

2017  
TEXAS 4-H BEEKEEPING ESSAY CONTEST  
RULES AND GUIDELINES

**Deadline Friday, January 27, 2017**

**Submit Electronically via Texas 4-H Connect :**  
Event : State – 2017 Beekeeping Essay Contest

Winners will be announced the week of February 20, 2017



The 2017 Essay Topic has been announced by The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc.

This year's topic is ***“How can MP3 (Managed Pollinator Protection Plan) more effectively protect honey bees from pesticide exposure?”***

Beekeeping has had its five minutes of fame for the past seven years. Now more than ever, the general public along with beekeepers are asking “What will happen if the bees are gone?” With the continued threat of pesticides, this is a very real question. Your paper should research and help answer this question.

Survey your community to see what is being done. Include your state in your survey to see if there are any programs they are using for pollination or any other program that could aid the honey bee.

The scope of the research is an essential judging criterion, accounting for 40% of your score. The number of sources consulted, the authority of the sources, and the variety of the sources are all evaluated.

Personal interviews with beekeepers and others familiar with the subject are valued sources of information and should be documented. Sources, which are not cited in the endnotes, should be listed in a “Resources” or “Bibliography” list.

**Note** that “honey bee” is properly spelled as two words, even though many otherwise authoritative references spell it as one word.



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**AWARDS:**

Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three winners from Texas 4-H:

- 1st Place: \$300.00
- 2nd Place: \$200.00
- 3rd Place: \$100.00

**Texas 4-H Contest Sponsored by :** A complete list of sponsors will be sent to participants for thank you purposes by February 1, 2017.

Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three winners for National:

- 1st Place: \$750.00
- 2nd Place: \$500.00
- 3rd Place: \$250.00

**National Contest Sponsored by:** The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc.

**TEXAS CONTEST RULES:**

This contest is open to active 4-H Club members only. Previous Texas winners are eligible to enter the 2017 contest, as long as they have not placed first, second, or third at the national level in the past.

Requirements (failure to meet any one requirement disqualifies the essay)

- Typewritten or computer-generated double-spaced, 12pt. Times or similar type style, on one side of white paper following standard manuscript format.
- Must submit an essay, 750 to 1000 words, on the essay topic
- Essays will be judged on (a) scope of research- 40%; (b) accuracy- 30%; (c) creativity- 10%; (d) conciseness- 10%; and (e) logical development of the topic- 10%
- All factual statements must be referenced with bibliographical-style endnotes.
- On a separate page, please include a brief biographical sketch of the essayist, including birthdate, gender, complete mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number, must accompany the essay.
- Essay must be submitted online via Texas 4-H Connect by midnight **January 27, 2017**

**NATIONAL CONTEST INFORMATION:**

- Final judging and selection of the National Winner will be made by the Foundation's Essay Committee, whose decision is final.
- Deadline by states for National Submission is March 3, 2017.
- National Winners will be announced by the **week of May 1st, 2017**.
- All National entries become the property of the Foundation and may be published or used as it sees fit. No essays will be returned.
- The National winners' essays will appear in an issue of the American Beekeeping Federation's Newsletter.
- Each State Winner, including the National winners, receives an appropriate book about honey bees, beekeeping, or honey.



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