



Missouri State Beekeepers Association
 P.O. Box 448 Oak Grove, MO 64075
www.mostatebeekeepers.org

May 2006

Eugene Makovec
 Editor



The Delectable Dandelion

This gold-crowned perennial is as complicated as it is versatile. There are over 60 (and possibly hundreds of) dandelion species. Some are diploid, requiring pollination, while others are polyploid (more than two sets of chromosomes) and reproduce asexually, meaning their flowers have no obvious purpose. Through the ages, the dandelion has been used for many purposes, including wine, salad, insect repellent (sap), coffee substitute (roots) and diuretic and other medicinal uses. And of course, bees value them for both pollen and prodigious quantities of nectar.

— photo by Eugene Makovec

Joint Meeting with Kansas a "complete success"

The MSBA's joint meeting with the Kansas Honey Producers was, in the words of Program Director Sharon Gibbons, "a complete success". (See Sharon's report on page 5.)

Over 270 attendees packed the Overland Park Marriott to hear some of the most impressive speakers ever assembled for a regional meeting:

Marla Spivak detailed the traits of her vaunted Minnesota Hygienic bees, along with the considerably less-pleasant habits of varroa mites.

According to Dr. Spivak, there are four things necessary in a hygienic line:

1. Hygienic behavior (removal of diseased brood)
2. Reduced mite reproductive success
3. Grooming
4. Beekeepers willing to reduce chemical input

Diana Sammataro discussed the latest research in mite management from the USDA Bee Labs. One of the simplest, most effective treatments available for tracheal mites, she said, is the standard grease patty, a mixture of one part shortening to two parts cane sugar.

The grease patty works by confusing the mite's sense of smell. Tracheal mites hang from the ends of a bee's body hairs and "quest" for young bees, which they need in order to reproduce. They determine the victims' age by smell, and when this sense is disrupted, they just hang there until they fall off and die.

(Continued on page 4)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>From the President</i>	2	<i>Russian Bee DVD</i>	7
<i>Monte Richardson</i>		<i>Shamrock Shindig</i>	7
<i>The Empty Super</i>	3	<i>Local Club Information</i>	9
<i>Diary of a Hopeful Hobbyist</i>		<i>Membership Application</i>	10
<i>Beekeeper of the Year</i>	4	<i>Honey Queen Report</i>	11
<i>Chesterfield's Ted Jansen</i>		<i>Directory of Officers</i>	11
<i>Program Chair Report</i>	5		
<i>Sharon Gibbons</i>			



Beekeeper of the Year

Ted Jansen is presented with his well-deserved recognition by MSBA Vice-President Ken Norman. See story on Page 4.



From the President Monte Richardson

Hello Everybody,

I hope this newsletter finds you doing well. We've had a bunch of nasty weather already this spring. I want to thank everybody that called and emailed us here in Sedalia. Here in town we got a nasty bit of hail. A tornado hit a few miles south of town. Since then many parts of the state have been struck by tornados. Caruthersville probably got hit the worst. My hopes and prayers go out to those that have suffered a loss.

I got a phone call the other day. It seems that there were some mixed messages going around about AHB (Africanized Honey Bees). Jann Amos told me last year that AHB were found in Oklahoma. I made a mental note to myself to pay attention to that. I had been telling myself for years that AHB weren't going to be a problem in Missouri.

The Kansas Department of Agriculture has issued a news release in regard to AHB. Their news release was pretty positive and upbeat. The release said that AHB HAS NOT been found in Kansas. However, because of the mild winter it is expected that AHB MAY reach Kansas this summer. The rest of the news release gave good common sense advice on how the public should respond to swarms and feral bee colonies. You can read the entire press release on page 6 of this newsletter. It can also be downloaded from the Internet at <http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/sedgwick/DesktopModules/ViewDocument.aspx?DocumentID=3393>.

Several years ago I thought that AHB would be thinned out by breeding with other bees long before it would have a chance to get to Missouri. Then I learned that AHB drones are more "aggressive" maters than their European counterparts. So much for that idea.

Then I heard that AHB didn't appear to be spreading east of Texas because of the rain and humidity. This is a very generalized description of a precise principle that I can't seem to find right now. It seems that the AHBs forgot that they aren't supposed to be moving this far north.

My "ace in the hole", so to speak, is climate. Most if not all of Missouri does "enjoy" a stiff bout of 0° weather each winter. This last winter has been the mildest I can remember and we still had two weeks of single digit temperatures. AHB colonies are significantly smaller than European colonies. I am hopeful that smaller colony sizes combined with good 'ole Missouri winters will help curb the AHB from getting established in Missouri.

Mike Brown of the Missouri Department of Agriculture shares this view that Missouri winters will do a lot to keep the AHB in check. We both also recognize that our combination of warm spring/summer and cold winter is a mixed blessing. Generally speaking the harsh winter should keep the AHB in check. However, the warm spring/summer will probably allow AHB to migrate north into Missouri each year.

What does this all mean to us as beekeepers? First of all we are the front line of information to the public. Learn about African-

ized Honey Bees. A calm, knowledgeable explanation of what AHB actually are is important. For example, AHB are no more deadly than their European counterparts. Their venom is virtually the same. As such the words killer and bee should not be used in the same sentence.

Secondly, maintain your hives. Weak hives are of no use and only invite AHB, SHB, etc. If you have a hive of bees that nails the shirt to your back, requeen it even if it is your best producer. If/

when AHB does reach Missouri people are going to be sensitive to bad tempered bees. It's hard to explain the difference between bad tempered European bees and AHB.

And thirdly, don't panic. Beekeepers in the southern U.S. have been doing just fine. There's no reason to think we won't be able to handle this challenge too. We are truly fortunate that we live in a locale where the winters should help keep the AHB in check.

On a brighter note..... It won't be long and the Missouri State Fair will be starting. Anybody that is interested in submitting a bid for honey, beeswax, honey/bee related products, and educational material should submit their name to me. Approximately the first of June I'll be sending out bid sheets for products for the Fair. This is an excellent way to make some money and promote your own product. The State Fair is also the single largest opportunity for beekeepers to educate the public about bees, beekeeping, and honey.

A big thank you for those of you that attended the Spring Meeting in Overland Park Kansas. The meeting was a huge success. We had marvelous speakers from the "Pros" to the "local" speakers for the breakout sessions. Next time you see Sharon Gibbons and Joli Winer be sure to thank them for their hard work. I'd also like to thank all the other people that helped "make things happen" before and during the meeting.

And finally.... Remember to work safe out there with your bees. A first aid kit, water, and sunscreen are always a good idea. Cell phones are great but also let somebody know where you will be, just in case. Be careful out there and I look forward to seeing you at the fall meeting if not sooner.

Monte Richardson



Monte Richardson acts as Master of Ceremonies at the Spring Meeting's Friday night banquet.



The Empty Super ... Diary of a Hopeful Hobbyist by Eugene Makovec

The Queen is dead

This Spring I did something I never imagined I would do. I killed my queen. On purpose.

Oh, it's not the first time I've been responsible for the untimely death of a queen bee. I've accidentally killed at least one, and there have been several over the years whose disappearances have been suspicious, with Yours Truly the primary suspect.

But this is the first time I've purposely killed a queen. The fact that it was intentional didn't make me feel any better about it.

She was only a year old, a beautiful specimen and a prolific egg-layer. I bought her with a nuc last Spring, and she headed the strongest of my four hives. (Okay, that's not saying much, but this hive produced about 150 pounds of honey last year.)

So clearly, production was not the problem. Rather, her demise can be attributed to a personality conflict.

It's rather like having a star employee, one who excels at every task she undertakes, who outperforms everyone in her department, but who just can't get along with the boss. She reacts to every interaction, no matter how positive, by lashing out. She can't even accept a compliment, much less constructive criticism.

Of course, in the case of bees, it's not the queen but her workers who exhibit irritability. Whereas I normally have to work to get a colony riled up, I couldn't pop the lid on this hive without them letting me know I wasn't welcome.

This antisocial behavior started late last Spring, after they'd ramped up in population and were storing honey like nobody's business. I'd know it's customary to re-queen such "hot" colonies, but it's not easy for a guy like me to buy just one queen, especially not in the Spring. Besides, I couldn't see interrupting such a productive colony with the loss of a full brood cycle that such a replacement would entail. After a time, I just left them alone; I was happy to remove supers, but going downstairs for a detailed inspection wasn't worth the aggravation.

I had a similar colony several years ago. I called them my African bees, even though they were a Buckfast variety. Those bees were both nasty and unproductive; they didn't even warrant the addition of a honey super. Come fall, I left them to their own devices and they were dead of starvation by December.

In the more recent case, I checked for mites in the fall (taking a couple of stings in the process) and wished them good riddance for the winter. Come Spring, I had a plan to get even: I'd make a split from another colony, let them raise their own queen and, once she'd begun laying, pull the "African queen" and make a seamless replacement, probably in early to mid April.

But all that changed in February. On the first of the month, I went by to check stores on all four hives. I lifted one end of each hive to gauge weight, then raised the cover to check the size and location of the cluster. Of the four, this was the only one that greeted me with a contingent of stormtroopers, fully armed and with weapons drawn. *I gotta do something*, I thought.

Judging by the weight of the hive, these bees were also on the brink of starvation, so I came back the next day for what could almost be described as a drive-by feeding. I'd swung by Shop'n Save for a sale on cane sugar, and decided to give them a little in granulated form on the way home. When I opened the hive, the inner cover came off with the outer lid, and most of the bees on top of the frames went straight for me. I dumped about a pound of sugar right on the frames, then another pound on the inner cover. I replaced the lid and got the heck out of there.

Three weeks later I returned to begin implementation of my split plan. As I looked through this colony I noted early brood buildup, not as impressive as a couple of the others, but promising nonetheless.

And then I saw her. She was large and plump, a beautiful specimen. I hesitated. Would I spot her so easily come April? Finding queens has never been my forte, and six weeks from now, with the colony much more populous and mean as the devil, I might not want to spend the time searching for her. Plus, if her brood production is anything like last year, I might just change my mind and choose honey over harmony again. In which case, I'd be kicking myself come fall.

And so, with uncharacteristic decisiveness, I acted.

As I zeroed in on the villainous vamp, she seemed to sense what I had in mind. She moved hastily across the frame, but just as she reached the wooden edge, I flicked her off with my hive tool. She landed awkwardly on the pallet, and I stepped on her. It was all over but the second-guessing.

Why had I been so impatient? Couldn't I have just waited a few weeks for my well-hatched plan to play out? Had I just cost myself a hive's worth of honey production?

Fast-forward to April 15. I now have a laying queen (started from a frame of eggs and larvae from another hive) and two-and-a-half frames of sealed worker brood. They're not as populous as they would have been under my original plan, but they're further along than package bees and roughly equivalent to the nuc I had this time last year.

More importantly, I can look through this hive now without feeling like an eight-point buck on opening day of deer season.

I read recently that the simple act of replacing the queen can quickly turn a nasty colony into a more even-tempered one, even though the existing workers are all offspring of the old queen. Call me a believer.

Which brings us back to the analogy of the star employee. If you've ever managed people, you've probably had someone who fit that earlier description. At some point, you figured out that whatever positives she brought to the job weren't worth the headaches she caused, and the moment you replaced her the morale of everyone around her improved noticeably.

You may even have discovered afterward that she hadn't been as irreplaceable as you'd thought. The solution had been there all along; you'd just been afraid to act.

As I zeroed in on the villainous vamp, she seemed to sense what I had in mind, and moved hastily across the frame.



Joint Meeting a Success

(Continued from page 1)

Tom Seeley shared his intricate knowledge of honeybee communication, including a fascinating discussion of swarm mechanics. Incredibly, in a swarm of 10,000 bees, only about 400 scouts are active. These scouts visit potential nesting sites and lobby each other, via waggle dances on the surface of the swarm, for their preferred choices. Once a consensus is finally reached, they then have to rouse the rest of the swarm to “warm up” their wings for flight.

The April 14 Wall Street Journal featured Dr. Seeley’s swarm research in a “Science Journal” article on animal communication.

Nancy Ostiguy spoke of the do’s and don’ts of organic beekeeping. For those of us not ready to go that route, she also warned that what we put in our hives to hurt the mites may eventually wind up hurting the bees and/or beekeepers.

Dr Ostiguy cited research findings of pesticide residues in both brood chambers and honey supers. In addition to practicing non-chemical Integrated Pest Management wherever possible, it is recommended that beekeepers routinely cycle old comb out of production to minimize such residues.

In addition to these headliners, numerous members pitched in to provide 45-minute workshops. These ranged from the beekeeping-related (Russian queens, making nucs) to peripheral subjects (mead- and soap-making, insect photography).



Beekeeper of the Year

Ted Jansen is congratulated by his wife, Marlene, upon his March 3rd introduction as 2005 Missouri State Beekeeper of the Year.

Ted Jansen, Beekeeper of the Year

Ted Jansen has been keeping bees in the heart of Chesterfield for 30 years. For most of that time, his three-acre spread, about 20 miles from downtown St. Louis, was relatively secluded. Hardly anyone around even knew he had bees, he says.

But that was not the case in the beekeeping community. Ted has long been known as the area’s expert beekeeper, and the guy who helps everyone. From the beginning hobbyist looking for advice, to the veteran commercial beekeeper who needs a hand with harvesting or extracting, Ted spends so much time with other people’s bees, it’s a wonder he finds time to tend to his own.

In addition to one-on-one advice, Ted volunteers to speak on a variety of topics. These include disease prevention and treatment, and the Spring management techniques he uses to achieve honey production averaging around 200 pounds per hive.

When Ted was one of the first area beekeepers to spot the hive beetle, he alerted others to their arrival, and has for the last couple of years addressed local, state and regional groups on how to deal with this latest threat.

Ted has also been featured numerous times in the local media, where he has done a stellar job of educating the public about bees.

As for his own operations, he has scaled back some. At one time he had 120 hives spread over 10 locations, but is now down to five locations totaling 60 hives. Ted says he has concentrated more on raising and selling nucs over the past several years. Last year he had 100 nucs in his backyard, and says he could have sold more. “People called me from all over the state,” he says.

Speaking of his home yard, it’s not so secluded anymore. Several years ago, developers began tearing down the woods behind him, exposing his hives to the view of the 93 villas to be built. So Ted went to the city fathers, telling them in no uncertain terms: I was here first and have no intention of leaving. The city stood behind him, and development proceeded. The developer let buyers know about the local beekeeper — “he put it on the contracts” — and Ted says he hasn’t gotten a single complaint from the residents.

It is unlikely the MSBA will get any complaints about its recent award presentation. Expert apiarist, selfless mentor, spokesman to the community — all add up to make Ted Jansen our 2005 Beekeeper of the Year.



University of Kansas Professor Chip Taylor, beekeeper and world traveler, regales banquet attendees with his stories of “Adventures in Beedom — Strange Things Happen When You Work With Bees”.



Report from the Program Chair By Sharon Gibbons

The meeting held March 3rd & 4th in conjunction with the Kansas Honey Producers was a complete success. Joli and I anticipated about 150 attendees, but we topped 270. As you could expect, it caused problems with hotel space. The hotel worked with us the best they could. We were very crowded on Friday morning, but on Saturday morning they were able to give us an extra room. Thanks to everyone for their patience.

We have heard back from members who took the survey. The majority who filled out the form would like us to have this kind of meeting every year. It is easier to get good speakers when we can assure them (the speakers) of a larger audience. I personally do not want to organize this kind of event every year. I did have interest from Arkansas and Oklahoma in holding a Tri-state meeting, perhaps in the Branson area. Let me know how you feel about pursuing such an event.

The meeting did cost us a little more than we collected from attendees. Some unexpected expenses included an increase in air fares for our speakers, plus the hotel room was a little more than normal. I think that it will cost each state about \$400 extra.

Joli Winer (Kansas' Program Chair) and I both have concluded that costs for speakers have gone up. Speaker stipends have increased by about \$100 and airfares are up. Also, unless we have a meeting in a low budget hotel, the room rates have gone up at least \$10 a night. We no longer are able to capitalize on the 911 aftermath of low hotel rates. We will have to consider an increase in the registration meeting fees.

The Fall meeting will be held at the Lodge of the Four Seasons at Lake Ozark on October 27th and 28th. It is a very nice facility, with no steps to climb. (This had inconvenienced a lot of attendees at Tan-Tar-A.)

Our featured speaker will be Larry Conner, who will be able to talk on numerous topics.

I'm working on an agenda now.

We thank all the vendors who attended and/or supplied gifts for our raffles. These included Mid-Con, Dadant, Drapers, B.L. Plastics, Bees'n Trees (Sharon Waddell) and Pam Brown.

Raffle prizes were donated by the following companies:

Kelley Bee Supply, Glorybee Foods, Parson's Gold, Wilbanks Apiaries, Brushy Mountain, Mann Lake, Humble Abodes, A.I. Root, B & B Honey, Ruhl Bee Supply, Fred Rossman, Western Bee Supply, Betterbee, Lapp's Bee Supply, Hardeman Apiaries, Miller Bee Supply, H & R Apiaries, Strachan Apiaries, Beekeepers of the Ozarks (who donated a full hive), Eastern Missouri Beekeepers, Midwestern Beekeepers and South Central Beekeepers.



Program Chairs Joli Winer (Kansas, at left) and Sharon Gibbons (Missouri) are recognized by Glenda Richardson for a job well done.



6800 North Kircher Road
Columbia MO. 65202-7652
573-474-8837
fax 573-474-5830
walkabot@midamerica.net
www.walk-aboutacres.net

We carry
BEEKEEPING SUPPLIES
such as hive boxes, frames,
foundation, Bug Bafflers, veils,
gloves, hive tools, etc.

*Make your visit a family outing! We
have a "walk-about" farm,
greenhouses and honey ice cream.*

Fall Meeting Preview

Mark your calendars: The MSBA annual Fall Meeting will be held October 27-28 at Lodge of the Four Seasons in Lake Ozark, and will feature Larry Connor, owner of Wicwas Press and frequent contributor to beekeeping magazines. Watch for more information in the July/August newsletter.



Africanized Honeybee

A fact sheet by the Kansas Department of Agriculture
109 SW 9th Street, Topeka, KS 66612 • (785) 296-3556 • www.ksda.gov

Honeybees are Important

Most honeybees in Kansas are descended from the European variety, and they are extremely beneficial. They pollinate fruit, vegetable, flower and seed crops, as well as forage crops like alfalfa and clover. They also produce honey, wax and other products.

One-third of our diet comes from crops pollinated by honeybees. Each year, honeybees add more than \$10 billion to the value of more than 90 crops grown in the United States.

What are Africanized honeybees?

Africanized honeybees are the same species as the European honeybee used to produce honey and pollinate crops, but a different subspecies. They are called Africanized honeybees because they are thought to be the result of interbreeding between European bees and bees from Africa inadvertently released in Brazil in the 1950s. Recent research indicates the African traits are more dominant, so the bees are not likely to become more gentle from interbreeding with other subspecies.

Why should I be concerned about the Africanized honeybee?

The Africanized honeybee can be extremely aggressive when defending its colony. At any perceived threat, the Africanized honeybee can swarm out of the colony and attack. A person walking within 50 feet of a colony can trigger an attack. Operating power tools or lawn equipment as far as 100 feet from a hive can trigger an attack. It's not unheard of for a swarm of Africanized honeybees to chase a victim up to a half mile.

Are Africanized honeybees the "killer bees" I've seen on the news and in movies?

Yes and no. The two names do refer to the same bee, but the term "killer bee" is a name Hollywood made famous. However, because of their extremely aggressive nature, a swarm of Africanized honeybees is likely to deliver more stings than a swarm of European honeybees.

Is one sting from an Africanized honeybee deadly?

No. One sting is no more or less painful or dangerous than a sting from any other honeybee. The venom from the two types of honeybees is almost identical, but Africanized honeybees sting in greater numbers with less provocation than the European honeybees we are used to in the United States.

How many times can an Africanized honeybee sting?

Like all honeybees, the Africanized honeybee can sting only once. They leave the stinger in the wound with a tiny venom sac attached, and they die shortly after delivering a sting.

Are Africanized honeybees in Kansas?

Under normal conditions, Africanized honeybees move northward about 100 miles to 300 miles a year. They have spread throughout most of Mexico, southern Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Nevada, Arkansas and Oklahoma. They have been detected two counties south of Kansas in Oklahoma. They could arrive in Kansas as early as 2006.

Will I recognize Africanized honeybees if they come to my area?

If you see honeybees now, you will probably see Africanized honeybees if they move into your area. The common sighting is to see a swarm of bees as they look for a new home. However, it is impossible for the average person to distinguish an Africanized honeybee from a European honeybee.

Africanized honeybees are less discriminating when it comes to nesting sites. They build nests in the ground, in cavities in trees or buildings, under bridges, and in utility boxes, if they can find a hole through which to enter.

Can I make my property bee proof?

You can seal all cracks and holes larger than one-eighth inch that lead into a wall void, attic or subarea. You can use stucco patch, caulking or screen. Most vent screens are a one-quarter inch mesh, but you can purchase one-eighth

inch mesh hardware cloth and cut it to fit existing vent screens. You also should remove junk piles, upturned pots, old bee equipment, or any item that could offer a sheltered home for bees.

What should I do if I think I've found Africanized honeybees in my area?

If you see a large number of bees in a given area, see bees swarming, or hear loud buzzing coming from an enclosed area, DO NOT approach the bees or attempt to destroy the colony yourself.

What you can DO is call:

- the **Kansas Department of Agriculture** at (785) 862-2180, or
- your county's K-State Research and Extension office.

What should I do if I'm attacked by a swarm of bees?

- Run away as fast as possible. Get into a building or vehicle if you can. Do not try to hide in water or thick brush.
- Try to cover your face and head as you run. Stings to the head and face pose the greatest danger. Use a towel or shirt to protect yourself.
- Scrape (do not pull) stingers from skin as soon as possible.
- Wash stung areas with soap and water, and apply a cold compress to reduce pain and swelling.
- Seek medical attention if you feel sick, breathing is difficult, you are having an allergic reaction, or if you have been stung many times.
- **If the situation is life-threatening, call 911.**

This fact sheet was prepared by the **Kansas Department of Agriculture's Plant Protection and Weed Control Program, Forbes Field, Building 282, P.O. Box 19282, Topeka, KS 66619-0282, (785) 862-2180.** Visit us on the web at www.ksda.gov.



DVD Available on Russian Bees, Small Hive Beetle

Program provided by Institute for Rural America

A new beekeeper DVD is available to organizations and individuals showing the latest natural methods to combat varroa and tracheal mites by integrating Russian queens into colonies.

"This video is a must see for beekeepers because it provides the latest information on a natural method for treatment of varroa and tracheal mites, along with a segment on the small hive beetle," said Gary Reynolds, president of the Mid-U.S. Honey Producers Marketing Association and a consulting producer for the video. Reynolds operates Rainbow Honey Farms in Concordia, KS.

In the video Richard Adde, of Adde Honey Farms, is interviewed about the critical nature of the research to America's beekeeping industry from his operational headquarters in Bruce, S.D.

A special segment of the video features Dr. Lilia I. de Guzman, a Baton Rouge USDA Research Entomologist, who provides an overview of the small hive beetle. Small hive beetles are a growing concern for domestic beekeepers in parts of the U.S.

"Because they pollinate more than 90 food, fiber and seed crops valued at more than \$9 billion annually, honeybees fill a unique position in U.S. agriculture," said Reynolds.

The DVD is available from the Institute for Rural America. <http://ruralusa.org/html/grants.html> To order the DVD, contact Perry Garner at perry@ruralusa.org or 1-800-858-6636, or Gary Reynolds at 785-243-3619. There is a \$15.00 charge for the DVD. (Shipping is included in the price.) Gary is also available for presentations to organizations, and for consulting to individual beekeepers about avoiding varroa and tracheal mites by using Russian Queen bees.

This program was funded in part by a grant from the North Central Risk Management Education Center. http://www.farmdoc.uiuc.edu/ncrisk/current_programs/competitive_KS_3_reynolds.html

MSBA Attends Shamrock Shindig

by Chris Gibbons

In the evening of March 7th, the Missouri Department of Agriculture held a dinner for the state legislators and their staffs at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. MSBA was represented by serving honey based salads. Two dressings were offered; one was a Honey Blueberry Vinaigrette, and the other was a Honey Dijon Salad Dressing. The table was decorated with an Irish Theme and all of the commodity groups did the same. The food was judged by the Kelley Twins, who have a radio program in St. Louis called "Twice Baked". Unfortunately our table didn't win a prize, but we tried hard. Beekeepers who worked the booth were Jann Amos and his daughter, John and Delores Sauls, our Honey Queen, Sarah Jackson, and Chris and Sharon Gibbons.



*Corned beef and ... honey?
Missouri Honey Queen Sarah Jackson enjoys a light moment with the Ethanol Corn Man.*

Bee Culture

THE MAGAZINE OF AMERICAN BEEKEEPING

Don't Miss Even One Exciting Issue of *Bee Culture* **Take Advantage of This Association Discount!**

Magazine filled with everything you want to know about:

- Bees • Beekeeping • Beekeepers •
- How-To's • Honey Report • Profiles • Recipes •
- Funny Stories • Research • Something For Everybody •

Send check to: Bee Culture Magazine
623 W. Liberty, Medina, OH 44256 or call
800-289-7668, Ext. 3220 with credit card

Mid-Continent Agrimarketing, Inc.
1150 W. 151st St., Suite D
Olathe, KS 66061
(913) 768-8967 (Kansas City Area)
Toll-Free 1-800-547-1392
www.mid-conagri.com

The natural way to healthy bees

A NEW E.P.A. REGISTERED TREATMENT AGAINST VARROA IN THE USA

Varroa is still "enemy N°1" for our bees, but it has become resistant in some areas to other active ingredients that were once very effective. Faced with this situation it is time to take a new approach...

Varroa: Wake up to the natural efficacy of Apiguard®

A slow release thymol gel, a new and effective treatment

- A natural and non toxic treatment
- Good efficacy against varroa proven with hundreds of trials
- It respects both the hive products and the consumer
- Encourages the hygienic behaviour of the honeybee preventing a number of related problems
- Resistance is controlled and unlikely to occur with Apiguard
- Ease of use: 2 x 50gm treatments trays per hive, with an interval of 14 days, in summer just after the honey flow

Apiguard has a Section 3 general registration in the United States. Check with your nearest Dadant branch for updates on Apiguard registration in your state. We will also post state registrations on our website: www.dadant.com



Vita (Europe) Limited
Investors in Beekeeping
www.vita-europe.com

Available in the U.S. from
Dadant

Dadant & Sons, Inc.
51 S. 2nd Street, Hamilton, IL 62341
1-888-922-1293 www.dadant.com
or your nearest Dadant branch



Ian Brown Named Eastern's Beekeeper of the Year



Beekeeper of the Year

Ian Brown is honored as the Eastern Missouri Beekeepers Association's 2005 Beekeeper of the Year, at the group's annual banquet March 9. Board member Kirby Vonshouse presents the award and the traveling "Copper Smoker" trophy, as Ian's grandchildren look on.

WEAVER'S FAMOUS QUEENS *And Package Bees*

Buckfast & All-American

OVER 118 YEARS OF SERVICE

THE R WEAVER APIARIES, INC.
16495 C.R. 319, NAVASOTA, TX 77868
PH: (936) 825-2333 EMAIL: rweaver@tca.net
WEBSITE: www.rweaver.com

Iowa Honey Producers Association

presents

SUMMER FIELD DAY

July 8, 2006

1991 Peach Avenue Madrid Iowa 50156 (515)-759-3338
www.extension.iastate.edu/4hcenter

This year's Summer Field Day will be held at the BBQ shelter at the Iowa 4-H Center in Madrid (just north of Des Moines). Come and get the latest information on the treatment of varroa and tracheal mites, with guest speaker David VanderDussen from Canada. David is the CEO of NOD Apiary Products, LTD, makers of Mite-Away 11tm.

Registration will be start at 8:30am, and field day will start at 9:00am, going until 4:00pm.

Along with classroom discussion, we will be breaking into small group workshops working on mite detection and product application in bee hives, so remember to bring your bee veil!! Break at noon with a BBQ and potluck.

REGISTRATION: Members, \$10.00 for individuals, \$15.00 for families with one child, and \$2.50 for each additional child. Non-members, \$15.00 for individuals, \$22.50 for families with one child and \$3.00 for each additional child.

Send registration and/or questions to:

Pat Ennis, 1040 Union Ave., Goodell, IA 50439 1-641-444-4767



Selling Honey

Ken Sona
(St. Louis) 314-303-4646

Buying Honey

Sharon Gibbons
(St. Louis) 636-394-5395
5-gallon pails or larger

Walk-About Acres
(Columbia) 573-474-8837
Buying honey and wax,
especially from Boone
County

Want to be included? Just send an email to Eugene at editor@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org with "Trading Post" in the subject line. Or call 314-965-4631.

Local Club Meeting Information

Jefferson County Beekeepers Association
2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., Jefferson County
Extension Center, Hwy B & 21, Hillsboro
Contact Scott Moser (636) 285-7295

Midwestern Beekeepers Association
Third Wednesday of each month 7:00 p.m.
YMCA, 10301 E. 350 Hwy, Raytown
Contact President Bob Justice, 816-358-3893

Eastern Missouri Beekeepers Association
1st Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m., Kirkwood
Community Center, 111 Geyer Rd, Kirkwood
Contact President Steve Harris, 636-946-5520

Beekeeper's Association of the Ozarks
4th Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
The Library Center, 4653 S. Campbell, Springfield
www.ozarkbees.org

South Central Missouri Beekeepers Association
Contact President May Schmitt
417-256-9447

Missouri Valley Beekeepers Association
3rd Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
Scenic Regional Library, Union
Contact Rodney Angell 573-764-2922
Or bee143@fidnet.com

Boone Regional Beekeepers Association
3rd Sunday of every odd months, 1:00 p.m., University
Outreach & Extension Office, Rt. UU, Columbia
Contact: Art Gelder 573-474-8837

Jackson Area Beekeepers
4th Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
First Pres. Church of Jackson, 206 E. Washington
Contact: Grant Gillard 573-243-6568
Or gillard5@charter.net

Is your club missing? Contact Eugene at editor@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org



MSBA Membership Application

Name _____
 Spouse's Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone Number _____ Email* _____

*Check here to receive your newsletter via email.

NOTE: If you belong to a local association, please pay your state dues through your local club.

State Association Dues (Check only one box)

Adult Membership \$10.00
 Family Membership \$15.00
 Student Membership \$5.00

Amount Enclosed \$ _____
 Make check payable to: Missouri State Beekeepers Association
 Mail to: P.O. Box 448 Oak Grove, MO 64075

Magazine Discounts: Discounts are available for MSBA members to two beekeeping magazines. You may use the following forms and mail them yourself to the publishers as shown below:

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL	ASSOCIATION MEMBER SUBSCRIPTION <small>SAVE 25%</small>
Association _____	Secretary's Name _____
Subscriber's Name _____	Address _____
Address _____	City _____
City _____	State, Zip _____
State, Zip _____	Comments _____
<input type="checkbox"/> NEW	<input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL
U.S. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yr. - \$17.96 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Yrs. - \$34.05 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Yrs. - \$47.89 Foreign <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yr. - \$35.96 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Yrs. - \$70.05 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Yrs. - \$101.89	
<small>(PRICES GOOD THROUGH DEC. 31, 2006)</small>	
Return to: American Bee Journal, 51 S. 2nd St., Hamilton, IL 62341	

ROOT PUBLICATIONS	ASSOCIATION MEMBER SUBSCRIPTION <i>Bee Culture Magazine</i>
<small>Please Print Clearly</small>	
Association _____	Secretary's Name _____
Subscriber's Name _____	Address _____
Address _____	City _____
City _____	State, Zip _____
State, Zip _____	Comments _____
Phone # _____	For Office Use Only Act. # _____
<input type="checkbox"/> NEW	<input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yr. - \$19.00 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Yr. - \$36.00	
Canada - add \$15.00 per year All other foreign add \$20/year	
Return white copy to: Bee Culture, Subscription Dept., P.O. Box 706, Medina, OH 44258 *Please discard any other forms. Use only this form.* Prices subject to change without notice.	



Honey Queen Report

Sarah Jackson



Dear Beekeepers,

Spring is here! Everyone has done a great job keeping me busy during the past couple months — I think I had a bee event every weekend in March! While it was exhausting, it was also a lot of fun and of course, there is much to learn about bees!

The joint spring meeting with the Kansas beekeepers was a great weekend. I definitely learned a lot, and it was so nice to see all the familiar faces again. I gave one of the workshops during the afternoon, which was very well attended. It was really fun, and I think everyone who came enjoyed it. A big thank-you to Sharon Gibbons for all of her help to me during the meeting.

That week, the beekeepers and I swarmed on the capital city for the Shamrock Shindig commodities dinner at the Capitol Plaza Hotel. It was a St. Patrick's Day theme, of course, and that night was a total blast! There were some really funny pictures that resulted from that night, with Jann Amos dressed as a leprechaun and of myself with the Ethanol Corn Man. The beekeepers also talked me into wearing a little shamrock headband in addition to my regular headgear, so I fit the theme as well.

The second weekend in March, I once again ventured to Raytown for the Midwestern Beekeepers' beginning beekeeping class. It was a long day, but we were crammed full of knowledge about beekeeping. I also got to try a dozen different types of honey, which was really neat.

The following weekend, I made the trek down to Hillsboro, MO, for the Jefferson County Soils and Crops Conference. I got to help man their booth, where we sold honey and had a rack on display. I gave a workshop there as well.

Over my spring break, I got the chance to finally visit some schools and give presentations to schoolchildren. I gave 5 presentations in two days, and they were the most awesome experience yet! The kids were fantastic, asking lots of good questions, but I did get one that threw me for a loop. When explaining to the younger grades how queens mate, I just explained that the queen had lots of boyfriends. One little boy raised his hand and asked, "Since you're the honey queen, do you have lots of boyfriends?" It was so cute the way he asked! I had to explain that it didn't work that way for the Honey Queen. They sent me some adorable handmade thank you cards which will be sure to go in my scrapbook!

I'm really looking forward to some more school visits next month, and to an eventful, sweet summer!

God Bless,

Sarah

Directory of Officers

President: Monte Richardson 660-826-4917
1405 S. Prospect Ave., Sedalia MO 65301
president@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org

Vice President: Kenny Norman
3634 Shiloh Church Road, Marionville, MO 65705
vp@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org

Secretary: Scott Moser 636-285-7295
6600 Davis Lane, Cedar Hill, MO 63016
secretary@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org

Treasurer: Ron Vivian
443 Fricke Road, Bates City, MO 64011
treasurer@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org

Past-President: Chris Gibbons
500 East Starla Drive, Columbia, MO 65202
pastpresident@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org

Western Area Director: Glenn Davis 816-690-8007
4618 Highway Z, Bates City, MO 64011
westdirector@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org

Southern Area Director: May Schmitt
10250 County Road 6970, West Plains, MO 65775
southdirector@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org

Eastern Area Director: Steve Harris 636-946-5520
1224 Sherbrooke Road, St. Charles, MO 63303
eastdirector@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org

Southeastern Area Director: Ray Batton
3032 N. 14th St., Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
northdirector@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org

Program Chairperson: Sharon Gibbons
314 Quinmoo Dr., Ballwin, MO 63011
sjgibbs314@earthlink.net

State Fair Chairman: Don Reinkemeyer 636-949-9515
100 Berlekamp, St. Charles, MO 63303

Newsletter Editor: Eugene Makovec 314-965-4631
643 Pearl Ave., Kirkwood, MO 63122
314-965-4631
editor@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org

Auxilliary President: Joanne Davis
4618 Highway Z, Bates City, MO 64011
auxpres@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org

Queen Chairperson: May Schmitt
10250 County Road 6970, West Plains, MO 65775
queenchair@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org

State Entomologist: Mike Brown
P.O. Box 630, Jefferson City, MO 65102

Assist. Prof. Entomology/Extension Spec.: Dr. Richard Houseman
1-87 Agricultural Building, University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, MO 65211

Missouri State Beekeepers Association
P.O. Box 448 Oak Grove, MO 64075
www.mostatebeekeepers.org



A Bumper Crop

... of queens, that is!

Which is not normally what you want to see when you look into your strongest April hive.

Swarm cells generally hang at the bottom of the frame, while supercedure cells lay across the comb as seen at left. Either way, it's bad news if your goal is honey production.

By the time the replacement queen has emerged, mated and begun laying, the colony has lost about five weeks' worth of brood production. So if you see this sight in April, don't expect a bumper crop of honey come June.

A version of this photo first graced the month of April in "Bee Culture's 2006 Beekeeping Calendar".

This newsletter is published six times per year, on the first of each odd month. Submissions are due three weeks prior to publication.

The email edition is in color, contains hyperlinks and possibly an extra photo or two, while the print version is in black-and-white. If you currently receive the printed newsletter and wish to upgrade, just send an email to editor@mostatebeekeepersassociation.org with "email newsletter" in the subject line. I'll reply with confirmation, and add you to my list.

Advertising rates are as follows:

Business card size	\$15.00	Half page	\$50.00
Quarter page	\$35.00	Full page	\$100.00

Classified Ads: Advertise one to three beekeeping-related items in a one-line ad at no charge. This service is for non-commercial MSBA members only, and is limited to one ad per item per calendar year.

Honey Trading Post: This is a free service to members wishing to buy or sell honey on a wholesale basis. Just email or call the editor with contact information and whether you are buying or selling. Pricing is between the interested parties.