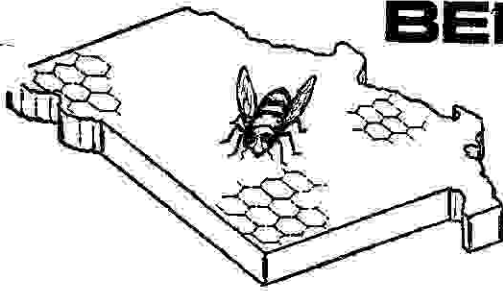


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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
MARCH 1979

NUMBER 1

DEAR BEEKEEPING FRIENDS,

The annual Spring Meeting of the Missouri State Beekeepers' will be held in the University of Missouri Agricultural Building at Columbia on Saturday, March 24. A detailed agenda of the names and topics of the speakers, the times of other activities, and the business portion of the meeting is found on the last page of this newsletter. The officers and fellow beekeepers invite and urge you to attend this Spring meeting and the executive board meeting on Friday evening in Columbia.

* * * * *

As was stated in the December newsletter, Mr. Carl Kalthoff has been selected as Missouri's 1978 "Beekeeper of the Year". At the Spring meeting a formal presentation of the plaque will be made to Mr. Kalthoff.

In reading back issues of the Missouri State Beekeepers' newsletters, one finds in the June 1964 issue that "Carl Kalthoff is gathering material, beekeeping equipment and books concerning the industry for the purpose of developing an exhibit at the Agricultural Hall of Fame at Kansas City." If you get a chance to visit the Hall of Fame, look in the Apiary section for the old handmade Muth Honey Jars (bottles showing a skep, bees, flowers, and grass above the weight designation and "Pure Honey" message). These $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 2-pound mementoes of our last century beekeepers were donated by Mr. Kalthoff.

Mr. Kalthoff played a vital role from the beginning of the reactivation of the Missouri State Association in the late 50's and early 60's. He held the office of Vice-President for several years. And in the Summer 1963 issue of the newsletter, it states that "Carl is gathering the history of beekeeping in Missouri". From June 1970 through June 1972 Mr. Kalthoff wrote a quarterly column in the State newsletter freely sharing this history of Missouri beekeeping which he had gathered through his own efforts and on his own time over many years.

A tribute to Mr. Kalthoff was written by Dr. Richard Taylor in his monthly "Bee Talk" column of the August 1976 Gleanings in Bee Culture.

In this column Dr. Taylor begins " . . . for a long time now I have been wanting to say something about the ideas and methods of my friend Carl Kalthoff, veteran beekeeper of Lexington, Missouri; not merely as a tribute to the finest beekeeper I have ever known, but mainly because his approach and methods should be disseminated. The success of his long career as an apiarist serves as an inspiration to the young people who are taking up this craft, . . ."

* * * * *

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It's getting time to take a look in our colonies, if the weather gives us a break, and to see what condition they are in and whether or not they need feeding, etc. This brings up the subject of how to feed.

One of the most worthwhile winter projects I can suggest is making some Collins feeders. I did this a couple of years ago and these are the finest feeders I have ever used. I have enough of these feeders to feed about half of my colonies, if necessary.

The directions for building these feeders can be found in the September 1977 American Bee Journal. I make my feeders deeper than the directions so that they hold about 3 gallons of syrup.

I also use some division board feeders. But, for feeding candy, a couple of tricks that help in using these feeders are

- (1) Scratch the inside with no. 50 garnet paper. This helps the bees to climb out with a load of syrup.
- (2) Make a couple of metal clips for each feeder. These push down over the top edges and keep the feeder from bulging out and losing its shape as you pour it full of syrup. These clips can be made out of 20 GA. galvanized metal strips about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide.

I will be feeding pollen substitute patties again this February and March. I believe these patties help build my colonies early before I make divisions around the 1st of April. I use Jim Kuehl's formula which consists of 1 pound of fat free powdered milk, $6\frac{3}{4}$ pounds of expeller processed soy flour, 6 pounds water mixed with $12\frac{1}{2}$ pounds granulated sugar, and $7\frac{1}{2}$ pounds honey.

Truman Hardin and I attended the American Honey Producers' convention in St. Louis on February 6 and 7. They had some outstanding speakers on the program and Mr. Joe Maher had a good program lined out for the Missouri Beekeepers' on the 6th. (Thanks, Joe!)

Eric Eriksen gave some interesting information Wednesday about their queen breeding program at Madison, Wisconsin, lab. I was glad to hear that they are trying to preserve a good gentle line of bees for

the future. They are far enough north to be unaffected by some of the problems that the Southern queen breeders may have in the future and I think that this is an important plus for this program.

Phil Gray with the E.P.A. talked about pesticide poisoning in honey bee colonies and about the E.P.A. having difficulty in obtaining positive proof of pesticide poisoning in honeybee colonies, especially in the case of Pennicap M. They need hard evidence that will stand up in court.

I was interested to find in some material Joe Francka sent me from the Missouri Department of Agriculture that tourism is Missouri's third largest source of income. This makes an excellent market for Missouri honey and honey products. I see that Missouri's average price was 74.9 cents per pound last year. This is way above the national average. So let's continue to serve this tourist market.

See you at the March meeting.

Charlie

* * * * *

The January 30th issue of the MISSOURI CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER carried the honey production news for 1977-78.

"U.S. honey production in 1978 totaled 230 million pounds up 29 percent from a year earlier. The number of colonies decreased 6 percent to 4.08 million, but yield per colony increased sharply from 41.1 pounds in 1977 to 56.4 pounds in 1978. Missouri apiaries produced 6.27 million pounds of honey in 1978, 13 percent above 1977.

... Average price per pound was 54.5 cents Nationwide, while producers in Missouri received 74.9 cents per pound in 1978."

State	<u>Colonies of Bees</u>		<u>Yield per Colony</u>	
	1977	1978	1977	1978
	-thousands-		-pounds-	
Illinois	44	38	40.0	43.0
Iowa	82	86	74.0	53.0
Kansas	52	43	46.0	60.0
Missouri	116	112	48.0	56.0
Nebraska	144	127	50.0	65.0
U.S.	4,346	4,084	41.1	56.4

In reading the early issues of our Missouri State Beekeepers' newsletters I ran across the following information which makes for interesting comparisons with the statistics given above.

From July 1, 1961, to July 1, 1962, a total of 129,000 colonies were reported in the state. From July 1, 1962, to July 1, 1963, a loss of 4,000 colonies was reported with a total of 125,000. As noted in the charts above, in 1977 116,000 colonies were reported and in 1978 112,000 colonies. The decline seems to be continuing.

However, the pounds of honey per colony has been steadily increasing. In 1964 the average yield per colony was 25 pounds. This must have been an unusually poor year because the yield per colony jumped to 40 pounds in 1965. By 1977 the yield had increased to 48 pounds. Last year the average yield was reported as 56 pounds.

State	Honey Production		Average Price per Lb.	
	1977 thousand	1978 pounds	1977 cents	1978
Illinois	1,760	1,634	64.4	67.9
Iowa	6,068	4,558	51.2	50.9
Kansas	2,392	2,580	48.5	58.4
Missouri	5,568	6,272	64.0	74.9
Nebraska	7,200	8,255	45.8	47.2
U.S.	178,499	230,309	53.0	54.5

The average price per pound of Missouri honey took a dramatic jump from 64 cents in 1977 to 74.9 cents in 1978. In the September 1966 Missouri State newsletter, I found the following tidbit:

From a letter dated October 19, 1921 - from Raspberry Valley Apiaries, Bellaire, Michigan, to Mr. F.F.K., House Springs, Missouri:
 "Can make you a price of \$9.00 for a case of 10 gal. It is in new 60# (5 gal.) cans."

This comes to only 7½ cents per pound.

The same State newsletter carried the following information:

"From August 1966 Gleanings in Bee Culture monthly honey report: Arizona and California report amber honey at 12¢ with white at 15¢ and 16¢. Alabama reports amber at 15¢ with white at 17¢."

In the December 1978 issue of the HONEY MARKET NEWS the prices paid to producers for bulk honey during that month were reported. Although they varied with each state and type of honey, the general price structure was amber honey at 42¢ to 44¢ and white at 47¢ to 49¢. The only notable exceptions were white Tupelo honey in Florida at 74¢ and light amber blueberry honey in New Jersey at 60¢.

If you would like the monthly report of the HONEY MARKET NEWS, write to the Agricultural Marketing Service, 2503 S. Agriculture Building, Washington, D.C. 20250 or call (202) 447-2176. And, if you wish to receive the CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTER, write to Missouri Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, P.O. Box L, Columbia, Missouri 65205.

* * * * *

The following article sent by Mr. and Mrs. Gale Yemm was clipped from the "Front Runners" section of the SATURDAY REVIEW for January 20, 1979.

THE BEES ARE COMING

Killer bees have been slandered.. You've heard about them, of course, those marauding swarms brought from Africa to South America, accidentally released, and now buzzing northward with the terrible inevitability of locusts. All that is true. The false part is the word "killer". As the Agriculture Department (USDA) insists, "The sting of an Africanized bee is no more venomous than that of our domestic bees . . ."

Who, then, has perpetrated this malicious campaign? Beekeepers, that's who. The Third World bees are potential insurrectionaries in the authoritarian world of the apiary. Unlike the repressed European bee, the so-called Africanized species tends to "abscond", that is, they take off on one-way flights as long as 50 miles. American beekeepers, as the USDA notes, don't want these free spirits mixing with our well-behaved homebodies, since absconsion "would be highly disruptive to our beekeeping system and disturb the vital pollination of U.S. crops."

Is it any wonder, then, that interested parties have started this whisper campaign to keep Africanized bees out of the country? Will we soon hear talk of "shirker bees" or "disloyal bees"? And lest this seem mere chatter, the Agriculture Department reports that "port inspectors check incoming aircraft, ships, and vehicles to prevent Africanized bees from accidentally or illegally (that is, intentionally) entering this country".

Mr. and Mrs. Yemm wrote to the editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW inquiring as to the source of the quotes in this article and the notion that "Beekeepers . . . have perpetrated this malicious campaign" against the Africanized bee. In reply, Mr. and Mrs. Yemm received the following:

Dear Mr. Yemm:

I have decided to do one better than to give you the source of my information; I am enclosing a copy of the information itself, which I received from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. My reference to the European bees as "repressed" was not to be taken seriously, but was a wry reaction to the somewhat ideological overtones of the whole press release.

Jim Traub

The source of the quotes was the four-page report entitled "The Africanized Honey Bee" published in August 1978 by the United States

Department of Agriculture, National Program Staff, Science and Education Administration, Washington, D.C. 20250. Nowhere does the report state or imply that beekeepers are giving the Africanized honeybee a bad reputation. This was a tongue-in-cheek deduction read into the report by Mr. Traub as his attempt at political humor and comment on the USDA press release.

In fact, the report is quite informative on the characteristics, migration habits, potential for spread, the management practices, and genetic and behavioral studies of the Africanized honeybee. Write to the above address for a copy of this report.

* * * * *

A few of the many leaflets, bulletins, and booklets available from the USDA are the following:

Beekeeping for Beginners, Home and Garden Bulletin No. 158, Price 25¢

Pesticides and Honey Bees, Leaflet No. 563

Identification and Control of Honey Bee Diseases, FB 2255

Controlling the Greater Wax Moth, FB 2217

Beekeeping in the United States, Agriculture Handbook No. 335, Price \$1.50

Trapping Pollen From Honeybee Colonies, Production Progress Report 163

All of the above can be obtained by writing to the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Most of these publications are free. This is one of the more satisfactory uses of your tax dollars.

Often, if you send for one or more bulletins, your name will be added to the mailing list and you will receive pamphlets listing new publications from the USDA as they are available.

* * * * *

The Department of Agriculture research on beekeeping is conducted in laboratories across the country, usually in cooperation with State agricultural experiment stations or universities. A list of USDA bee research laboratories follows.

Arizona - Bee Research Laboratory, University of Arizona, 2000 East Allen Road, Tucson, Arizona 85721.

Louisiana - Bee Breeding Laboratory, Room 240 Agricultural Center, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

Bee Stock Investigations Laboratory, R.R. 3, Box 82-B, Ben Hur Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

Maryland - Bioenvironmental Bee Laboratory, Room 200 Building 476,
Agricultural Research Center, East Beltsville, Maryland
20705

Utah - Bee Biology and Systematics Laboratory, U.M.C. 53, Room 261,
Utah State University, Logan, Utah 84322

Wisconsin - Bee Management Laboratory, Room 436, Russell Laboratories,
University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706

Wyoming - Bee Disease Laboratory, University Station, Post Office Box
3168, Laramie, Wyoming 82071

In planning your vacation, if you are passing near one of these labs, you may wish to include some time for visiting and touring the lab. One of the hobby beekeepers from the Eastern Missouri Association tells of the hospitality of Dr. W. T. Wilson of the Laramie lab. Dr. Wilson spent an hour with the gentleman and his family giving them a tour and explaining the work and answering questions.

Of course, there will be times when a laboratory will be unusually busy or will be conducting experiments which require quiet and concentration. Or, at other times, the personnel may be unavailable. Tours or visits may then be impossible. If you know that you wish to visit a lab and you the approximate day that you will be passing through, it would be wise and courteous to write to the director of the lab and express your interest and wishes and make arrangements satisfactory to all.

* * * * *

In the January-February issue of THE MOTHER EARTH NEWS an article "Honor Among Bees" tells of some of the joys and satisfaction experienced by Hank and Laura Baker in their retirement to beekeeping. The Bakers live off State Highway 53 in the southeast corner of Missouri.

* * * * *

At the conclusion of his talk on Visi-check frames to the Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers in Louisburg, Chester Crain rolled some filled Ross Round (Cobana type) honeycomb sections to Kansas Honey Queen Beth Haworth. She neatly fielded the honeycomb and with the aid of Kansas State Apiarist Cary Ross, auctioned them off for the benefit of the Honey Queen Program.

Tom Ross says that his friend, James Sopozyk, the new owner and Pres. of Leahy Manufacturing Company at Higginsville will be handling the Ross Round comb section equipment. This should reduce shipping costs in our area. At present, you should write to Thomas B. Ross, P.O. Box 485, Massillon, Ohio 44646 or call (216) 837-9778.

* * * * *

QUESTIONS AND AT LEAST ONE ANSWER:

How do I requeen a colony with laying workers?

From the Fall 1963 newsletter: "Naturally you will have the colony open and be examining the comb when you discover they have laying worker. Put the hive back together just like you would if it was a normal colony then leave it alone for at least 24 hours. Be sure to mark so you will know which one it is without bothering it when you come back to requeen it later. After 2 days open a queenright colony in the same yard somewhere close to the colony with the laying workers. Find the comb with the queen on it. Then take this comb, queen and all, to the laying worker colony and pick the queen up and set her on the alighting board of the laying worker colony. Let her walk in of her own accord without the use of any smoke or bothering the bees in any way. Then requeen the colony from which you removed the good queen, in the usual way. Leave the colony that had the laying workers for seven days and you will find her accepted and laying and the bees busy removing the brood from the laying workers."

Tell me an easy way to introduce a queen.

1 Method: Remove three or more frames of brood combs from the hive with the old queen. Also remove the comb with the young laying queen from the nuc. Let them set out in the open air for a few minutes. Then place the new queen on one of the combs from the hive and watch her crawl among the strange bees. They pay no attention to her.

Remove the old queen. I usually leave her with the nuc until I get a replacement from the South. Put the combs back into the hive with the one the queen is on in the center. These bees will never know they were requeened. (From the March 1967 newsletter.)

2 Method: Remove the old queen; remove two or three frames of brood; spray all of the balance of the hive with vanilla extract and then spray the new queen in the cage. Put her on the comb of brood; then spray that comb and the others that have been taken out. Place it back in the hive and leave for a few days before inspecting. (From the December 1967 newsletter.)

3 Method: Remove the old queen. Place the new queen in her cage between the bars of the frames and let the workers eat out the candy and release the queen.

Answers to the following questions can be found in the March 1978 newsletter: "How should I feed my bees?"; "When is it safe to open hives for brood examination in the spring?"; "What caused bees to starve with honey stored around them?"; "What can I do with moldy combs?"; "Will bees starve during the spring?"; "How can I keep my smoker going?"; "Why do bees carry out brood in early spring?"; and many more.

MISSOURI STATE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI AGRICULTURE BUILDING
MARCH 24, 1979

A.M.

- 8:30 - 9:00 Registration - no fee
- 9:00 - 9:10 Meeting called to order - President Charles Wills
- 9:10 - 9:30 Dr. Flerney Jones - Dept. of Entomology, U. of Mo.
WELCOME - Dr. Wilford Craig, Extension Projects,
Dept. of Entomology
LEE C. WARTH - BEEKEEPING FUND - report by Dr. Mahlon
Fairchild, Chairman, Dept. of Entomology
- 9:30 - 9:40 Introduction of State Officers and local Association
Presidents
- 9:40 - 9:50 1978 MISSOURI BEEKEEPER OF THE YEAR AWARD TO CARL
KALTHOFF, Lexington, by Joe Maher, Kansas City
- 9:50 - 10:10 Break
- 10:10 - 11:30 BEE DISEASES - Dr. William T. Wilson, Director, USDA
Bee Research Lab, Laramie, Wyoming
- 11:30 - 11:45 Questions and Answers - Dr. Wilson
- 11:45 - 1:00 Lunch (on your own)

P.M.

- 1:00 - 1:10 MAP (Missouri Agricultural Products) - Barbara Hoelscher,
Home Economist, Missouri Department of Agriculture,
Jefferson City
- 1:10 - 1:40 HIGH COST OF KEEPING BEES - Mr. Charles Dadant, Dadant
and Sons, Inc., Hamilton, Illinois
- 1:40 - 2:30 PESTICIDES AND BEES - Dr. William T. Wilson
- 2:30 - 3:00 Buzz Session - Dr. Wilson and Mr. Dadant
- 3:00 - 3:45 President's message and business session
- 3:45 - 4:00 Door Prizes and adjournment

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING - State Officers and delegates from local Associations plus other interested beekeepers will meet at the HOLIDAY INN - WEST, located close to the intersection of Stadium Road and I-70, at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 23rd for a business session. The phone number of the HOLIDAY INN - WEST is 314-445-8511.

Beekeepers with a special project, procedure, or gadget which you have found helpful in your own apiary, please bring it for display and discussion. Display tables will be available for your exhibit.

DADANT & SONS, INC., HAMILTON, ILLINOIS 62341

DEALERS:

Jack Cantrell, 521 Meramec Station Road, Valley Park, Mo. 63088

Home Phone 225-7926 Office Phone 225-7222

Paul Clegg, 3212 Holmes, Kansas City, Mo. 64109 (816) 249-5637

Billy C. Duneheew, R. 1, Box 121, Cedar Hill, Mo. 63016 285-2758

John Hartman, R. 5, Jefferson City, Mo. 65101

LEAHY MANUFACTURING COMPANY, HIGGINSVILLE, MISSOURI 64037

DEALERS:

George Vanarsdall, R. 1, Sibley, Mo. 64088 (816) 249-5637

Clyde Bates, 6217 Sewell, Kansas City, Kansas 66104 299-4787

Charles Denny, 1505 Big Bend Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63117

Archias Feed Store Corp., 106-108 E. Main, Sedalia, Missouri 65301

Steeleville Supply Store, Steeleville, Missouri 65565

A. I. ROOT COMPANY

DEALER:

Don Taylor, Box 636, Herculaneum, Missouri 63048 479-4856

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