

**2015**  
**TEXAS 4-H BEEKEEPING ESSAY CONTEST**  
**RULES AND GUIDELINES**

***DEADLINE FOR ESSAY***  
***JANUARY 9, 2015***

**AWARDS:**

National Cash Prizes to 3 Top Winners:

1st Place: \$750.00

2nd Place: \$500.00

3rd Place: \$250.00

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

Texas Cash Prizes to 3 Top Winners

1st Place: \$300.00

2nd Place: \$200.00

3rd Place: \$100.00

**Texas Contest Sponsored by: *Alamo Area Beekeepers Assn., Central Texas Beekeepers Assn., Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn., Concho Valley Beekeepers Assn., Dino-Bee Beekeepers Assn., East Texas Beekeepers Assn., Harris County Beekeepers Assn., Marshall Beekeeping Assn., Trinity Valley Beekeepers Assn., and Williamson County Area Beekeepers Assn.***

**TOPIC:** For the 2015 essay contest, the essay topic is:

***“Reducing the Usage of Bee-Killing Pesticides in my Community”***

Beekeeping has become difficult due to a lack of native plants for forage. In this essay, you will be required to discuss ways that habitats can be modified to become “bee friendly” Does your community allow roadsides and open land to grow wildflowers and encourage native planting of bee friendly plants?

Survey your community to see what is being done to help honeybees. Include your state in your survey to see if there is a wildflower planting program available or any other program that could aid the honey bee.

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

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

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

**NOTE: FOR 2015 ONLY ESSAYS SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Amy L. Dromgoole

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**RULES:**

1. Contest is open to active 4-H Club members only. 4-H'ers who have previously placed first, second, or third at the national level are not eligible; but other state winners are eligible to re-enter.
2. Requirements (failure to meet any one requirement disqualifies the essay) –
  - Write on the designated subject only.
  - All factual statements must be referenced with bibliographical-style endnotes.
  - A brief biographical sketch of the essayist, including date of birth, gender, complete mailing address, and telephone number, must accompany the essay.
  - Length – the essay proper: 750 to 1000 words.
  - The word count does not include the endnotes, the bibliography or references, nor the essayist's biographical sketch – which should be on a separate page.
  - Preparation for National Judging: Typewritten or computer- generated double-spaced, 12pt. Times or similar type style, on one side of white paper following standard manuscript format.
3. Essays will be judged on (a) scope of research - 40%; (b) accuracy - 30%; (c) creativity - 10%; (d) conciseness - 10%; and (e) logical development of the topic - 10%.
4. Individual **must** send all essays electronically to the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program by **January 9, 2015**. E-mails should be sent to Amy Dromgoole at [amy.dromgoole@tamu.edu](mailto:amy.dromgoole@tamu.edu) .
5. Final judging and selection of the National Winner will be made by the Foundation's Essay Committee, whose decision is final.
6. The National Winner will be announced by May 1, 2015.
7. All National entries become the property of the Foundation and may be published or used as it sees fit. No essay will be returned. National winning essays will be posted at: <http://honeybeepreservation.org>.

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# CERTIFICATION FORM

Award Program Entered: Beekeeping Essay Contest Year: 2013

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M \_\_\_ Y \_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

District/County:  /  \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## STATEMENT BY 4-H MEMBER

I certify that I am an active 4-H Club member in Texas and that I have not previously placed first, second, or third at the national level.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(4-H Member)

**APPROVAL OF THIS REPORT:**

*We have reviewed this report and believe it is correct:*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(4-H Club Manager/Leader)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(County Extension Agent)

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