

Alberta Apiary Job Definitions

Title: Apiary Harvester

NOC Number: 8611 – Harvesting Labourers

Education: None – English or compatible language with their supervisor.

Experience: None.

Duties

Apiary Harvesters perform tasks such as the following on apiaries:

- Supering hives.
- Pulling honey.
- Cleaning and maintenance of honey extraction & storage equipment.
- Honey extraction.
- Barrel moving, preparation, filling & storage.
- Manufacture, assemble, maintain hive equipment.
- Bee yard maintenance.

Working Conditions

Apiary Harvesters may have to put in long hours during the harvest period. They may be required to work evenings, weekends and holidays. Some of the tasks are performed outside in all kinds of weather. Although automation and mechanization have helped, the work is often repetitive and physically demanding, requiring some self motivation. They must follow safety precautions and wear appropriate protective clothing to avoid injury to themselves or others when working with machinery, tools or hives. Appropriate hygiene practices must be followed to prevent or control the spread of diseases from hive to hive or the contamination of the hive products. Apiary Harvesters may routinely lift items weighing up to 20 kilograms or more.

Farm workers are not covered by labour standards, occupational health and safety, or Workers Compensation legislation in Alberta.

Personal Characteristics

Apiary Harvesters need the following characteristics:

- Good physical and mental health
- Good co-ordination and manual dexterity
- The ability to follow instructions and work under supervision
- General interest in apiculture and a willingness to learn.
- A responsible attitude when handling equipment.
- Ability to work in a team environment in a pleasant and civil manner.
- Flexibility and adaptability

Education Requirements

The education and training requirements for an Apiary Harvester is the ability to fluently communicate with their supervisor and a willingness to learn.

Relevant Skills

The following skills are beneficial, but not required:

- Truck/Forklift/Equipment basic operation and maintenance
- Handyman & hand tool skills
- First Aid / CPR

Employment and Advancement

To advance, Apiary Harvesters will require several years a commercial apiary experience.