

Häagen-Dazs Honey Bee Haven 2021 Annual Report

University of California, Davis
Department of Entomology and Nematology

December 2021



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Prepared December, 2021 by Christine Casey, Academic Program Management Officer

The first line of our 2020 Annual Report read: “Hopefully this will be the most unusual year we will ever experience at the Haven.” Looks like I was wrong! However, despite COVID-19 restrictions and staff layoff, we managed to keep the garden open and maintained, and to provide a limited outreach program. Fulfilling our important mission of providing education and inspiration about bees and plants kept us motivated through the pandemic.

Fortunately, widespread testing and vaccine availability have allowed the University to largely reopen. We look forward to a return to normal programming in 2022.

SUPPORT

Financial

The Haven continues to rely on grants and donations for our funding. Classes and guided tours also bring in operational funds; we were able to offer a limited number of these in 2021. Operating expenses in FY2021 were \$5100.72. This is a small budget for a garden of our size; we are able to operate efficiently thanks to the hard work of our volunteers.

A breakdown of FY2021 expenses is shown in Fig. 1 in Appendix I. Haven salary support in 2021 came from the USDA-NIFA Specialty Crops Research Initiative project, “[Protecting Pollinators with Economically Feasible and Environmentally Sound Ornamental Horticulture](#)” and the California Department of Food and Agriculture’s Specialty Crops Block Grant program, “[Promoting Pollinator Plant Awareness, Access, and Habitat Expansion to Benefit California’s Nursery Industry](#).” Donations and class and guided tour fees cover our operating expenses.

A successful fundraising campaign was conducted this year through the [UC Davis Crowdfund](#) program. We raised just over \$2500 to purchase new tools and plants for the garden.

Volunteers

The Haven volunteer team continues to make tremendous contributions, with work taking place weekly on Tuesday mornings. In 2021, volunteers contributed 246 hours to the Haven: 234 hours of garden maintenance and 12 hours of outreach. This has an in-kind value of \$7021 based on the [national volunteer labor rate](#) of \$28.54. Volunteers with 25 or more hours of service are recognized in the garden. All state, county, and University policies for volunteering during COVID-19 were followed in 2021.

Current volunteers with at least 50 hours of service are Connie Alexich, Barbara Heinsch, Diane Kelly, Stephanie Ogletree, Betty Warne, and Rick Williams.

GARDEN OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Events, guided tours, remote, and off-site events

Our ability to hold events and tours in 2021 was limited by COVID-19 restrictions. In 2021, we reached 311 people through on- and off-site events and virtual programs. This is far below the thousands we reached prior to the pandemic and we look forward to re-building our visitor programs as restrictions ease. A breakdown of visitors and programs is shown in Appendix II.

Media coverage

The garden was covered online and, for the first time, on a podcast in 2021. Links to each are given in Appendix II.

VIRTUAL HONEY BEE HAVEN

Social media

We use a variety of social media platforms to create the virtual Honey Bee Haven, including Instagram (#hbhgarden), [Facebook](#), and [The Bee Gardener](#) blog.

YouTube

We continued to post short videos about bees and gardening to the [Haven's YouTube](#) channel in 2021. This allows us to reach beyond the Sacramento region and was especially valuable this year to supplement COVID-19 restrictions.

Web resources

The garden's [web page](#) is updated regularly and serves as another source of information for bee gardeners.

RESEARCH

We concluded the project, "Protecting Pollinators with Economically Feasible and Environmentally Sound Ornamental Horticulture," this year and are preparing the results for publication. We have created a planting, interpretive signs, and outreach materials in the Haven and online to disseminate our results. Examples are shown in Figs. 2 and 3 in Appendix III.

Appendix I. Honey Bee Haven FY2021 financial report

**Total expenditures
FY2021 = \$5100.72
(% of total)**

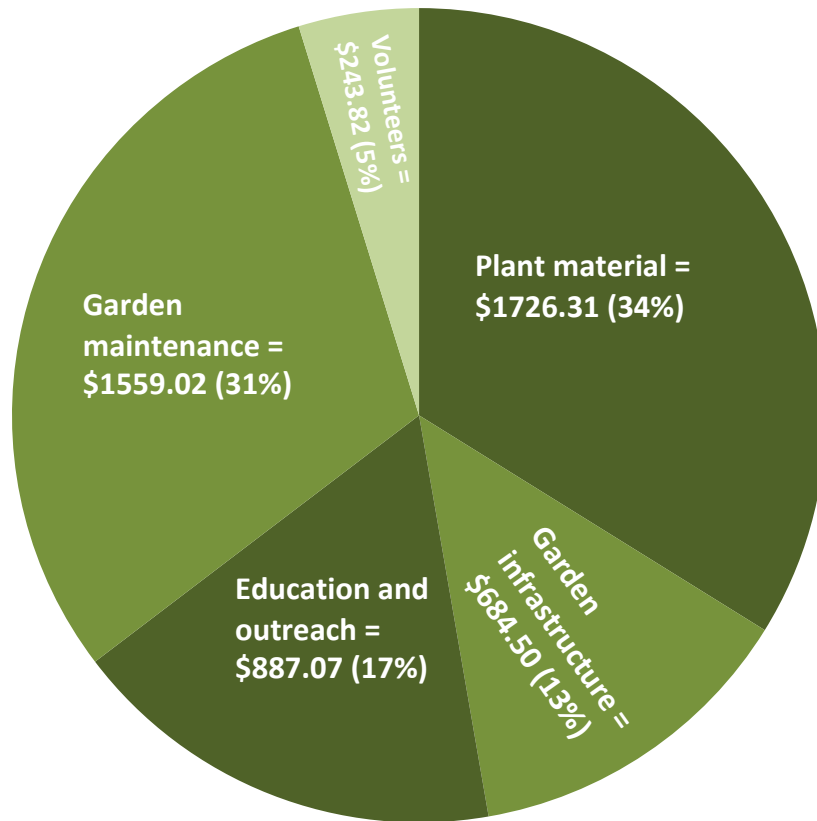


Figure 1. Breakdown by category of Honey Bee Haven expenditures in FY 2021.

In addition to salary, it cost \$5100.72 to run the Haven in FY2021. The categories cover expenses as follows:

Plant material: All plants and seeds used in the garden

Garden infrastructure: Construction and maintenance of garden facilities including fencing, raised beds, and pathways

Education and outreach: Handouts, signs, and other display materials

Garden maintenance: Tools, soil amendments, and other supplies needed to maintain the garden

Volunteers: Refreshments and safety supplies for volunteers

Memberships and professional development: Professional memberships, fees and travel costs associated with training for garden staff, advertising

Appendix II. Honey Bee Haven guided tours, offsite events, and media coverage in 2021

Attendance and affiliation of garden event and guided tour participants. State, county, and University COVID-19 policies were followed at all events.

Event or organization	Number attending	Type
Open houses	92	Public
Tours for student interns	22	UC Davis undergraduates
Gardening class	21	Public
Private group tours	21	Public
School group tour	19	Teachers/K-12
Mount Diablo Beekeepers	2	Beekeepers

Attendance and affiliation of off-site in-person event participants

Date	Organization	Number attending	Type
9/25/21	Bee City USA – Woodland City Hall Pollinator Garden open house	35	Public

Attendance and affiliation of off-site Zoom event participants

Date	Event	Number attending	Type
2/9/21	Biodiversity Museum Day	11	Public
2/17/21	Plant California Alliance research board	18	Scientists
2/23/21	Biodiversity Museum Day	14	Public
4/5/21	Davis Cub Scouts	14	K-12/Teacher
5/4/21	Pleasant Hill Garden Club	36	Garden club

Media coverage in 2021

<i>The Aggie</i>	https://theaggie.org/2021/03/24/14-activities-to-do-before-graduating-this-year/
<i>Pacific Horticulture</i>	https://www.pacifichorticulture.org/articles/the-buzz-on-bee-gardening-supporting-critical-pollinator-insects/
Green Acres Nursery and Supply podcast	https://www.buzzsprout.com/1610311

Appendix III. Plant bee attractiveness research outreach materials



Figure 2. A new Haven planting showcases the plants most attractive to bees from our recently-completed study. The accompanying interpretive sign explains the research project.

Does Your Garden Have Maximum BPG?

(Bees Per Gallon)

**Honey Bee Haven, UC Davis
Department of Entomology
and Nematology**

Supporting the most bees with the least water is a great way to garden.

These were the 10 most bee-attractive low-water (L or VL per WUCOLS*) plants in our research trials.

All are easy to grow and support large numbers of bees.

Learn more:
beegarden.ucdavis.edu



 = California native plant

*Water Use Classification of Landscape Species

We appreciate the generous support of
USDA-NIFA-SCRI and the UC Davis
Department of Entomology and Nematology

	Yarrow (<i>Achillea millefolium</i>) Attracts small sweat bees, water = L		Gaura (<i>Gaura lindheimeri</i>) Attracts honey bees and native bees, water = L
	Cape balsam (<i>Bulbine frutescens</i>) Attracts honey bees and native bees, water = L		Texas ranger (<i>Leucophyllum frutescens</i>) Attracts honey bees and native bees, water = L
	Ceanothus (<i>Ceanothus</i> spp.) Attracts honey bees and native bees, water = L		Catmint (<i>Nepeta x faassenii</i>) Attracts honey bees and native bees, water = L
	Santa Barbara daisy (<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i>) Attracts small sweat bees, water = L		Russian sage (<i>Salvia yangii</i>) Attracts honey bees and native bees, water = L
	California buckwheat (<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>) Attracts honey bees and native bees, water = VL		Wall germander (<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>) Attracts honey bees and native bees, water = L

Figure 3. The Bees Per Gallon concept promotes the most bee-attractive plants that use the least water. This sign has been installed at the Haven.