DRAFT

December XX, 2017

Dear Producer,

Enclosed is your *Bee and Honey / Colony Loss Inquiry* survey form. Please take a few minutes to provide NASS with this data. Your answers, combined with those from other apiarists across the United States, will help NASS accurately gauge U.S. honey production and value. With the growing interest in honeybee health, the results of this survey will also help to accurately measure the scope of problems your sector faces, such as the Colony Collapse Disorder.

As a honey producer, your participation is important. You have the following ways to respond:

- **Online** at www.agcounts.usda.gov beginning DATE. ***Responding online is the easiest, fastest and most secure way to complete your survey.*** All you need is the identification number on the enclosed forms to begin.
- **By mail or fax**. Complete the enclosed questionnaire and mail it back in the return envelope provided or fax it to (314) 595-9990.

If you do not respond by January XX, 2018, we may contact you to arrange a telephone or personal interview.

As required by Federal law, your responses are completely confidential. We safeguard the privacy of all respondents, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified. For more information on how we protect your information please visit: https://www.nass.usda.gov/confidentiality.

We will publish the survey results in the annual *Honey* report and the annual *Honey Bee Colonies* report; which can be found at: https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/Reports_by_Release_Day/index.php.

Thank you in advance for your responding to the surveys and for your support of U.S. agriculture.

Sincerely,

Hubert Hamer
Administrator
U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Enclosures