cont.**

- **Stir in a heaping amount of  
Extension Entomologist,  
Apiculturist, Department of  
Agriculture**
- **Spice it up with crop consultants,  
Ag Aviation, Ag Industries  
Council etc.**



# Finding Areas of Agreement



# **STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM PILLARS**

- **Communication**
- **Cooperative Standards**
- **Habitat Restoration**





# COMMUNICATION

Know your farmer; Know your beekeeper

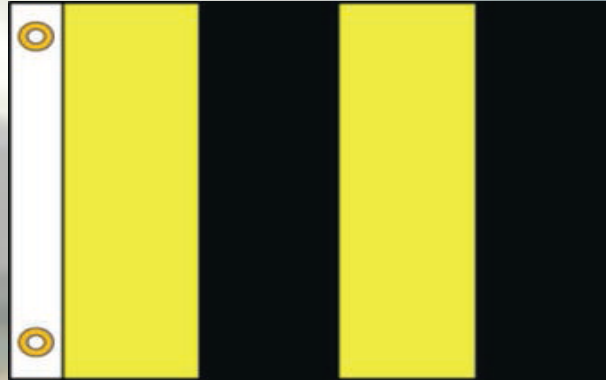
Exchange basic information.

- Name
- Phone Number
- Location of hives

Notify Ground and Aerial Applicators

- GPS locations if possible.
- Farmers should notify employees and/or contractual parties of hive locations.
- Beekeepers should notify the farmer if hives are moved from traditional locations or if a new location is established.

# “Bee Aware” Flag



- Place flag in a highly visible area.
- Flag indicates bees are nearby.
- Incorporate into our pesticide applicator training program.
- Flags are currently in Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Florida, Wisconsin, and Illinois with other states interested in adopting.



# COOPERATIVE STANDARDS

Discuss proper hive locations on farm property.

- Use natural barriers like tree lines to avoid exposure to drift.
- Place hive entrance away from fields.
- Avoid placing hives close to the immediate edge of a field.

## Insecticide Applications

- Apply late in the afternoon or early morning.
- Applications should be made when winds are blowing away from hives.
- Select a time to apply sensitive areas to mitigate risk.
- Always follow the guidelines on the labels.

# HABITAT RESTORATION

Plantings with extended blooming periods.

Seed mixes with varying blooming periods.

Utilize existing “dead areas”.

Locations near water, weeded areas, ect.





# MISSISSIPPI HONEYBEE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

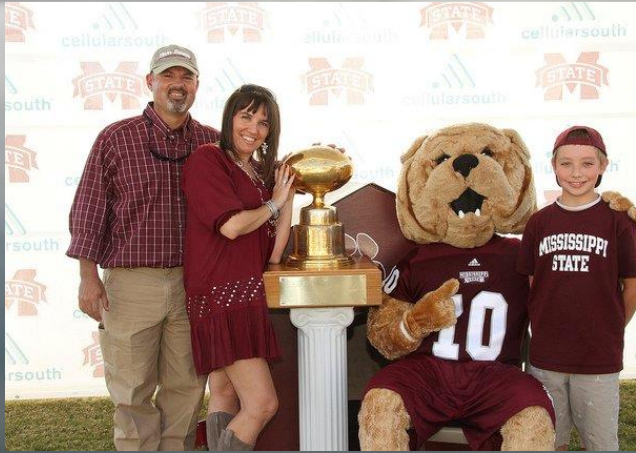




# COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

- Mississippi Beekeepers Association
- Mississippi Farm Bureau® Federation
- Mississippi Agricultural Aviation Association
- Mississippi Agricultural Consultants Association
- Mississippi State University Extension Service
- Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

# #HailState



  
**HAIL  
STATE  
AND  
RING A  
COWBELL**



**MS**  
**WIN  
IT ALL**





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