July/August 2016
VOL 74, No. 4

American Beekeeping Federation NEWS
www.abfnet.org

ABF 1943 American Beekeeping Federation

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American Beekeeping Federation

NEWS

July/August 2016 /// Volume 74, No. 4

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Perspectives in Beekeeping:
Bees and Pesticides: Are MP3's The Answer?

by: Gene Brandi
ABF President

Gene Brandi, ABF President

Now that summer is here in its glory, our bees are working hard pollinating crops, making honey, or just trying to survive. It is the time of year when most of my bees are moved from coastal areas back into the Central Valley of California where I live, and it is nice to be able to work bees and not have to travel for two to three hours from home to get there. Except for almond pollination in late winter, this is the time of year when the majority of my bees are closest to home, as they are within 30 miles or so of my house during most of July and August. However, having worked with bees in Central California since the early 1970s, there is one aspect of summer that always keeps me on edge: the prospect of pesticide damage. I envy those beekeepers who are able to keep their bees in areas where summer pastures are free of pesticides. It must be like a slice of heaven!

Over the years I have learned that pollinating certain crops is just too dangerous for my bees as the risk of damage from pesticides is excessive. For example, I pollinated alfalfa seed for nearly 30 years but gave it up a few years ago to reduce the pesticide exposure my bees would experience. Alfalfa seed is the only crop I have ever been paid to pollinate where my bees could also make honey from that particular crop. On the surface this sounds great, but my bees always encountered some pesticide kill while pollinating alfalfa seed. It was not a matter of "if" but "how bad" the losses would be that particular season. Alfalfa fields are insectaries that host a large number of species, some beneficial and some pests. The growers would "clean up" the fields with very toxic pesticides before we brought in the bees and, depending on which pesticides were applied, we would wait a week or ten days before placing the bees. The fields would generally be treated two to three more times during the five or six weeks our bees were pollinating the alfalfa bloom, generally with short residual products and always applied at night. In addition, there were chemical applications to other crops in the area such as cotton, which added to the total pesticide load our bees encountered. After one of my worst winter losses a few years ago, I decided to forgo the opportunity to get paid and produce alfalfa honey in order to hopefully keep my bees healthier.

Another crop I no longer pollinate due to the risk of pesticide damage is watermelons. The grower for whom I used to pollinate was a very good grower who always applied short residual pesticides at night, generally with a ground rig, was very conscientious and tried not to damage the bees for which he was paying good money. I would always be notified prior to any of the foliar applications, but what I did not know was that a systemic neonicotinoid pesticide was being added to the irrigation water, which was applied through an underground drip system. The bees were exposed to this pesticide in the flowers as well as in the contaminated water they drank either from the moist soil or from puddles that leaked from the drip system. There was generally a "light sprinkling" of dead bees on the ground in the vicinity of my hives while pollinating watermelons, but usually not a large noticeable kill at any one time. The serious issues appeared the following fall and winter when 50% or more of these colonies did not survive.

Even though I no longer pollinate alfalfa seed or watermelons, I still pollinate cantaloupe, raspberries and blackberries every summer. Even my bees not in pollination are in the vicinity of irrigated crops out of necessity as these crops are usually the only available source of nectar and/or pollen in my area at this time of year. Needless to say, most of my bees are subject to pesticide exposure throughout these summer months.

There has been a great deal of discussion around the country in recent years about Managed Pollinator Protection Plans, or MP3's as they are often called. Some state and federal regulators have been promoting the idea that MP3's are the answer to bee/pesticide problems throughout the nation, but there is ample evidence indicating that their reasoning is questionable at best. The principle behind MP3's is that pesticide exposure to managed pollinators can be reduced through increased communication between pesticide applicators and beekeepers. I will grant that communication between applicators and beekeepers is usually beneficial, but communication alone will not protect honey bees or other pollinators. Also, contrary to what some believe, beekeeper notification of impending pesticide applications does not result in the removal of all managed bees from the area.

California has been utilizing a system of beekeeper notification since at least the early 1970s that could be used as a model for MP3's. This is a voluntary program that I use when my bees are in agricultural areas where pesticides may be applied. To use this program, beekeepers must register their apiary sites with the Department of Agriculture in the county where the bees are located. Pesticide applicators are supposed to inquire of the county ag department

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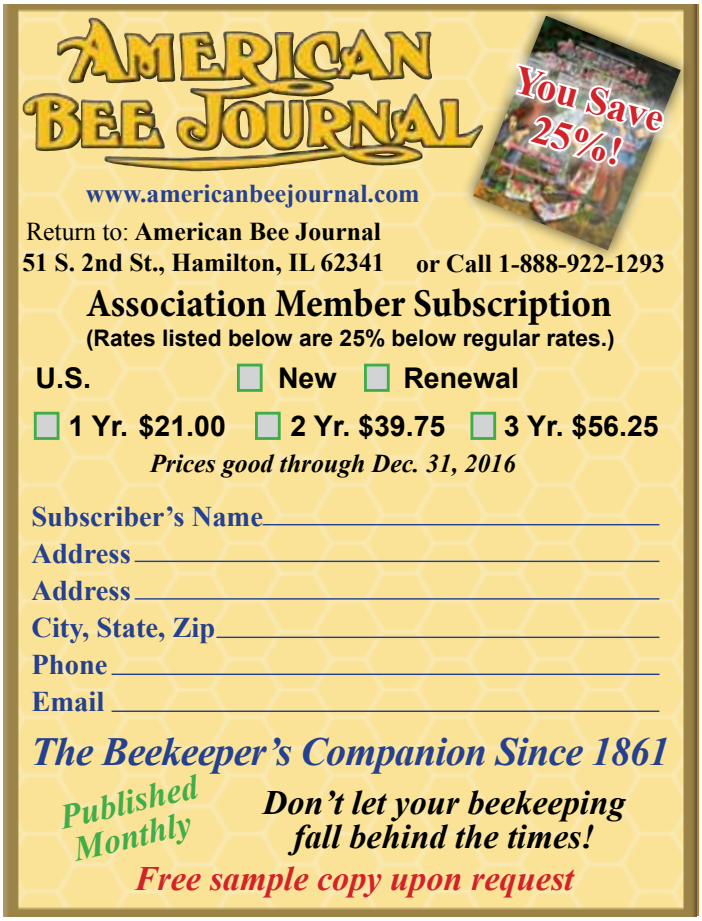

Perspectives in Beekeeping – cont. from page 3

if any beekeepers are registered within one mile of sites where pesticides are proposed to be applied to blooming crops, and the county will provide the applicator with the phone number of any beekeepers within the mile radius so they can be notified of the impending application. By regulation, the beekeeper has 48 hours to move, cover, or otherwise protect the bees. If the beekeeper chooses not to take any of the aforementioned actions, the application can proceed as long as it complies with the pesticide label. As a practical matter, most of the notifications I receive are for shorter residual pesticides and they are most often applied at night, especially if the bees are in relative close proximity to the application. My bees are rarely moved as a result of pesticide notification, and I have never covered any of my hives to protect them from direct pesticide exposure. The cooperation of pest control advisors (who make the pesticide recommendations to the growers) and applicators (especially those who apply pesticides at night) is critical to bee survival in any intensively farmed areas like the Central Valley of California.

Are MP3 programs the answer to the multitude of bee/pesticide problems in the USA? While they can certainly increase awareness of the fact that bees are in an area and can increase communication between pesticide applicators and beekeepers, this alone will not save bees from the damaging effect of pesticide exposure. The importance of effective, clear, enforceable pollinator protection language on pesticide labels cannot be overemphasized as it is the fundamental basis of pollinator protection from pesticides. Regardless of whether or not apiaries are registered in California or any state that implements an MP3 program, pesticide applicators must comply with the restrictions on the product label, as the label is the law.

The ABF has consistently communicated to EPA that new label language allowing application of certain bee-toxic pesticides, if the application takes place in a state with a program for the protection of bees, is based upon flawed logic. The state program does not protect the bees, but again, it is the pesticide label. Given all the bee health problems the bee industry continues to face, many of which are pesticide related, it is illogical to propose a weakening of bee protection from pesticides. Reliance on voluntary MP3 programs and less protection from watered down label language will not help to reduce bee and/or bee colony losses from pesti-cides.

I urge all ABF members, as responsible members of the agricultural community, to be engaged with their states as MP3 programs continue to be developed and to remind state officials that increased communication does not mean that all beehives will be removed from an area. The ABF will continue working with EPA in an effort to develop pesticide label language that more adequately protects honey bees and all pollinators.

Message from the ABF Vice President

by: Tim May
ABF Vice President

Tim May, ABF Vice President

I hope everyone is having a successful season and your bees are bringing in some great honey. For us in the Illinois and Wisconsin area, we have had pretty good weather conditions so far. Temperatures have been above normal with minimal rain. When it has rained it has been during the evening for the most part allowing the bees plenty of time to forage.

Even with good weather conditions it still seems difficult to get a great honey crop. They do come once in a while, but the days of the 100# average seem to be gone for now in our area. I think that there are several factors contributing to the reduced productivity: reduced bee population per colony, lack of forage area and increased use of herbicides.

With the dramatic increase in winter losses over the past 15 years we have been forced to purchase more packaged bees. Packages take longer to build up, and unless they are installed early they just can't compare to the old overwintered hives of the 1970s. We are also forced to do more splitting of survivor colonies to make up for the losses. This really stretches the colony populations as almost all of our strong colonies are split in the spring. The bees never seem to be able to build up quickly enough to be ready for the early honey flow. The time period between being able to make splits and the honey flow seems to be getting shorter all the time. In our area if your hives are not strong enough and supered by mid-May you will miss a good portion of the flow. The honey flow also seems to end much earlier than it did 30-plus years ago. Back then the flow would still be going on into August, but now there is hardly anything after July 15. Some years we do get a small goldenrod crop in late August.

The dwindling amount of quality forage area is also a factor in lower honey production. Row crops are being planted on every square foot of the farmer's land. Tree lines filled with wild flowers have been replaced by three more rows of corn or soybeans. The increased use of herbicides throughout the country has also taken a toll on bee forage. Nothing grows except corn and soybeans in these fields.

Part of President Obama's 2014 Memorandum, "Creating a Federal Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators," includes "Increasing and Improving Pollinator Habitat." This is being accomplished using several different programs set up by the "Pollinator Health Task Force." This Task Force includes representatives from about fifteen different government agencies. Various programs were developed by each agency designed to increase and improve pollinator habitat.

These programs are increasing pollinator habitat on federal lands such as easements, facility landscaping, roadways and restoration and reclamation projects. In addition to increasing the quantity of habitat, programs have been developed to improve the quality of the habitat. The use of integrated and native vegetation, pollinator-friendly management practices and seed mixes have begun improving habitat quality. Unfortunately, this is only affecting federal lands, but state agencies are receiving technical assistance through the USDA on planting the most suitable pollinator-friendly habitats.

If these programs are implemented by state and local agencies, they may begin to have a positive effect on honey bees and other pollinators. Corporations may also begin implementing similar procedures on their land and facilities. In 2015 the Anderson Window Corporation turned its 75-acre corporate headquarters into a pollinator-friendly habitat and donated project funds to advance the campaign for pollinator-friendly solar gardens in the state of Minnesota.

Wouldn't it be nice to see all those fast food restaurants and strip malls replacing some of their asphalt, concrete and cut grass with pollinator-friendly habitat? It would lead to less maintenance for their businesses and much more interesting storefronts. I do not know if this would lead to better honey production, but it could not hurt. I know one thing; it would lead to more public awareness of the importance of pollinators and pollinator habitat. When the public becomes aware of the problems for pollinators, positive steps may be taken by all.

Once again I hope everyone had a terrific honey season. Hope to see you in Galveston for the North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow in January.

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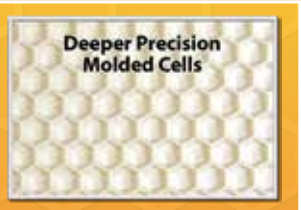

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Government Relations Report

by: Tim May
ABF Vice President

ABF President Gene Brandi and I made a visit to Washington, D.C., on June 14th and 15th. We were joined by Fran Boyd of Meyers and Associates. We visited with several federal officials including staff members of the "Pollinator Caucus" and the FDA/CVM (Center for Veterinary Medicine).

Our first meeting was with FDA/CVM where we met with Dr. William Flynn, DVM, MS; Dr. Margaret Oeller, DVM; Dr. Amber McCoig, DVM as well as teleconferencing with Dr. Mike Murphy, DVM. We reiterated our concerns about the decline in bee populations and the absolute importance of bees to our country's agriculture industry. About one third of the food we eat is dependent on pollinators, and almost 90% of all commercial beehives are brought in to pollinate almonds every year.

We brought up our concerns over the new "Veterinary Feed Directive." The FDA has taken steps to change how antibiotics are used in the food industry. The agency would like to eliminate the use of these drugs for production purposes. These would include promoting growth and increasing feed efficiency. The FDA will also bring the other uses of these antibiotics under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian. This includes bees!

As of December 31st, 2016, you will need a valid prescription from a state-licensed veterinarian to purchase and administer any antibiotic to your bees. Getting a veterinarian to check your bees before giving you a prescription seems like an awfully big hurdle to jump over. There are not many (if any at all) veterinarians that are knowledgeable about bee diseases. The CVM is planning to give a training course on bee diseases at their next national conference.

Dr. Flynn recommended that beekeepers have a valid client-patient relationship with a state-licensed veterinarian. This should enable beekeepers to receive a prescription after describing their methods of treatment with antibiotics. Prescriptions will be valid for 6 months allowing beekeepers to receive a 6-month supply of the antibiotic that they have been using in the past. These prescriptions will be valid for administering in other states if the bees are moved across state lines. The FDA/CVM seems very interested in working with our industry as much as possible to make this transition work for all involved.

We have requested that a representative from the FDA/CVM attend the North American Beekeeping Conference in Galveston, Texas, this January to explain how the new Veterinary Feed Directive will affect beekeepers. We would like this to take place during a general session with a question-and-answer period included. This should be a very well-attended presentation.

We also met with Jeff Eschmeyer, the Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack. We discussed honey as a non-GMO product and the Vermont GMO labeling law. We reiterated the importance of the President's Memorandum on "Creating a Federal Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and other Pollinators" and stated our concern for its survival with the transition to a new administration.

Our visit also included meetings with staff members from the "Pollinator Caucus." We again emphasized our concern about the decline in bee population stating that a 40% annual loss cannot be sustained by beekeepers. Throughout our visit we echoed our concern regarding some beekeepers being asked to remove their bees from federal land. We continue to encourage land management agencies to follow the recommendations of the President's Memorandum, to substantially expand pollinator habitat on federal lands, although the recommendations don't always reach the land manager level. These lands seem to be managed from the bottom up making it difficult for everyone to be on the same page.

The week following our visit was National Pollinator Week. There was a panel discussion concerning pollinator health issues as well as many other activities throughout Washington, D.C. Gene and I are hoping to schedule next year's visit to coincide with this event.

2017 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow registration is open! See pages 12 and 17 for details, or visit nabeekeepingconference.com!

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2017 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow

Join us in "Building a Sweeter Future" and register today for the 2017 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow!

The 2017 NABC will be held January 10-14 at the San Luis Resorts and Galveston Island Convention Center in Galveston, Texas. This joint conference of The American Beekeeping Federation (ABF), The American Honey Producers Association (AHPA) and the Canadian Honey Council (CHC) promises to be filled with information from industry experts, researchers, specialists and fellow beekeepers.

Additional conference features include:

- Top-notch general session presentations all day on Wednesday and Friday
- Vendor tradeshow with the latest and greatest products and services in the beekeeping industry
- Keynote presentations led by industry experts
- Track sessions on Thursday for Beginning Beekeepers, Serious Sideliners and Commercial Beekeepers
- Association Business Meetings
- 15 interactive workshops on Saturday
- Breakfast/Meeting for Commercial Beekeepers on Thursday
- 2017 Honey Show
- Various silent and live auctions benefiting ABF, AHPA and the American Honey Queen program

Optional activities (requiring an additional registration fee) include:

- Auxiliary Luncheon/Meeting on Thursday afternoon
- Thursday Night Social - Dinner and entertainment at the Moody Gardens Rainforest
- Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees luncheon on Friday
- AHPA Annual Banquet on Friday evening
- ABF/CHC Annual Banquet on Saturday evening with the coronation of the 2017 American Honey Queen and Honey Princess

Registration is Open:

Registration is now open for the 2017 NABC. We encourage you to register early for the best rate and to secure your place at this informative "meeting of the beekeeping minds."

Conference Hotels:

Attendees of the 2017 NABC will have three hotels to choose from:

- The San Luis Resort & Spa
- The Hilton Galveston Island Resort
- The Holiday Inn Resort Galveston

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- Complimentary self-parking
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- Complimentary shuttle service to/from the Galveston Island Convention Center
- 10% discount on spa services at the San Luis Resort & Spa
- Group rates will be offered until Monday, December 19, 2016, or until the room block is full.
- Individual reservations may be canceled 72 hours in advance. Any deposits will be refunded.
- Check-In time is 4:00 PM
- Check-Out time is 11:00 AM

Reservations for all properties can be made by visiting the conference website at **www.nabeekeepingconference.com**.

This joint conference is sure to be an exciting and enriching experience, and we can't wait to share it with you. Please visit the conference website (www.nabeekeepingconference.com) for more information, including the schedule at a glance and additional activities. We look forward to celebrating 2017 and the future of beekeeping with you in Galveston!

Research Proposal

by: Ashley Mortensen
2016 Foundation
Scholarship Recipient

Increased honey bee, Apis mellifera L., colony losses and dramatic pollinator decline are occurring worldwide. Pesticides, parasites, and pathogens are considered the primary causes of these declines. A substantial amount of research has focused on determining the extent to which various pesticides, parasites and pathogens affect honey bee health. However, experiments conducted within a honey bee hive are biased by many uncontrollable factors such as: colony strength, weather conditions, food availability, etc. Much of this bias can be overcome by *in vitro* rearing honey bee larvae in the laboratory.

Vast differences exist between the physical and social environments of colony- and *in vitro* reared honey bee larvae. Natural brood care within the hive is intensive. An individual larva may be visited by nurse bees as many as 2,785 times during its development. In contrast, *in vitro* reared larvae are maintained in a solitary chamber that deprives the larvae of social and physical interactions with nurse bees. Additionally, *in vitro* reared bees are fed once a day, compared to colony-reared larvae who are frequently fed small amounts of food by the nurse bees tending to them.

There have been significant improvements in *in vitro* rearing methodologies since the first protocol was development in 1933. Very high survivability can now be achieved in the laboratory. However, very little research has focused on the effects of *in vitro* larval rearing on adult honey bee physiology, and no behavioral analyses have been conducted. There are substantial differences in the environments in which *in vitro* and colony-reared larvae develop. The potential effects of *in vitro* rearing on the physiology and behavior of the resulting honey bees have not been well explored.

It is imperative that *in vitro* rearing be tested to determine if adults who were reared *in vitro* are comparable to colony-reared adults. *In vitro* rearing can be considered an accurate representation of larval development if honey bees who were reared in the laboratory are shown to be normal. **This would allow *in vitro* rearing to be used as a powerful tool to evaluate pesticide and pathogen exposure in immature honey bees**. However, special considerations will be required when interpreting the results of studies using *in vitro* rearing to assess the risks associated with pesticide and pathogen exposure if bees that have been reared in the laboratory are abnormal.

The **goal** of my doctoral research is to determine if *in vitro* rearing alters the physiology and behavior of adult honey bees. I **hypothesize** that larvae that were in vitro reared will develop into seemingly normal adults that differ in physiology, behavior and key morphometric parameters from adults reared by a colony. I will address my research goal with the following **objectives**:

Objective 1: *Compare the morphology physiology, and behavior of* in vitro *reared worker honey bees to colony-reared workers.*

Objective 2: *Develop a technique for* in vitro *rearing drone honey bees.*

Objective 3: *Compare the physiology and behavior of* in vitro *reared drones to colony-reared drones.*

Objective 4: *Develop a technique for* in vitro *rearing queen honey bees.*

Current Progress

Presently, I am working on Objective 1. I am comparing colony and *in vitro* larval survivability and screening for pathogen presence in *in vitro* and colony-reared individuals to identify the ideal colonies to use during the study. Additionally, I am rearing workers that will be dissected for morphometric comparisons. I have also conducted a few trials working towards rearing queens and plan to continue trouble shooting the queen and drone rearing protocols throughout the fall.

Expected Outcomes

There is a critical need for a risk assessment protocol for immature honey bee stages. Successful completion of this project **will benefit the apiculture industry by** generating reproducible methods to i*in vitro* rearing both queens and drones and by providing insight into the behavioral and physiological effects of *in vitro* rearing on honey bees. The knowledge gained from this research will be valuable to determine if in vitro rearing is an ideal model for risk assessment of pesticides and pathogens in immature honey bees.

To read more, and to see references, please see http://preservationofhoneybees.org/foundation-scholarship/2016-scholars

Bees and Pollination: How Important is it?

by: Hadley Kimball
Second Place 4-H Essay Winner

Deep down inside, you know you are valuable, that you are worth it, and you absolutely hate it when people dare to underestimate your abilities. Welcome to the world of the honey bee. Believe it or not, bees are one of the hardest working animals on the planet. Because of their amazing work ethic the people of the world have much to thank the honey bee for.

If honey bees didn't exist, life as we know it would be completely different. Let's first take a look at the food chain. The honey bees' skilled pollination affects every living thing in one way or another. Without pollination the world would be lacking necessary vegetation. With this absence, people and animals of all kinds would be deprived of food. Even animals in the carnivorous category would be hurting as their prey lives off the vegetation that thrives from bee pollination. Seeds, fruits, and berries, which are eaten by birds and small animals, rely on bees to reproduce. Cattle and other livestock that humans rely on also depend on the bees' dutiful pollination. Without bee's endless work, ranchers and farmers would be hard pressed to provide fodder and other feedstuffs for the livestock. John F. Freeman, a latecomer environmentalist, brings up the point that, "One third of your plate is dependent on bees for production." To further the food chain illustration honey bees pollinate about four hundred different agricultural type plants, and an estimated thirty-three percent of all crops. In 2010, 19 billion dollars' worth of agricultural crop production in the United States alone was made possible by the pollination service of honey bees. Honey bees contribute vastly to our food chain. To say we could get by without honey bees would be a devastatingly false statement. To put it plainly, bees are the guardians of the food chain.

Bees pollinate about one sixth of the flowering plant species worldwide. This includes cotton, "the fabric of our lives." Has anyone stopped to consider what we would do if we were suddenly facing a shortage of clothing? Cotton fiber makes up about half of the fabric content used in the production of clothing and other textiles. The amazing thing about cotton is that it not only allows blue jeans, and cotton balls to be produced, but cottonseed is a common element in both human and livestock feed. The average person consumes about three pints of cottonseed oil annually. We should appreciate all the efforts required to ensure enough cotton is produced. Once again honey bees save the day.

Bees are not the only members on the pollinator list. Other subscribers to the pollinator club include butterflies, hummingbirds, moths, and bats. Honey bees account for eighty percent of all pollination while the others combined make up the remaining twenty percent. This only goes to show how vital honey bees truly are to the world. A local Master Gardener, Kathy Rupert, states that, "Pollination is extremely important for all species involved. Plants as well as animals would be adversely affected without pollination. It is possible that food supplies for both man and animal would be drastically reduced."

I am very lucky to live in a community that supports honey bees. Anyone can walk into our farm supply store and shop in a specified honey bee section. An assortment of bee equipment and many other supplies can be found here. In addition to the store, the Magic Valley Beekeepers club is very active in south Idaho. Heidi and Kirk Tubbs, known as our local honey bee heroes, are the folks in charge of the

group. The club meets regularly to discuss bee related issues and community outreach ideas such as setting up informative honey bee displays at local county fairs and offering a hands-on bee hive to educate the public. Heidi and Kirk Tubbs also offer classes for all levels of beekeepers and rent out beekeeping equipment.

"Believe it or not, bees are one of the hardest working animals on the planet."

–Hadley Kimball

Kirk Tubbs is also the manager of the Twin Falls County Pest Abatement District. When a new toxic sugar bait used to kill mosquitoes was placed on the market, Tubbs wanted to ensure bees wouldn't mistake the mosquito pesticide as a source of food. His study showed that the sugar bait was safe for pollinators. Kirk Tubbs knows how important pollinators, especially bees, are to the world. Kirk Tubbs says, "You know that this is just fun for me. I really love bees."

The state of Idaho is also aware of the importance of honey bees. The Idaho Department of Agriculture (ISDA) is authorized by statute to protect Idaho's bee industry. In 2007, Idaho legislature passed a law that allows honey bee owners living within a mosquito abatement district to opt out of the district's treatment program. By allowing this, Idaho is helping to increase the survival rate of honey bees. In the year 2014, a bill was passed that exempts bee hives brought into Idaho for temporary indoor winter storage from registration fees. This bill makes it more convenient for producers to house their hives as they make the journey to other states for pollination purposes.

Poet Kahlil Gibran modestly states, "To the bee, a flower is the foundation of life, and to the flower, the bee is a messenger of love." Humans heavily rely on honey bees and their pollination skills. Bees go unnoticed every day in this world. To say that you and I are in need of honey bees is a horrendous understatement. Honey bees will continue to carry out their laborious job day in and day out without a single complaint. The humble difference between us and bees is that the bees are not in it for the fame and glory. They merely do what they must do to survive while unknowingly allowing the rest of the world to thrive. They are the unsung heroes of this life, and at the very least we owe them a sincere and gracious thank-you.

For references, please see http://preservationofhoneybees.org/essays/2016-4h-essays.

Bee Connected: ABF Facebook Fan Page

by: Regina K. Robuck
ABF Executive Director

If you are a member of Facebook, you can be a fan of the ABF Facebook page. All you have to do is simply search Facebook for "American Beekeeping Federation" to access the page and click the "Like" button to become a fan.

Everyone is welcome. To date, we have over 16,000 fans and are reaching new fans each day.

If you have a Facebook fan page for your business or local beekeeping association, let us know and we'll add you to our lineup.

Please feel free to post your beekeeping photos on our page, write on our wall and keep sending your friends to our page. Stay tuned for ABF updates, fun facts, recipes and photos of our ABF members doing what they do best!

The Effects of Crop Protection Pesticides on Honey Bee Forager Survival

by: Adrian Fisher II
2016 Foundation Scholarship Recipient

Honey bees (Apis mellifera) account for most of the approximately $16 billion in bee pollination services contributed annually to agriculture in the United States. Among the many crops pollinated by honey bees is almond, which relies almost entirely on honey bees for pollination. The almond industry in California produces about 80 percent of the almonds consumed worldwide and employs approximately 60 percent of all managed honey bee hives to provide pollination services during the crop's bloom in mid to late winter. In protecting almond orchards from various pests and pathogens, heavy chemical treatments are employed during bloom. Despite their ubiquitous use, the effects on honey bee health of the various pesticides used repeatedly in almond orchards are not well understood. In particular, only a handful of studies looking at the effects on honey bees of fungicide formulations in almonds have been reported to negatively impact brood survival and induce sub-lethal effects on thermoregulation in adult workers. In addition, synergistic effects of select fungicides and insecticides on worker and colony mortality have been reported. Recently, an examination of various pesticides including insecticides, a fungicide and a herbicide in other crop systems such as cotton, rice and corn revealed significant negative impacts of these chemicals on worker survival. Because honey bees exhibit age-based division of labor, only workers over 21 days of age serve as foragers. Therefore, foragers, as the only workers that spend time outside the hive, comprise the age group susceptible to direct exposure to agro-chemical applications or contact with residues left over from such applications.

Goals and Objectives

Our main aim is to examine if crop protection pesticides used in almond orchards affect honey bee forager survival. To accomplish our goal, we will work in collaboration with Dr. Clint Hoffmann of the US Department of Agriculture-Agriculture Research Service (USDA-ARS). The objectives, null hypotheses (H0) and alternative hypotheses (HA) are outlined as follows:

Objective 1. To examine the effects of commercially available almond protection fungicides iprodione, Pristine®, Quadris® and their synergisms on honey bee forager survival

H0: Exposure to these fungicides, individually and in various combinations, does not affect forager survival

HA: Exposure to these fungicides, individually and in various combinations, significantly decreases forager survival

Objective 2. To assess the effects of the insect growth regulator (IGR) insecticides buprofezin, flubendiamide, diflubenzuron, methoxyfenoizide, pyriproxofen and their synergisms (when applied in various combinations) on honey bee forager survival

H0: Exposure to these IGRs, individually and in various combinations, does not affect forager survival

HA: Exposure to these IGRs, individually and in various combinations, significantly decreases forager survival

Objective 3. To examine the effects of the herbicides carfentrazone, oxyfluorfen, glufosinate and their synergisms (when applied in various combinations) on honey bee forager survival

H0: Exposure to these herbicides, individually and in various combinations, does not affect forager survival

HA: Exposure to these herbicides, individually and in various combinations, significantly decreases forager survival

Methods

Honey bee forager exposure to select pesticides (fungicides, IGRs and herbicides) used in almond orchards during bloom will be conducted through the use of a wind tunnel/atomizer setup adjusted to a wind-speed of 2.9 m/s. Foragers will be collected from the research apiary at the Texas A&M University Riverside Campus. Pesticide exposure will occur at the Aerial Application Technology Laboratory of the USDA-ARS located at the Riverside Campus.

Preliminary Results and Future Goals

Thus far we have tested the effects of the fungicides iprodione, Pristine® and Quadris® on honey bee forager survival. Our initial results seem to indicate that iprodione, applied at variations of the label rate, significantly impacts forager survival compared to untreated groups. Analysis of these select fungicides is ongoing, and we intend to expand our study to include select insect growth regulators and herbicides used in almond orchards. Looking beyond our assessment of forager survival, we also aim to investigate larger colony-wide effects. Studies examining the effects of fungicides on brood survival have specifically implicated contaminated pollen as the source of transmission of toxic substances to bee larvae. While we anticipate a measurable impact on forager survival resulting from exposure to various pesticides, such studies reveal the potential for foragers to inadvertently contribute to colony decline regardless of the harmful effects they may incur. In future exposure trials we will seek to further assess the interaction between pesticide exposure and forager survival as well as the dynamic of potential forager introduction of toxic substances into the hive.

To read more, and to see references, please see http://preservationofhoneybees.org/foundation-scholarship/2016-scholars

2017
NORTH AMERICAN BEEKEEPING CONFERENCE & TRADESHOW

BUILDING A Sweeter FUTURE

JANUARY 10-14, 2017
GALVESTON ISLAND CONVENTION CENTER
GALVESTON, TEXAS USA

"Building a Sweeter Future" is the goal of every beekeeper. Join the American Beekeeping Federation (ABF), the American Honey Producers Association (AHPA) and the Canadian Honey Council (CHC) in Galveston, Texas, for the 2017 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow and we'll build that future together.

FEATURES OF THE CONFERENCE INCLUDE:

- General sessions by industry and research leaders
- Presentations for Beginning, Serious Sideliner and Commercial Beekeepers
- A vibrant tradeshow with over 120 vendors with the latest innovations in beekeeping
- Networking with 1200+ participants from all over the world to exchange beekeeping tips
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JOIN THE MOVEMENT, GET INVOLVED AND BEE EDUCATED. *REGISTER TODAY!*

	EARLY REGISTRATION by 10/31/2016		REGULAR 11/1/2016 - 12/16/2016		ONSITE after 12/16/2016	
	PAYING MEMBER	NON-MEMBER	PAYING MEMBER	NON-MEMBER	PAYING MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
Single Registrant Full Conference	$250.00	$310.00	$300.00	$360.00	$350.00	$410.00
Family Full Conference *(2 adults & any children*	$375.00	$435.00	$425.00	$485.00	$475.00	$535.00
Single Registrant Day Rate	$125.00	$155.00	$150.00	$180.00	$175.00	$205.00
Family Day Rate	$190.00	$220.00	$215.00	$245.00	$240.00	$270.00
Student/Educator Rate	$50.00 per day (must provide current student ID)					

Paying member = Current ABF, AHPA and CHC dues-paying members. Rates are in US dollars. Non-member rates include a basic one-year membership to both ABF and AHPA.

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE
(subject to change)

Tuesday, January 10	
All Day:	Board and Committee Meetings
Wednesday, January 11	
All Day:	General Session
Noon:	Tradeshow Opens
Evening:	Welcome Reception & Honey Queen Candidate Entertainment
Thursday, January 12	
Morning:	Commercial Beekeepers Breakfast/Meeting
All Day:	Track Sessions for Beginning, Serious Sideliner and Commercial Beekeepers
All Day:	Tradeshow
Lunch:	Auxiliary Lunch/Meeting*
Evening:	Social Activity – Moody Gardens Rainforest*
Friday, January 13	
Morning:	Kids and Bees Program
All Day:	General Session
All Day:	Tradeshow
Lunch:	Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees Lunch/Meeting*
Afternoon:	ABF Business Meeting
Afternoon:	2017 Honey Show Live Auction
Evening:	AHPA Banquet*
Saturday, January 14	
Morning:	AHPA Business Meeting
All Day:	Concurrent Hands-On Workshops
Evening:	ABF/CHC Banquet with the Coronation of the 2017 American Honey Queen and Princess*

**Additional Charges*

Queen Committee Report

by: Anna Kettlewell
Honey Queen Program Chair

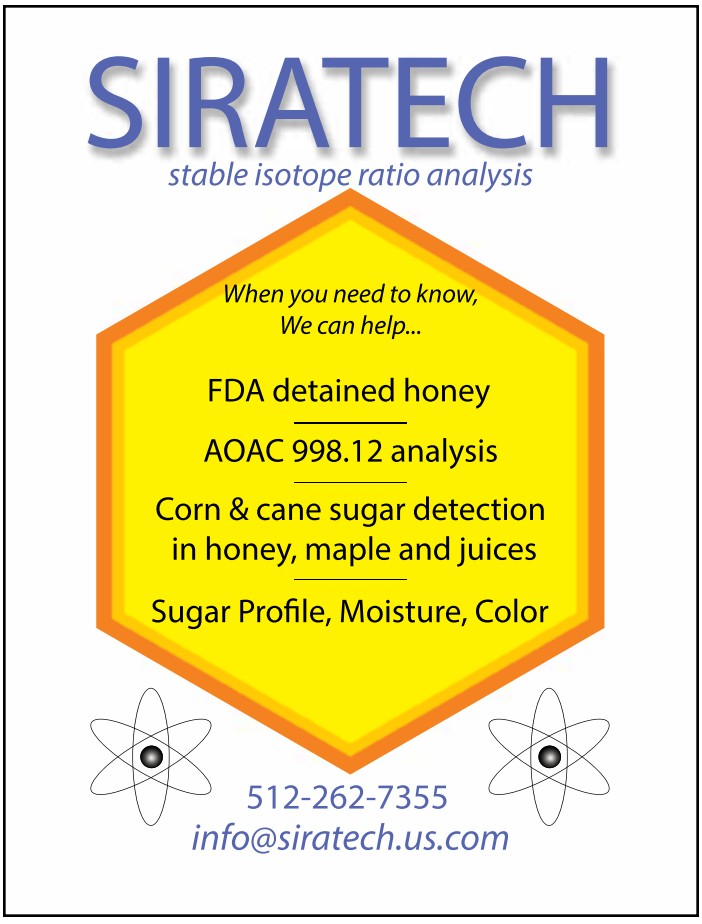
The American Honey Queen Committee works throughout the year to prepare the American Honey Queen and Princess for the many different venues and forums at which they will speak and appear. As you know from previous years' articles, the Queen and Princess participate in an intensive, professional training session, focusing on the business side of being the American Honey Queen and Princess. They also participate in rigorous media training and many hours of interview practice and prep to allow them to handle the most difficult media interviews with ease and poise, while, most importantly, conveying important industry messages to the consumers.

Just like with any education or training, it does not stop the minute you leave the session. In June of each year, I conduct a six-month review with the Queen and Princess. We review how they are progressing with their many behind-the-scenes functions that most of our members do not see, including logging their promotional data and hours, self-evaluating each interview and media coverage they receive and working on three official social media platforms (blogging, Facebook and YouTube).

In their six-month reviews, we find out how they are progressing on personal and professional goals that they set in January to figure out how to help them achieve the goals by the end of the year. I'm happy to report that the Queen and Princess are making good progress in achieving professional goals for their work for our organization this year. Additionally, I was pleased with the confidence they both have gained through the countless hours of school presentations and promotions that they have already logged this year.

Six-month reviews are often used in professional employment settings to give employees direction and guidance as they charter new waters in a new position. Not only does it help an employee figure out where they stand in their position, but it also gives them motivation to succeed and helps them learn how to improve with proper guidance. The Queen Committee has been committed to providing real-world experiences and expectations for the Queen and Princess so they can transition effectively into the professional world and careers more smoothly than most people in their age brackets.

I would rate our two representatives' work very highly so far this year, and I look forward to seeing them achieve (and hopefully exceed) the goals that we have set for them. In my next newsletter article, I will highlight their specific professional goals and how far they are in achieving those milestones!



ABF DONATIONS

The following individuals contributed to the ABF Funds during the months of May and June 2016. These donations enable us to fund programs and services that will benefit ABF members and the American beekeeping industry.

Legislative

Roy Abel, Florida
Oren Best, Michigan
Jessie Brown, New Mexico
Zac Browning, North Dakota
Captain Cook Honey, Hawaii
Lianne Caruso, Maryland
Glenn Clayton, Virginia
Timothy DeKorne, Michigan
Nick Groenhof, Michigan
John Haas
George Hansen, Oregon
Pat Heitkam, California
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Roger Hoopingarner, Michigan
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Mario Jakob, Florida
Michael Kliks, Hawaii
Anna Kettlewell, Wisconsin
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McCoy's Sunny South Apiaries, Florida
Robin Millman, Florida
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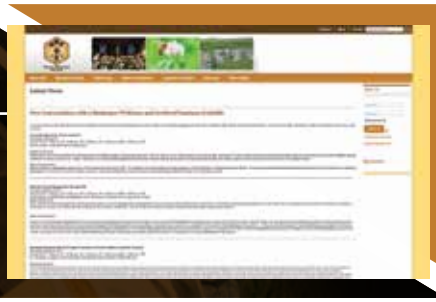

American Honey Queen Report

by: Kim Kester
American Honey Queen

Kim Kester
American Honey Queen

Hello, fellow beekeepers!

Since our last newsletter, I have been promoting the industry both locally and out of state. On May 16, I had my second cooking demonstration on live television. I showed the audience how to make goat cheese honey spread on WKBT TV in LaCrosse, Wisconsin. This 3.5-minute interview was valued at approximately $4,200! I also spoke to 300 elementary students in two schools in Tomah, Wisconsin, that same day. On May 20, I spoke to about 50 residents at Fairhaven Senior Center in Whitewater, Wisconsin. They were a very attentive group and had many questions about how a hive generates a new queen. I also visited my last school group for the spring in Sparta, Wisconsin. Over 200 students at Meadowview Intermediate School learned about the inner workings of the hive before starting their summer break.

Queen Kim cut the cake at the Connecticut Beekeepers Association 125th anniversary celebration.

On June 1, I flew to Connecticut, a state I have never visited before! I gave presentations at Northwest Park and Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center, facilities that are both designed with education and nature in mind. With hives at both locations, audiences were especially interested in honey bees and how they can benefit gardens and the community in general. The Florence Griswold Museum also drew in a small crowd as I spoke about bees in conjunction with their Garden Festival and annual plant sale.

The Connecticut Agricultural Research Station was the site of the Connecticut Beekeepers Association's 125th anniversary celebration. I spoke to beekeepers from all over the state about the American Honey Queen Program, as well as how to field questions from neighbors and media regarding bees on your property. I stressed the importance of spreading positive information about the benefits of honey bees. Between presentations, I manned a booth with Ted and Becky Jones to promote ABF membership. To round out the day, the honor of cutting the anniversary cake was bestowed upon me. The following day was spent at Lyman Orchards, where I read "The Beeman" to children, rolled beeswax candles, demonstrated my favorite honey blondies and discussed bees at the observation hive.

The Connecticut trip was not without some unique experiences. I set foot on the oldest wooden whaling ship still in existence, the Charles W. Morgan. The Morgan is rich in history. She made 37 whaling voyages in her lifetime and brought home over 50,000 barrels of whale oil and over 150,000 pounds of whalebone. Since I was in New England, I also ate my first oyster! I even tried my hand at marking queens, a new experience for me. A huge thank you to Ted and Becky Jones for being such generous hosts during my week in Connecticut!

Back home in Wisconsin on June 14, I participated in a pasture walk on one of the beef farms where I keep hives. I spoke about how farms that rotational graze can offer plentiful habitat for both honey bees and native pollinators. The bees can assist with polination of pasture species as well as any side crops such as pumpkin or strawberry patches that the farmer may own. The 20 grazing farmers in attendance were thrilled to see honey bees close up and learn more about my little ladies. A reporter from the Dairy Star was also there and interviewed me further about the impact of honey bees. The resulting

Queen Kim spoke to a group of Wisconsin farmers about how honey bees can be an asset on their farms.

article was valued at $12,400 worth of media coverage! My next local promotion on June 17 was the Dairy Berry Breakfast, which is part of the Cranberry Blossom Festival in Wisconsin Rapids. I had a booth with national honey and bee statistics and beekeeping equipment on display. Over 750 people attended the breakfast, and several expressed interest in starting their own beekeeping adventure.

As many of you may know, June 20-26 was National Pollinator Week. I traveled to Ohio to help promote bees with the Pollinator Stewardship Council. We had an exhibit at the Pollinator Palooza at Franklin Park Conservatory in Columbus, Ohio. I assisted with honey cooking and taught children how bees use the waggle dance to communicate. I also spoke at Aullwood Audubon Farm in Dayton about honey bees and their impact. Between the two events, attendance was approximately 500. Thank you to Michele Colopy of Pollinator Stewardship Council, as well as Terry Lieberman-Smith and Peggy Garnes of Ohio State Beekeepers Association. I look forward to seeing you again at the Ohio State Fair!

Queen Kim shows children all the fruits and vegetable that honey bees pollinate at the Franklin Park Gardens in Ohio

My next stop is Minnesota for the joint Minnesota and Wisconsin Honey Producers Associations' summer meeting. After that, I begin a long promotion where I will be visiting Ohio, Washington, Indiana and New York in August. If you are interested in scheduling a promotional visit from Princess Tabitha or me, please contact Anna Kettlewell at 414.545.5514 or honeyqueen99@hotmail.com.

Hotels In The Area –

Holiday Inn – Akron West
4073 Medina Road, Akron, OH
330.666.4131

Hilton
3180 W. Market St. Akron, OH
330.867.5000

Hampton Inn
3073 Eastpointe Dr. Medina
330.721.8955

Spitzer House B&B
504 W. Libert St., Medina
330.952.2129

Super 8 Motel
5161 Montville Dr., Medina
330.723.8118

Quality Inn
1435 S. Carpenter, Brunswick, OH
330.225.1112

Bee Culture
The Magazine Of American Beekeeping

Get Ready For Bee Culture's Next Event

A CASE FOR HONEY

Our case of honey is filling nicely this winter. Speakers committed so far include **Dan Conlon**, Warm Colors Apiaries, Massachusetts; **Bob Binnie**, Blue Ridge Honey Company, Georgia; **Dave Shenefield**, Clover Blossom Honey, Indiana; **Steve Conlon**, ThistleDew Honey, West Virginia; **Roger Stark**, Howalt-McDowell Insurance, South Dakota, **Joann Dunlevey** RS, Food Safety Specialist, Ohio Dept. of Ag; and a Representative of The FDA. Other speakers are firming up travel plans and will be announced as they become known.

This well rounded group has all aspects of this topic well covered. US Producers, Packers, Producer/Packers, Insurance and Risk Brokers, Marketing, and all the new Food Safety rules and regulations from both Federal and State level perspectives.

Unfortunately, missing from this discussion will be the National Honey Board, the marketing arm of the honey industry, and those large packers and importers who have chosen to have their annual meeting on the same weekend. The coincidence has not gone unnoticed. The focus of this event will remain on promoting and informing ambitious US Honey Producers and Packers of US Honey.

New this year will be a Friday Night Social held in Bee Culture's Conference Center, the location of the Two day Conference on Saturday and Sunday. It's a low-key, meet and greet with the speakers and attendees from 5pm to 7pm on Friday where you can pick up your folders with speaker profiles, conference agenda, and lots of information on Medina's dining and shopping opportunities. Supper afterwards is on your own but you'll have plenty of places to choose from, and lots of people to join with.

Tuition is $150 per person which includes the Friday night social and classes and an exceptional lunch on Saturday and Sunday. On line Registration opens March 1, 2016. Hotel and B&B info below.

Friday Night Social, October 21, and classes and lunch Saturday and Sunday October 22 & 23, *Bee Culture*'s Conference Center, 640 W. Liberty St., Medina, Ohio. Register early.

Mark Your Calendars Now!

October 21, 22 and 23, 2016
at
Bee Culture's Conference Center
640 West Liberty Street
Medina, Ohio

Go to Store.BeeCulture.com/events/

Have You Caught The Buzz?

Sent via e-mail monthly to all ABF members, *ABF E-Buzz* is a key member benefit and is published to inform members about ABF activities, as well as key happenings in the beekeeping industry.

If you haven't been receiving the newsletter, please be sure to contact the ABF office at info@abfnet.org or 404.760.2875 to ensure we have your most up-to-date contact information. Also, if you wish to contribute content to the newsletter, please contact Tim Tucker, *ABF E-Buzz* editor, at tuckerb@hit.net. We welcome your submissions!

American Honey Princess Report

by: Tabitha Mansker
American Honey Princess

Tabitha Mansker
American Honey Princess

Summer is fully underway, and, boy, is it hot here in Texas! May and June were packed with events!

I spent much time in May giving local school presentations. By the end of May, I had given 25 school presentations and spoken to over 1,600 students! One of the most memorable school presentations I gave was to over 600 elementary students at one time. I have to admit that at first, I was a little nervous. Up to this point I had never spoke to more than 300 students at one time, and this presentation had double the students! To make things even MORE nerve wracking, when I arrived at the school, the projector wasn't working, which meant that the PowerPoint that I had diligently prepared was of no use. I quickly went to Plan B, my educational posters. I always carry these posters with me, but I knew that the stage was too far away for even a fraction of the kids to see them. So, I went to Plan C – just me and the microphone! Needless to say, I survived, and, not only did I survive, but the presentation went extremely well. All the students listened intently and sat still through the entire 40-minute presentation. When explaining the three types of bees, I changed my voice and accent just a little to help keep the kid's attention, and they loved it! After I finished talking, I opened it up for question time. These kids had so many interesting and exciting questions about the queen, making honey and becoming a beekeeper. It was a great presentation and an awesome learning experience and confidence builder for me.

Children were thrilled to puff the smoker at Princess Tabitha's school presentation outside Galveston, TX.

On May 11, I headed down to Pearland, Texas, outside Galveston for a week of promotions. My first event was an educational event called Captain Shiska Bob for over 900 local third graders. This event, sponsored by Texas A&M, was created to teach the students about agricultural industries in the State of Texas. We had an observation hive and all kinds of beekeeping equipment for the kids to see and touch. The event went great, and I would like to say a special thank you to Glen and Joel Weise and Harrison and Mary Rodgers for their help during the whole event. Later that week, I had the opportunity to work the Pearland Famers Market and sell local honey. I also attended the Houston Area Beekeepers Meeting and gave a short presentation on my role as American Honey Princess promoting nationwide and what I was doing in their area. It was a great trip, despite all the rain!

Princess Tabitha explained bees' daily work at the observation hive at the Pasadena Strawberry Festival outside Houston, TX.

Next I headed just a little way north to Pasadena, Texas, near Houston for the Pasadena Strawberry Festival. This is a very exciting event! Over 30,000 people attend this event annually, and one of the main attractions is an enormous strawberry shortcake. I spent the weekend of May 21 with Texas Honey Queen Hope Pettibon and Elaine Michalik teaching attendees the importance of honey bees and strawberry pollination. I also had two radio interviews during the event, reaching thousands of area listeners. After the busy weekend, I attended the Harris County Beekeepers Association's monthly meeting to speak about my travels and the ABF and the benefits of membership. I thank my hosts, Ed and Elaine Michalik, for taking wonderful care of me and getting me to all these events.

Moving into June, I attended the Nevada City Council meeting in Nevada, Texas, on June 7. This meeting was exciting, because it was in my own hometown! I have lived in the small town of Nevada my whole life, and this City Council meeting was particularly special. This was also my first time to speak at an event in my hometown. I had the pleasure of explaining my duties as a national spokesperson

Princess Tabitha conducted a hive demonstration during a Pollinator Week promotion in Cleveland, OH.

and sharing some of my traveling stories. After I finished speaking the Mayor announced that the Council would dedicate June 7, 2016, to me, proclaiming it as "Tabitha Mansker Day" in Nevada, Texas. It was humbling to have my very own town recognize me!

I flew out to Cleveland, Ohio, for my last event of the month on June 18. I participated in the Celebrate Ohio Pollinators Event at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens, a fitting location for a National Pollinator Week event! During this event, I gave two cooking with honey demonstrations and had the chance to give an open hive demonstration. The event had a very nice observation hive, where people were able to see the bees doing their many jobs inside the hive. The weather was perfect and the crowd was very enthusiastic. I'd like to say thank you to Michelle Colopy of the Pollinator Stewardship Council and the Ohio State Beekeepers Association for inviting me to help promote the importance of protecting our most proficient pollinator – the honey bee!

Now, I am home preparing for my busy trips ahead, including stops in Arizona, New Jersey and Wisconsin. I hope your bees are doing well! Don't forget to follow all Kim's and my travels on Facebook at American Honey Queen Program! Thank you for your support! If you are interested in scheduling a promotion with Queen Kim or me, please contact Anna Kettlewell at honeyqueen99@hotmail.com or 414.545.5514.

Beekeeping Organizations & Beekeeping

by: Roger Hoopingarner
Professor Emeritus
Michigan State University

When I started beekeeping as a young boy, almost 70 years ago, I soon joined the Wayne County Beekeepers Association (Detroit) as I was looking for advice and learning from other beekeepers. I soon found wonderful and helpful mentors that started me on my beekeeping career. The decision to join the local beekeeping organization was very useful to me, and I always tell new beekeepers to join and seek out those beekeeping mentors that can help you in so many ways.

However, as I gained knowledge of bees and beekeeping, I also joined the state and national beekeeping organizations. Why? Did I think that these organizations would help me gain more knowledge of bees and beekeeping? Of course I did, but only to a lesser extent. It is true that state and national organizations have classes, seminars, workshops and invited speakers that always bring new or challenging ideas. But these organizations also bring strength and unity to a small group of people that have a passion or joy in keeping honey bees.

It is no secret that I have always had a love for honey bees. Thus, when I think about how can I help with this current fight to strengthen bees and beekeeping, these state and national organizations come immediately to mind. They are my, and the

bees, advocates at the state and national levels of government. They secure money for university and government bee labs, which means more and better ways to treat diseases and pests, as well as other apicultural advances. These organizations lobby for new or better laws that affect bees and beekeeping. Together they are the strength I do not have by myself.

So when I join, or pay my yearly dues to the state and national organizations, it is this strength of unity that I want and support. It is this solidarity that will help the bees that I love.

From the Auxiliary

by: Beth Hackenberg
ABF Auxiliary President

The craziness of the summer season is here and what a great time to be taking some awesome pictures, especially for Galveston. It has been hot and dry here in the northeast. We certainly could use some rain.

Hopefully everyone is having a good year and has even had some time to relax, maybe take a vacation (vacation?? what is that?). We've been busy making splits, feeding bees, making honey and putting bees in pollination, which you know makes for some long nights. Have a great summer!

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Member Milestones

Milestones for May & June 2016

5 Years
Patty Combs-Bialik
Michael & Diana Hatch
Eli Kalke
Nicholas Lauerman
Conrad Legatt
Molly Miller
Daniel Powell
Bill Zimmer

10 Years
Martin Hickey

15 Years
James Rodenberg

20 Years
Vincent Gaglione

25 Years
Alicia Ellingson
Debbie Ellingson
Holly Ellingson

From the Recipe Box of Beth Hackenberg

Coffee Flavored Crème Brûlée

INGREDIENTS:

- 3 cups heavy cream
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1/4 cup plus 2 Tbs. granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1 Tbs. instant coffee
- 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp. kosher salt
- 9 large egg yolks
- Garnish with berries (optional)

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat the oven to 300°F. Fill a teakettle with water and bring to a boil. Put six 6-oz. ramekins in a baking dish that's at least as deep as the ramekins.

In a 3-quart saucepan, whisk together the cream, milk, 1/4 cup sugar, honey, instant coffee, cinnamon and salt. Bring the cream mixture just to a simmer, stirring occasionally, over medium-high heat. (Do not boil.) In a large bowl whisk the egg yolks. Then whisk about 1/2 cup of the cream into the yolk mixture and stir for about 30 seconds. Whisk in the remaining cream gently until well blended.

Pour the custard equally into the ramekins in the roasting pan. Slowly pour the boiled water into the pan until it reaches about half way up the sides of the ramekins, being careful not to get water into the custard.

Bake the custards until the edges are set and the center is the consistency of Jell-O, about one hour. Insert a butter knife into center and if it comes out clean, they are done. Take them out of the oven and pan and let them cool. Refrigerate at least 4 hours.

When ready to serve, evenly sprinkle the 2 tablespoons of sugar over the tops of custard. Hold a cooking/blowtorch flame a couple of inches from the top of the custard moving slowly back and forth until the sugar melts and turns golden brown. Allow the sugar to cool.

Note: If you don't own a torch, you can use a grill lighter.

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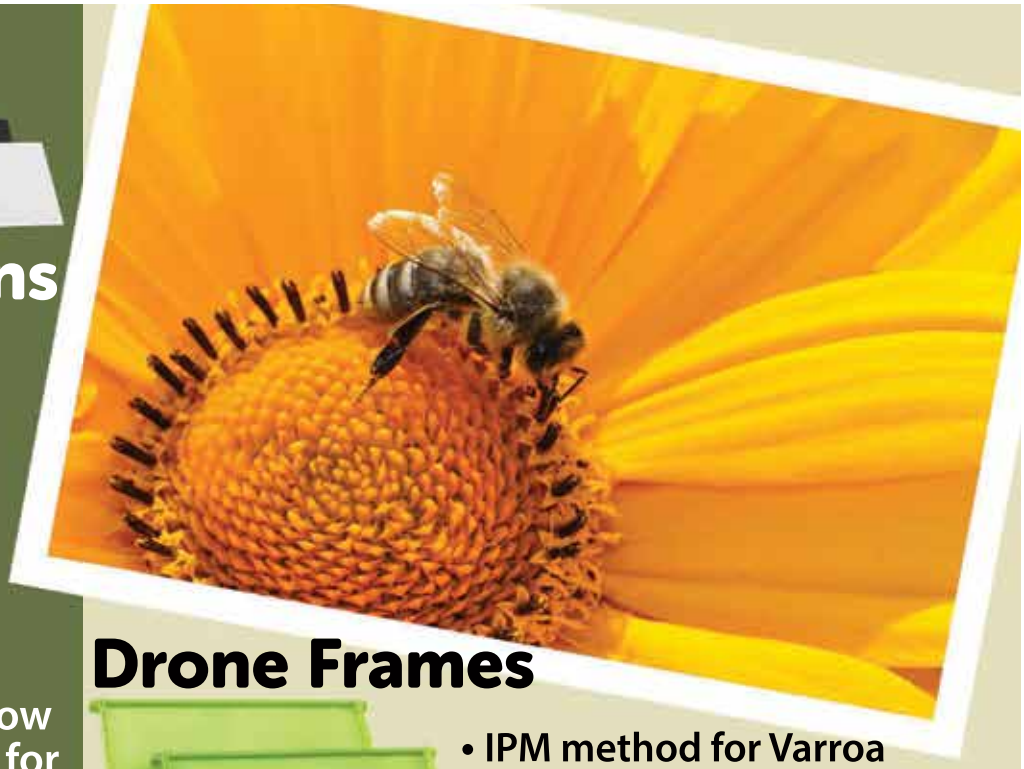

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