

Tropilaelaps: Preparedness Planning in Canada

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Presented on behalf of the
Provincial Apiarists of Canada

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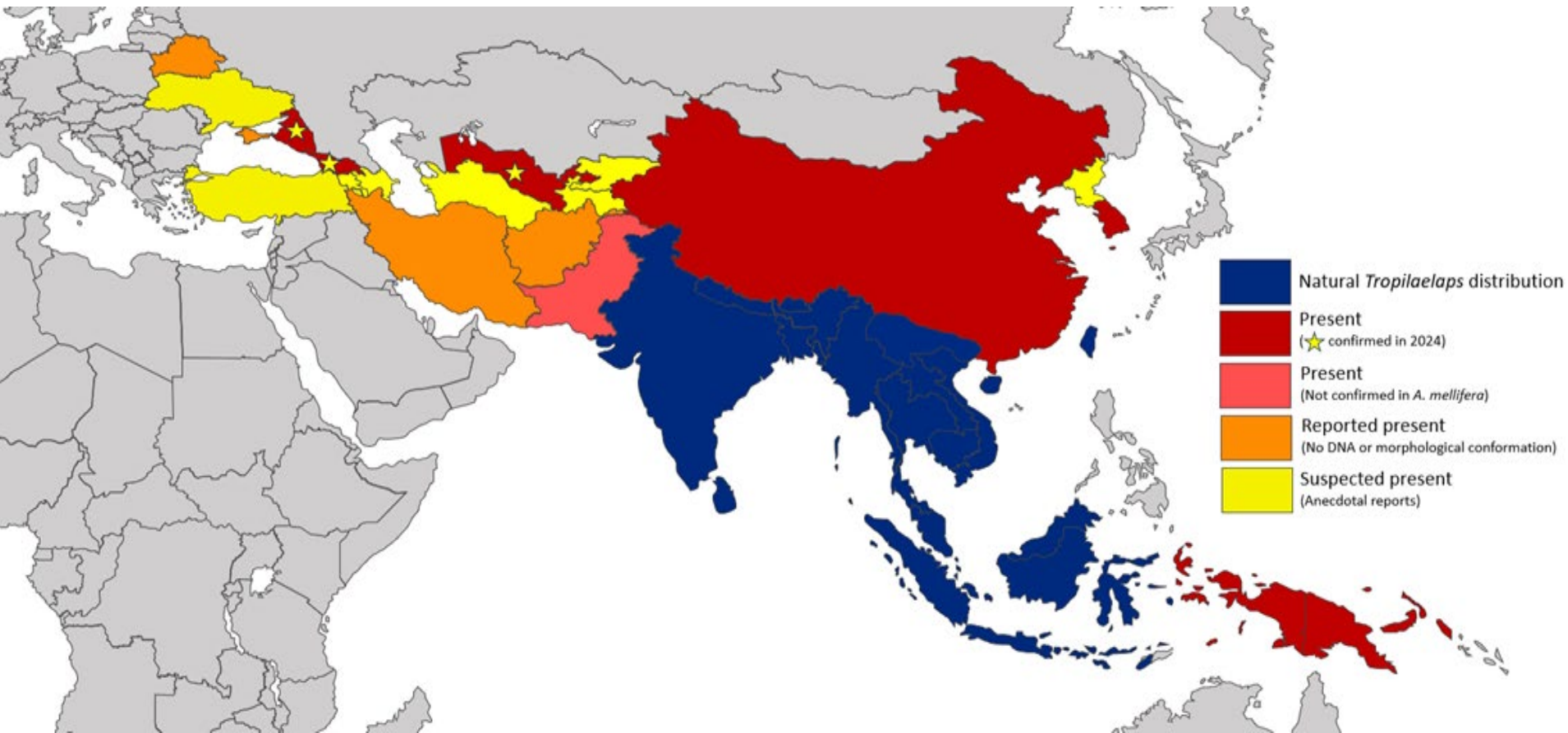
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What are Tropilaelaps?



Gill et. al. 2025

Where are these Mites?



Gill et. al. 2025

What are we Worried About: Accidental Introduction

Importation of Bees



Tag along with cargo



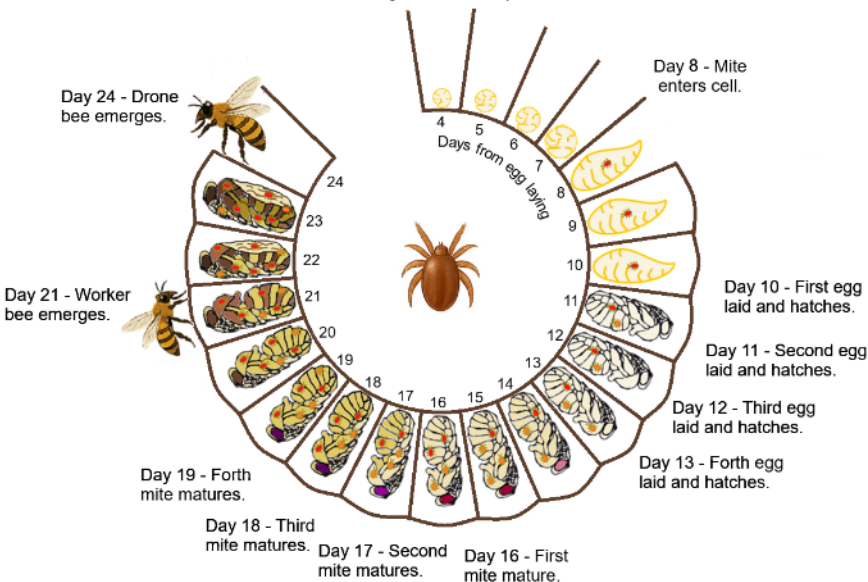
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Life Cycle

(Why Could this be Worse than Varroa)

Tropilaelaps mercedesae

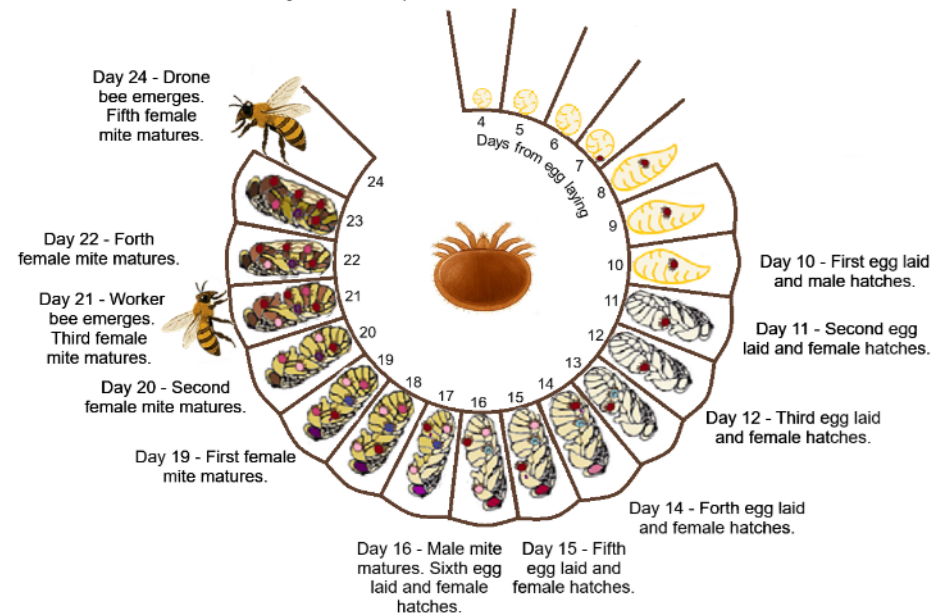
Tropilaelaps spend 1 - 2 days outside of brood cells before either entering new brood cells to reproduce or attaching to bees to disperse.



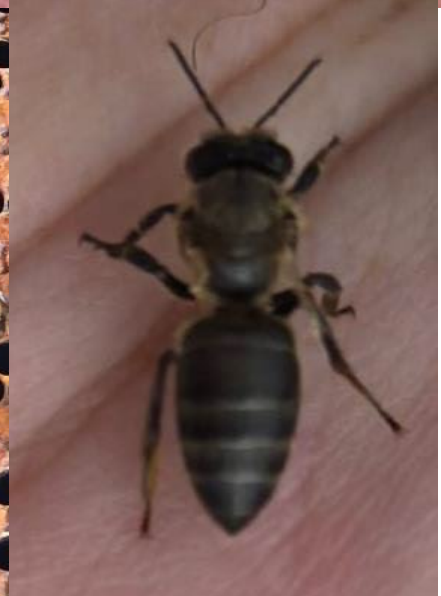
Gill et. al. 2025

Varroa destructor

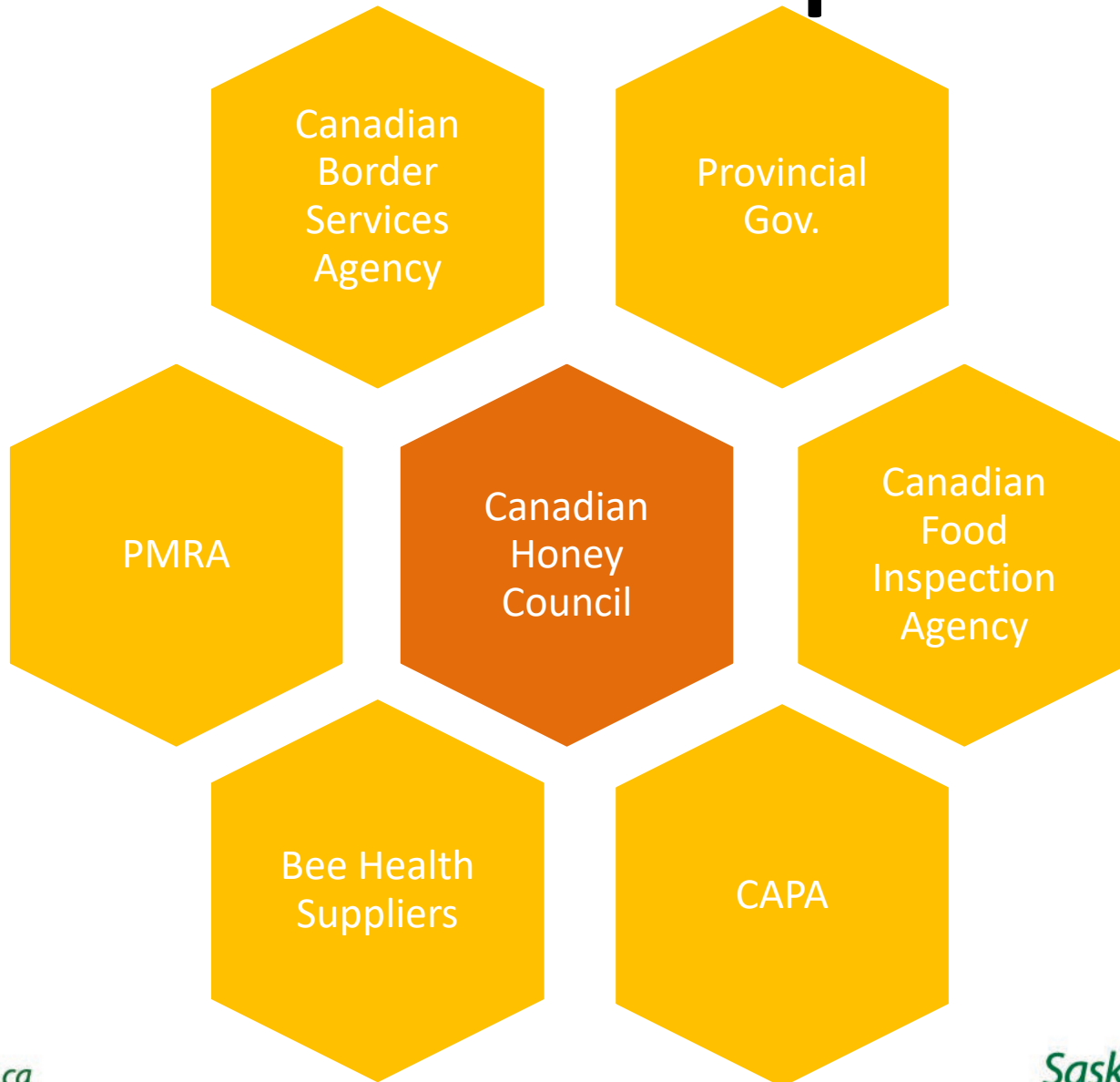
Varroa spend around 7 days feeding on bees before entering new brood cells to reproduce or attaching to bees to disperse.



Damage to Bees and Impacts to Industry



Framework of Preparation



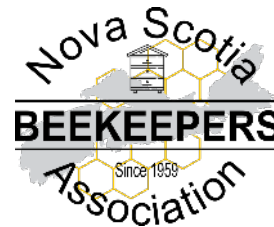
Industry - Canadian Honey Council

- Leading the initiative for Tropi response
- Co-ordination responses of the different groups
- Ensuring that the final action plan respects the needs of all Canadian beekeepers



Industry: Provincial Associations

- Coordinate with CHC on national industry response
- Work with Provincial Governments on Provincial level responses
- Provide educational opportunities for beekeepers i.e. webinars



Saskatchewan Beekeepers
Development Commission



Manitoba
Beekeepers'
Association



LES APICULTEURS
ET APICULTRICES
DU QUÉBEC



ONTARIO BEEKEEPERS'
ASSOCIATION

NEW BRUNSWICK
BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION DES
APICULTEURS DU
NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK



Canadian Food Inspection Agency

Continues to put significant effort into scientifically evaluating potential new sources of packaged bees and queen bees internationally.

Regulates import requirements for importing honey bees into Canada.

Countries exporting honey bees to Canada must certify that they are *Tropilaelaps* mite free which is a requirement to import honey bee queens and packages into Canada.

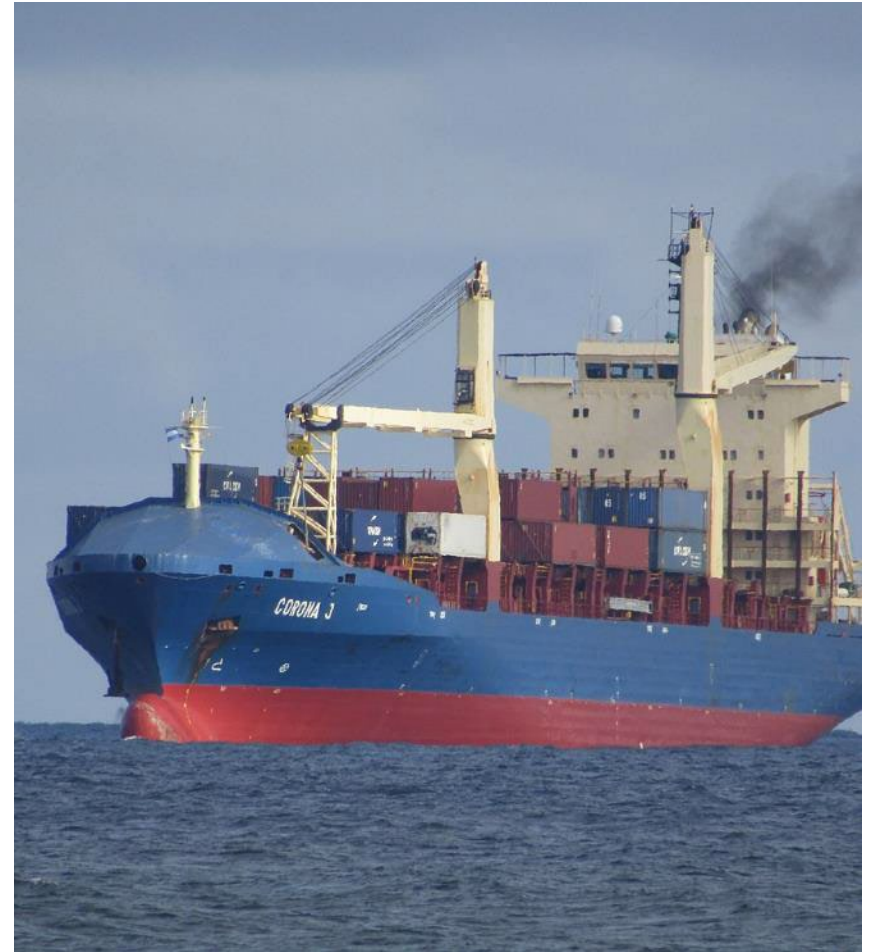
Is closely monitoring the global progression of *Tropilaelaps* mites.

Is in continuous communication with international counterpart authorities regarding their country's health status.

In accordance with WOA international standards, countries are obligated to notify WOA within **24 hours** of the first occurrence of a listed disease or an emerging disease in a country.

Canadian Border Services Agency

- Border and port inspections and controls



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Provincial Governments

- Provincial level Policy and Procedure Plans
 - Surveillance
 - Response after arrival
 - Might include quarantine, containment, treatment, destruction
- Consultation with provincial beekeeping groups
- Education



Bee Health Suppliers and Researchers

- Develop the necessary information for product registration
- Identify compounds and products that will work for Tropi control
- Apply to register the products



Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA)

- Evaluate Tropilaelaps control products for registration
- These will likely be label extensions of Varroa control products



Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists

Tropi Committee:

- Provide guidance on tools for surveillance and management
- Provide expert information (science based) on surveillance and response plans based on stakeholder requests.
- Beekeeper education

Bee Importation & Movement Committee:

- If requested, work with the Tropi committee to evaluate and offer additional mitigation expertise for Tropi importation risks

What is Working Well?

Coordination

- Excellent coordination between industry and governments
- Excellent participation by stakeholders

Framework of Preparation



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What is Working Well?

Working with Out of Country Partners and Resources



What Problems are we Facing?

Science

- Science is rapidly changing
- Most research subjects do not represent Canadian realities (Europe is a much better equivalent)

Thai Colony



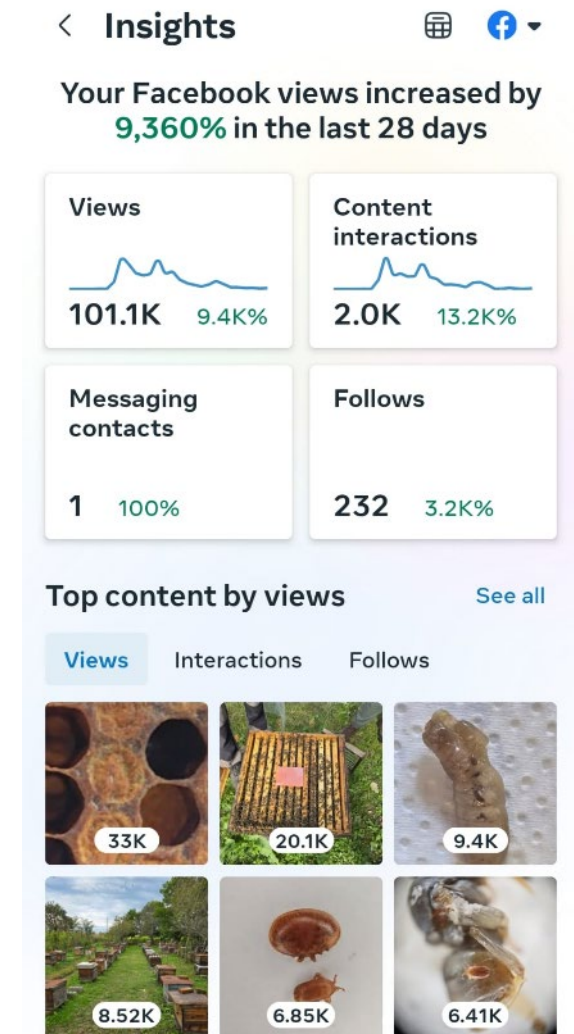
Georgian Colony



What Problems are we Facing?

Fear of the Unknown

- No one knows what will happen if/when Tropi arrives to N.A.
- A lot of unjustified accusations that Canada is not taking action
- We need more of effort to inform everyone what is happening



Questions



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