



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE • BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY**  
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**For Immediate Release**

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## **MDAC Announces Annual Beekeeping Workshops this Spring**

<b>What:</b>	<b>Place:</b>
April 6	Mississippi Agriculture & Forestry Museum, Jackson
May 7-8	Mississippi Agricultural & Forestry Experiment Station, Verona
May 14-15	Mississippi Agriculture & Forestry Museum, Jackson
June 2-3	Forrest County Extension Office, Hattiesburg

The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce has announced the dates of upcoming workshops that will recruit, educate, and increase participation for new beekeepers in Mississippi.

Honey bees in the wild and in commercial hives make an important contribution to Mississippi agriculture through the pollination of various crops and plants valued at over \$300 million annually. Populations of wild honey bees in the state have been declining in recent years due to parasitic mites, other insect pests, and disease. Growing participation in beekeeping has the potential to increase the number of bees available to pollinate plants and crops.

Workshops will be divided into morning and afternoon sessions beginning with lectures and concluding with field exercises. Lectures will cover topics such as how to begin beekeeping, bee biology, queen management, disease and parasite control, quality honey production, and colony management. Field exercises will allow for hands-on work in hives.

Registration fees do apply and pre-registration is recommended. Registration forms and workshop agendas can be obtained by contacting Harry Fulton, State Apiarist, at the Bureau of Plant Industry at (662) 325-3390 or [Harry@mdac.state.ms.us](mailto:Harry@mdac.state.ms.us).

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