



Texas Master Beekeeper Program Advanced Level Study Guide

- I. Honey Bee Anatomy
 - a. Be able to identify internal and external anatomical structures of the honey bee body
 - b. Function of different parts of anatomy
 - c. Stages of immature development of all sexes and castes of the temperate subspecies

- II. Flower Anatomy
 - a. Be able to identify parts of a flower
 - b. Be able to explain pollination
 - c. Resource fidelity

- III. Honey Bee Pests
 - a. Know scientific names, symptoms of infestation, population dynamics, methods of treatment, etc.
 - i. Varroa mites
 - ii. Tracheal mites
 - iii. Small hive beetle (SHB)
 - iv. Wax moth
 - v. *Tropilaelaps clareae*
 - vi. Bee louse

- IV. Honey Bee Diseases
 - a. Know scientific names, symptoms of infestation, methods of treatment, etc.
 - i. American Foulbrood (AFB)
 - ii. European Foulbrood (EFB)
 - iii. Nosema (*Nosema apis* and *Nosema ceranae*)
 - iv. Chalkbrood
 - v. Sacbrood
 - vi. Parasitic Mite Syndrome (PMS)
 - vii. Deformed Wing Virus (DWV)

- V. Pesticide Labels
 - a. Know where to find specific information on a label
 - b. What must be included on a label
 - c. Signal words
 - d. Pesticide testing
 - e. Registration number vs. Establishment number

- VI. Beekeeping Management/Equipment
 - a. Swarming/swarm control
 - b. Honey production/extraction
 - c. Queen management

- d. Pest and disease control
- e. Nutrition management
- f. Varroa management
- g. Know proper names and purposes for beekeeping equipment
- h. Understand what Integrated Pest Management is and how it is successfully employed in an apiary and honey bee colonies

VII. Honey Bee Biology

- a. Africanized honey bees
- b. Species of honey bees under the genus *Apis* – scientific and common names, nest structure, native ranges, behavior and life history
- c. Know the major subspecies of *Apis mellifera*- scientific and common names, nest structure, native ranges, behavior and life history
- d. Queen mating
- e. Pheromones of the colony
- f. Levels of sociality and defining characteristics
- g. Colony genetics and relatedness
- h. Polyandry
- i. Age polyethism
- j. Trophallaxis
- k. Behaviors regulating the thermodynamics of the colony
- l. Resource and colony reproduction communication behaviors
- m. Nectar processing within the colony

VIII. Other Bees and Wasps

- a. Know families and some major defining characteristics
- b. Sociality of common bees and wasps
- c. Nest sites, diet, and life history

IX. Other

- a. Historical
 - i. Warwick Kerr, C.L. Farrar, Tom Seeley, Martin Lindauer, etc.
- b. Texas Master Beekeeper Program
 - i. Requirements
- c. Texas Apiary Inspection Service
 - i. Primary responsibilities