Requesting a National Survey for Exotic Honey Bee Pests

USDA/APHIS/PPQ-VS is receiving more petitions from foreign countries to export packaged honey bees and queens to the United States. In order to protect the U.S. beekeeping industry from the introduction of exotic pests, especially *Tropilaelaps clareae, Nosema cerana, Apis mellifera capensis*, other *Varroa* species as well as other species of pests not yet found in the U.S. a national survey is justified. Of particular concern is a petition from Germany where *Nosema cerana* is known to exist and is near Spain where extensive losses to honey bee colonies have occurred.

Such a survey is also needed to help create foreign markets for U.S. honey bees and expedite exportation of honey bees.

**Resolved**, that the Central Plant Board at its 83rd annual meeting in Columbus, Ohio on February 7, 2007, requests USDA/APHIS/PPQ-VS to fund and implement a national survey for exotic pests as soon as possible. Such is necessary to establish a baseline on which scientific decisions can be made to allow the safe importation and exportation of honey bees.

**Distribution:**
Honorable Michael Johanns, Secretary of Agriculture, USDA
Dr. Ron DeHaven, Administrator, USDA, APHIS
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