

# 4-H Bee Essay Contest



**Sponsored by:** The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc.

**2020 Topic:** *“Overwintering: Bee Survival through the Cold Season”*

Honey bees have developed special skills to overwinter in the United States. Please discuss one of these skills and then include a discussion about what you do to prepare your hives for winter. Include a photo of one of your hives, either using infrared technology or showing winter wrap, hay bales, special feeders, etc. to demonstrate how you prepare your hives for winter.

**Deadline for Submission: Friday, March 13, 2020**

Email entries to Dr. Ashley Burns at [taberp@clemson.edu](mailto:taberp@clemson.edu)

## Put on Your Thinking Cap!

An essential judging criterion is the scope of research you put forth in developing the ideas behind your essay—accounting for 40% of your score. The number of sources consulted, the authority of the sources and the variety of the sources are all evaluated. Personal interviews with beekeepers and others familiar with the subject are valued sources of information and should be documented. Note that “honey bee” is properly spelled as two words, even though many otherwise authoritative references spell it as one word.

<b>State award:</b>	First place	Free 2021 <a href="#">Honey Bee Project</a> registration <b>or</b> choice of merchandise (\$20-worth) from <a href="#">Shop 4-H</a>
	Second place	50%-off 2021 <a href="#">Honey Bee Project</a> registration <b>or</b> choice of merchandise (\$10-worth) from <a href="#">Shop 4-H</a>
	Third place	25%-off 2021 <a href="#">Honey Bee Project</a> registration <b>or</b> choice of merchandise (\$5-worth) from <a href="#">Shop 4-H</a>

<b>National awards:</b>	First place	\$750
	Second place	\$500
	Third place	\$250

*The three national prize-winning essays will be published in ABF Quarterly, the magazine of the American Beekeeping Federation. All authors of essays submitted to the national competition will receive a relevant book on honey bees, beekeeping or honey.*

## Eligibility:

The 2020 National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Competition is open to active 4-H Club members only. Any 4-H Club member who placed first, second or third in previous years of the national competition is NOT eligible to win in 2020, however, state competition

winners remain eligible to enter the national competition. Entered essays must encompass the designated topic only. There will be NO exceptions.

**Rules Overview:** (failure to meet any one of the requirements will result in a disqualification)

- Students interested in writing an essay, should contact their local 4-H offices for competition details. ***The state selection must be done through the 4-H system.***
- Preparation for National Judging: Essay must be typewritten or computer-generated on single-sided pages and formatted following standard manuscript format using double-spaced type and 12pt font in legible font face.
- Must encompass the designated topic in 750 to 1000 words.
- All factual statements and interview references must be cited in a “resources” or “bibliography” list.
- Essays will be judged on:
  - a. scope of research - 40%
  - b. accuracy - 30%
  - c. creativity - 10%
  - d. conciseness - 10%
  - e. logical development of the topic - 10%
- On a separate page, please include a brief biographical statement of the author, including mailing address, email address, and telephone number.
- Deadline for electronic submission for **State judging is: March 13, 2020 by 5:00 pm EST**
- **Email state entries to Ashley Burns at [taberp@clermson.edu](mailto:taberp@clermson.edu) in Word or PDF format.**
- Each state may submit ONE entry only for national judging. The 4-H state office will work with the state winner for submission.
- Deadline for National submission is: **April 1, 2020.**
- National winners will be announced by the **week of June 1, 2020.**
- Decisions made by the trustees of the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees during national judging are final. All national competition entries become the property of the foundation and may be used as it sees fit. No essays will be returned.

**Contact:**

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