WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY TRI-CITIES

April 8, 2013

Ref: 2013-3-1

David Epstein, Ph.D. Entomologist, USDA Office of Pest Management Policy 1400 Independence Ave SW Room 3871 - South Bldg., Mail Stop 0315 Washington, DC 20250-0315

Subject: Honey Survey Revision

I am responding to your request for input on the revision to the National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) Honey Survey. This response from the Western Integrated Pest Management Center provides input from a seven-state region: Alaska, California, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, and Washington.

The February 14, 2013 *Federal Register* notice specifically asked for input on: the time it takes for people to deal with the Honey Survey; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information being collected; and suggestions for making data collection easier. To this end I contacted 25 beekeeping organizations in the seven states I represent. I had responses from 2 individuals, both in California. Both people thought that having the survey available electronically would be an improvement. I did not receive any comments regarding the NASS time estimate for completing the survey.

Sincerely,

Jane M. Thomas

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