

# **2019 HONEY BEE INSPECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

In 2019, the honey bee inspection-program was contracted to a third party inspection service, DLJ Consultants located in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The inspection contract was awarded for a period of two (2) years, concluding on April 30, 2021. In the contract agreement, there is the option to extend the contract for one (1) additional year, ending April 30, 2022. The awarded contract was to inspect 4% – 5% of the honey bee colonies in the province (i.e. between 5,000 to 6,000 honey bee colonies per annum).

The principal focus of the program is to inspect honey bee colonies for diseases such as American and European Foulbrood disease (AFB/EFB) and pests such as Small Hive Beetle (SHB). Inspectors also inspect for Varroa mite when colonies or equipment are moved out of province (i.e. inter-provincial movement) or sold at auction sales.

In 2019, the inspection program was able to inspect a total of 287 beekeeping operations and approximately 5,665 colonies. Approximately 25% of the colonies inspected (i.e.1,425) were for Inter-provincial movement or auction sale purposes.

In 2019, Four (4) beekeeping operations tested positive for AFB/EFB with one additional operation reporting EFB as a results of a sample submitted to the National Bee Diagnostic Centre in Beaverlodge Alberta. Table 1 is a summary of the number of honey bee colonies and percentage of total colonies inspected during the last ten year (2009 – 2019).

**Table 1: Total number and percentage of honey bee colonies inspected per year in Manitoba from 2009 – 2019.**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total Colonies</b>	<b>Colonies Inspected</b>	<b>Percent Inspected</b>
2009	70,746	4,445	6.3%
2010	78,000	2,455	3.1%
2011	77,000	4,400	5.7%
2012	80,000	2,890	3.6%
2013	73,800	185	0.3%
2014	78,700	1,711	2.2%
2015	90,909	4,217	4.6%
2016	102,030	3,796	3.7%
2017	111,802	4,324	3.9%
2018	114,373	4,020	3.5%
2019	114,668	5,665	4.9%