

***January, 2016***  
Palynology Laboratory  
Department of Anthropology  
Texas A&M University (TAMU-4352)  
College Station, Texas 77843-4352  
Anthropology Office 845-5242  
Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant's Cell Phone (979) 574-8467  
FAX (979) 845-4070  
Email:  
[vbryant@tamu.edu](mailto:vbryant@tamu.edu)

### **PALYNOLOGY RESEARCH FACILITY**

The Palynology Laboratory at Texas A&M University contains 1,500 square feet of space. The laboratory consists of a core of two, sterile wet labs and a complex of offices and research rooms. Each lab is sealed from all outside contamination, each has a large fume hood with hot and cold distilled water outlets, all are equipped with acid-resistant plumbing and flume scrubbers to remove toxic, airborne chemicals, and each lab has safety eye washes and showers. Lab areas are equipped with large sinks, vortex stirrers, large and small centrifuges, hot plates, metric balances, and large counter top work spaces. We also use a 5-gallon tank containing a Delta 5 sonicator, which we use when needed for processing in both labs.

Included in the lab complex are four offices with internet computer lines and telephone outlets. We also have a fireproof chemical storage room, a sediment core and pollen sampling and storage room, two areas with microscopes for counting, and a large open work area equipped with desk-top computers and printers. In addition, one of the microscope rooms has built-in sand-filled counters for stability and microscopic photographic work. The labs are equipped with 10 Nikon standard light microscopes, one new Olympus compound microscope with DIC phase and computer-imaging, and two JENA microscopes equipped with various types of phase contrast imaging including Nomarski phase, dark, and light field phase contrast. We also have Wild and Nikon dissecting microscopes. Three of the microscopes are equipped with Nikon COOLPIX 950 digital cameras that feed images directly into computers, directly into a VCR recorder, or into a 27- inch TV monitor for visual display.

We also have a database entry of all pollen reference types from our various modern pollen reference collections (see below for descriptions). We are currently completing entries into an ACCESS data file that will eventually classify each reference sample by its various morphological features, geographical range, and various names. Eventually, we hope to add digital imaging of all pollen types into our data base.

### **HONEY PROCESSING AND ANALYSES**

*Pollen extraction and analysis of pollen from honey \$60/sample*

***(PLEASE INCLUDE AN EMAIL ADDRESS WHERE WE CAN REACH YOU IF WE HAVE ANY***

**QUESTIONS AND WHERE WE CAN SEND YOU THE RESULTS.)** We recommend that you send honey samples that have **come directly from the hive and have not been highly strained or filtered because those processes MAY remove some or all of the pollen** and might make our accurate analysis impossible. Minimal straining and filtering to remove bee and wax fragments are OK, but some forms of filtering may remove part or all of the pollen.

The analysis will include extraction of pollen from the honey, pollen concentration values, and a complete analysis report of the recovered pollen data and a list and percentages of the primary pollen and nectar sources. When appropriate we will also include probable geographical region where the honey was probably produced. **We do not have the equipment to test for pesticides, antibiotics, or sugar isotopes.**

We generally examine 200-300 pollen grains per sample. When appropriate, we will provide interpretations based on pollen coefficient values for the primary taxa present. We use 10 grams of honey from each sample because this is the international standard for testing, but we prefer to have additional honey available should one of our samples become ruined and needs to be processed again. Therefore, we suggest sending approximately 30-50 grams of honey per sample. **Please be sure to pack your samples securely so they will not break and put them in a plastic Ziploc bag in case any were to leak!**

***One final point, my full-time job is teaching classes and working with students at Texas A&M University. I examine honey samples in my spare time, at night, and on weekends. I usually try to get you results in 7-10 days but occasionally it takes longer because of the flood of requests to examine honey samples. If there is some type of emergency and you need results sooner, email me and let me know.***

You can send me a check with the samples, or I can bill you when the analysis is finished, whichever you prefer.

***This price list is valid through December 31, 2016***