



Job Title: Apiculture Summer Technician

Location: Edmonton

Closing date: March 15, 2021

Purpose:

The Technology Transfer Program (TTP) for apiculture in Alberta, since its establishment in 2019, has been working in collaboration with the provincial government, academia and stakeholders, on research and extension projects as well as working directly with commercial beekeepers providing training, colony disease monitoring and consulting services. The TTP provides disease monitoring services to beekeepers in Alberta, which includes continuous evaluation for pests and pathogens and management planning steps so that adjustments can be made as necessary to ensure the success of the beekeeping operation. The TTP is also conducting applied bee research investigating the performance of local and imported queens. We are seeking a summer technician for our Alberta TTP.

The position will be focused on honey bee surveillance activities throughout the province and applied research. A strong beekeeping background with good knowledge of honey bee diseases, pest management and biology is an asset. It also requires working directly with beekeepers in the field, either with a team of people or individually. Travel throughout the province with overnight stays will be required.

The TTP summer technician will work with the TTP lead and 1-2 TTP technicians in conducting applied research, monitoring colonies for diseases and assisting with lab work.

Responsibilities and Activities:

- Organize, co-ordinate, and schedule beekeepers for colony surveillance, taking into consideration staff availability, resources, weather, operation size, and location
- Organize accommodations, field gear, and required supplies for surveillance trips
- Collect samples in the field and analyze samples in the lab, adhering to strict scientific protocols for diagnoses of honey bee diseases
- Perform research tasks, including data collection, recording, note taking, data management, writing and limited reporting
- Assist in applied research projects

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Currently enrolled in a science program or equivalent



- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Ability to work with beekeepers and handle difficult issues
- Knowledge of sampling bees for disease diagnosis in the laboratory
- Availability for frequent out of town travel throughout the province
- Ability to conduct difficult physical work for extended hours while remaining professional with clients and co-workers
- Must have a commitment to excellence and high standards
- Strong organizational skills and oral and written communication skills
- Ability to lift up to 20kg.
- Valid class 5 driver's license and clean driving record
- Good practical experience working with honey bees is an asset
- Good understanding of bee biology, bee pests and diseases, disease management is an asset
- Knowledge of sampling bees for disease diagnosis in the laboratory is an asset

What we offer:

- Working from home is possible when performing office-related activities (e.g., entering data)
- A work truck is available for work-related activities

Financial Compensation: Compensation commensurate with experience.

The employment will be based on \$20-23 per hour.

Work week: 40 hours per week. Some flexibility in work hours required.

Duration: The 4 month position will run from May to August 2021 (with possible work duration extension).

How to Apply: Please submit resume and cover letter to: renata.borba@albertabeekeepers.ca. Only those selected for interviews will be contacted. For more information about the TTP, please visit: [www.albertabeekeepers.ca /tech-transfer-program/](http://www.albertabeekeepers.ca/tech-transfer-program/)

The Alberta Beekeepers Commission follows the province of Alberta COVID-19 guidelines in the workplace and has implemented health and safety procedures to ensure the well-being of our employees and community.