



# Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

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Marilyn Wright, Agricultural Commissioner Sealer  
of Weights and Measures

Tom Tucker, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights and Measures

## **ANNUAL REGISTRATION OF APIARIES**

CALIFORNIA STATE LAW REQUIRES THAT IF YOU HAVE BEES LOCATED IN TULARE COUNTY BETWEEN JANUARY 1 THRU JANUARY 31 YOU MUST REGISTER EACH LOCATION WITH THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER ON THE PROVIDED FORM

## **REGISTRATION FEE IS \$10.00**

Make check payable to: TULARE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

If you do not have bees located in Tulare County in January you are not required to immediately register with us. However, **if you plan to place bees in Tulare County, you are required to register prior to bringing your bees into the county.** Send the Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner: (1) a completed Apiary Location Registration form, (2) a receipt of payment to your home county for the current year **or** the \$10.00 registration fee, and (3) a completed Spray Notification form.

Return the completed Apiary Location Registration form and Spray Notification form along with your payment. We strongly recommend that you make copies for your records. Locations will be pinned on the bee map upon receipt of payment. Remember to send in movement notices when relocating or vacating apiary locations. (Tulare County Beekeepers: Please complete and return the Apiary Crop Report Survey along with the registration forms in the self-addressed stamped envelope.)

The third section on the Registration Form is for the Voluntary Release of Confidential Information by Beekeepers. **Complete this section ONLY if you wish to release your location information to registered seedless mandarin growers!**

### **TULARE COUNTY BEE ORDINANCES WILL BE ENFORCED.**

Specifically, Section 6-05-2020 states: "Every person owning or in possession of an apiary located on premises other than that of his residence shall identify such apiary by affixing a sign thereto showing the **name** of the owner or the person in possession of the apiary, his **address and** his **telephone number** or, if he has no telephone, a statement of that fact." This sign can be in the form of stenciling on the colony facing the apiary entrance, a printed sign attached to the hive, water barrel, or a post at the entrance side of the apiary, or another clearly legible format visible from at least 25 feet away.

Additionally, Section 6-05-2050 states: "The owner or person in possession of an apiary shall provide the bees with an adequate supply of water of a quality suitable for bees. The water shall be available in immediate proximity to the apiary." Adequate water suitable for bees may be provided by either:

1. Supplying water to the bees at each bee drop in clean containers with something for the bees to land on to access the water (such as burlap or floats - pieces of wood, styrofoam, etc) and/or
2. By locating the apiary next to a permanent, natural or man-made, water source such as a creek, irrigation ditch, or pond which contains water for the entire time the apiary is present. Fast moving water, such as found in concrete-lined canals, is not water suitable for bees.

### **OWNERS OF NON-COMPLIANT APIARIES MAY BE CITED TO COURT.**

**For questions regarding apiary information call (559) 684-3352.**

**For bee movement notices FAX (559) 713-3770**

**or email PUENOI@co.tulare.ca.us**



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## **CALIFORNIA FOOD & AGRICULTURAL CODE - Use of Pesticides**

1. Each beekeeper shall report to the Agricultural Commissioner each location of apiaries for which notification of pesticide usage is sought. Each request shall be mailed within 72 hours before locating an apiary, where feasible, but in no event later than 72 hours after locating an apiary.
2. The beekeeper shall not be entitled to notification until receipt and processing of the report is made by the Commissioner (not to exceed 16 hours).
3. Failure of a beekeeper to remove hives from a specific location after notification shall not prevent the application of pesticides to blossoming plants if consistent with the pesticide's labeling and regulations.
4. When the pesticide applicator has complied with the notification regulations, the applicator shall not be liable for injury to bees that enter the area treated during or after the application.

## **CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS - CITRUS/BEE PROTECTION AREA**

1. The area within one mile of any citrus planting of one acre or more in Fresno, Kern or Tulare County is designated as a citrus/bee protection area.
2. Each person who owns or operates any apiary within a citrus/bee protection area from March 15 through May 31, shall file a written notice of apiary location with the Commissioner before March 15 and shall update such notice, including notice of departure from the citrus/bee protection area.
3. Within a citrus/bee protection area, each beekeeper who desires notification of applications of pesticides shall be available for telephone contact at the beekeeper's expense between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday from March 15 through May 31, to receive advance notice from persons intending to apply pesticides.
4. The Commissioner shall give public notice of the official beginning and ending dates of each citrus bloom period for each citrus growing district in the county, at least three days before establishing such dates (See map for Tulare County bloom districts). Public notice will be by news release to the media.
5. Pesticide applications may be made 48 hours or more after the official end of citrus bloom without advance notification to beekeepers. Applicators wishing to make pesticide applications prior to 48 hours after the official end of bloom shall give at least 48 hours advance notification to beekeepers who desire notification.

## TULARE COUNTY BEE ORDINANCES

1. Have written permission to occupy land where the apiary is located.
2. Boundaries:
  - a. 20 feet from the right-of-way of a county road or state highway.
  - b. 1/4 mile from the outside boundary of any school or park.
  - c. 200 feet from any occupied residence or building unless beekeeper has written permission from occupants allowing lesser distance.
  - d. 200 feet from a swimming pool or air strip used on a regular basis.
3. The *owner or person in possession of an apiary* shall provide bees with an adequate supply of water that is suitable for bees and in immediate proximity to the apiary.
4. Vehicle transporting bees:
  - a. Shall be parked or bees shall be netted in such a way that bees are not a nuisance to people or animals surrounding parked vehicle.
  - b. Any vehicle servicing any apiary within Tulare County shall have vehicle identified with name, address and phone number in letters not less than one inch in a color contrasting with its background. This does not apply to vehicles that are not stopping in Tulare County.
5. Name, address and phone number prominently displayed on all apiary entrances.

### PENALTIES:

**#1-#4 ABOVE ARE INFRACTIONS AND, UPON CONVICTION, SHALL BE FINED UP TO \$100 FOR FIRST CONVICTION, \$200 FOR SECOND CONVICTION AND \$500 FOR THIRD CONVICTION**

**#5 ABOVE IS A MISDEMEANOR AND UPON CONVICTION SHALL BE FINED UP TO \$1,000 AND/OR NOT MORE THAN 6 MONTHS IN JAIL.**

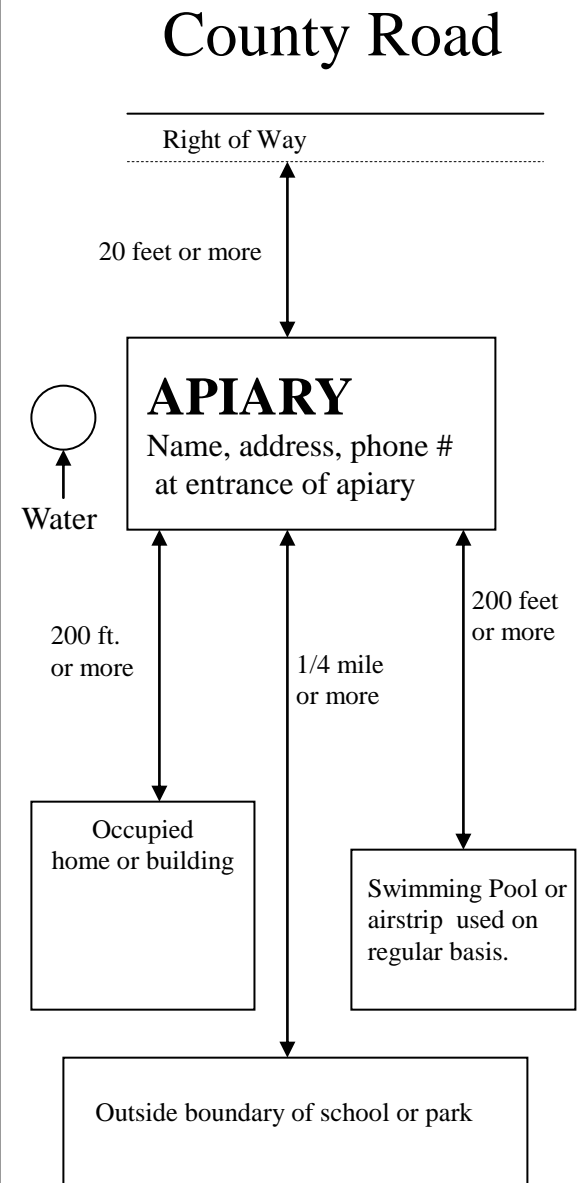
## CALIFORNIA FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL CODE (IN PART)

1. No person shall make honey available to bees by means of open air feeding.
2. No person shall possess any comb which is not occupied by a live bee colony unless the comb is tightly enclosed to prevent access to the comb by bees.
3. No person shall maintain or operate a diseased colony of bees.
4. No person shall expose any comb or honey from a diseased colony of bees.
5. Every infested apiary is a public nuisance subject to abatement.

### PENALTIES:

**ABOVE NON COMPLIANCES ARE INFRACTIONS AND, UPON CONVICTION, SHALL BE FINED \$100 FOR THE FIRST CONVICTION AND \$1.00 FOR EACH HIVE NOT IN COMPLIANCE UP TO \$1,000.**

## Example of Beekeeper in Compliance



# TULARE COUNTY Citrus Bloom Districts

## District 2

## District 1

Dinuba

Woodlake

Three Rivers

Visalia

Exeter

District 1

Tulare

H 137

Lindsay

Springville

Tipton

Porterville

H 190

Pixley

Terra Bella

A 116

Ave 56

Terra Bella

R 256

Alpaugh

Earlimart

Ducor

Delano

Hwy 245

A 319

R 220

H 198

Spruce Rd

Orange Belt

Main

R 252

H 190

A 116

R 256

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# Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

Fill out and return by January 31, or before moving into Tulare County  
PLEASE PRINT

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Company Name) (Beekeeper's Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Mailing Address) (City) (State) (Zip)

Business Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (REQUIRED): \_\_\_\_\_

### Complete Only the Sections that apply

#### REQUEST FOR NOTICE – PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS

I hereby request notification of pesticide applications as outlined in California Food & Agricultural Code Section 29101 and California Code of Regulations Section 6652 for protection of my apiaries located in Tulare County.

**DO YOU WANT TO BE NOTIFIED OF ANY PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS THAT ARE TOXIC TO BEES THAT ARE WITHIN ONE MILE OF YOUR REGISTERED APIARY LOCATION?**  Yes  No

If **yes**, then indicate the phone number and a two-hour period between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. Monday through Sunday, during which time you shall be available for contact, at your expense, to receive advance notice from persons intending to apply pesticide(s). If a time is not indicated on your request, a two-hour period from 4 p.m. through 6 p.m. will be assigned.

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Notification Time: \_\_\_\_\_ (am/pm) through \_\_\_\_\_ (am/pm)

1. To receive maximum protection under the provisions of these sections, this request must be mailed 72 hours immediately prior to locating or relocating this apiary. This, or any subsequent request, will remain valid only until the following December 31st.
2. In accordance with California Food & Agricultural Code Section 29046, I understand that **it is mandatory to prominently display my name, address and telephone number**, if no telephone number, so state, on a sign or placard in black letters not less than one inch in height on a background of contrasting colors located **at the entrance side of the apiary.**
3. Movement notices must be on a form approved by the director and the locations listed on the form shall follow one of these formats: **1)** Avenue & Road with distances from these intersections (preferred); or, **2)** Section, Township, and Range, to the nearest 1/4 Section; or, **3)** a map showing Roads, Avenues, landmarks, distances etc. and the location of the apiary.

Beekeeper Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***Note: to avoid unnecessary phone calls and delays in pesticide applications, please send movement notices every time bees are relocated and when leaving the county.***

**Continued on Reverse**



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## CITRUS BLOOM

### REQUEST FOR NOTICE OF PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS DURING CITRUS BLOOM ONLY

For apiaries located within one mile of any citrus planting of one acre or more from March 15 through May 31 - these are the designated Citrus/Bee Protection Areas in Fresno, Kern and Tulare Counties.

I, the undersigned, hereby file the following request for notification as required or provided by California Code of Regulations Section 6656 for the following apiary or apiaries located, or to be located, within a citrus/bee protection area in Tulare County.

Phone number at which I or my agent will accept collect phone calls between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday from March 15 through May 31, to receive notice from persons intending to apply pesticide(s).

Phone number for Notification: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

***Note: to avoid unnecessary phone calls and delays in pesticide applications, please send movement notices every time bees are relocated and when leaving the county (CCR Section 6656).***

Beekeeper Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **This page is VOLUNTARY, not required**

Complete this section only if you want to release your location information to Seedless Mandarin growers within 2 miles of your apiaries.

### **VOLUNTARY RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION BY BEEKEEPERS**

**For apiaries located within 2 miles of registered seedless mandarin acreage between March 1<sup>st</sup> and May 31<sup>st</sup>**

**(NOTE: Time period is NOT the same as the Citrus Bloom Period)**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Beekeeper, agree to a limited waiver of the confidentiality  
(Print Name)  
of information regarding the locations of my apiaries which are within 2 miles of registered seedless mandarins. This limited waiver permits release of my location(s) information only to registered owners of seedless mandarins within Tulare County, as outlined in Title 3 CCR 1430.54.

Phone number at which myself or my agent will accept phone calls between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday from March 1 through May 31, to receive a request to relocate a registered apiary.

Phone number to receive request for apiary relocation: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Beekeeper Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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