



University of the Virgin Islands

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*Cooperative Extension Service
Office of the State Director*

December 9, 2013

American Embassy
P.O. Box 302
Bridgetown BB 11000
Barbados, W. I.

Dear Sir;

This letter is to inform the American Embassy of an upcoming beekeeping conference that will be held from **May 26-30 2014 at the** University of the Virgin Islands, Albert A. Sheen Campus, St. Croix, Kingshill, United States Virgin Islands.

The *Caribbean Bee Congress* will join forces with the *Caribbean Bee College* to host one full week of honey bee research, education, and current events with some of the leaders in Apiculture from around the world. *The 7th Annual Caribbean Bee Congress and 2nd Annual Caribbean Bee College* is open to beekeepers from the local community, the Caribbean, and to any other interested persons from different parts of the world. We fully expect to have a cosmopolitan audience; as such we expect to see many requests for temporary business and travel visas to attend our event. Our expected international and regional arrivals are likely to range from 100-200 individuals.

This event comes from a partnership between the Association of Caribbean Beekeepers' Organizations (ACBO), East Caribbean Bee Research and Extension Center at the St. Georges University (SGU), the University of the Virgin Islands Cooperative Extension Service (UVI/CES), the Honey Bee Research and Extension Lab (HBREL) at the University of Florida (UF), beekeepers and other groups in the Caribbean. We share an effort to create a platform in which we can deliver research, current events and issues, information, tools, and resources that we hope will improve the sustainability of beekeeping among the islands.

The 5-day event will consist of lectures, meetings, workshops, discussions, educational seminars and some social activities. Transportation to and from the airport will be facilitated to the participants and guests by the UVI/CES Organizing Committee, as well as assistance with accommodations during the 5-day event.

We ask, respectfully, that the embassy will duly note the dates of this program and help facilitate an ease of access for temporary business or travel visas for the persons wanting to attend the *The 7th Annual Caribbean Bee Congress and 2nd Annual Caribbean Bee College* from the Caribbean islands.

Please feel free to contact Mr. Carlos Robles at UVI/CES or me with any questions you may have. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kwame Garcia, Sr.
State Director

pc: Carlos Robles – District Supervisor/STT-STJ District (340-693-1083/crobles@live.uvi.edu)