

# Cooke CAD Beekeeping Supplement



**This packet acts as a supplement to our ag use packet. Inside you will find information regarding how to qualify for ag use based on beekeeping only. Please note, you must fill out the four page ag application along with the supplemental beekeeping questionnaire attached.**

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## Cooke County Appraisal District Beekeeping Guidelines

**Sec. 23.51(2)** "Agricultural use" includes the use of land to raise or keep bees for pollination or for the production of human food or other tangible products having a commercial value, provided that the land used is not less than 5 or more than 20 acres.

Our degree of intensity standard is set at a minimum of six colonies (hives) and 5 acres. The minimum degree of intensity was established using Section 131.001 Texas Agriculture Code's definition on apiary, which is a place where six or more colonies of bees or nuclei of bees are kept. A colony is the hive and its equipment and appurtenances including bees, honey, pollen, and brood.

The Cooke County Appraisal District's degree of intensity is 6 hives on the first 5 acres with one hive per additional 2.5 acres up to 20 acres. This will give a range of 6-12 hives for a minimum requirement or an average of 0.6 hives per acre (12/20)

ACRES	HIVES
5	6
7.5	7
10	8
12.5	9
15	10
17.5	11
20	12

The productivity value for beekeeping will be based upon the Orchard productivity value. The hives must be maintained and kept alive. Hives must be located on the property at least 7 months of the year and must be active and maintained. Hives should be situated up off of the ground. Flowering plants should be planted to support hives if the hives are in areas where there is limited vegetation that requires pollination.

When property owners initially qualify for agricultural appraisal they must show proof of history for agricultural use/beekeeping for any of the five out of seven preceding years. One way to do this is to ask for export, import or intra-state permits, which are required by the Texas Apiary Inspection Service to transport hives.

# Supplemental Beekeeping Questionnaire

**Property Owner Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Property ID #'s** \_\_\_\_\_

**Acreage Requirement:** The State of Texas has set a minimum of 5 acres and a maximum of 20 acres to qualify beekeeping as an agricultural use.

Number of acres on this application is \_\_\_\_\_

When property owners initially qualify for agricultural appraisal they must show proof of history of agricultural use/beekeeping for any of the five out of seven preceding years. One way to do this is to ask for export, import or intra-state permits, which are required by the Texas Apiary Inspection Service to transport hives. When did you receive your bees? \_\_\_\_\_ **Attach a copy of the apiary receipt from your purchase.**

When did you obtain your equipment for the bees? \_\_\_\_\_

What type of bees are you raising? \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been raising bees? \_\_\_\_\_

How many hives do you have on the property now? \_\_\_\_\_

Who will be managing the bee colony? \_\_\_\_\_

Is there a hired bee wrangler? If yes, who? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe any beekeeping education obtained: \_\_\_\_\_

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## DESCRIBE THE PRODUCTS YOU EXPECT TO HARVEST:

- \_\_\_\_ Honey – [Extracted, Comb, Chunk, Creamed or Whipped Honey]
- \_\_\_\_ Beeswax
- \_\_\_\_ Propolis
- \_\_\_\_ Royal Jelly
- \_\_\_\_ Pollen
- \_\_\_\_ Bees themselves

Expected pound of production per hive is \_\_\_\_\_

How do you plan to market your products? \_\_\_\_\_

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## DESCRIBE ANY POLLINATION PLANS FOR YOUR PROPERTY:

I.e.: What plants are on your property now? Do you have clover?  
Have you planted specific flowers for the bees?

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**PLEASE NOTE:** The bees must be alive, active & producing to qualify & are subject to annual verification.

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Bee 2 Year Check List

NAME:

PROP ID #'S:

TOTAL # OF ACRES:

TOTAL # OF HIVES:

(INCLUDE LAND MAP WITH LOCATION OF HIVES)

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Inspections

How often?

When / times of year?

Queen Replacement

How often?

Last one?

Products produced – details

Africanized bees – prevention

Fire ants – prevention

Supplement by planting clover?

Do they feed them? How much? What? When?

Active now?

Winter – electric light with box around?

Winter – inactive / hibernate?