



## Ohio Revised Code

### Section 909.01 Apiary definitions.

Effective: September 30, 2025

Legislation: House Bill 96

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As used in sections 909.01 to 909.18 of the Revised Code:

- (A) "Person" includes corporations, companies, societies, associations, partnerships, any individual or combination of individuals, or any institution, park, or other public agency administered by the state or by any district, county, municipal corporation, or other governmental subdivision thereof. When construing or enforcing such sections, the act, omission, or failure of any officer, agent, servant, or other individual acting for or employed by any person as above defined within the scope of the person's employment or office is deemed to be the act, omission, or failure of such person, as well as that of the officer, agent, servant, or other employee.
- (B) "Bees" means any stage of any species of the genus *Apis*.
- (C) "Bee diseases" means any infectious or contagious disease that is pathogenic or parasitic and affects the eggs, or the larval, pupal, or adult stages, of bees.
- (D) "Apiary" means any place where one or more colonies or nuclei of bees are kept.
- (E) "Queen rearing apiaries" means any apiary in which queens are raised or purchased for sale, trade, or gift; or otherwise distributed or used to create, for sale, trade or gift, nucs, packages, or colonies.
- (F) "Hive" means any modern frame hive, box hive, box, barrel, log gum, skep, or any other natural or artificial receptacle, or any part thereof, that may be used as a domicile for bees.
- (G) "Equipment" means any used hives or parts thereof, used frames, used honey houses, used tools, used machines, or used devices employed in the handling or manipulation of bees, honey, or beeswax, or any used container for honey or beeswax that may be used in any apiary.



(H) "Serious bee diseases" means any bee disease the director of agriculture determines to be a threat to the beekeeping industry within the state.

(I) "Africanized honey bees" means any bees identified by the United States department of agriculture by approved identification methods to be classified as *Apis mellifera scutellata*.

(J) "Swarm" means a population of bees that is not permanently established.

(K) "Colony" means the hive and its equipment, including bees, combs, and brood.

(L) "Compliance agreement" means a written agreement between the department of agriculture and any person engaged in queen rearing in which the person agrees to comply with stipulated requirements.

(M) "Nuc" means a small colony of bees in a hive box to which all of the following applies:

(1) The hive box contains three to five frames.

(2) The hive box contains a laying queen bee and the queen's progeny in egg, larval, pupa, and adult stages.

(3) The small colony has honey and a viable population sufficient enough to develop into a full-sized colony.