

# **NCSBA MBP Study Guide**

## **Master Level Beekeeper – January 2013**

Third level for the Master Beekeeper Program. At this level the individual should be able to function as a sideline or commercial beekeeper if he/she so desires. In addition to the general aspects of beekeeping the individual will also demonstrate knowledge in such areas as bee botany, the business aspects of beekeeping, honey and bee-related judging, bee behavior and other specialty areas.

### **Requirements:**

- must pass a written and practical level test (demonstrate expertise in selected sub specialties of beekeeping)
- must have three (3) years of beekeeping experience (3 years experience prior to starting the master level is the requirement)
- must complete ten (10) units of public service work in beekeeping.

Appendix A: Sub specialties and methods of demonstrating competence for use in satisfying the master practical test requirements. Six are required.

**1. Liquid (Extracted) Honey:** demonstrate expertise in the production of extracted honey by winning a first or second place in an authorized honey competition. Authorized competitions include state fairs, competitions at state, regions, or national beekeeping meetings, and similar activities.

**2. Comb or Cut-comb Honey:** demonstrate expertise in the production of comb or cut-comb honey by winning a first or second place in an authorized honey competition. Authorized competitions include state fairs, competitions at state, regions, or national beekeeping meetings, and similar activities.

**3. Crystallized (Spun or Creamed) Honey:** demonstrate expertise in the production of crystallized honey by winning a first or second place in an authorized honey competition. Authorized competitions include state fairs, competitions at state, regions, or national beekeeping meetings, and similar activities.

Note: you may include only two sub specialties from items 1-3 on this list when submitting documentation for satisfaction of the Master practical test.

**4. Beeswax:** demonstrate expertise in the production of beeswax by winning a first or second place in an authorized beeswax competition. Your beeswax entry may include either processed beeswax or beeswax figures/candles. Authorized competitions include state fairs, competitions at state, regions, or national beekeeping meetings, and similar activities.

**5. Published Article in a Beekeeping Publication:** prepare an article on beekeeping or related subject and have it published in a beekeeping publication such as the “American Bee Journal,” Bee culture,” “Speedy Bee,” “Bee World,” or a similar journal. Articles in beekeeping newsletters will not be credited towards this sub specialty.

**6. Published Article in a non-beekeeping publication:** prepare an article on beekeeping or a related subject and have it published in a non-beekeeping publication. Acceptable publication sources are those with at least a state-wide distribution, but you may submit publications with limited distribution for consideration by the review and Equivalency Board.

**7. Recognition as a Local Beekeeping Authority:** be recognized as a beekeeping authority in your local areas by appearing on a radio or television broadcast. Consideration will also be given to your name appearing in a newspaper article if you are quoted or referenced as a major contributor to the article.

**8. Certification to administer life saving treatment for allergic reactions to insect stings.** Submit documentation that you have undergone training for life saving treatment of persons suffering from allergic reactions to insect stings, and that you have been certified to administer such treatment. Suitable documentation would include such things as a certificate from your state department of health that you may administer epinephrine to persons suffering from allergic reactions

**9. Attendance at Major Beekeeping Meetings/Conventions:** attend at least three regional (multi-state), national, or international beekeeping meetings or conventions. The minimum total of three meetings may not include more than two meetings of the same organizations.

**10. Conducting a program at a state-wide or major beekeeping meeting:** conduct/present a program, workshop, or similar activity at a state, regional, national, or international beekeeping meeting or convention.

**11. Basic Queen Rearing:** be certified by a commercial queen breeder that you are competent in the basic skills of small-scale queen rearing which should include the ability to graft larvae into queen cups.

**12. Advanced Queen Rearing:** successfully complete a course on the uses of artificial insemination in queen rearing.

**13. Pesticide usage expertise:** present proof that you have been certified by an appropriate authority, such as a state department of agriculture or the agriculture extension service, that you are qualified to use restricted use pesticides.

**14. Establishment of a beekeeping enterprise:** submit documentation that you have successfully established a beekeeping enterprise which is legally licensed to do business in your locality. Beekeeping enterprises may include wholesale or retail sales of bee products, sales of bees or queen bees, rental of bees for pollination services or similar activities. Any business enterprise submitted for approval must meet local/state licensing requirements and also be reflected on your tax returns.

**15. Collaborate in a university research or extension project:** participate in a beekeeping research or extension project at an approved institution. The participation must reflect a significant commitment of time/effort by the individual and does not include such things as merely responding to requests for information by completing a questionnaire.

**16. Completion of a training session in some specialized area of beekeeping:** satisfactorily complete an approved training session relating to some special skill or technical expertise in beekeeping. Such training sessions must be in some depth and will not normally include such things as the general workshops conducted at state or national beekeeping conventions.

**17. Service as an officer of a major beekeeping organization:** service for two or more years as an officer of a regional, national, or international beekeeping organization. The two years service need not be consecutive or in the same organization.

**18. Expertise in a sub specialty not listed:** if you have expertise in an area not specifically listed such as in the areas of pollination, beekeeping equipment construction, knowledge of bee related plants (floral sources), then you may submit documentation of that skill as a portion of your requirements for this practical test. This is the only sub specialty number where you may have multiple submissions.

## **Master Level Public Service Credits**

Following is a list of types of public service credits that may be credited towards the requirement of the Master Level of the Master Beekeeper Program. Please note that you may submit special public service as described under letter M.

- A. Programs on beekeeping and related topics to non-beekeeping groups.
- B. Programs on beekeeping and related topics to school groups.
- C. Presentations of Clemson or Clemson approved programs to beekeeping groups.
- D. Publication of beekeeping and related topic articles in journals, newsletters, etc.
- E. Serving as an officer/director of a county/local beekeeping organization.
- F. Construction of a exhibit or working at a beekeeping exhibit open to the public.
- G. Assisting 4-H members and other youths with beekeeping projects.
- H. Serving as an officer/director/regional representative of a state beekeeping organization.
- I Programs/lectures/demonstrations on specific beekeeping topics to beekeeping groups.
- J. Judging honey and/or beekeeping products at fairs or other competitions.
- K conducting general courses for advance beekeepers ( but not beginning beekeepers).
- L One-to-one instruction to beginning beekeepers.
- M. Miscellaneous: you may submit a special program under this category, but it must be reviewed by the Review and Equivalency Board..

Note: programs submitted in the fulfillment of the public service requirements for the journeyman level may not be reused for the master level. However, you may submit similar programs.