



Speaker:

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Date: Monday, May 18, 2026
Time: 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm
Format: In-Person Seminar & Virtual Access
Location: Genomics Auditorium 1102A
Zoom: 943 6687 2379
Passcode: 453393

Title:
“Protecting honey bee health in changing environments”

Abstract:

Honey bee health is influenced by multiple interacting stressors, including parasites, pathogens, pesticide exposure, poor nutrition, and environmental extremes. The goal of my lab is to continue characterizing these stressors and more importantly develop practical, field-relevant solutions for beekeepers and other agricultural stakeholders through research, extension, outreach, and diagnostic services. This presentation highlights ongoing work focused on varroa mite and disease management and nutrition-based approaches to colony health. Collaborative projects have evaluated novel miticides and alternative control strategies, including organic acids, essential oils, etc. with emphasis on products that are effective and practical under real-world field conditions. This includes efforts to examine integrated pest management approaches that include mite-resistant honey bee stocks. Access to plentiful nutrition is of great concern to beekeepers and our research has explored the benefits of supplemental forage plantings, probiotics, phytochemicals, and other feed additives to improve colony strength, survival, and disease resilience. I will also briefly discuss a project related to self-fertile almond pollination and climate-associated stressors. Together, these efforts aim to support sustainable, regionally relevant colony management programs for a rapidly changing agricultural landscape.

Refreshments will be served in the Entomology Building Courtyard at 3:30pm