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The buzz on bees from a honey bee haven

UCDAVIS

Dear [informal salutation],

Bees are known for busyness. And so is their tireless advocate, Dr. Elina Lastro Niño, who runs a laboratory devoted to honey bee health as well as statewide outreach activities and beekeeping workshops that grew into the first-ever California Master Beekeeper Program.

Niño's love of bees, which she developed growing up on her family's farm in Bosnia, rests on a deep appreciation of their crucial role as pollinators in food production.

Niño shares her knowledge with learners ranging from farmers and honey producers to pesticide applicators and other agricultural stakeholders. She welcomes K-12 school groups and other visitors to UC Davis' Häagen-Dazs Honey Bee Haven, an outdoor refuge for bee study and cultivation of pollinator habitat.

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"Honey bees are considered the primary managed pollinator as they can be moved around to provide pollination of over 30 agricultural crops in California."

- ELINA LASTRO NIÑO, ASSISTANT SPECIALIST IN CE – APICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
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