
Clay County Appraisal District

Beekeeping Qualification & Intensity Guide



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

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Clay 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 Clay 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.

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. Provide a copy of a map with the vegetation and hive placement on it.

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 _____

Acreeage 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: _____

DESCRIBE THE PRODUCTS YOU EXPECT TO HARVEST:

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

Expected pounds of production per hive is _____

How do you plan to market your products? _____

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?

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

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

Printed Name: _____

Bee Year 2 Check List

NAME:

PROP ID #'S:

TOTAL# OF ACRES:

TOTAL# OF HIVES:

(INCLUDE LAND MAP WITH LOCATION OF HIVES)

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?

