

Resolutions Approved at the 2002 Apiary Inspectors of America Annual Conference, Savannah, Georgia
January 15 -19, 2002.

Resolution No. 1 Thank You to Conference Hosts author, Resolution Committee

The Apiary Inspectors of America (AIA) appreciate the efforts of the individuals that worked to put together the year 2002 conference in Savannah, Georgia. Especially noteworthy was the efforts of AIA vice president Anette Phibbs (WI), AIA member Barry Smith (GA), American Beekeeping Federation Vice President Pat Heitkam and Troy Fore, executive secretary of the American Beekeeping Federation.

Be it resolved that the secretary of the Apiary Inspectors of America be hereby directed to write a letter of appreciation to each, thanking them for their hospitality and the efforts made to ensure a successful meeting.

Audience, as resolved

Resolution No. 2 Use of Pesticides and other Crop Protection Products author, Resolution Committee

The value of pollination services provided by the American beekeeping industry, whether to commercial crops or for wild flowers, home gardens, or other purposes has been well documented. The diversity we now enjoy in American agriculture would not take place without the efforts of beekeepers.

Since the introduction of parasitic mites and the small hive beetle, beekeepers have been forced to respond by using pesticides to protect the health and viability of the colonies. The number of pesticides available for honey bee protection is limited. At this time, only two products are available for the control of varroa mites. Products available for tracheal mite control have limited efficacy.

In the short time that Apistan (fluvalinate) has been available for use, pesticide resistance has already become widespread. CheckMite+ (coumaphos) has been available for use for only 3 years and already the first evidence of resistance has been documented.

In 2001, the misuse of the CheckMite+ strip, and or the active ingredient, coumaphos, was documented in two states. These findings caused the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to raise serious questions regarding the continued registration of this product.

The beekeeping industry cannot afford to lose important protection products. Although research continues on several products, it could be many years before alternative products, or alternative techniques for controlling honey bee pests are made available. It is also important for the industry to protect its interest in crop protection products by not abusing these tools.

Be it resolved that the Apiary Inspectors of America (AIA) respectfully requests that America's beekeeping organizations and their members lead the effort to protect the ability of this industry to have and use pesticides and other honey bee protection products.

The AIA further encourages beekeepers to use only properly approved products in accordance with labeled directions.

Audience:	cc:
American Beekeeping Federation	Environmental Protection Agency,
American Honey Producers Association, Inc.	Ms. Meredith Laws
Eastern Apicultural Society	NASDA
Western Apicultural Society	American Bee Journal
	Bee Culture
	The Speedy Bee