

Tab 1	SB 880 by Albritton; (Identical to H 00811) Young Farmers and Ranchers
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Tab 2	SB 1368 by Simpson (CO-INTRODUCERS) Benacquisto; Fleet Vehicle Rebate Programs
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Tab 3	SB 1738 by Gruters; Restraint of Dogs
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493660	D	S	RCS	AG, Gruters	Delete everything after	03/20 09:22 AM
146006	AA	S	RCS	AG, Gruters	Delete L.88:	03/20 09:22 AM

Tab 4	SB 1804 by Albritton; Emergency Loans for Agricultural Producers
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The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

AGRICULTURE
Senator Albritton, Chair
Senator Gainer, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Monday, March 18, 2019
TIME: 1:30—3:30 p.m.
PLACE: 301 Senate Building

MEMBERS: Senator Albritton, Chair; Senator Gainer, Vice Chair; Senators Broxson, Montford, and Rader

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	SB 880 Albritton (Identical H 811)	Young Farmers and Ranchers; Creating the Florida Young Farmer and Rancher Matching Grant Program within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; specifying that grant funding is contingent upon specific appropriation by the Legislature, etc. AG 03/04/2019 Temporarily Postponed AG 03/18/2019 Favorable AEG AP	Favorable Yeas 5 Nays 0
2	SB 1368 Simpson	Fleet Vehicle Rebate Programs; Creating an electric and hybrid fleet vehicle rebate program within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; requiring the department to determine and publish certain information regarding the availability of funds on its website; requiring the department to provide an annual assessment of the program to the Governor, the Legislature, and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, etc. AG 03/18/2019 Favorable IS AP	Favorable Yeas 5 Nays 0
3	SB 1738 Gruters	Restraint of Dogs; Prohibiting a person from restraining a dog outside and unattended during a manmade disaster or a natural disaster, etc. AG 03/18/2019 Fav/CS CJ RC	Fav/CS Yeas 5 Nays 0
4	SB 1804 Albritton	Emergency Loans for Agricultural Producers; Transferring the Agricultural Economic Development Program from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to the Division of Emergency Management within the Executive Office of the Governor by a type two transfer; revising eligibility requirements for the Agricultural Economic Development Program; increasing the maximum amounts of program loans, etc. AG 03/18/2019 Fav/CS AEG AP	Fav/CS Yeas 5 Nays 0

COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

Agriculture

Monday, March 18, 2019, 1:30—3:30 p.m.

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
5	Update on Citrus Greening		Presented
6	Update on Florida's Bee Population by Dr. Jamie Ellis, UF/IFAS Honey Bee Research and Extension Laboratory		Presented
Other Related Meeting Documents			

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Agriculture

BILL: SB 880

INTRODUCER: Senator Albritton

SUBJECT: Young Farmers and Ranchers

DATE: March 18, 2019

REVISED: _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. Akhavein	Becker	AG	Favorable
2. _____	_____	AEG	_____
3. _____	_____	AP	_____

I. Summary:

SB 880 establishes the Florida Young Farmer and Rancher Matching Grant Program within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department) to support startup functions for new farming and ranching operations. To receive a grant, an individual must:

- Be an agricultural producer, be an employee of a farm or ranch, or have been actively involved in Future Farmers of America for at least one year;
- Be between the ages of 18 and 35;
- Have operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 years;
- Demonstrate, at minimum, a dollar-for dollar matching investment for the grant amount requested; and
- Submit a timely grant application.

If funded by the Legislature, each grant award would be between \$5,000 and \$20,000, and a recipient may receive only one award per year.

II. Present Situation:

Opportunities exist within farming and ranching, but beginning farmers and ranchers have unique educational, training, technical assistance, and outreach needs. Capital access, land access, and access to knowledge and information to assist in ensuring profitability and sustainability are vital to those just entering agriculture and in their first ten years of operation.¹

¹ See <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/beginning-farmer-and-rancher-development-program-bfrdp> (Last visited February 21, 2019).

Currently, there are no grant programs within the department specifically to assist young farmers and ranchers. The department does provide resources through its Grant Opportunity² public webpage.

To address the lack of resources and assistance, the 2018 Legislature created a 12 member Florida Young Farmer and Rancher Advisory Council³ to provide an opportunity for young people to offer advice and to give recommendations to the Commissioner of Agriculture about the challenges facing aspiring farmers and ranchers in the early stages of their careers. The council is authorized to examine issues such as access to land, availability of credit and capital, and access to business skills training. The Legislature also directed the department to create the Florida Young Farmer and Rancher Resource Clearinghouse on its website⁴ in order to provide career information and resources to young farmers who will be entering a wide range of jobs involving food production, natural resources, plant systems, animal management, and much more.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 creates s. 570.842, F.S., to establish the Florida Young Farmer and Rancher Matching Grant Program. The bill requires the department to administer grants to foster the creation and expansion of agricultural businesses by young farmers and ranchers in Florida. The department is directed to adopt rules regarding the program. To be eligible, grant recipients must:

- Be an agricultural producer, employee of a farm or ranch, or have been actively involved in Future Farmers of America for at least 1 year;
- Be at least 18 years of age, but younger than 35 years of age;
- Have operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 years;
- Demonstrate, at a minimum, a dollar-for-dollar matching investment for grant money requested; and
- Submit a grant application during the time period designated by the department.

The bill requires the department to give preference to applicants who are veterans, as defined in s. 1.01(14), F.S. If funded by the Legislature, each grant award must be between \$5,000 and \$20,000, and a recipient may receive only one award per year.

Section 2 provides that this act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

² See <https://www.freshfromflorida.com/Business-Services/Grant-Opportunities> (Last visited February 21, 2019).

³ Section 570.843, F.S.

⁴ See <https://www.freshfromflorida.com/Education/Preparing-for-Careers-in-Agriculture> (Last visited February 27, 2019).

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None identified.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Indeterminate.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has not provided fiscal information for this bill.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill creates section 570.842 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

By Senator Albritton

26-01811A-19

2019880__

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to young farmers and ranchers; creating s. 570.842, F.S.; creating the Florida Young Farmer and Rancher Matching Grant Program within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; specifying the purpose of the grants; requiring the department to select grant recipients based on specified criteria; requiring the department to adopt rules; requiring that applicants meet specified eligibility requirements; specifying a range for grant amounts; providing that a recipient may not receive more than one award per year under the program; specifying that grant funding is contingent upon specific appropriation by the Legislature; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 570.842, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

570.842 Florida Young Farmer and Rancher Matching Grant Program.—

(1) The Florida Young Farmer and Rancher Matching Grant Program is created within the department to support the startup functions associated with new farming and ranching operations.

(a) Grants administered by the department through this program must be for the purpose of fostering the creation and expansion of agricultural businesses by young farmers and ranchers in this state.

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26-01811A-19

2019880__

(b) The department shall select grant recipients based on selection criteria adopted pursuant to subsection (2).

(2) The department shall adopt rules governing the operation of the program, including an application process and selection criteria for grant recipients.

(a) At a minimum, in order to be eligible to receive a grant, an individual must meet all of the following requirements:

1. Be an agricultural producer, be an employee of a farm or ranch, or have been actively involved in Future Farmers of America for at least 1 year.

2. Be at least 18 years of age, but younger than 35 years of age.

3. Have operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 years.

4. Demonstrate, at minimum, a dollar-for-dollar matching investment for the grant amount requested.

5. Submit, on a form prescribed by the department, a grant application during the application period established by the department. The department may designate only one period each year for accepting applications.

(b) In the application review process, the department shall give a preference to an applicant who is a veteran, as defined in s. 1.01(14).

(3) Each grant award under the program must be between \$5,000 and \$20,000, with no more than one award being made to an individual grant recipient per grant period.

(4) Annual grant funding for this program is contingent upon specific annual appropriation by the Legislature.

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26-01811A-19

2019880__

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/18/19

Meeting Date

880

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Young Farmers & Ranchers

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Sam Ard

Job Title _____

Address 207 W. Park Ave

Phone 850 577 6500

Street

TLH

FL

32301

City

State

Zip

Email sard@asrlegal.com

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Fla. Cattlemen's Assn

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/18

Meeting Date

SB 880

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name MATT ALFORD

Job Title DEP LOG DIR. FOAC S

Address _____
Street

Phone _____

City

State

Zip

Email _____

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing _____

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/18/19

Meeting Date

880

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic

Young Farmer & Rancher

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Jim Spratt

Job Title

Address

310 W. College Ave

Phone

850-228-1296

Street

FLH

City

FL

State

32302

Zip

Email

Jimemagnolia@statejournal.com

Speaking:

☐

For

☐

Against

☐

Information

Waive Speaking:

☒

In Support

☐

Against

(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing

Florida Forestry Association

Appearing at request of Chair:

☐

Yes

☐

No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:

☒

Yes

☐

No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Agriculture

BILL: SB 1368

INTRODUCER: Senators Simpson and Benacquisto

SUBJECT: Fleet Vehicle Rebate Programs

DATE: March 18, 2019

REVISED: _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. Akhavein	Becker	AG	Favorable
2. _____	_____	IS	_____
3. _____	_____	AP	_____

I. Summary:

SB 1368 creates the electric and hybrid fleet vehicle rebate program within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Office of Energy, (department) to help reduce the state's transportation costs and to encourage freight mobility investments. Governmental and private entities would be eligible to apply for a rebate. An applicant is eligible to receive a maximum rebate of \$25,000 per vehicle, up to a total of \$250,000 per fiscal year. The bill appropriates \$3 million in recurring funds for the electric and hybrid fleet vehicle rebate program beginning in the 2019-2020 fiscal year and each year thereafter through the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

The bill also appropriates \$6 million in recurring funds for the natural gas fuel fleet vehicle rebate program beginning in the 2019-2020 fiscal year and each year thereafter through the 2023-2024 fiscal year. This program became effective through statute on July 1, 2013 and closed on June 30, 2018.

II. Present Situation:

Electric and Hybrid Vehicles

Florida law currently defines two types of vehicles powered, in whole or in part, by electricity: an electric vehicle and a hybrid vehicle. An "electric vehicle," defined for purposes of vehicle registration under ch. 320, F.S., is "a motor vehicle that is powered by an electric motor that draws current from rechargeable storage batteries, fuel cells, or other sources of electrical current."¹ A "hybrid vehicle," defined for purposes of use of high-occupancy-vehicle lanes, is a motor vehicle:

¹ Section 320.01(36), F.S.

- That draws propulsion energy from onboard sources of stored energy which are both an internal combustion or heat engine using combustible fuel and a rechargeable energy-storage system;
- That, in the case of a passenger automobile or light truck, has received a certificate of conformity under the Clean Air Act...and meets or exceeds the equivalent qualifying California standards for a low-emission vehicle;² and
- That, in the case of a tri-vehicle,³ is an inherently low-emission vehicle.⁴

Florida has enacted a number of EV-related provisions that may incentivize people to purchase EVs. They include:

- Authorizing a local government to enact a program to allow property owners to apply for financing from the local government to install EV charging equipment on his or her property. The local government can collect the loan payments through ad valorem assessments.⁵
- Authorizing a local government to use the proceeds of a levied infrastructure surtax (discretionary sales surtax) to provide loans to property owners to install EV charging equipment.⁶
- Allowing hybrid electric vehicles to use high-occupancy-vehicle lanes regardless of occupancy and to use such lanes without paying a toll if one is otherwise required.⁷

In addition, local Florida entities offer EV incentives. The National Conference of State Legislatures reports that, through June 30, 2018, or until funds were depleted,⁸ Duke Energy and Orlando Utilities Commission customers and employees were eligible for a \$10,000 rebate for the purchase of a new, all-electric, 2017 Nissan Leaf at participating dealerships; and the Jacksonville Electric Authority offers rebates for plug-in HEVs with a battery less than 15 kilowatt hours in capacity to receive \$500, and plug-in HEVs with larger battery capacity are eligible for \$1,000.⁹ The federal government also allows an income tax credit of up to \$7,500 for certain EVs.¹⁰

At this time, there are no commercial and/or government fleet vehicle incentive programs offered in Florida for the purchase of electric or hybrid fleet vehicles.

² For detailed information on California's Low-Emission Vehicle Program, see California Air Resources Board, *Low-Emission Vehicle Program (January 25, 2017)*, available at: <https://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/levprog/levprog.htm> (Last visited March 13, 2019).

³ Defined in s. 316.003(95), F.S.

⁴ Section 316.0741, F.S.

⁵ Section 163.08, F.S.

⁶ Section 212.055, F.S.

⁷ Generally, a high-occupancy-vehicle lane is a lane designed for use by vehicles in which there is more than one occupant. Section 316.0741, F.S.

⁸ US Department of Energy, Alternative Fuels Data Center reports this rebate expired on July 1 of this year. See AFDC, *Expired, Repealed, and Archived Florida Incentives and Laws*, available at: https://www.afdc.energy.gov/laws/laws_expired?jurisdiction=FL (Last visited March 13, 2019).

⁹ See National Conference of State Legislatures's website for additional details on available incentives related to EVs, *State Efforts to Promote Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (September 26, 2017)*, available at: <http://www.ncsl.org/research/energy/state-electric-vehicle-incentives-state-chart.aspx#other> (Last visited March 13, 2019).

¹⁰ See Internal Revenue Service, *Plug-In Electric Drive Vehicle Credit (IRC 30D) (January 24, 2018)*, available at: <https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/plug-in-electric-drive-vehicle-credit-section-30d> (Last visited March 13, 2019).

Natural Gas Fuel Fleet Vehicle Rebate Program

The natural gas fuel fleet vehicle rebate program was designed to help reduce transportation costs in the state and encourage freight mobility investments that contribute to Florida's economic growth. Through this program, incentives were offered to public and private sector entities for the purchase, lease or conversion of fleet vehicles from diesel, or gasoline, to natural gas-powered vehicles. Beyond the rebates provided to qualified participants, the long-term benefits of the program included reduced fuel costs and lower vehicle emissions.

The Natural Gas Fuel Fleet Vehicle Rebate Program became effective through statute on July 1, 2013. The program accepted applications from July 1 to June 30, concurrent with the state fiscal year. The program closed on June 30, 2018. The program received 3,609 applications, of which 1,948 applications were approved for a total of \$20.9 million.¹¹

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 creates s. 377.813, F.S., to create an electric and hybrid fleet vehicle rebate program within the department to help reduce the state's transportation costs and to encourage freight mobility investments.

The bill defines the terms "conversion cost," "department," "electric vehicle," "eligible costs," "fleet vehicles," "hybrid vehicle," and "incremental costs."

The department would be required to award rebates for eligible costs incurred by an applicant in connection with an investment in the conversion, purchase, or lease of at least five years of an electric or hybrid fleet vehicle placed into service on or after July 1, 2019. Forty percent of the annual allocation must be reserved for governmental applicants, with the remaining funds allocated for commercial applicants. Rebates could not exceed 50 percent of the eligible costs. An applicant is eligible to receive a maximum rebate of \$25,000 per vehicle, up to a total of \$250,000 per fiscal year. Between June 1 and June 30 of each fiscal year, the department may receive additional applications from applicants who have met the program maximum of \$250,000 per fiscal year. Those applicants may apply for additional funds for vehicles that have not received a rebate for a maximum rebate of \$25,000 per vehicle, up to a total of \$250,000.

Applications for a rebate must be submitted to the department by a specified date each year, as established by department rule. The application must require:

- A complete description of all eligible costs;
- Proof of purchase of or lease of the vehicle;
- A copy of the vehicle registration certificate;
- A description of the total rebate the applicant seeks;
- An affidavit from the applicant certifying that all information contained in the application is true and correct; and
- Any other information the department deems necessary.

¹¹ See 2018 Natural Gas Fuel Fleet Vehicle Rebate Program Final Assessment, available at: <https://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Energy> (Last visited March 13, 2019).

The department is directed to adopt rules by December 31, 2019, to implement and administer the program. It must also publish on its website the amount of available funding for rebates remaining in each fiscal year.

The department must provide an annual assessment of the rebate program to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability. The assessment must include the:

- Name of each applicant awarded a rebate;
- Amount of the rebates awarded to each applicant;
- Type and description of each eligible vehicle; and
- Aggregate amount of funding awarded for all applicants claiming rebates.

Section 2 appropriates \$6 million in recurring funds for the natural gas fuel fleet vehicle rebate program beginning in the 2019-2020 fiscal year and each year thereafter through the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Section 3 appropriates \$3 million in recurring funds for the electric and hybrid fleet vehicle rebate program beginning in the 2019-2020 fiscal year and each year thereafter through the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Section 4 provides that this act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None identified.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Sixty percent of the annual allocation, \$1.8 million, would be allocated for private sector participants in the electric and hybrid fleet vehicle rebate program. The purpose of the program is to help reduce Florida transportation costs and to encourage freight mobility investments that contribute to the state's economic growth.

By providing monetary incentives for the adoption of natural gas as a fuel for private and public fleet vehicles, the program is expected to foster public and private sector spending in the automotive and natural gas distribution sectors, increase the financial feasibility of investments in new or retrofitted vehicles, and reduce fuel costs for private and public-sector entities.

C. Government Sector Impact:**RECURRING:****Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Fleet Rebate Program and Natural Gas Fuel Fleet Vehicle Rebate Program**

The department estimates that a recurring expense of **\$63,450** associated with salary and benefits will be needed to administer each fiscal year of the programs. The estimated need of \$63,450 will be associated with staff time to provide applicant guidance, application review, monitoring, and final approval and denial procedures throughout each fiscal year of the program.

NON-RECURRING:**Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Fleet Rebate Program**

Administering the electric and hybrid vehicle fleet rebate program will begin with the rulemaking process and is estimated to cost **\$12,019**.

Notices in the Florida Administrative Register	\$1,000
Staff will also hold two rule workshops across the state for stakeholder input. This will require two staff members traveling for two days at time at a rate of \$1,134.50 per staff member for two trips (\$598= airfare per person per trip, \$300= lodging, \$76.50= local transportation, \$25= incidentals and \$135= meals for two days).	\$2,269

Salary and benefits for the rulemaking process: (\$3,750 associated with supervisor staff time of two weeks to provide guidance, review the proposed rules, and hold rulemaking workshops. This is an existing position currently funded by State Energy Program funds. (The yearly salary of \$90,000 is divided by 12.)) There is an estimated need of \$5,000 associated with staff time of one month to draft rules and hold rulemaking workshops. This is an existing position currently funded by State Energy Program funds. (The yearly salary of \$60,000 is divided by 12.)	\$8,750
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VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill creates section 377.813 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

By Senator Simpson

10-01231-19

20191368__

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to fleet vehicle rebate programs; creating s. 377.813, F.S.; creating an electric and hybrid fleet vehicle rebate program within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; providing the purpose of the program; defining terms; requiring the department to award rebates for the program; providing an application process; requiring the department to adopt rules by a specified date; requiring the department to determine and publish certain information regarding the availability of funds on its website; requiring the department to provide an annual assessment of the program to the Governor, the Legislature, and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability; providing appropriations; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 377.813, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

377.813 Electric and hybrid fleet vehicle rebate program.-

(1) CREATION AND PURPOSE OF PROGRAM.-There is created within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services an electric and hybrid fleet vehicle rebate program. The purpose of this program is to help reduce transportation costs in this state and to encourage freight mobility investments that contribute to the economic growth of this state.

(2) DEFINITIONS.-For purposes of this section, the term:

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CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

10-01231-19

20191368__

(a) "Conversion cost" means the excess cost associated with converting from a diesel- or gasoline-powered motor vehicle to an electric or hybrid vehicle.

(b) "Department" means the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

(c) "Electric vehicle" means a motor vehicle that is powered by an electric motor that draws current from rechargeable storage batteries, fuel cells, or other sources of electrical current.

(d) "Eligible costs" means the conversion cost or the incremental cost incurred by an applicant in connection with an investment in the conversion, purchase, or lease of at least 5 years of an electric or hybrid fleet vehicle placed into service on or after July 1, 2019. The term does not include costs for project development, fueling stations, or other fueling infrastructure.

(e) "Fleet vehicles" means three or more motor vehicles registered in this state and used for commercial business or governmental purposes.

(f) "Hybrid vehicle" has the same meaning as in s. 316.0741.

(g) "Incremental costs" means the excess costs associated with the purchase or lease of an electric or hybrid vehicle as compared to an equivalent diesel- or gasoline-powered motor vehicle.

(3) ELECTRIC OR HYBRID FLEET VEHICLE REBATE.-The department shall award rebates for eligible costs as defined in this section. Forty percent of the annual allocation must be reserved for governmental applicants, with the remaining funds allocated

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CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

10-01231-19 20191368
 59 for commercial applicants. A rebate may not exceed 50 percent of
 60 the eligible costs of an electric or hybrid fleet vehicle placed
 61 into service on or after July 1, 2019. An applicant is eligible
 62 to receive a maximum rebate of \$25,000 per vehicle, up to a
 63 total of \$250,000 per fiscal year. Between June 1 and June 30 of
 64 each fiscal year, the department may receive additional
 65 applications from applicants who have met the program maximum of
 66 \$250,000 per fiscal year. Those applicants may apply for
 67 additional funds for vehicles that have not received a rebate,
 68 for a maximum rebate of \$25,000 per vehicle, up to a total of
 69 \$250,000. Governmental applicants have preference, and any other
 70 remaining funds may be used by commercial applicants. Rebates
 71 must be allocated to eligible applicants on a first-come, first-
 72 served basis, as determined by the date the department receives
 73 the application, until all appropriated funds for the fiscal
 74 year are expended.

(4) APPLICATION PROCESS.—

(a) An applicant seeking to obtain a rebate must submit an
 application to the department by a specified date each year, as
 established by department rule. The application must require a
 complete description of all eligible costs, proof of purchase of
 or lease of the vehicle for which the applicant is seeking a
 rebate, a copy of the vehicle registration certificate, a
 description of the total rebate the applicant seeks, and any
 other information the department deems necessary. The
 application form adopted by department rule must include an
 affidavit from the applicant certifying that all information
 contained in the application is true and correct.

(b) The department shall determine each applicant's rebate

10-01231-19 20191368
 88 eligibility in accordance with the requirements of this section
 89 and department rule. The total amount of rebates allocated to
 90 applicants in each fiscal year may not exceed the amount of
 91 funds appropriated for the program in a fiscal year. The
 92 department must allocate rebates to eligible applicants on a
 93 first-come, first-served basis, as determined by the date each
 94 application is received, until all appropriated funds for the
 95 fiscal year are expended or the program ends, whichever comes
 96 first. Incomplete applications submitted to the department will
 97 not be accepted and do not secure a place in the first-come,
 98 first-served application process.

(5) RULES.—The department shall adopt rules by December 31,
 2019, to implement and administer this section including rules
 relating to the forms required to claim a rebate under this
 section, the required documentation and basis for establishing
 eligibility for a rebate, the procedures and guidelines for
 claiming a rebate, and the collection of economic impact data
 from applicants.

(6) PUBLICATION.—The department shall determine and publish
 on its website, on an ongoing basis, the amount of available
 funding for rebates remaining in each fiscal year.

(7) ANNUAL ASSESSMENT.—By October 1, 2020, and each year
 thereafter in which the program is funded, the department shall
 provide an annual assessment of the use of the rebate program
 during the previous fiscal year to the Governor, the President
 of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and
 the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government
 Accountability. The assessment must include, at a minimum, all
 of the following information:

10-01231-19 20191368__

117 (a) The name of each applicant awarded a rebate under this
118 section.

119 (b) The amount of the rebates awarded to each applicant.

120 (c) The type and description of each eligible vehicle for
121 which each applicant applied for a rebate.

122 (d) The aggregate amount of funding awarded for all
123 applicants claiming rebates under this section.

124 Section 2. Beginning in the 2019-2020 fiscal year and each
125 year thereafter through the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the sum of \$6
126 million in recurring funds is appropriated in each fiscal year
127 from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Agriculture
128 and Consumer Services to fund the natural gas fuel fleet vehicle
129 rebate program created pursuant to s. 377.810, Florida Statutes.

130 Section 3. Beginning in the 2019-2020 fiscal year and each
131 year thereafter through the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the sum of \$3
132 million in recurring funds is appropriated in each fiscal year
133 from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Agriculture
134 and Consumer Services to fund the electric and hybrid fleet
135 vehicle rebate program pursuant to s. 377.813, Florida Statutes,
136 as created by this act.

137 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/18/19

SB 1368

Meeting Date

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Fleet Vehicle Rebate Programs

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Donna Simmons

Job Title Director, State Government Relations

Address 106 E. College Ave., Suite 630

Phone 850-681-6785

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32301

City

State

Zip

Email

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ InformationWaive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing TECO Energy

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ NoLobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

not in attendance but please read for the record

2

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

3/18/2019

Meeting Date

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1368

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic _____

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Dale Calhoun

Job Title Executive Director

Address 201 S Monroe St Unit A

Phone 8506810496

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32301

Email dale.calhoun@floridagas.org

City

State

Zip

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Natural Gas Association and Florida Propane Gas Association

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/14/14)

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/19/19

Meeting Date

SB 1368

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic NATURAL GAS VEHICLES

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name KEYNA CORY

Job Title LOBBYIST

Address 730 E. PARK AVE

Phone 850 681 1065

Street

TAMPA

City

FL

State

32301

Zip

Email keynacory@pacconsultants.com

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing NATIONAL WASTE + RECYCLING ASSN - FL CHAPTER

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3.18-19

Meeting Date

1368

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic _____

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name DAVID CULLEN

Job Title _____

Address 1674 UNIV. PKWY #296

Street

Phone 941-323-2404

SARASOTA FL 34243

City

State

Zip

Email cullenassa@aol.com

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing SIERRA CLUB FLORIDA

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date _____

✓
1368
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Fleet Vehicles

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Eric Criss

Job Title Contract lobbyist

Address 123 N. Monroe St.
Street

Phone 491 3903

Tallahassee, FL 32301
City State Zip

Email eric@thearenafirm.com

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Beer Industry of Florida

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/19/19

Meeting Date

1368

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic FLEET VEHICLE Rebate

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name JERRY SHARKEY

Job Title CEO, LAB

Address 106 E 62nd Ave

Phone 224 1660

Street

City

TFT

State

FL

Zip

Email jerrysharkey@gmail.com

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing TESLA

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Agriculture

BILL: CS/SB 1738

INTRODUCER: Committee on Agriculture and Senator Gruters

SUBJECT: Restraint of Dogs

DATE: March 19, 2019

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Akhavein	Becker	AG	Fav/CS
2.			CJ	
3.			RC	

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 1738 authorizes a veterinarian to report evidence of suspected animal cruelty to law enforcement or animal control officers and to furnish written patient medical records without authorization from a client. If the suspected offense occurs on a commercial food-producing animal operation, veterinarians would provide notice to the farmer prior to reporting the violation to give them an opportunity to come into compliance. It prohibits a person to leave a restrained dog outside and unattended during a manmade disaster or a natural disaster. Such person would be guilty of animal cruelty, a misdemeanor of the first degree. It also provides the option for horse owners to include a covenant on the sale of a horse, requiring any subsequent owner to call a contracted third party to pick up a horse that is ready to be retired rather than destroying the animal. The bill authorizes the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to adopt rules concerning equine rescue and retirement.

II. Present Situation:

Reporting of Animal Cruelty

Currently a private citizen may report suspected animal cruelty to a law enforcement officer or an animal control officer. However, the Veterinary Medical Practice Act contains a

confidentiality provision that prohibits a veterinarian from discussing a patient's medical condition with anyone except the client, except for a few narrow exceptions such as research.¹

Animals Tethered and Abandoned During Disasters

As a dangerous storm approaches, many residents flee to safer areas, and some leave their pets behind. The Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control director reported that many pets are left chained to trees and parked cars, as their owner left them behind to "ride out the storm" on their own. During Hurricane Irma, 49 dogs and two cats were rescued by animal control officers. In Palm Beach County, it is illegal for anyone to leave a dog tied up without the owner being present, but it is considered animal cruelty and a felony when done during a storm.² Collier, Fernandina Beach, Hernando, Hillsborough, Lake, Lee, Miami, Martin, Miami-Dade, Mount Dora, Okaloosa, Palm Beach, Pembroke Park, Pinellas, Sarasota, and St. Lucie Counties also prohibit animals from being tethered in extreme weather, including but not limited to hurricanes, tropical storms, or tornadoes.

Horse Care Covenants

Many horses, particularly in the racing and hunter jumper fields, are simply destroyed after they can no longer compete, because it costs thousands of dollars per year for continued care. Some are put in less age-dependent disciplines, and some are sold to farms or families whose children want a horse to ride. All horses cannot be placed, and the ASPCA calculates that over 100,000 American horses are sent across the borders for slaughter each year.³ Currently, common law only allows covenants to travel with real property. Because a horse is "chattel," a covenant does not travel with a horse.⁴

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 474.2165, F.S., to authorize a veterinarian to report suspected patient criminal violations to law enforcement or animal control officers and to furnish written patient medical records without authorization from a client. If the suspected offense occurs on a commercial food-producing animal operation, veterinarians would provide notice to the farmer prior to reporting the violation to give them an opportunity to come into compliance.

Section 2 amends s. 828.12, F.S., to prohibit a person to leave a restrained dog outside and unattended during a manmade disaster or a natural disaster. Such person would be guilty of animal cruelty, a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or both.

The bill defines the following terms:

¹ See s. 474.2165, F.S.

² See "Pets Abandoned, Chained on Leashes, as Owners Flee Hurricane Irma," accessed at <https://dmlnews.com/pets-abandoned-chained-leashes-owners-flee-hurricane-irma/> (Last visited March 14, 2019).

³ See "What Happens to Retired Racehorses?," accessed at <https://www.care2.com/causes/what-happens-to-retired-racehorses.html> (Last visited March 19, 2019).

⁴ "Any article of tangible property other than land, buildings, and other things annexed to land," Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary.

- *Manmade disaster* as a situation in which a person has received notice from a local or governmental authority that an event attributed in part or entirely to human intent, error, or negligence, or involving the failure of a manmade system, which results in significant damage has occurred, is occurring, or may soon occur in the person's vicinity.
- *Natural disaster* as a situation in which a hurricane, tropical storm, or tornado warning has been issued for a municipality or a county by the National Weather Service, or the municipality or county is under a mandatory or voluntary evacuation order.
- *Restraint* as a chain, rope, tether, leash, cable, or other device that attaches a dog to a stationary object or trolley system.

Section 3 creates s. 828.261, F.S., to authorize a contract for the sale of a horse to include a covenant for the continuing care of the horse. An owner would not be required to include such covenant, and a purchaser would not be required to purchase a horse that includes such a covenant. The bill authorizes the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to adopt rules that adopt the American Association of Equine Practitioners care guidelines for equine rescue and retirement facilities. This section does not create any covenants that annex to or travel with any other chattel.

Section 4 provides that this act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None identified.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Persons who are found guilty of leaving a restrained dog outside and unattended during a manmade or natural disaster would be punished as provided in s. 775.082, F.S., or be charged a fine of not more than \$5,000, or both.

C. Government Sector Impact:

Indeterminate.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill amends section 474.2165 and 828.12 of the Florida Statutes.
This bill creates section 828.261 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Committee on Agriculture on March 18, 2019:

The committee substitute:

- Authorizes a veterinarian to report suspected patient criminal violations to law enforcement or animal control officers and to furnish written patient medical records without authorization from a client. If the suspected offense occurs on a commercial food-producing animal operation, veterinarians would provide notice to the farmer prior to reporting the violation to give them an opportunity to come into compliance;
- Authorizes a contract for the sale of a horse to include a covenant for the continuing care of the horse. An owner would not be required to include such covenant, and a purchaser would not be required to purchase a horse that includes such a covenant. The bill authorizes the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to adopt rules that adopt the American Association of Equine Practitioners care guidelines for equine rescue and retirement facilities. This section does not create any covenants that annex to or travel with any other chattel; and
- An amendment to the amendment makes a technical correction.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.



493660

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/20/2019	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Agriculture (Gruters) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 474.2165, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

474.2165 Ownership and control of veterinary medical
patient records; report or copies of records to be furnished.—

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a
veterinarian may not furnish written patient medical ~~such~~



493660

records ~~may not be furnished~~ to, and may not discuss the medical condition of a patient ~~may not be discussed~~ with, any person other than the client or the client's legal representative or other veterinarians involved in the care or treatment of the patient, unless the veterinarian has received ~~except upon~~ written authorization of the client. However, such records may be furnished without written authorization under the following circumstances:

(a) To any person, firm, or corporation that has procured or furnished such examination or treatment with the client's consent.

(b) In any civil ~~or criminal~~ action, unless otherwise prohibited by law, upon the issuance of a subpoena from a court of competent jurisdiction and ~~proper~~ notice to the client or the client's legal representative by the party seeking such records.

(c) In any criminal action or a situation where a veterinarian suspects a criminal violation. If criminal violation is suspected, a veterinarian may, without notice to or authorization from the client, discuss the condition of the patient with and report the violation to a law enforcement officer, an animal control officer who is certified pursuant to s. 828.27(4)(a), or an agent appointed under s. 828.03. However, if a suspected violation occurs on a commercial food-producing animal operation on land classified as agricultural under s. 193.461, the veterinarian must provide notice to the client or the client's legal representative before reporting the suspected violation to an officer or agent under this paragraph. The report may not include written medical records except upon the issuance of an order from a court of competent jurisdiction.



493660

40 (d)~~(e)~~ For statistical and scientific research, provided
41 the information is abstracted in such a way as to protect the
42 identity of the patient and the client, or provided written
43 permission is received from the client or the client's legal
44 representative.

45 Section 2. Present subsection (6) of section 828.12,
46 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (7), and a new
47 subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

48 828.12 Cruelty to animals.—

49 (6) A person who leaves a dog outside and unattended by use
50 of a restraint during a manmade disaster or a natural disaster
51 commits animal cruelty, a misdemeanor of the first degree,
52 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or by a fine of not more
53 than \$5,000, or both. As used in this subsection, the term:

54 (a) "Manmade disaster" means a situation in which a person
55 has received notice from a local or governmental authority that
56 an event attributed in part or entirely to human intent, error,
57 or negligence, or involving the failure of a manmade system,
58 which results in significant damage has occurred, is occurring,
59 or may soon occur in the person's vicinity.

60 (b) "Natural disaster" means a situation in which a
61 hurricane, tropical storm, or tornado warning has been issued
62 for a municipality or a county by the National Weather Service,
63 or the municipality or county is under a mandatory or voluntary
64 evacuation order.

65 (c) "Restraint" means a chain, rope, tether, leash, cable,
66 or other device that attaches a dog to a stationary object or
67 trolley system.

68 Section 3. Section 828.261, Florida Statutes, is created to



493660

read:

828.261 Ongoing horse care covenants.—

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a contract for the sale of a horse may include a covenant for the continuing care of the horse, subject to the following provisions:

(a) The obligations under the covenant may be provided by a third party that is obligated to provide services and care to an animal that is retired from ownership, for an actuarially appropriate charge, and is not subject to chapter 624.

(b) A covenant is valid and annexed to the horse, runs with the horse, and is binding and enforceable upon the purchaser and all future subpurchasers.

(c) A covenant must require notice, in writing, before purchase of any subsequent purchaser and must be acknowledged in writing by all such subsequent purchasers, before consummation of the purchase of a covered horse.

(d) A covenant may include liquidated damages for failing to comply with the provisions of the covenant.

(e) A covenant must include allow any owner to retire the horse into the care and treatment of the third party provider of services under the covenant.

(2) An owner is not required to include a covenant for the continuing care of a horse in a contract for the sale of the horse and a purchaser is not required to purchase a horse that includes such a covenant.

(3) The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services may adopt rules adopting the American Association of Equine Practitioners care guidelines for equine rescue and retirement



493660

facilities and may include additional standards for the ethical treatment of horses by third party providers of a covenant for the continuing care of the horse. The rules must:

(a) Require third party providers to make available a request hotline during normal business hours to be used by an owner that voluntarily decides to retire a horse and effectuate its care under a covenant.

(b) Include provisions for the appropriate diet, shelter, pasture, and medical care of horses that are retired under this section.

(c) Allow all prior owners of a horse to have notice of the retirement of the horse, along with the address where the horse will be cared for, and the ability to visit the horse during normal business hours 7 days a week.

(d) Require submission of an actuarial report and evidence indicating the maintenance of adequate reserves by a third party provider to adequately care for a horse subject to a covenant under this section.

(4) This section does not create any covenants that annex to or travel with any other chattel.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause
and insert:

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to animal welfare; amending s.
474.2165, F.S.; authorizing a veterinarian to report



493660

suspected patient criminal violations to certain
officers and agents without notice to or authorization
from a client under specified circumstances; providing
an exception; prohibiting the report from including
written medical records except under certain
circumstances; amending s. 828.12, F.S.; prohibiting a
person from restraining a dog outside and unattended
during a manmade disaster or a natural disaster;
providing a criminal penalty; providing a fine;
defining terms; creating s. 828.261, F.S.; authorizing
a contract for the sale of a horse to include a
covenant for the continuing care of the horse;
providing requirements for such a covenant;
authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer
Services to adopt rules that meet certain
requirements; providing an effective date.



146006

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/20/2019	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Agriculture (Gruters) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment to Amendment (493660)

Delete line 88
and insert:
(e) A covenant must allow any owner to retire the

By Senator Gruters

23-01416A-19

20191738__

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the restraint of dogs; amending s.
3 828.12, F.S.; prohibiting a person from restraining a
4 dog outside and unattended during a manmade disaster
5 or a natural disaster; providing a criminal penalty;
6 providing a fine; defining terms; providing an
7 effective date.
8
9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
10
11 Section 1. Present subsection (6) of section 828.12,
12 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (7), and a new
13 subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:
14 828.12 Cruelty to animals.—
15 (6) A person who leaves a dog outside and unattended by use
16 of a restraint during a manmade disaster or a natural disaster
17 commits animal cruelty, a misdemeanor of the first degree,
18 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or by a fine of not more
19 than \$5,000, or both. As used in this subsection, the term:
20 (a) "Manmade disaster" means a situation in which a person
21 has received notice from a local or governmental authority that
22 an event attributed in part or entirely to human intent, error,
23 or negligence, or involving the failure of a manmade system,
24 which results in significant damage has occurred, is occurring,
25 or may soon occur in the person's vicinity.
26 (b) "Natural disaster" means a situation in which a
27 hurricane, tropical storm, or tornado warning has been issued
28 for a municipality or a county by the National Weather Service,
29 or the municipality or county is under a mandatory or voluntary

Page 1 of 2

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

23-01416A-19

20191738__

30 evacuation order.
31 (c) "Restraint" means a chain, rope, tether, leash, cable,
32 or other device that attaches a dog to a stationary object or
33 trolley system.
34 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

Page 2 of 2

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/18/19

Meeting Date

SB1738/1038

Bill Number (if applicable)

493660

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Topic VETERINARY CRUELTY REPORTING

Name JENNIFER HOBGOOD, Ph.D.

Job Title SENIOR DIRECTOR OF STATE LEGISLATION

Address P O BOX 5741

Street

TALLAHASSEE

City

FL

State

32314

Zip

Phone 850-445-5245

Email jenhobgood@aspcanet.org

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing ASPCA

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date _____

1738

Bill Number (if applicable)

493660

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Topic _____

Name Tim Meenan

Job Title "President - Ben Albritton Fan Club"

Address 400 S. Duval St.

Street

Tallahassee

City

FL

State

32302

Zip

Phone (850) 425-4000

Email Tim@meenanfanclub.com

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing 14270 Palm Beach Point, LLC

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

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S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

3/18/2019

Meeting Date

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1738

Bill Number (if applicable)

493660

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Topic Restraint of Dogs

Name Chief Gary Hester

Job Title Government Affairs

Address 2636 Mitcham Drive

Street

Tallahassee

City

FL

State

32308

Zip

Phone 850-219-3631

Email ghester@fpca.com

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Police Chiefs Association

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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APPEARANCE RECORD

3/18/19

Meeting Date

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1738

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Tethering Dogs in disaster

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Kate Macfall

Job Title state director

Address 1624 Metropolitan Circle

Phone 850 508-1001

Street

Tallahassee FL 32308

City

State

Zip

Email KMacfall@hsus.org

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Humane Society of the United States

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3118119

Meeting Date

1738

Bill Number (if applicable)

4936600

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Topic

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Job Title Attorney

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Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing FL Animal Control Association

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Agriculture

BILL: CS/SB 1804

INTRODUCER: Committee on Agriculture and Senator Albritton

SUBJECT: Emergency Loans for Agricultural Producers

DATE: March 19, 2019

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Becker	Becker	AG	Fav/CS
2.			AP	

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 1804 transfers the Agricultural Economic Development Program from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) to the Division of Emergency Management (division) and makes a number of changes to the program. Specifically, the bill:

- Replaces socioeconomic condition with catastrophic weather as event that would allow the division to make loans.
- Adds that loans can be used for direct impact costs, which is defined, or to pay the deductible to repair or replace insured farm or irrigation equipment and removes essential family living expenses.
- Removes the requirement that agricultural producers have less than 300 acres of land to be eligible for program loans.
- Provides that loans must be issued as zero-interest loans, in an amount of up to \$500,000. It adds a provision that applicants are responsible for closing costs, which may not be more than 1 percent of the loan, and removes a requirement that applicants must provide at least 10 percent equity.
- Adds loan limits for timber, cotton, and peanuts.
- Provides that the term of the loan is 10 years. If another natural disaster affects the same property for which the applicant received such a loan within the original term of the loan, the division must work with the borrower to evaluate the necessity of extending the term of the loan.
- Adds farm, ranch, or dairy infrastructure and irrigation equipment to and removes farmworker housing from the definition of “losses” and “essential physical property.”
- Removes the prohibition on trees as an eligible crop.

- Clarifies that shellfish cultivation includes oysters and defines “commercial fishing” and “industrial crops.”
- Removes the requirement for a borrower to operate in accordance with a farm plan that is approved by the commissioner.
- Removes the provision that a borrower may be required to participate in a financial management training program and adds that they may be required to obtain crop insurance as a risk management tool.
- Extends the timeline for an application from 90 days to 1 year after the date of the natural disaster or catastrophic weather event.
- Allows for only one loan to be issued per federal identification number.
- Requires an applicant to provide evidence to the division that they used crop insurance as a risk management tool, if available, at the time of the qualifying event.
- Allows farm assets to be used as collateral.
- Changes the terms of loan repayment.
- States that in the event of a default by a borrower, the division may bring suit to enforce its interest, in addition to any other remedy provided by law.
- Requires the division to administer the program in a manner consistent with federal disaster relief, prioritizing the maximization of federal aid.
- Removes the authority for DACS to establish a grant program to provide aid to agribusinesses to assist in market development.

The act is effective upon becoming law.

II. Present Situation:

Agricultural Economic Development Program

In 2000 the Legislature created the Agricultural Economic Development Program,¹ which provides loans to farmers who experienced losses due to natural disasters or socioeconomic events or conditions.² Loan funds may be used to restore or replace essential physical property or remove debris from essential physical property, pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year, pay essential family living expenses, and restructure farm debts.³

To be eligible for the program, agricultural producers must have a parcel or parcels of land not exceeding 300 acres⁴ and funds may be issued as direct loans or as loan guarantees for up to 90 percent of the total loan, in amounts between \$30,000 and \$300,000.⁵ Applicants must provide at least ten percent equity.⁶

The following crops are eligible for the emergency loan program:⁷

¹ Ch. 2000-308, s. 26, Laws of Fla. (creating s. 570.249, F.S., effective June 16, 2000).

² Section 570.82(1)(a), F.S.

³ *Id.*

⁴ Section 570.82(1)(b), F.S.

⁵ Section 570.82(1)(c), F.S.

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ Section 570.82(2), F.S.

- Crops grown for human consumption;
- Crops planted and grown for livestock consumption, including, but not limited to, grain, seed, and forage crops;
- Crops grown for fiber, except for trees; and
- Specialty crops, such as seafood and aquaculture.⁸

A borrower must keep complete and acceptable farm records and present them as proof of production levels and must operate in accordance with a farm plan that he or she develops and is approved by the Commissioner of Agriculture.⁹ A borrower may be required to participate in a financial management training program and obtain crop insurance.¹⁰

In order to qualify for a loan the applicant must:

- Submit an application to DACS within 90 days after the date of the natural disaster or socioeconomic condition or event occurs or the crop damage becomes apparent;
- Be a citizen of the United States and a bona fide resident of the state;
- Demonstrate the need for economic assistance; and
- Demonstrate that he or she has the ability to repay the loan.¹¹

All loans must be secured and a first lien is required on all property acquired, produced, or refinanced with loan funds.¹² The specific type of collateral required may vary depending upon the loan purpose, repayment ability, and the particular circumstances of the applicant.¹³

Repayment of the loans for crops, livestock, and non-real-estate losses shall be made within 7 years, or, in special circumstances, within 20 years.¹⁴ Loans for physical losses to real estate buildings shall not exceed 30 years. Borrowers are expected to return to conventional credit sources when they are financially able and borrowers must be reviewed periodically to determine whether they can return to conventional credit.¹⁵

DACS is authorized to establish a grant program to provide aid to agribusinesses to assist in market development. The loan program has never been funded by the Legislature and no loans have been made.

Hurricane Michael

On October 10, 2018, Hurricane Michael made landfall in the Florida panhandle as a Category 4 Hurricane, ranking by pressure as the third-most intense Atlantic hurricane to ever make landfall in the United States.¹⁶ Hurricane Michael significantly impacted Florida agriculture, causing

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ Section 570.82(3), F.S.

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ Section 570.82(4), F.S.

¹² Section 570.82(5), F.S.

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ Section 570.82(6), F.S.

¹⁵ *Id.*

¹⁶ State of Florida, Office of the Governor, Executive Order No. 18-360 (Dec. 5, 2018), *available at* <https://floridadisaster.org/globalassets/info-pages/eo-18-360-hurricane-michael-extension-1.pdf> (last visited March 14, 2019).

widespread crop, livestock, and timber losses across Northwest Florida.¹⁷ The industry that was the hardest hit was timber, with an estimated \$1.29 billion in losses.¹⁸ The additional total crop and animal product loss is estimated to be \$137.5 million.¹⁹

¹⁷ Christa D. Court, Alan W. Hodges, and Caleb A. Stair, *County-Level Economic Losses for Florida Agriculture Resulting from Hurricane Michael* (Nov. 13, 2018), available at <https://fred.ifas.ufl.edu/DEStudio/T4/PDF/County-Level%20Economic%20Losses%20for%20Florida%20Agriculture%20Resulting%20from%20Hurricane%20Michael%2011-13-18.pdf> (last visited March 14, 2018).

¹⁸ Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, *Hurricane Michael's Damage to Florida Agriculture* (Oct. 30, 2018) (on file with the Senate Committee on Agriculture).

¹⁹ Christa D. Court, Alan W. Hodges, and Caleb A. Stair, *County-Level Economic Losses for Florida Agriculture Resulting from Hurricane Michael* (Nov. 13, 2018), available at <https://fred.ifas.ufl.edu/DEStudio/T4/PDF/County-Level%20Economic%20Losses%20for%20Florida%20Agriculture%20Resulting%20from%20Hurricane%20Michael%2011-13-18.pdf> (last visited March 14, 2018).

The estimated impacts to specific crops are as follows:²⁰

Field and Row Crops

Product	Estimated Loss Value (\$Millions)
Peanuts	\$19.249
Cotton	\$52.941
Corn	\$4.091
Oats	\$0.772
Soybeans	\$0.681
Hay	\$1.740
Total	\$79.476

Specialty Crops

Product	Estimated Loss Value (\$Millions)
Vegetables and melons	\$8.823
Fruits	\$4.524
Tree nuts	\$3.163
Greenhouse, nursey, and floriculture	\$15.208
Total	\$31.718

Animals/Products

Product	Estimated Loss Value (\$Millions)
Beef cattle	\$6.000
Dairy cattle and milk	\$6.707
Poultry and eggs	\$11.435
Animals, except cattle and poultry and eggs	\$2.169
Total	\$26.311

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 570.82, F.S., and transfers and renumbers it as s. 252.65, F.S., which is the Agricultural Economic Development Program. It makes the following changes to the loan program:

- Replaces socioeconomic condition with catastrophic weather as event that would allow the division to make loans.

²⁰ Christa D. Court, Alan W. Hodges, and Caleb A. Stair, *County-Level Economic Losses for Florida Agriculture Resulting from Hurricane Michael* (Nov. 13, 2018), available at <https://fred.ifas.ufl.edu/DEStudio/T4/PDF/County-Level%20Economic%20Losses%20for%20Florida%20Agriculture%20Resulting%20from%20Hurricane%20Michael%2011-13-18.pdf> (last visited March 14, 2018).

- Adds that loans can be used for direct impact costs, which is defined, or to pay the deductible to repair or replace insured farm or irrigation equipment and removes essential family living expenses.
- Removes the requirement that agricultural producers have less than 300 acres of land to be eligible for program loans.
- Provides that loans must be issued as zero-interest loans, in an amount of up to \$500,000. It adds a provision that applicants are responsible for closing costs, which may not be more than 1 percent of the loan, and removes a requirement that applicants must provide at least 10 percent equity.
- Adds loan limits for timber, cotton, and peanuts.
- Provides that the term of the loan is 10 years. If another natural disaster affects the same property for which the applicant received such a loan within the original term of the loan, the division must work with the borrower to evaluate the necessity of extending the term of the loan.
- Adds farm, ranch, or dairy infrastructure and irrigation equipment to and removes farmworker housing from the definition of “losses” and “essential physical property.”
- Removes the prohibition on trees as an eligible crop.
- Clarifies that shellfish includes oysters and defines “commercial fishing” and “industrial crops.”
- Removes the requirement for a borrower to operate in accordance with a farm plan that is approved by the commissioner.
- Removes the provision that a borrower may be required to participate in a financial management training program and adds that they may be required to obtain crop insurance as a risk management tool.
- Extends the timeline for an application from 90 days to 1 year after the date of the natural disaster or catastrophic weather event.
- Allows for only one loan to be issued per federal identification number.
- Requires an applicant to provide evidence to the division that they used crop insurance as a risk management tool, if available, at the time of the qualifying event.
- Allows farm assets to be used as collateral.
- Changes the terms of loan repayment.
- States that in the event of a default by a borrower, the division may bring suit to enforce its interest, in addition to any other remedy provided by law.
- Requires the division to administer the program in a manner consistent with federal disaster relief, prioritizing the maximization of federal aid.
- Removes the authority for DACS to establish a grant program to provide aid to agribusinesses to assist in market development.

Section 2 amends s. 201.25, F.S., to update a cross-reference for the newly created section.

Section 3 provides for the bill to be effective upon becoming law.

IV. Constitutional Issues:**A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None identified.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Large agricultural producers would benefit from these changes, by now being eligible for the loan program. All producers would benefit from the increase in the maximum loan amount, zero percent interest, and increase in length of time to repay the loan.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The loan program would be moved from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to the Division of Emergency Management. This program has never been funded.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill transfers and amends s. 570.82 of the Florida Statutes.

This bill amends s. 201.25 of the Florida Statutes.

This bill creates s. 252.65 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Agriculture on March 18, 2019:

The committee substitute:

- Deletes the reference to a type two transfer of the loan program.
- Replaces socioeconomic condition with catastrophic weather as event that would allow the division to make loans.
- Adds that loans can be used for direct impact costs (which is defined) or to pay the deductible to repair or replace insured farm or irrigation equipment and removes essential family living expenses.
- Removes the minimum loan amount of \$30,000.
- Adds loan limits for timber, cotton, and peanuts.
- Adds farm, ranch, or dairy infrastructure and irrigation equipment to and removes farmworker housing from the definitions of losses and essential physical property.
- Removes the prohibition on trees as an eligible crop.
- Defines commercial fishing and industrial crops.
- Extends the application deadline from 90 days to 1 year after the date of the natural disaster or catastrophic weather event.
- Removes reference to a specific deadline for those affected by Hurricane Michael.
- Adds a requirement that an applicant provide evidence that they had crop insurance as a risk management tool, if available, at the time of the natural disaster or catastrophic weather event.
- Adds a provision that states that in the event of a default by a borrower, the division may bring suit to enforce its interest, in addition to any other remedy provided by law.

B. Amendments:

None.



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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/20/2019	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Agriculture (Albritton) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Section 570.82, Florida Statutes, is
transferred, renumbered as section 252.65, Florida Statutes, and
amended, to read:

252.65 ~~570.82~~ Agricultural Economic Development and
Disaster Loans Program ~~disaster loans and grants and aid.~~

(1) USE OF LOAN FUNDS AND LOAN TERMS.



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11 (a) The division shall use funds appropriated for the
12 program to make loans ~~Loan funds~~ to agricultural producers who
13 have experienced losses from a natural disaster or a
14 catastrophic weather ~~socioeconomic condition or event.~~ Such
15 loans may be used to:

16 1. Restore or replace essential physical property or remove
17 debris on farmland or from essential physical property.

18 2. Pay all or part of production costs associated with the
19 disaster year, including direct input costs.

20 3. Pay the deductible to repair or replace insured farm or
21 irrigation equipment ~~essential family living expenses.~~

22 4. Restructure farm debts.

23 (b) ~~To be eligible, agricultural producers must have a~~
24 ~~parcel or parcels of land in production not exceeding 300 acres.~~

25 ~~(c) A loan must be zero-interest and in an amount of not~~
26 ~~Funds may be issued as direct loans, or as loan guarantees for~~
27 ~~up to 90 percent of the total loan, in amounts not less than~~
28 ~~\$30,000 nor more than \$500,000~~ \$300,000. The borrower shall pay
29 closing costs, which may not be more than 1 percent of the loan.
30 The closing costs may be paid directly by the borrower or may be
31 financed as part of the loan ~~Applicants must provide at least 10~~
32 ~~percent equity.~~

33 (c) The following loan limits apply per federal employer
34 identification number:

35 1. For timber, up to \$500 per acre.

36 2. For cotton, up to \$275 per acre.

37 3. For peanuts, up to \$125 per acre.

38 (d) The term of the loan is 10 years. If a subsequent
39 natural disaster or catastrophic weather event affects the same



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property for which a borrower has an outstanding loan made under
this section and that loan is still within its original term,
the division must work with the borrower to evaluate the
necessity of extending the term of the loan. The evaluation must
include, but need not be limited to, a review of the borrower's
financial condition, the availability of other financial
resources or programs, and consistency with the administration
of the program under subsection (8). If the division determines
it necessary to extend the term of the loan, the extension may
be for up to an additional 5 years but must be for at least 1
year.

(e)-(d) As used in For purposes of this subsection, the
term:

1. "Direct input costs" means costs incurred for:
 - a. Seed;
 - b. A boll weevil eradication program under part I of
chapter 593;
 - c. Fertilizer, lime, or other soil amendment;
 - d. Chicken litter;
 - e. Chemicals;
 - f. Custom application;
 - g. Hand weeding;
 - h. Crop scouting;
 - i. Fuel and lube;
 - j. Repairs and maintenance;
 - k. Irrigation;
 - l. Labor;
 - m. Insurance;
 - n. Land rent;



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o. Interest on operating capital;

p. Drying and cleaning; or

q. Marketing and fees.

~~3.1.~~ "Losses" means loss or damage to crops; agricultural products; agricultural facilities; farm, ranch, or dairy infrastructure; or irrigation equipment ~~farmworker housing.~~

2. "Essential physical property" means fences; equipment; structural production facilities such as shade houses and greenhouses; other agricultural facilities; farm, ranch, or dairy infrastructure; or irrigation equipment ~~farmworker housing.~~

(2) ELIGIBLE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS CROPS. ~~Agricultural producers of the following crops are eligible for the emergency loan program~~ Crops eligible for the emergency loan program ~~include:~~

(a) Crops grown for human consumption.

(b) Crops planted and grown for livestock consumption, including, but not limited to, grain, seed, and forage crops.

(c) Crops grown for fiber, ~~except for trees.~~

(d) Specialty crops, such as seafood and aquaculture, including, but not limited to, the products of shellfish or oyster cultivation and harvesting, ornamental fish farming, and commercial fishing; floricultural or ornamental nursery crops; Christmas trees; turf for sod; industrial crops; and seed crops used to produce eligible crops. As used in this paragraph, the term "commercial fishing" means the activity of catching fish or other seafood for commercial profit. As used in this paragraph, the term "industrial crops" means crops that provide materials for industrial processes and products, such as soybeans, cotton



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lint and cottonseed, flax, or tobacco.

(3) FARMING INFORMATION.—A borrower must keep complete and acceptable farm records and present them as proof of production levels. ~~A borrower must operate in accordance with a farm plan that he or she develops and that is approved by the commissioner.~~ A borrower may be required to ~~participate in a financial management training program and~~ obtain crop insurance as a risk management tool.

(4) LOAN APPLICATION.—In order to qualify for a loan under this section, an applicant must:

(a) Submit an application to the division ~~department~~ within 1 year ~~90 days~~ after the date the natural disaster or catastrophic weather ~~socioeconomic condition or~~ event occurs ~~or the crop damage becomes apparent.~~

(b) ~~Be An applicant must be~~ a citizen of the United States and a bona fide resident of this ~~the~~ state, ~~and must also~~ demonstrate the need for economic assistance, and demonstrate that he or she has the ability to repay the loan. Only one loan may be issued per federal employer identification number.

(c) Provide sufficient evidence to the division that he or she used crop insurance as a risk management tool, if available, at the time of the natural disaster or catastrophic weather event.

(d) Be approved by the division.

(5) LOAN SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.—All loans must be secured. A first lien is required on all property or product acquired, produced, or refinanced with loan funds. The specific type of collateral required may vary depending upon the loan purpose, repayment ability, and the particular circumstances of the



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applicant. Farm assets may be used as collateral.

(6) LOAN REPAYMENT.—A borrower shall repay the loan
~~Repayment of loans for crops, livestock, and non-real estate~~
~~losses shall normally be made within 10 7 years or, except a~~
~~borrower who received an extension of a loan as provided in~~
~~paragraph (1)(d) shall repay the loan by the expiration of the~~
~~extension in special circumstances, within 20 years. Loans for~~
~~physical losses to real estate and buildings shall not exceed 30~~
~~years. A loan may not be extended or repaid beyond 15 years.~~
Borrowers are expected to return to conventional credit sources
when they are financially able. Loans are a temporary source of
credit, and borrowers must be reviewed periodically to determine
whether they can return to conventional credit.

(7) LOAN DEFAULT.—In the event of a default by a borrower,
the division may bring suit to enforce its interest, in addition
to any other remedy provided by law.

(8) ADMINISTRATION.—The division shall administer the
program in a manner consistent with federal disaster relief,
prioritizing the maximization of federal aid. All loan
repayments must be returned to the fund from which the
appropriation for the program was made.

~~(7) GRANTS AND AID.—The department shall establish a grant~~
~~program to provide aid to agribusinesses to assist in market~~
~~development.~~

Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 201.25, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

201.25 Tax exemptions for certain loans.—There shall be
exempt from all taxes imposed by this chapter:

(2) Any loan made by the Agricultural Economic Development



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and Disaster Loans Program pursuant to s. 252.65 ~~s. 570.82~~.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause
and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to emergency loans for agricultural
producers; transferring, renumbering, and amending s.
570.82, F.S.; renaming the Agricultural Economic
Development Program for disaster loans as the
Agricultural Economic Development and Disaster Loans
Program; transferring administration of the program
from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer
Services to the Division of Emergency Management
within the Executive Office of the Governor; revising
authorized uses of loan funds; revising eligibility
requirements for loans; increasing the total loan
limit and deleting the minimum limit; revising loan
requirements; requiring borrowers to pay closing
costs; specifying a limit on such costs and providing
that such costs may be paid directly or be financed;
specifying loan limits for certain crops; requiring
the division to work with borrowers in evaluating the
need to extend loan terms under certain circumstances;
specifying the minimum and maximum allowable extension
term; redefining the terms "losses" and "essential
physical property" and defining the term "direct input



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costs"; revising eligible crops; defining the terms
"commercial fishing" and "industrial crops"; deleting
requirements for farm plans and participation in
certain training programs; revising loan application
requirements; providing that farm assets may be used
as collateral; revising requirements for loan
repayment; authorizing remedies for the division
relating to loan defaults; specifying requirements for
the division in administering the program; deleting a
provision requiring the department to establish a
certain grant program; amending s. 201.25, F.S.;
conforming a provision to changes made by the act;
providing an effective date.

By Senator Albritton

26-02031A-19

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to emergency loans for agricultural
3 producers; transferring the Agricultural Economic
4 Development Program from the Department of Agriculture
5 and Consumer Services to the Division of Emergency
6 Management within the Executive Office of the Governor
7 by a type two transfer; transferring, renumbering, and
8 amending s. 570.82, F.S.; revising eligibility
9 requirements for the Agricultural Economic Development
10 Program; increasing the maximum amounts of program
11 loans; providing the terms of the loans; requiring the
12 division to make an effort to extend the loan terms
13 under certain circumstances; redefining the term
14 "essential physical property" to include irrigation
15 systems; requiring certain applicants to submit an
16 application within a specified timeframe; requiring
17 the division to administer the program; amending s.
18 201.25, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; providing
19 a directive to the Division of Law Revision; providing
20 an effective date.

21
22 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

23
24 Section 1. Pursuant to section 20.06(2), Florida Statutes,
25 the Agricultural Economic Development Program is transferred by
26 a type two transfer from the Department of Agriculture and
27 Consumer Services to the Division of Emergency Management within
28 the Executive Office of the Governor.

29 Section 2. Section 570.82, Florida Statutes, is

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30 transferred, renumbered as section 252.65, Florida Statutes, and
31 amended, to read:

32 252.65 ~~570.82~~ Agricultural Economic Development Program
33 disaster loans and grants and aid.—

34 (1) USE OF LOAN FUNDS.—

35 (a) Loan funds to agricultural producers who have
36 experienced losses from a natural disaster or a socioeconomic
37 condition or event may be used to:

38 1. Restore or replace essential physical property or remove
39 debris from essential physical property.

40 2. Pay all or part of production costs associated with the
41 disaster year.

42 3. Pay essential family living expenses.

43 4. Restructure farm debts.

44 ~~(b) To be eligible, agricultural producers must have a~~
45 ~~parcel or parcels of land in production not exceeding 300 acres.~~

46 (b)(e) Funds may be issued as zero-interest direct loans,
47 or as loan guarantees for up to 90 percent of the total loan, in
48 amounts of at least not less than \$30,000 but not not more than
49 \$500,000 \$300,000. Applicants are responsible for closing costs
50 must provide at least 10 percent equity.

51 (c) For a loan made under this section after the effective
52 date of this act, the term of the loan is 10 years. If another
53 natural disaster affects the same property for which the
54 applicant received such a loan within the original term of the
55 loan, the division must make an effort to appropriately extend
56 the term.

57 (d) For purposes of this subsection, the term:

58 1. "Losses" means loss or damage to crops, agricultural

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products, agricultural facilities, infrastructure, or farmworker housing.

2. "Essential physical property" means fences, equipment, structural production facilities such as shade houses and greenhouses, other agricultural facilities, infrastructure, irrigation systems, or farmworker housing.

(2) ELIGIBLE CROPS.—Crops eligible for the emergency loan program include:

(a) Crops grown for human consumption.

(b) Crops planted and grown for livestock consumption, including, but not limited to, grain, seed, and forage crops.

(c) Crops grown for fiber, except for trees.

(d) Specialty crops, such as seafood and aquaculture, including, but not limited to, the products of shellfish cultivation and harvesting, ornamental fish farming, and commercial fishing; floricultural or ornamental nursery crops; Christmas trees; turf for sod; industrial crops; and seed crops used to produce eligible crops.

(3) FARMING INFORMATION.—A borrower must keep complete and acceptable farm records and present them as proof of production levels. A borrower must operate in accordance with a farm plan that he or she develops and that is approved by the commissioner. A borrower may be required to participate in a financial management training program and obtain crop insurance.

(4) LOAN APPLICATION.—

(a) In order to qualify for a loan under this section, an applicant must:

1. Submit an application to the division ~~department~~ within 90 days after the date the natural disaster or socioeconomic

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condition or event occurs or the crop damage becomes apparent;—

2. ~~An applicant must~~ Be a citizen of the United States and a bona fide resident of the state and must also demonstrate the need for economic assistance and demonstrate that he or she has the ability to repay the loan. Only one loan may be issued per federal employer identification number; and

3. Be approved by the division.

(b) An applicant who had an established farm before October 7, 2018, and who experienced losses due to Hurricane Michael during the 2018 hurricane season shall submit an application to the division within 60 days after the effective date of this act.

(5) LOAN SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.—All loans must be secured. A first lien is required on all property or product acquired, produced, or refinanced with loan funds. The specific type of collateral required may vary depending upon the loan purpose, repayment ability, and the particular circumstances of the applicant. Farm assets may be used as collateral.

(6) LOAN REPAYMENT.—Repayment of the loans ~~for crops, livestock, and non-real-estate losses~~ shall ~~normally~~ be made within 10 ~~7~~ years ~~or, in special circumstances, within 20 years.~~ ~~Loans for physical losses to real estate and buildings shall not exceed 30 years.~~ Borrowers are expected to return to conventional credit sources when they are financially able. Loans are a temporary source of credit, and borrowers must be reviewed periodically to determine whether they can return to conventional credit.

(7) ADMINISTRATION.—The division shall administer this program in a manner consistent with federal disaster relief,

26-02031A-19

20191804__

117 prioritizing the maximization of federal aid.

118 ~~(7) GRANTS AND AID. The department shall establish a grant~~
119 ~~program to provide aid to agribusinesses to assist in market~~
120 ~~development.~~

121 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 201.25, Florida
122 Statutes, is amended to read:

123 201.25 Tax exemptions for certain loans.—There shall be
124 exempt from all taxes imposed by this chapter:

125 (2) Any loan made by the Agricultural Economic Development
126 Program pursuant to s. 252.65 ~~s. 570.82~~.

127 Section 4. The Division of Law Revision is directed to
128 replace the phrase "the effective date of this act" wherever it
129 occurs in this act, with the date this act becomes a law.

130 Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

03.18.2019

SB 1804

*Meeting Date**Bill Number (if applicable)*Topic Emergency Loans for Agricultural Producers*Amendment Barcode (if applicable)*Name Roy BakerJob Title Business Development CoordinatorAddress 4636 Highway 90, Suite KPhone 850-633-4119*Street*MariannaFL32446Email royb@opportunityflorida.com*City**State**Zip*Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ InformationWaive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)Representing Opportunity FloridaAppearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ NoLobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No

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S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

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3-18-19

Meeting Date

1804

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Emerging Ag Loans

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Jeremy Rolling

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Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing SELF

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No

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S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE

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3/18/19
Meeting Date

1804
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Emergency loans for Ag Producers

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Adam Basford

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Tallahassee FL

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City State Zip

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Farm Bureau

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

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S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date _____

1804
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic AB

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Bud BAGGETT

Job Title FARMER

Address 1719 Hwy 71

Phone 850-209-3908

Street

MARIANNA

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FL

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32448

Zip

Email BaggettBud@yahoo.com

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing BAGGETT FARMS

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No

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S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

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03-18-19

Meeting Date

1804

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic _____

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Seth Johnson

Job Title LOCATION MANAGER Agri-AFC

Address 15527 NORTHEAST MOUNT OLIVE COUNTRY Phone 850-762-250
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ACTHA

City

FL

State

32421

Zip

Email sethj@agri-afc.com

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing _____

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No

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S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE

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3/18/19

Meeting Date

1804

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Ken Barton

Job Title Executive Director Florida Peanut Producers

Address 1496 Hwy 177A
Street

Phone

City

State

Zip

Email

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Peanut Farmers

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No

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S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1804
Bill Number (if applicable)

Meeting Date

Topic _____

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name George Gray

Job Title Clover Leaf Gin Inc

Address _____

Phone _____

Street

City

State

Zip

Email _____

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Cotton Farmers of Florida

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No

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S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

3/18/15

Meeting Date

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1804

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic As Emergency Law

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Jim Spratt

Job Title

Address 310 W. College Ave

Street

Phone 850-228-1296

TCH

FL

32302

City

State

Zip

Email jimspratt@flaforestry.org

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Forestry Association

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

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S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/18/2019
Meeting Date

SB 1804
Bill Number (if applicable)

353280
Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Topic Emergency Loans for Agricultural Producers

Name Tiffany Garding

Job Title Executive Director

Address 4318 Lafayette Street

Street

Mananna

City

FL

State

32446

Zip

Phone 850 559 3451

Email tiffany@jacksoncounty.com

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Jackson County Chamber of Commerce

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/14/14)

Tab 5:

Presentation:

The State of the Florida Citrus Industry

Presented by

Michael W. Sparks, Florida Citrus Mutual

The State of the Florida Citrus Industry

March 18, 2019

*Presented by
Michael W. Sparks, Florida Citrus Mutual*



The Past Decade Has Been Difficult...

The Most Challenging in the History of Florida Citrus

- Invasive Pest & Diseases
- Hurricane Irma – September 10, 2017
- Significant production loss
- Falling orange juice consumption

Florida Citrus is at a Crossroads!



Huanglongbing, HLB, or Citrus Greening

- No single factor has contributed more to the decline in citrus production than HLB
- Bacterial disease spread by the Asian Citrus Psyllid
- Attacks a tree's vascular system and reduces fruit production to unsustainable levels in just a few years
- The solution may be a combination of research findings and not one “silver bullet” answer
- All commercial citrus groves with mature trees have been infected by HLB
- Tree mortality now exceeds tree replanting rates
- Grower production costs have tripled while utilizing a “mixed bag” strategy and focusing on increased production from existing groves



Photo courtesy of UF/IFAS

Economic Impact of Huanglongbing

	2007-08 Season	2018-19 Season	Decrease	Percent Decrease
Production Boxes (millions)	203.8	86.9	(116.9)	-57%
Bearing Acres	538,900	447,012	(91,888)	-17%
Annual On-tree Value (billion)	\$1.5	\$0.8	(\$0.7)	-47%
Annual Economic Impact (billion)	\$10.0	\$7.2	(\$2.8)	-28%
Jobs	76,336	50,030	(26,306)	-34%
Processing Plants	25	12	(13)	-52%
Fresh Fruit Packinghouses	45	22	(23)	-51%
Florida Citrus Growers	8,000	2,500	(5,500)	-69%

Florida Citrus...

We Are Down but Not Out; Don't Write Our Obituary!



- Provides more than 50,000 jobs
- Citrus forms the backbone of many communities throughout the state's interior
- Total economic impact \$7.2B annually



- Orange juice is still the most popular fruit juice among U.S. consumers with per capita consumption dwarfing other fruit juices.
- Popularity is not only bolstered by great taste but we are also the most nutrient dense juice packed with Vitamin C, potassium and folic acid

The Future of Florida Citrus Will be Found in Research



- Florida citrus growers in 2008 formed the Citrus Research and Development Foundation (CRDF), which is funded by self-imposed taxes on growers as well as supplemental general revenue appropriations. The CRDF's mission is to advance research to ensure the survival of Florida's citrus industry.
- More than 100 research projects are currently underway across the globe.
- The Florida citrus industry and state and federal have spent more than \$250 million
 - \$139 million by CRDF
- We are seeing results.

\$71 million	Growers
\$46 million	General Revenue
\$22 million	Other



Photo courtesy of University of Florida/IFAS

Basic Research Breakthroughs

- **Horticulture:** Variety improvement teams have developed new rootstocks and scions that are ready to be field-tested for HLB tolerance/resistance.
- **Entomology:** An understanding of transmission of the HLB bacteria by the Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) is ready to be developed into a successful management program.
- **Pathology:** Recent understanding of the below-ground pathology to improve root health will lead to better control of soil-borne root pathogens and pests of citrus with HLB.



Photos courtesy of USDA

The Key Now is Moving Research to the Field



- The future of the Florida citrus industry now relies on moving these laboratory breakthroughs into the grove.
- CRAFT (Citrus Research and Field Trials)
 - Will Craft the Future of Florida Citrus
 - A research-driven program with grower participation
- 2019 research program will include large-scale grower field trials (5,000 acres total) utilizing management tools for new plantings, including grove design, planting preparation, pest management, and post-planting production practices.
 - Cost analysis
 - Five year evaluations
 - Communication of successful field trials
- The goal is to provide growers with the confidence to replant and rebuild the Florida citrus industry to a level that will sustain existing infrastructure and ultimately drive expansion.

Moving Forward



Florida citrus growers are appreciative of the support they have received from the State.

We know that the continued partnership with the State will be necessary for us to be able to transform and regrow the Florida citrus industry.

Thank You!



THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

T5 ✓

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3-18-19
Meeting Date

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Foreign Citrus

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Mike Sparks

Job Title CEO FC Citrus Mutual

Address 600 N Broadway
Street
Buckeye City FL State 33401 Zip

Phone 863-682-1111

Email mikes@fc Citrus

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Foreign Citrus

Appearing at request of Chair: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No

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S-001 (10/14/14)

TAB 6:

Presentation:

Status of the Managed Honey Bee Population in the U.S.

Jamie Ellis, Gahan Endowed Professor of Entomology

University of Florida

Entomology and Nematology Department



Status of the Managed Honey Bee Population in the U.S.

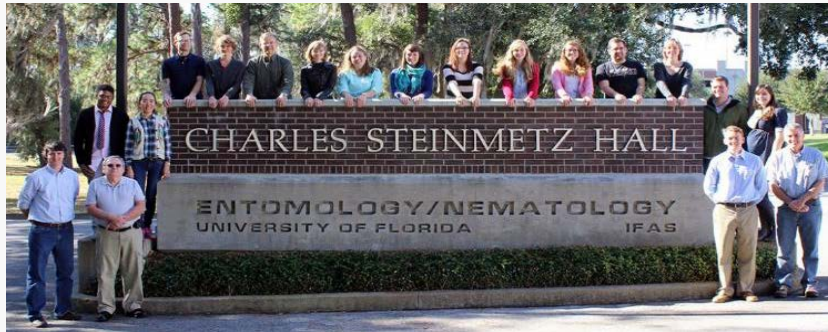
Jamie Ellis (jdellis@ufl.edu)

Gahan Endowed Professor of Entomology

University of Florida

Entomology and Nematology Department

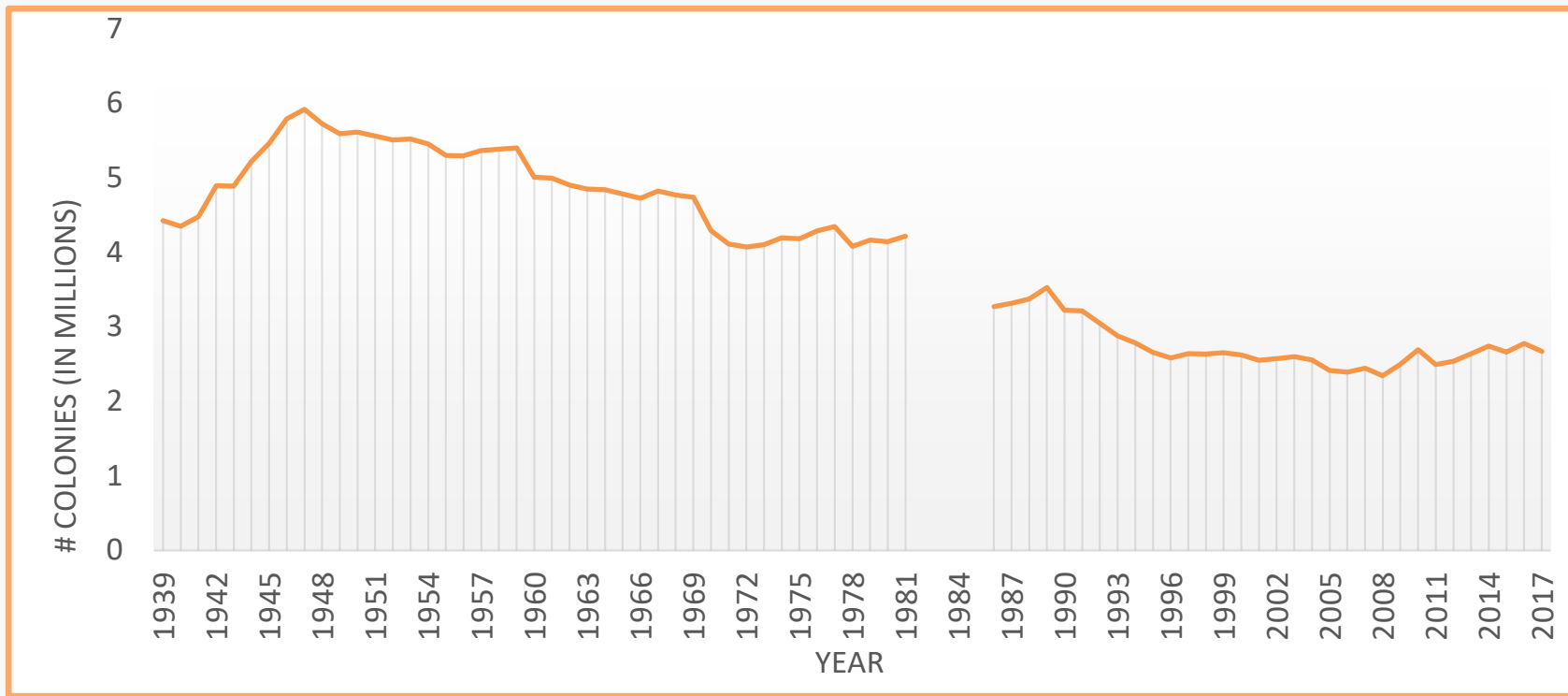
UF Entomology and Nematology



Western Honey Bee: *Apis mellifera* L.

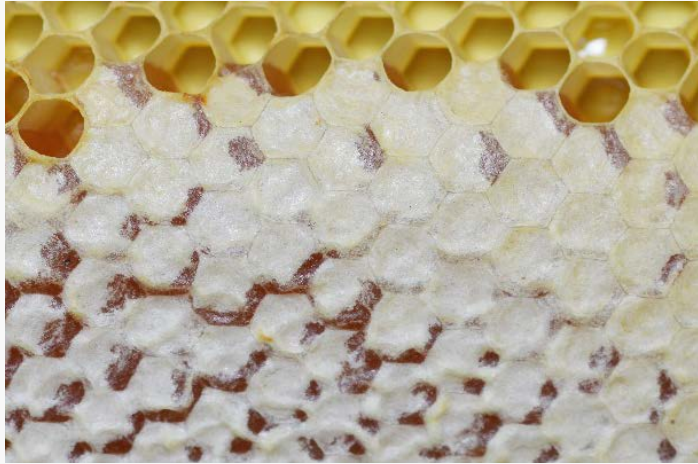


Number of Honey Producing Colonies in the U.S.



National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) 2018

Honey Production in the U.S.



147.6 million lbs (67 million kg) of honey produced by 2.67 million colonies in the U.S in 2017 (NASS 2018).

Value of honey was \$318 million USD.



Florida in 2017: 8.8 million lbs honey (4 million kg), \$21 million USD in value (NASS 2018).

Pollination in the U.S

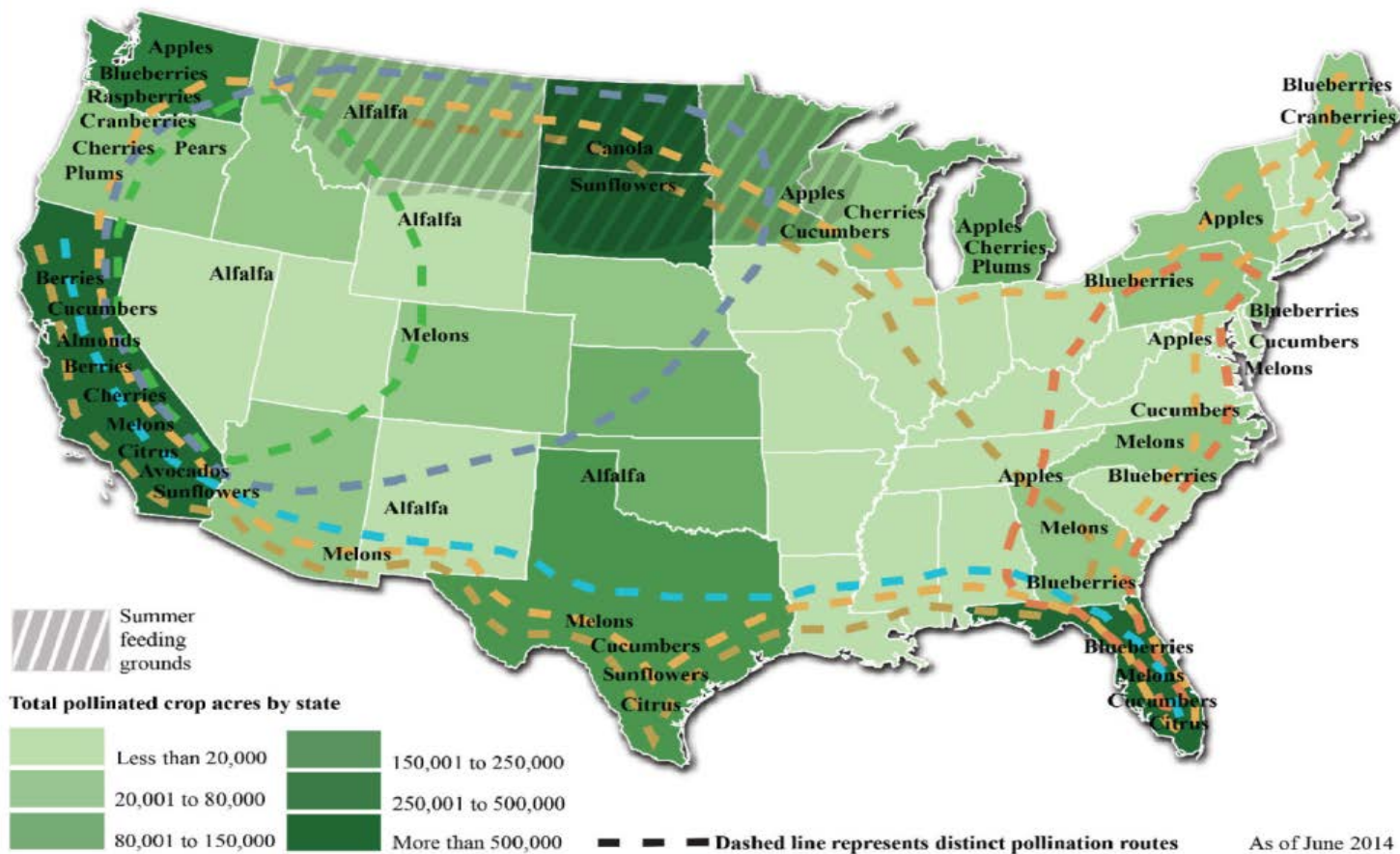
Value of increased yield and quality achieved in U.S. through pollination by honey bees: \$15 billion USD.*

10-20% of world's food production is dependent on honey bees.

*Morse and Calderone, 2000. The value of honey bees as pollinators of U.S. crops in 2000.

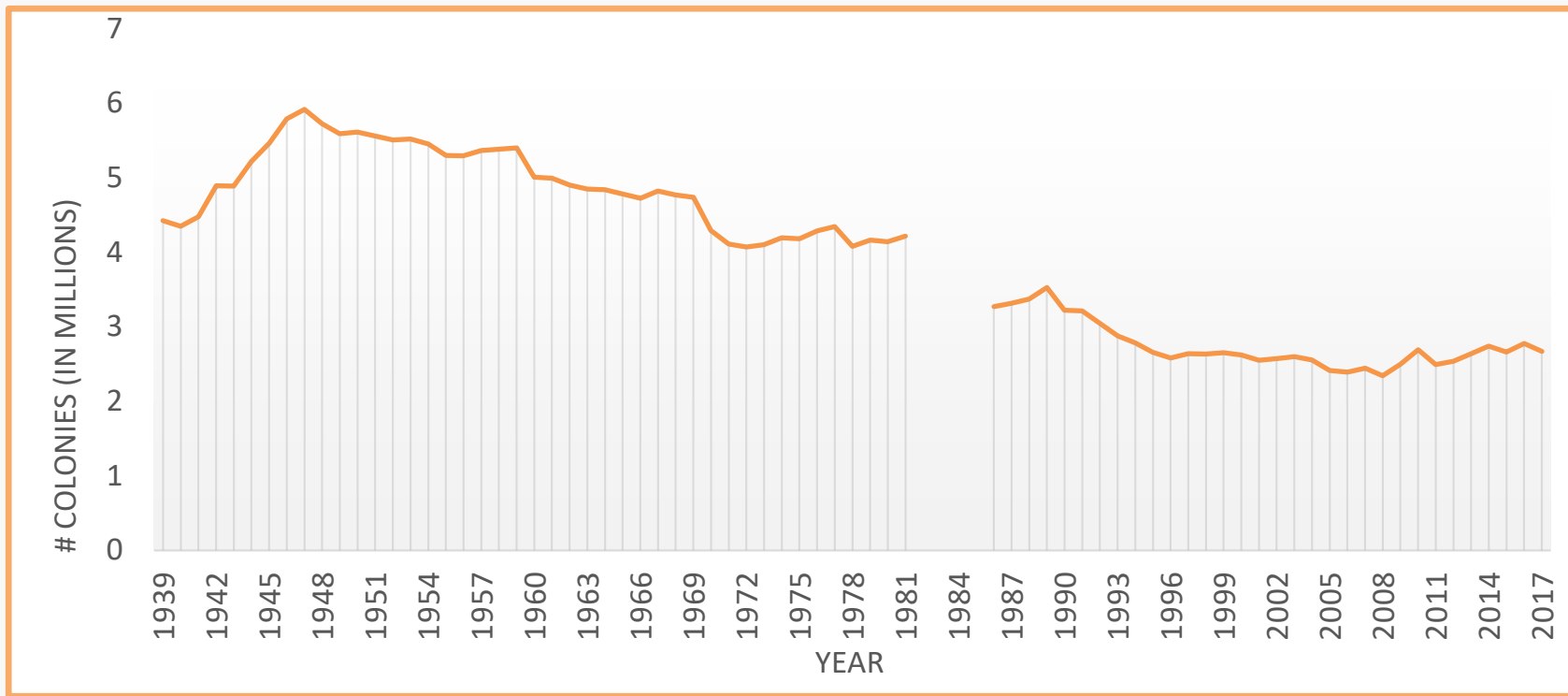


Pollinator movement and crops in the U.S.



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service; Sautzman (2011), with input from commercial beekeepers and apiculture experts, including Dr. Jeff Pettis and Dr. David Epstein, an entomologist and authority on pollinators with the USDA's Pest Management Policy. Crop production acres are from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2012 Agricultural Census.

Number of Honey Producing Colonies in the U.S.



National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) 2018

Gross Loss Rates of Managed Honey Bee Colonies*

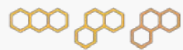
	United States	Florida
Winter Losses	28.2%	32%
Summer Losses	21.5%	28%
Annual Losses	38.95%	40.5%

*Bee Informed Partnership (<https://beeinformed.org>)

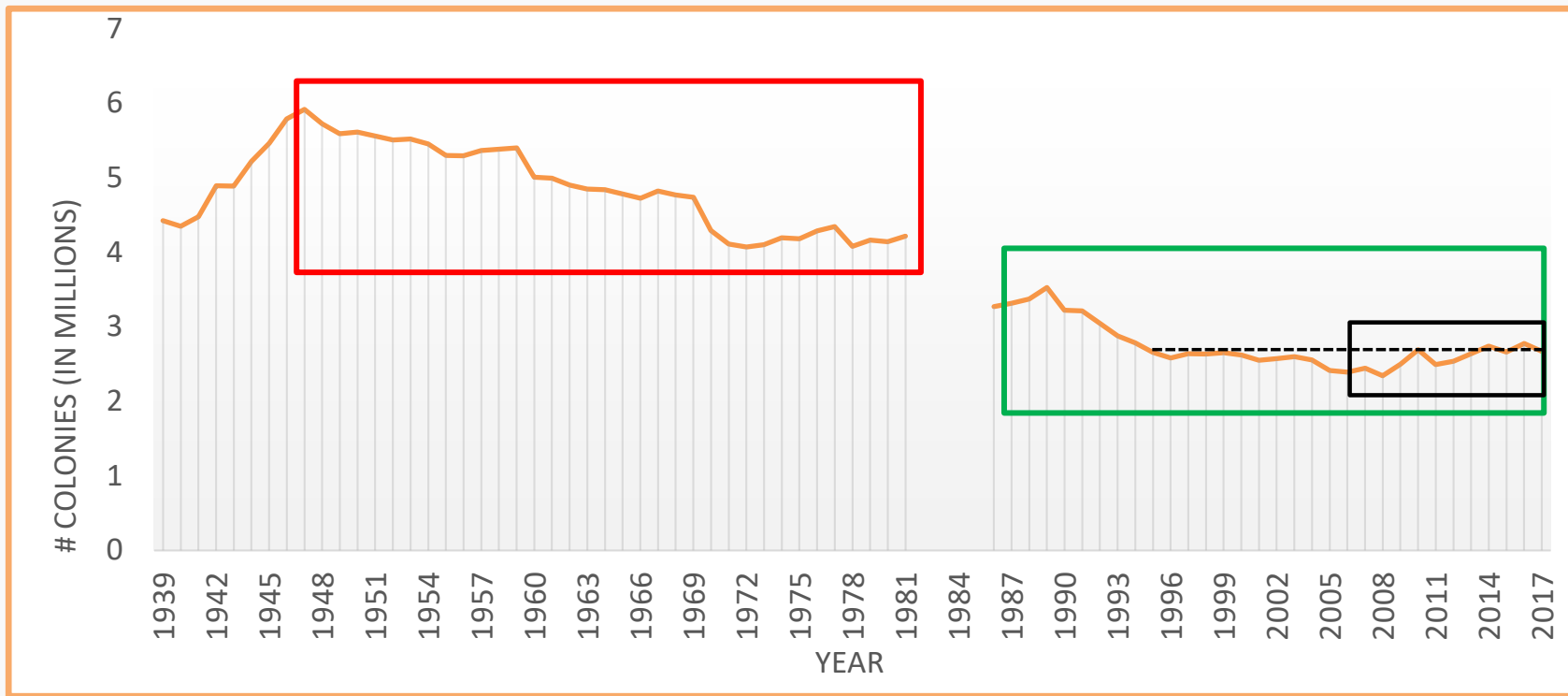
Winter loss rates from winter 2006/2007 through winter 2017/2018

Summer loss rates from summer 2012/2013 through summer 2017/2018

Annual loss rates from 2012/2013 season through 2017/2018 season



Number of Honey Producing Colonies in the U.S



Net change per year pre-*Varroa* : -0.9%/year since 1948

Net change per year post-*Varroa*: -0.6%/year since 1988

Net change per year since elevated losses reported (2007): +1.1%/year

Managed Honey Bee Colonies and Beekeepers in FL in 2019

Classification	Number of Beekeepers (% of total)	Number of Colonies* (% of total)	Avg. number of hives per beekeeper
Backyard	4,049 (84%)	29,567 (5%)	7.3
Sideline	235 (5%)	19,696 (3%)	83.8
Commercial	520 (11%)	599,584 (92%)	1,153
TOTAL	4,804	648,847	135.1

*Colonies used to pollinate watermelon, cantaloupe, squash, blueberries, multiple seed crops, etc.

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Division of Plant Industry
Apiary Inspection Section

Beekeeper Reported Reasons for Winter Losses

2007/2008

Cause	Rank	% of Operations Reporting	Number of Colonies Managed	Total Loss % (95% CI)
Poor Queen	1	31	145,655	18.5 (13.5–23.6)
Starvation	2	28	34,145	19.8 (19.6–25.0)
Mites	3	24	143,463	31.7 (25.6–37.2)
CCD	4	9	150,870	48.2 (41.7–54.8)
Weather	5	9	25,180	24.4 (18.8–30.0)

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0004071.t005

2008/2009

Table 5. The nine most commonly reported suspected causes of colony loss in responding operations (n = 571).

Cause	Rank	% of operations reporting factor	Number of colonies managed	Total loss % (95% CI)
Starvation	1	41.5	37,002	26.9 (20.9–32.9)
Queens	2	22.8	207,584	27.1 (18.9–35.2)
Weather	3	17.9	9,608	39.0 (28.9 –49.1)
Mites	4	16.7	133,102	24.5 (15.2–33.8)
Weak in fall	5	12.4	5,428	51.8 (39.4–64.1)
Nosema	6	8.3	107,975	39.6 (14.4–41.5)
Management	7	8.3	68,930	39.6 (14.4–41.5)
CCD	8	6.5	42,630	34.5 (18.0–50.9)
Pesticides	9	4.1	35,672	40.7 (19.7–61.8)

Journal of Apicultural Research 49(1): 7–14 (2010)
DOI 10.3896/IBRA.1.49.1.03

*Bee Informed Partnership (<https://beeinformed.org>)

Beekeeper Reported Reasons for Winter Losses

2010/2011

Table 5. Total loss experienced by different beekeeping operations groups classified by operation size and by self-identified leading cause or causes of mortality. *Indicates total loss significantly different (Bonferroni-corrected $P < 0.006$) than total loss experienced by group; chi-square test.

Operation type	Commercial			Sideline			Hobby			Total		
No. Respondents	105			170			2,673			2,948		
No. Colonies	513,122			27,745			21,585			562,452		
Total Loss	33.5% (29.7-37.5)			45.0% (41.1-49.0)			49.9% (48.9-51.0)			34.7% (33.9-35.5)		
Factor	Rank	% Resp	Total Loss	Rank	% Resp	Total Loss	Rank	% Resp	Total Loss	Rank	% Resp	Total Loss
Starvation	5	18	18.3% (23.2-26.7) *	1	41	38.4% (32.5-44.6) *	1	31	44.5% (48.1-55.1) *	1	32	24.0% (22.7-25.4) *
Weather	7	7	43.6% (31.8-56.2) *	2	29	45.3% (37.6-49.6)	2	29	56.8% (55.1-58.5) *	2	29	45.1% (43.3-46.3) *
Weak in Fall	8	1	-	7	7	44.7% (27.9-62.8)	3	14	41.7% (39.1-42.3)	3	23	36.8% (29.4-49.6) *
Mites	2	22	40.1% (30.4-50.6) *	3	28	45.5% (32.8-52.8)	4	10	49.7% (46.5-53.0)	4	12	46.8% (38.2-43.4) *
Queen	1	35	27.2% (21.5-33.8) *	4	16	28.7% (20.9-38.4) *	5	9	35.7% (32.4-39.2) *	5	16	45.1% (43.8-46.3) *
CCD	4	20	36.4% (28.4-45.1) *	5	11	53.3% (44.7-61.6) *	6	3	65.6% (60.0-70.8) *	6	4	27.3% (25.2-29.5) *
Nosema	6	12	19.1% (12.1-28.7) *	5	11	45.1% (39.6-56.0)	6	3	45.0% (39.4-50.1)	6	4	37.5% (31.1-40.3) *
Pesticides	3	21	45.4% (37.7-53.7) *	8	4	59.7% (47.2-71.9) *	8	2	65.7% (58.5-73.2) *	8	3	45.6% (41.7-49.6) *

2009/2010

Journal of Apicultural Research 50(1): 1-10 (2011)
DOI 10.3896/IBRA.1.50.1.01

Table 3. Average losses reported by beekeepers who listed one or more factors as the leading cause of mortality in their beekeeping operation as compared to responding beekeepers not listing that particular cause as important. *Excludes those who indicated they suffered no loss as well as those who indicated they did not know which factors contributed to their losses.

		Factor Listed			Not Listing Factor*		Kruskal Wallis Rank Sum Test	
Factor	n	Avg Loss % (95%CI)		n	Avg Loss % (95%CI)		χ^2	P
Starvation	1053	53.7 (51.8-55.7)		1629	54.4 (52.8-56.0)		0.16	0.6822
Weak in the fall	921	52.8 (50.7-54.9)		1761	54.8 (53.3-56.4)		1.78	0.1840
Poor winter	833	64.3 (62.2-66.5)		1849	49.7 (49.1-51.0)		118.8	0.0001
Queen	655	47.5 (45.0-50.0)		2027	54.4 (52.8-56.0)		37.5	0.0001
Varroa	534	59.5 (56.8-62.3)		2148	52.8 (51.4-54.2)		18.8	0.0001
Nosema	317	55.9 (52.3-59.5)		2365	53.9 (52.6-55.3)		1.14	0.2843
CCD	199	65.1 (60.6-69.6)		2483	53.3 (52.0-54.5)		23.6	0.0001
Pesticides	125	58.9 (53.1-64.6)		2557	53.9 (52.7-55.2)		2.51	0.1134
Small hive beetle	96	63.7 (57.1-70.2)		2586	53.8 (52.5-55.0)		8.29	0.0040

Journal of Apicultural Research 51(1): 115-124 (2012)
DOI 10.3896/IBRA.1.51.1.14

2011/2012

Journal of Apicultural Research 52(2): 44-53 (2013)
DOI 10.3896/IBRA.1.52.2.07

Table 7. Average colony loss (%), by factors reported as a main cause of mortality (n = 2,887)¹. ¹Includes respondents who indicated some winter colony loss (> 0%) and who recorded a response to the question "In your opinion, what factors were the main cause (or causes) of colony death in your operation between 1 October 2011 and 1 April 2012?" CI: Confidence Interval.

Factor	Factor Not Selected				Factor Selected				p-value
	n	Average Colony Loss (%)			n	Average Colony Loss (%)			
		Mean	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI		Mean	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI	
Weak in the Fall	1894	48.06	46.67	49.45	993	42.10	40.32	43.89	<.0001
Queen Failure	1972	49.18	47.83	50.53	915	39.19	37.34	41.03	<.0001
Starvation	2003	46.43	45.09	47.78	884	45.05	43.12	46.98	0.4757
Varroa	2382	46.25	45.03	47.47	505	44.86	42.25	47.48	0.3404
Poor Wintering Conditions	2599	41.55	37.46	45.64	288	56.98	53.50	60.46	<.0001
CCD	2640	45.06	43.90	46.21	247	56.20	52.55	59.85	<.0001
Pesticides	2687	56.98	53.50	60.46	200	53.59	49.58	57.60	<.0001
Nosema	2720	46.28	45.14	47.43	167	41.55	37.46	45.64	0.1007
Small Hive Beetle	2772	46.08	44.95	47.21	115	44.29	38.86	49.71	0.6083
Don't Know	2554	44.63	43.47	45.79	333	56.59	53.20	59.98	<.0001

Beekeeper Reported Reasons for Winter Losses

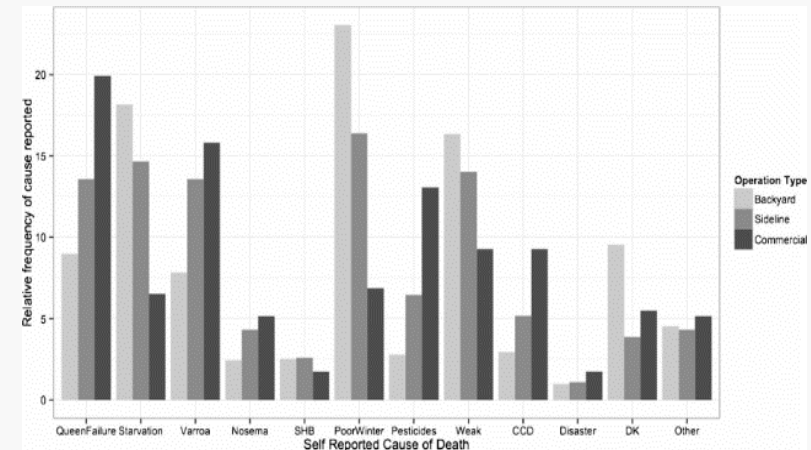
2012-2013

Table 6. Average winter colony loss (AWL) (%) [95%CI] by self-reported cause of death, showing the value of the statistical test (Mann-Whitney "U", or Wilcoxon Rank Sum test with continuity correction) and the associated p-value. Contrasts between groups of beekeepers having selected or not the respective factor as main cause of death for their reported winter losses. The "*" indicates a significant ($\alpha = 0.05$) difference between the 2 sub-groups.

Factor	Factor selected		Factor not selected		U	p-value
	n	AWL [95%CI]	n	AWL (%) [95%CI]		
Weak in the fall	1,516	56.13 [54.62-57.64]	3,165	60.58 [59.50-61.65]	2197083	< 0.0001 *
Starvation	1,406	55.4 [53.86-56.94]	3,275	60.74 [59.68-61.8]	2078126	< 0.0001 *
Queen Failure	1,199	51.1 [49.41-52.8]	3,482	61.90 [60.89-62.91]	1662428	< 0.0001 *
Varroa	1,082	57.41 [55.65-59.17]	3,599	59.65 [58.64-60.66]	1867732	0.03989 *
Poor Winter	850	65.26 [63.31-67.22]	3,831	57.78 [56.8-58.75]	1857328	< 0.0001 *
CCD	507	67.36 [65-69.73]	4,174	58.14 [57.2-59.07]	1241739	< 0.0001 *
Pesticides	379	63.02 [60.17-65.86]	4,302	58.79 [57.87-59.71]	877497	0.01267 *
SHB	299	59.94 [56.59-63.29]	4,382	59.08 [58.17-59.99]	667709.5	0.5736
Nosema	298	54.33 [51.24-57.43]	4,383	59.46 [58.55-60.37]	593141	0.007354 *
Don't know	1,344	68.01 [66.48-69.54]	3,337	55.56 [54.52-56.60]	2769497	< 0.0001 *

Journal of Apicultural Research 53(1): 1-18 (2014)
DOI 10.3896/IBRA.1.53.1.01

2013-2014

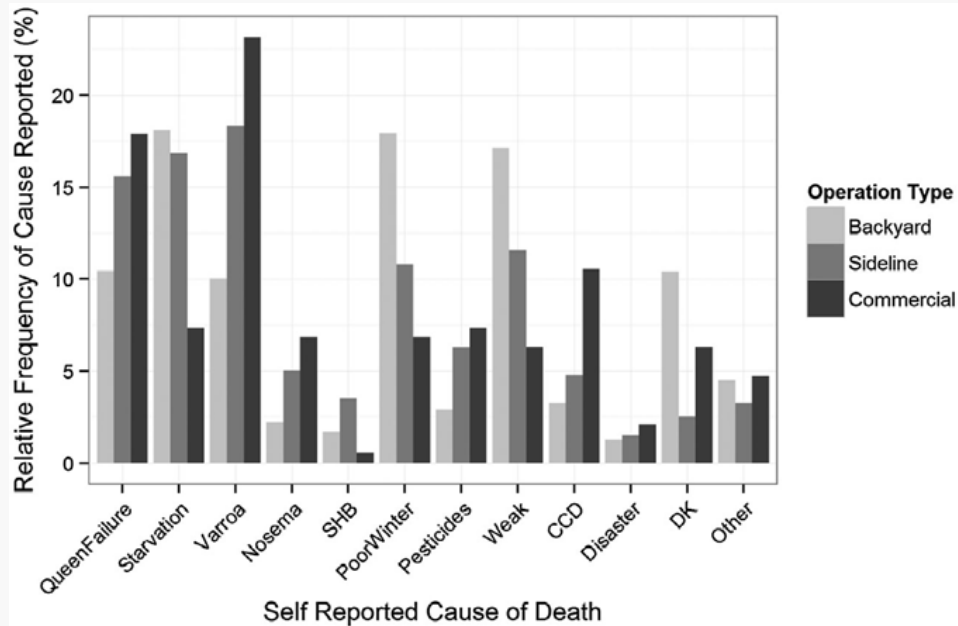


Apidologie (2015) 46:292–305

*Bee Informed Partnership (<https://beeinformed.org>)

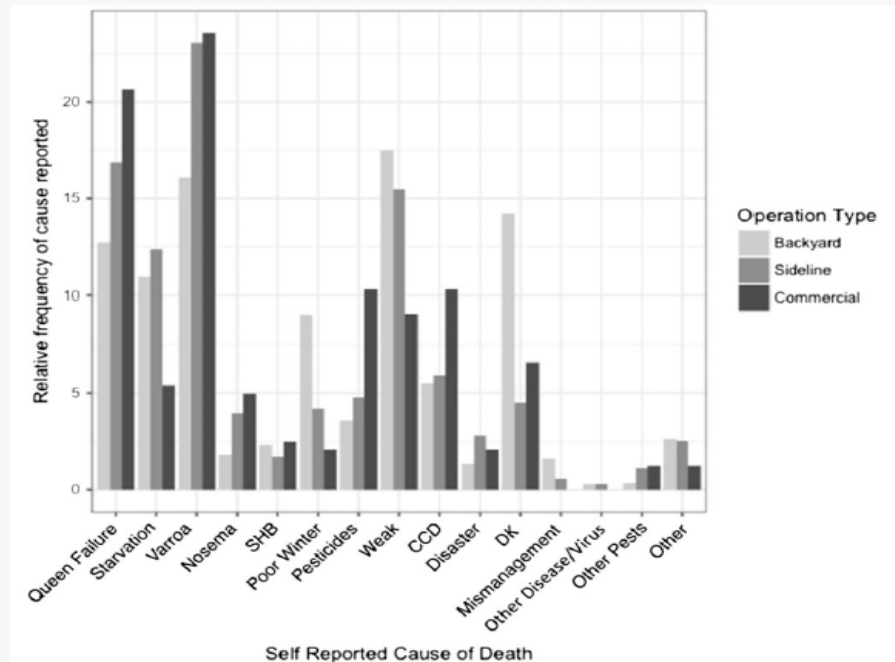
Beekeeper Reported Reasons for Winter Losses

2014-2015



Journal of Apicultural Research, 2016
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00218839.2016.1153294>

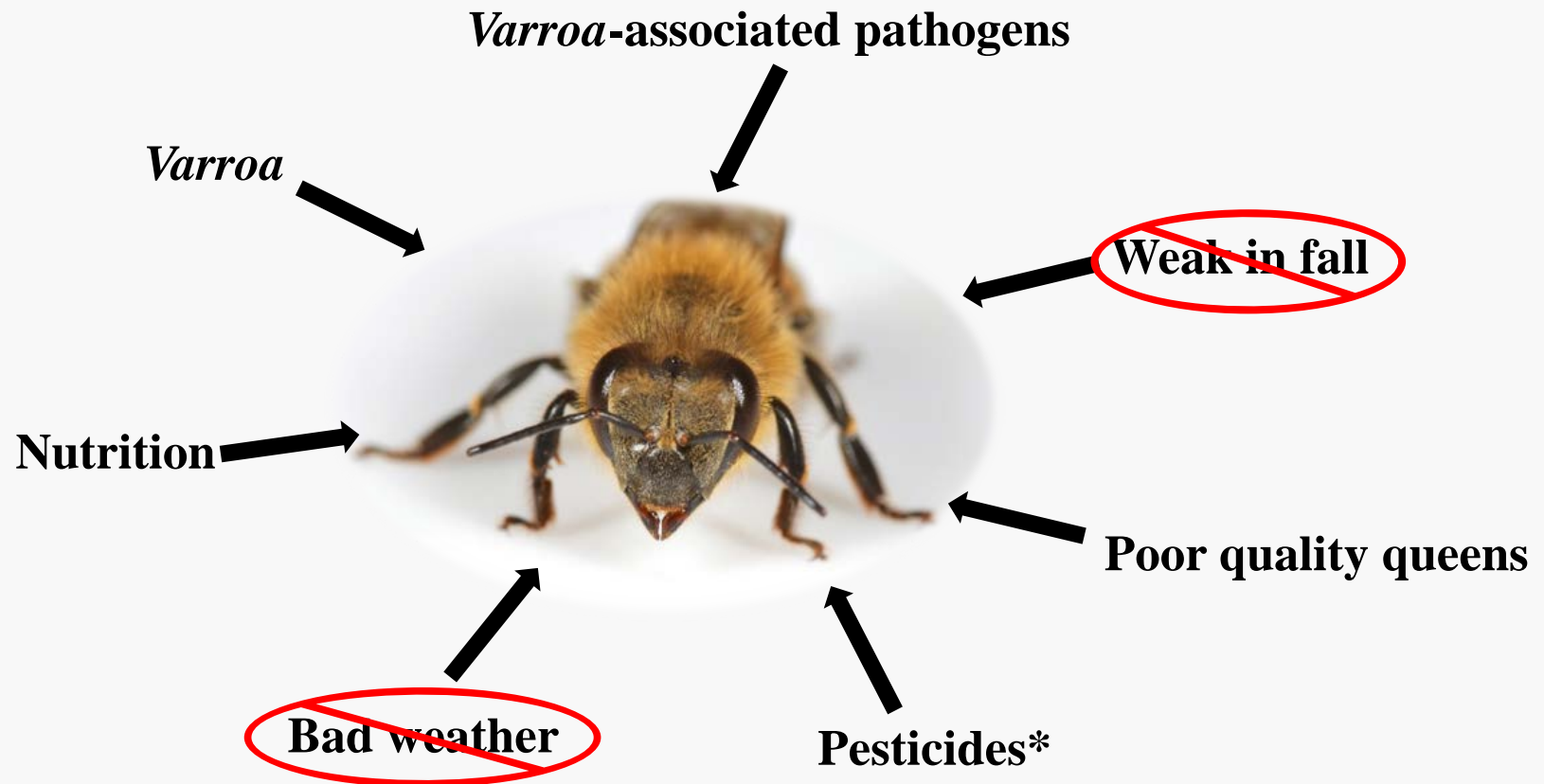
2015-2016



Journal of Apicultural Research, 2017
 Vol. 56, No. 4, 328-340, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00218839.2017.1344496>

*Bee Informed Partnership (<https://beeinformed.org>)

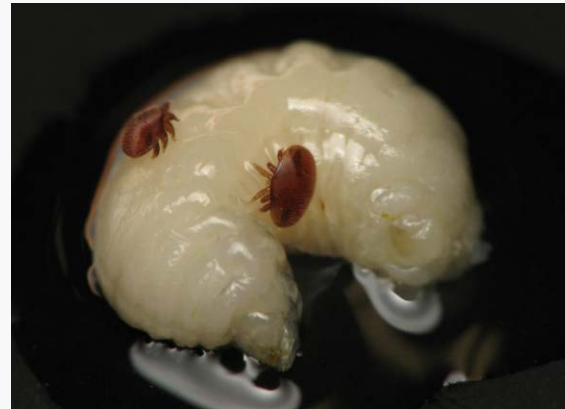
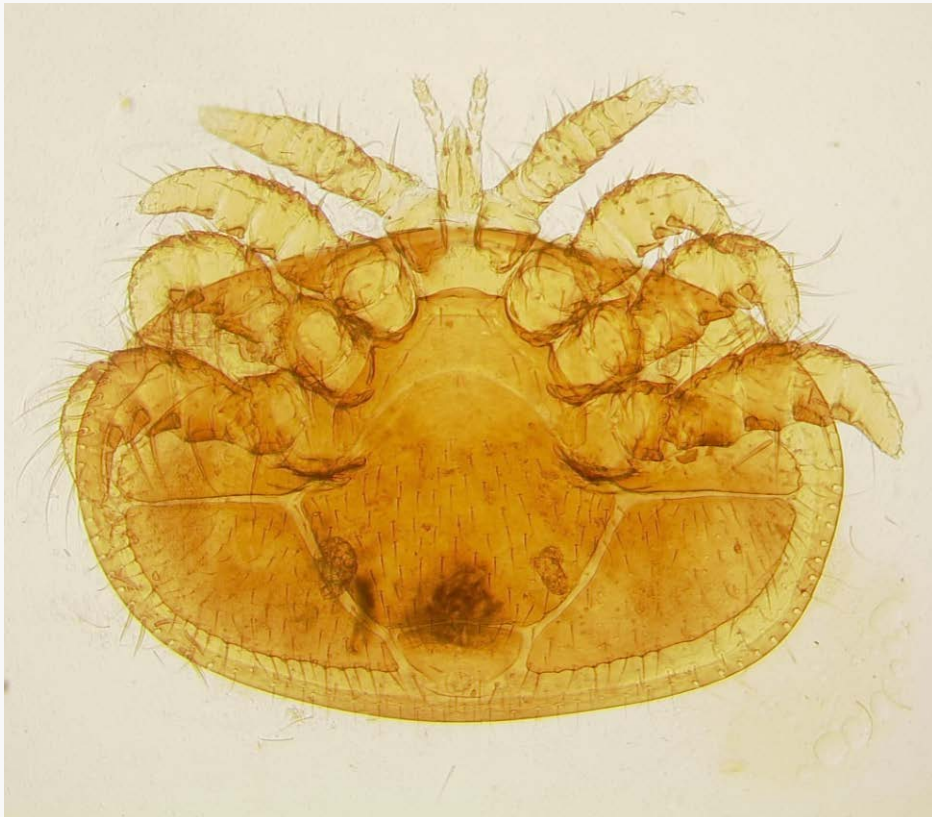
Identifying the Principle Enemies of Honey Bee Health



Bee Informed Partnership (<https://beeinformed.org>)

*When considering only commercial beekeeper responses

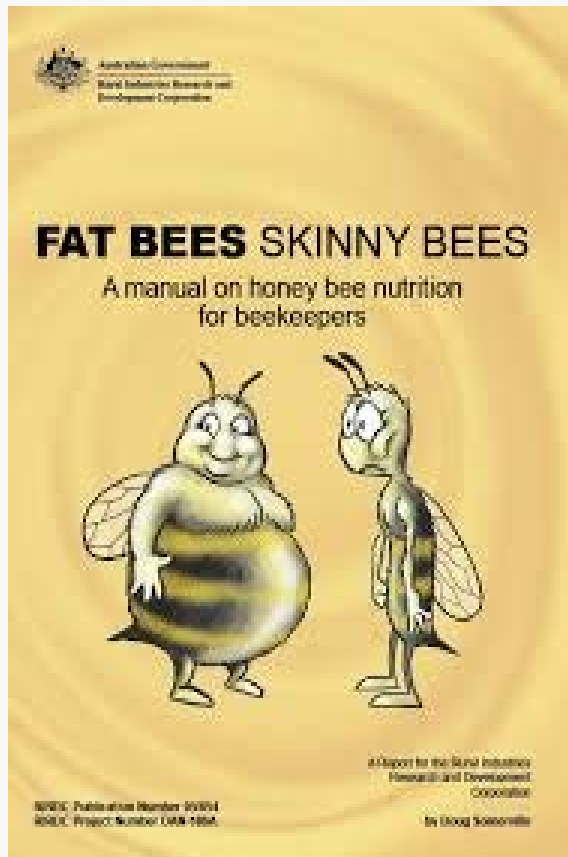
Varroa



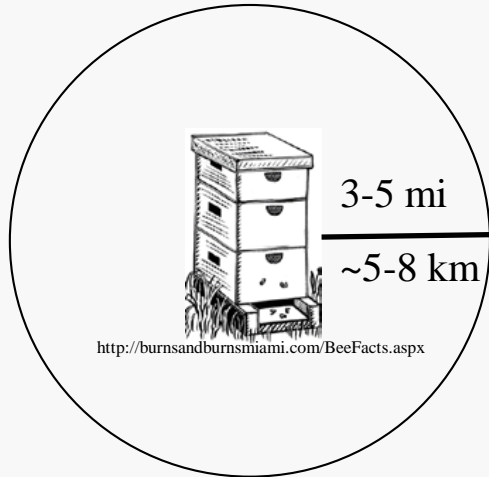
Queen Quality



Nutritional Fitness



Pesticides



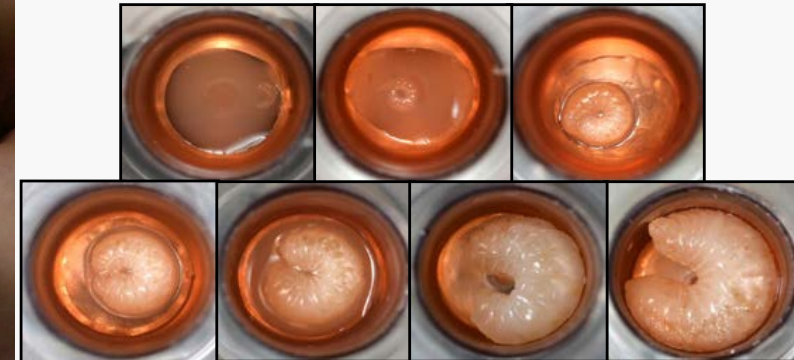
A circle with a 3-5 mi. (~5-8 km) radius encompasses ~28-79 mi² (79 - 201 km²).



Credit: UF/IFAS Photo by Tyler Jones



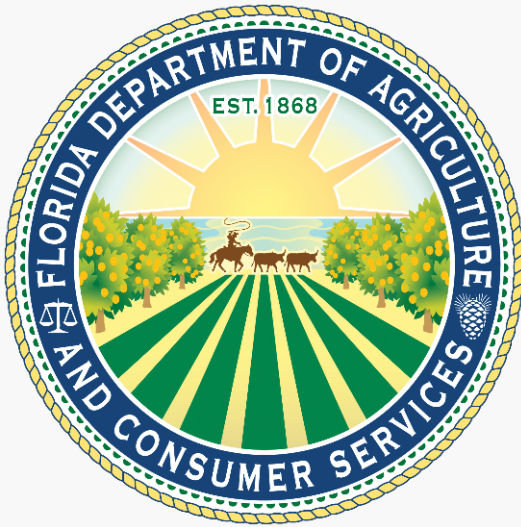
Credit: UF/IFAS Photo by Tyler Jones



New UF Honey Bee Laboratory



Partnering with Florida Institutions



Honey Standard
Apiary Protection
Bee Removal
Cottage Food
New Bee Lab
Veterinary Feed Directive
Ag Classification
Honey Bee License Plate*



*2019 FSBA lobby effort

Thank You for Your Attention.

For more information, visit: **www.UFhoneybee.com**

Follow my lab on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook: **@UFhoneybeelab**



**HONEY BEE RESEARCH &
EXTENSION LABORATORY**

Jamie Ellis (jdellis@ufl.edu)
Gahan Endowed Professor of Entomology
Entomology and Nematology Department
University of Florida

✓ T6

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Update on FL Bee population

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Dr. Jamie Ellis, UF/IFAS

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Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☒ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing UF/IFAS Honey Bee Research and Extension Lab

Appearing at request of Chair: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)