

BEE
BETTER



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& CONFERENCE
KELOWNA

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COAST CAPRI HOTEL
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Jerry Hayes - BeeLogics Monsanto

"I started out in life as a high school teacher. After about a year, I decided that was not as fun and rewarding as I had hoped. I worked in private industry for a while. I worked with a person who had been a beekeeper in Wisconsin with his brother. Like most people, I always knew about honey bees on the periphery of life but didn't think that there were actually people who did this. Short story is I turned into the typical new beekeeper and read and learned as much as I could and put a couple of colonies in my backyard. I have a very patient wife and I went back to school. Ohio State Univ. had an Apiculture Program under Dr. Jim Tew at the time. I did that and then went to work at the USDA Bee Breeding and Stock Lab in Baton Rouge, and then on to Dadant for a lot of years. I moved to Florida about 8 years ago to become the Chief of the Apiary Inspection Section. I have 12 full time inspectors and a Lab and Research projects. I have written, with many writers help, the "Classroom" in the ABJ for 20 plus years. I am on several science advisory boards for CCD and Research funding projects. Honey bees are amazing and they still are to me every day. That's why I do it."

Jerry Hayes is the Honey Bee Health Lead for Monsanto. He works with a technology that uses a normal natural process called RNAi to see if it can be adapted to control honey bee parasites and pathogens. He writes the column "The Classroom: Beekeeping Questions and Answers" for the American Bee Journal. Jerry graduated from Ohio State University, Agricultural and Technical Institute-Apiary major. He attended the USDA/ARS Bee Breeding and Stock Lab and worked at Dadant, a leading national beekeeping supply company and publisher of The American Bee Journal. He was Chief of the Apiary Inspection Section of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, 2004 until 2012, responsible for the regulatory health of 350,000 colonies. Jerry is a national speaker on honey bees and the health problems being encountered by them. He is the founding member of the Colony Collapse Working Group and a science advisory board member for Project Apis mellifera (PAM) and the Bee Informed Partnership. He has also authored multiple research papers on understanding and preserving honey bee health.