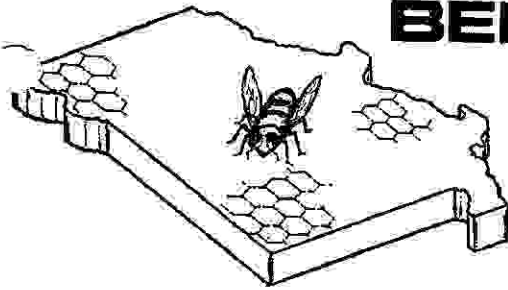


MISSOURI STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION



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VOLUME # 17

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
JUNE 1979

NUMBER 2

DEAR BEEKEEPING FRIENDS,

The 162 members who attended the Spring meeting at Columbia were treated to two excellent presentations by Dr. William Wilsor from the Bee Research Lab in Laramie, Wyoming. Informative talks were given by Mr. Howard Beech from Dadant and Sons and by Ann Chadwick from the Missouri Department of Agriculture. We wish to extend to these individuals our deepest thanks!!! (Excerpts from these presentations appear later in this newsletter.)

MINUTES FROM THE BUSINESS PORTION OF THE MARCH 24 MEETING as submitted by Mr. Chester Crain, Secretary

BEEKEEPER FOR 1979 - Mr. Joe Maher was the sole nominee and elected by acclamation.

HONEY QUEEN - Chairperson Mrs. Smith's report covered rules, estimated budget, and the lack of candidates. After floor discussion, Mr. Scott moved that the Honey Queen Program be tabled until the Fall meeting. 2nd by Mr. Maher. Motion carried. President Wills dismissed the committee and its records were turned over to Secretary Crain for filing.

DONATIONS - Mr. Tohtz moved that we donate \$100 to the American Honey Producers. 2nd by Mr. Holman. After floor discussion an amending motion was made that the \$100 donation be split 50-50 with the American Beekeeping Federation. 2nd by Mr. Maher. Amending motion passed and the amended motion also passed.

RESOLUTIONS - Mr. Jim Robins presented three suggestions and the following action resulted:

1. Mr. Maher moved with a 2nd by Mr. Boeckmann that the Missouri State Beekeepers' Association urge Missouri's

elected representatives to actively support and vote for the continued funding of the Bee Indemnity Program now provided for by the present law. The continued existence of the Missouri beekeeping industry may depend on this program until research or other programs can give relief from pesticide losses. Resolution carried unanimously.

2. Mr. Erickson moved with a 2nd by Mr. Scott that the Missouri State Beekeepers' Association urge Missouri's elected representatives to actively support and vote for continued funding of the Soybean Research Program now provided for by the present law. Both the beekeeper and the soybean farmer rely heavily on the results of this program. Resolution carried unanimously.
3. Mr. Garton moved with a 2nd by Mr. Boeckmann that the Missouri State Beekeepers' Association urge the Environmental Protective Agency's consideration of the Beekeeping Industry before licensing any new pesticide registrations. Resolution carried unanimously.

MISSOURI STATE FAIR - Chairman Nichols reported that, in spite of a 50% increase in booth rental fee, the Executive Committee planned to go ahead with manning a Honey Booth at this year's fair.

FALL MEETING - President Wills announced that Dr. Jones is looking into the possibility of holding the Fall meeting at Cape Girardeau.

ATTENDANCE - 162

Meeting adjourned with the distribution of many door prizes

* * * * *

THE FALL MEETING will be held on October 20 at South East Missouri State University at Cape Girardeau in the Student Union. Please mark your calendars!!!

* * * * *

DUES FOR 1979 - If you find stamped on the first page of your newsletter "DUES FOR 1979 ARE PAST DUE." Please rectify this situation.

If you belong to a local organization, please give your \$2.00 state dues to your local treasurer. The treasurer will forward this to the state.

If you do not belong to a local organization, please send your \$3.00 to the State Treasurer Joe Maher at 9410 Eastern, Kansas City, Missouri 64138. Please be sure to include your complete address with zip code so that the newsletter will reach you.

* * * * *

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER - From the Ozarks

Everything is looking good for a honey crop here in the Ozarks. We need a few days of warm weather, but from past experience I'm almost afraid to wish for anything except more rain. When warm weather arrives and those dry southwest winds set in, our honeyflow can come to a halt in a matter of a few days.

I see that the white Dutch Clover is beginning to bloom and, as usual, I find myself watching day by day to see if this year it will produce. I don't think we've had a good Dutch Clover honey flow in our area for at least four years, although it blooms every year and looks real promising.

The black locuts are in full bloom. Those fortunate enough to have bees located in an area where there are a lot of locust trees will find bees working them in swarms. They produce every year at a time when they are really needed to keep the build-up period going. At this time of year nothing else is blooming of any importance and, if our bees run short of food and it rains for a week or two, we're bound to have a lag in brood rearing at a time that is critical to a good build-up for the honey flow.

Ken Cobb and I are in our last week of the Carfts Festival at Silver Sollar City. Our honey sales have been ahead of last year and the attendance has been much better. It may be that everyone is vacationing early with the gas situation the way it is.

As usual our big sellers are pints with the 1 lb muth bottles running a close second. We're running out of chunk comb and cut comb in the plastic boxes. We had to raise our prices this year with pints at \$2.30 each, quarts at \$4.30 each, 1llb muth bottles at \$2.50 each, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ chunk comb at \$4.50 each and plastic boxes of cut comb at \$2.00 each. I had a few boxes of section comb for \$2.50 each but found that most people didn't know what to do with these. There were many who bought the plastic boxes of cut comb to open and eat and chew on the comb as they walked around.

The clover honey is selling a little better than the wildflower. However, the wildflower sells real well. We have a sample jar of both and people seem to like the wildflower almost as well as the clover. So don't second rate your darker good flavored hoeny just because it is darker. After people taste it, many of them prefer the wildflower over the clover.

There is a lot of interest in retailing honey from gift shops, antique shops, motels, restaurants, etc. I even see honey sold in barber shope and beauty shops. We produce enough honey in Missouri to meet all our customers' needs. If you know someone who is interested in retailing honey and you can't supply their needs yourself, refer them to another Missouri producer. We have plenty of them and our quality of honey is second to none. LET'S PROMOTE MISSOURI HONEY. When vacationers come to Missouri they want to take home some Missouri honey. So let's make sure that they have no problem finding Missouri honey.

To prove this point, last fall while visiting my daughter in Ballstone Spa, New York, we made a special trip to Vermont to buy some pure maple syrup. After returning to Ballstone, I was informed by a shopkeeper that New York produces more maple syrup than Vermont. So I set about to find some maple syrup produced in New York State. Not

finding any in Ballstone Spa I had to drive 20 miles down the highway to a cheese shop to buy my pure maple syrup produced in New York State. I wanted to have something to share with my friends and I don't think I'm much different from other vacationers who visit our state.

Charlie Wills

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Speaking of Promoting Missouri Honey -

If you did not attend the Spring State Meeting, you may not be aware that the Missouri Department of Agriculture has developed an all-encompassing promotion program called MAP (Missouri Agricultural Products). Miss Ann Chadwick, communications officer in the DOA outlined the program for us.

The aims of the program are to 1) increase consumer awareness of Missouri products, 2) increase product visibility, and 3) increase sales. The MAP program has developed a logo "Missouri Agricultural Products Show Me Any Better".

The MAP logo will appear on commodities, bumper stickers, crates, jars, news releases, all DOA pamphlets and publications, the covers on materials sent to TV and radio stations, and as a backdrop at the Home Economics showcase at the Missouri State Fair.

The logo will be available for your jars of honey. Contact Barbara Hoelscher, Missouri Department of Agriculture, Jefferson City 65101.

* * * * *

NEWS NOTES

Thank you to Mr. John Haggand of the Department of Agriculture for his refusal of the special local need registration for PennCap M for corn bore. Mr. Haggand did not feel its use was warranted in this situation and so acted.

Welcome to the newly formed Berry County Beekeepers' Association!!
President Gary Fields of Cassville, Mo. 65625

New Dadant Dealer - Elmer Parton, Rt. 8, Box 486, Columbia 65201
(314) 474-6832

Iowa State Beekeepers' Meeting will be on October 13. Check your bee journals for details.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Maher have both been ill recently. Mr. Maher spent five days in the hospital with high blood pressure and high sugar levels. We hope that the summer months find them in good health.

MISSOURI STATE FAIR-- Anyone wishing to enter the honey exhibit at Fair must contact Mr. Roger Nichols at 8754 E. 83rd, Raytown, Mo. 6413. As of June 1 no information concerning the Fair or the beekeeping exhibits was received for publication in this newsletter.

However, if you are considering placing entries in the Fair or at a local exhibit or craft show, possibly these tips from the talk given by Mr. W. A. Stephen at the Fall 1978 State Meeting would be helpful.

1. Give thought to what you are going to display in advance. Don't bring everything and then display everything.

Establish an eye-catching central theme. Avoid the clutter of too many ideas.

Choose colors that accentuate the honey shades.

Use a few interesting accessories such as flowers, an observation hive, or floral prints.

2. Prepare your honey well.

Polarized light picks up particles in the honey, such as dust, etc.

A refractometer tells the amount of moisture in the honey. 16% is the breaking point. You usually do not receive extra points for having moisture below 16% but you are penalized if the moisture is above 16%. Anything over 18.6% is unacceptable.

The color of the honey is not a factor as long as it is placed in the proper class.

In deciding among close contenders judges look for a nick in the jar, a scratch on the lid, finger prints on the jar, etc.

3. Display tips

Get away from straight rows of honey jars. Curves are more attract

Place the darker honey at the bottom and the lighter honey at the top.

Place the larger containers of honey at the bottom and the smaller above.

You do not need professional signs but they should look professional

Use reflected light, translucent glass, fluorescent bulbs, or day-light bulbs.

Avoid glitter.

Keep the message simple. Not too wordy.

* * * * *

MISSOURI STATE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION - Treasurer's Report
10/28/78 to 3/17/79

BALANCE ON HAND	10/27/78		\$1322.54
Deposits:			
10/28/78		118.95	
12/4/78		14.15	
12/22/78		124.70	
1/30/79		119.50	
2/15/79		<u>123.00</u>	
Total		500.30	<u>500.30</u>
			\$1822.84

EXPENDITURES:

Ck#	Date	Payee	
53	10/16/78	C. R. Crain (Sec. expense)	2.34
54	10/28/78	John Root (Speaker)	160.00
55	10/28/78	Truman Hardin (Speaker's expense)	74.02
56	10/28/78	Food Service (Kirksville)	31.56
57	11/16/78	Truman Hardin (Tel. & Postage)	15.00
58-59		Void	
60	11/24/78	Roger Nichols (Tel. & Postage)	12.35
61	-		
62	12/8/78	Modern Business (Paper)	132.75
63	12/10/78	Curtis Printing (Letterhead)	52.79
64	12/15/79	Midwest Duplicators (Paper)	12.09
66	12/22/78	Sue Nichols (Cutting Stencils)	15.00
65	12/22/78	Midwest Duplicators (Paper)	11.25
67	12/28/78	C. R. Crain (Sec. expense)	4.13
68	1/3/79	Weeks Jewelry (Plaque)	27.71
69	1/20/79	Postmaster - St. Louis (Mailing Priv)	40.00
70	1/20/79	Postmaster - St. Louis (Advance)	50.00
71	1/26/79	Modern Business (Paper)	68.22
72	1/30/79	Roger Nichols (Postage)	5.15
73	2/6/79	Truman Hardin (Telephone)	24.50
74	2/19/79	C. R. Crain (Copy Expense)	4.45
75	2/24/79	Mary Dyess (Running stencils)	15.00
76	3/11/79	J. Maher (Paper 4.00 & Tel. .44)	<u>4.44</u>
			762.75 -762.75
BALANCE ON HAND	3/17/79		\$1060.09

BANK RECONCILIATION

Balance prior report
Deposits
Checks issued
Checks outstanding
Balance end of period

LEDGER

1322.54
500.30
762.75
\$1060.09

BANK

1056.13
123.00 Not show.
119.04
\$1060.09

"LET IT BEE KNOWN . . ."

Recently Mr. Otto Aiple of Leasburg presented a slide show on beekeeping to a group in Steeleville. To date Mr. Aiple has assembled three slide shows which he uses to explain the hobby and joys of beekeeping and to instruct people in the importance of honeybees for the pollination of vegetables, fruits, and flowers.

If you see the license plate "BEES" in your town, you can be sure that Mr. Aiple is paying you a visit.

Letter dated 12/17/78 from Mr. Bernie Hayes of Wellsville, New York, to Mr. Otto Aiple.

"Each bush had loads of blossoms. The Honeysuckle especially... Pagoda - It is a strong grower. The trunk is short, it wants to stay in bush form but you can train it. . . . The Locusts can tolerate acid soils since the reclamation people on the coal spoil bank in Penn. and elsewhere found that out . . . I am sure it will grow well in the average garden soil of a ph of 7 . . . Paulownia is the hottest thing in nectar plants . . ."

Mr. Hayes is not only an experienced beekeeper often published in The American Bee Journal but he is also a modern Johnny Appleseed. He collects seeds of various honey plants and distributes these seeds upon request to beekeepers across the country. If you wish to contact him, please write him at 121 Miller Street, Wellsville, New York 14895.

* * * * *

Letter dated April 10 from Goldie Reynolds, Secretary of the Two Rivers Beekeepers' Association.

"The meeting of June 5 is being planned as a special membership drive. The meeting will be held at the Mark Twain Bank in O'Fallon. A special display of items related to beekeeping and a working observation hive will be displayed. Jay Tohtz will be the special guest speaker."

* * * * *

Letter dated April 23 from Fleta Rose, President of Midwestern Beekeepers' Association.

"Midwestern Beekeepers' Association is quite pleased that one of our members, Mr. Joe Maher, was honored as the 1979 Missouri Beekeeper of the Year. Joe has been active in our association for 26 years. He has conducted classes and has helped many, many members become good beekeepers.

Space does not permit relating how much Joe has promoted beekeeping through the new bee law, by being a state inspector, by helping at the state fair, by being on radio and TV, etc. Our hearty congratulations to Joe.

Another member, John Robinson, displayed a new bee escape board as printed or suggested in The American Bee Journal. The club enjoyed viewing that plus other equipment that John brought.

Mrs. Helen Murphy presented a program on "Raising Queens". The organization's honey plants committee brought vitex seeds, vitex plants, golden rain plants, and a variety of other plants for the club members to plant at their individual locations."

* * * * *

The following is a news article published in the April 19 edition of the Pleasant Hill Times.

BEE BUSINESS IS BOOMING

No doubt about it - beekeeping is still alive and well in Missouri.

"Even with the decline in colonies over the last decade, the total revenue from honey and wax production has more than tripled," said Flermoy Jones, University of Missouri - Columbia extension entomologist.

"In addition to being a \$5 million business, it's a mighty popular hobby, judging by the huge number of requests for beekeeping information that pour into my office."

Fowler Young, a retired extension specialist who teaches a beekeeping class in Columbia, attributes much of the beekeeping interest to the trend toward "natural foods". "Nothing is more natural than honey," he said. "It's one of nature's best products."

More than 160 beekeepers attended the recent meeting of the Missouri State Beekeepers Association at UMC, said Young. They cited Joe Maher, 9410 Eastern Street, Kansas City, as 1979 Beekeeper of the Year. Maher and Carl Kalthoff, also of Kansas City and the 1978 Beekeeper of the Year, are credited with reviving the Missouri Beekeepers Association in the 1950s.

At the meeting, William Wilson, director of the USDA bee research laboratory at Laramie, Wyo., warned beekeepers about European and American foulbrood diseases and told them how to prevent them.

Also the state association went on record to again sponsor the bee and honey exhibits at the Missouri State Fair. Roger Nichols, Raytown, will be in charge of those exhibits.

"We also spent a great deal of time talking about the high cost of beekeeping," said Young. "Inflation has hit the beekeeping business like everything else. Yet the price of honey hasn't gone up as much as the materials beekeepers have to buy."

Young, who retired from the University of Missouri Extension Service in 1974, said that inflation has not dampened the interest of those in his eight-week, adult beekeeping class. "We wanted only 20 in a class but they 'sweet talked us' into 26," he joked.

"I tell them how honeybees differ from the many other kinds of bees, how the bees' social system works, and how to build beehives and honey frames. Fifteen of the class members have ordered bees. They've pooled their orders with members of the Boone Regional Beekeepers Association. So I'm going to Louisiana to get 67 swarms, plus 40 extra honeybee queens."

Fowler paused. Then, with a twinkle in his eye, he added, "Wouldn't it be interesting if my trailer overturned on the way back?!"

* * * * *

Excerpts from letter dated April 30 from George Vanarsdall, Osage Honey Farm, Sibley.

"Fruit growers are using more bees in the apples this year because of the poor bloom set last year. The bloom is later this year. As of this date there is still a danger of frost. . . . There was less winter loss this year than last. The bees built up slower because of cold rainy weather. . . . Honey prices are on the rise. The demand is good. Moisture conditions are good for the new crop. . . . More soy beans and less corn will be planted in west Missouri this year."

Mr. Vanarsdall also sent the following article from a magazine.

SWEETS FOR THE SET

"When tennis star Chris Evert feels like she's coming unglued, she reaches for honey, says writer Frances Sheridan Goulart. "Honey is an important, antifatigue food since it is predigested, builds up the alkaline reserves in the blood and tissues and provides a maximum of energy with a minimum of shock to the digestive system," Goulart, author of a new book, Eating to Win, Food Psyching for the Athlete (Stein and Day), explains. "Sugar-laden foods overload the bloodstream in fifteen minutes," she adds; "honey is absorbed over a period of four hours."

* * * * *

Letter dated May 4 from Mr. Joe Maher, Kansas City. "Some incident that I might relate which would aid a beekeeper at another time."

"I ordered 30 queens. Since these queens had no attendants and had to be fed, I made a colony of bees queenless so that I could put the queens in that colony. About 10 days later I looked in the colony for queen cells and did not find any. I thought everything would be OK. Four days later, feeling that I might have missed a queen cell, I decided to look again and found a young queen ready to emerge. If I had not found that queen cell, she would have emerged and possibly would have killed all the caged queens. I had this occur several years ago and all the caged queens were killed."

"When installing a queen in a very strong colony, do not take the cork out. If you do, the heavy colony will eat through the candy and free the queen in about two days. They will probably kill her since she has not been with them long enough. The best way is to leave the cork in for about four days while the caged queen is in the colony, then remove the cork and place a small nail hole through the candy. In this case she will have been in the hive six days and will be readily accepted. In a small colony the cork can be removed but do not put a hole through the candy. The bees will free the queen in about 4 days and she will be properly accepted."

"A tip to catching swarms - A swarm shook in front of the hive will usually send some scouts in to check the hive. By way of the scent gland, they will tell the queen and the other bees to enter and they all will remain in the hive. However, if the swarm is shook into the hive, the scouts will then go out and check. This may cause the swarm to leave. Unless bad odors are present in the hive, bees that enter on their own will stay. If you have trouble keeping the bees in the hive, crush some peach leaves and rub them around the inside of the hive. The bees seem to like this."

"According to Dr. William Wilson of the bee lab at Laramie, Wyoming, if you have sulfathiazole on hand, do not destroy it but use it before the supers have been put on the hive. The use of the drug is not prohibited but it is not registered with the Pure Food and Drug Administration and cannot be sold."

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Taken from "Timely Chats" by Bill Carlile in the April issue of The American Bee Journal.

"Wet April is a good month to follow the advice which Joe Maher of Kansas City, Missouri, gave to those at the Iowa Honey Producers meeting at Newton, Iowa, several years ago.

His talk was on "My Beekeeping Blunders". One point he made was "Never move bees into a location except when the ground is wet."

Some locations do look wonderful when the ground is dry and solid, but all-weather yards they are not. Too often colonies need feeding all through the spring - a job which can't be put off until the ground has dried. So you feed the hard way, by packing buckets of syrup or whatever from however close you can park. So, check out your new location possibilities after a good rain has soaked the ground."

* * * * *

On the KMOX-TV 5 o'clock on Wednesday evening May 16, Mr. Al Wiman featured the capturing of a swarm by Mr. Jack Cantrell, President of Eastern Missouri Beekeepers', and Mr. William Wills, a member of EMBA. The focus of the feature was the manageability and gentleness of a swarm. It was stressed that a swarm is Nature's way of preventing overcrowding in a colony and of perpetuating the species.

Mr. Cantrell has also been involved in setting up an observation hive in one of the area's schools.

* * * * *

DUE TO THE GENEROUS RESPONSE OF INDIVIDUALS AROUND THE STATE TO MY REQUESTS FOR NEWS ITEMS AND "BEE TIDBITS", THIS SECTION "LET IT BEE KNOWN" ON THE PRECEDING FIVE AND A HALF PAGES COULD BE INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER. THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH!!!!

Please continue to submit these articles! With everyone's cooperation an interesting and informative exchange can take place among the State's beekeepers.

The deadline for the next newsletter is September 15. Please submit your article to me Carol Boeckmann, 619 Mendelsohn Drive, Kirkwood, Missouri 63122. Don't concern yourself with wording or length. Just ~~write it down~~ as it comes to you and send it in. Thank you!

* * * * *

TIPS FROM DR. WILSON'S PRESENTATION ON "BEE DISEASES"

Don't use a hive tool to examine suspected disease comb cells. Use a stick and after use burn the stick in the bottom of the smoker. You can spread disease from colony to colony with the contaminated hive tool.

Clean hive tool: Place it in the oven for 1 to 2 hours at 350 degrees. Put hive tool into the bottom of a hot fire in a smoker.

Clean gloves: Clean in the laundry in detergent. Boil in a container - not leather gloves.

Clean hands: Soap and water will wash off most disease. Use Crisco or Goop to remove propolis.

SAMPLES SENT TO THE BEE LAB FOR IDENTIFICATION OF DISEASE:

Send a representative sample about 4"x4".

Place the sample in a cardboard or wooden box. You may wrap in a piece of newspaper. DON'T wrap in saran wrap or aluminum foil or plastic bag. The sample will turn moldy. DON'T mail in a large envelope where the sample will go through the stamp machine and be destroyed.

Send a letter with the sample giving a history of the bee yard and the particular problem colony. Tell when you found the problem, where you found it, what you saw or smelled, and what you suspect.

If you want the recipe for patties for protection against disease, please drop a note along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to

Dr. William Wilson
USDA Honeybee Lab
U. Station Box 3168
Laramie, Wyoming 82070

More tidbits from Dr. Wilson's excellent presentations on Bee Disease and Pesticides will be published in future newsletters.

MISSOURI STATE BEEKEEPERS' ASSN.
619 Mendelsohn Drive
Kirkwood, Missouri 63122
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