Bee colonies maintained by beekeepers are considered livestock by the USDA due to their ability to produce honey, a consumable food item, and their essential role in assisting farmers with pollination crop seasons. Given the importance of bee colonies in agriculture, it was logical to source data from the following two authoritative websites:

1. USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS): This site provides comprehensive agricultural data, including statistics on honey production and colony health.
2. [Bee Informed Partnership](https://beeinformed.org): This site offers detailed insights and research on bee colony management and health, contributing valuable information on the status and trends of bee populations.

*Index Catalog // USDA Economics, Statistics and Market Information System*. (n.d.-a). <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/catalog?f%5Bkeywords_sim%5D%5B%5D=honey+bees&locale=en>

*USDA - National Agricultural Statistics Service - Surveys - honey bee surveys and reports*. (n.d.). <https://www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Guide_to_NASS_Surveys/Bee_and_Honey/>

**Hypothesis:**

"The negative impacts of mites, bacterium, and global warming have detrimental effects on honeybee colonies in the United States and Texas, which in turn will lead to a decline in honey production and negatively impact food production."

This hypothesis can be tested and validated through a visualization of outcomes using R, demonstrating the relationship between these factors and their effects on honeybee colonies.