

## Selecting a viable Master Craftsman Research project

The NCSBA Master Beekeeper Program committee along with your Academic advisor, are partners in the process that you will explore as you develop, implement and execute your Master Craftsman Research project. The first challenge is to select a viable project that will be approved by both the MBP and your advisor. Here are the basics we expect as components of your project:

1. The majority of the work must be performed by you the researcher. Should your project require laboratory analysis in order to arrive at a final result, that analysis should be less than 20 percent of the total time, energy and dollars you commit to your project.
2. Field trials of all types are required to identify the many management approaches, operating styles and equipment applications that are needed to promote our effective stewardship of the honey bee. Explore all the beekeeping periodicals, conference or teleconference speakers, links to scientific journals, etc. that you can find to formulate an idea.
3. Search the internet to see if others have conducted research projects looking to evaluate similar or identical circumstances.

Every project proposal will be evaluated on its merits by both the MBP and your advisor. Either or both will offer input as to size, controls, merit and scope of your project. You will be required to maintain excellent records, keep both your advisor and the MBP informed in writing/email via spreadsheet, dialogue and photos, as to progress and process during your project. Your final report should be comprehensive including evaluation of results, charts, graphs, photos etc. as appropriate. Effective January 1, 2021, an article of at least 1000 words addressing all aspects of your research project, must be written and published in the Bee Buzz to complete your MC Research Project. Any research project completed and approved prior to December 31, 2020 will not need to meet this new requirement. Should you choose to have it published in a national beekeeping magazine or scientific journal, the Bee Buzz publisher will be happy to release your article to that periodical.