



GLOBAL BEE HEALTH



There has been a widely observed and widely documented decline in the global health and population of honeybees, which could have significant impact on many agricultural industries and these foods consumers enjoy worldwide.

Scientists have not found a single cause that can explain the global decline of honeybee colonies. A wide range of factors impact honeybees, and the California Almond community is concerned about all of the issues.

VARROA MITE

The Varroa mite attacks beehives, weakening and shortening the life span of the bees on which they feed. The Varroa mite is widely considered the most serious pest threatening honeybees.

NUTRITION

There's been a decrease in natural pollen sources across the country, due to undeveloped land with good forage being brought into commercial crop production, and increased drought conditions across the American Midwest.

GENETIC DIVERSITY

A higher level of colony loss is seen in colonies that lack genetic diversity. Improving genetic diversity in honeybee stock may well enhance their survival rates and resistance to pests and diseases.

PEST CONTROL

The application of pesticides (specifically those categorized as insecticides and fungicides) during certain times can harm honeybee colonies.

The California Almond community has and will continue to support research and education efforts in these key areas to improve almond production best practices and the long-term health of the honeybee.