

Missouri State Beekeepers Association

PO Box 214 Dexter, Missouri 63841

www.mostatebeekeepers.org

June 2013

Eugene Makovec
Editor

editor@mostatebeekeepers.org

Booth help needed!

Join us at the Missouri State Fair, August 8-18 in Sedalia

With the slogan, "Chicks dig it!" the Missouri State Fair runs this year from August 8-18 in Sedalia. The 400-acre fairgrounds will present premier livestock shows and competitive exhibits, and first-class professional entertainment. Mark your calendar for the summer's best family vacation experience!

The fair will showcase the best of Missouri agriculture; competitions from bull riding to tractor pulls; professional entertainment from Toby Keith to the Oak Ridge Boys; rural lifestyle experiences; hands-on science, technology and innovation; family-friendly amenities for everyone from infants to mature adults; and other action-packed activities.

The Missouri State Fair is the perfect blend of activities for a memorable family outing. The midway carnival includes games and rides for children and thrill seekers of all ages. The nightlife on the fairgrounds kicks up each evening with free music on the Budweiser Stage and music stars performing on the stage of the Pepsi Grandstand.

Admission at the gate: \$8; age 60+, \$6; ages 6-12, \$2; 5 and under free. Tickets can be purchased in advance for a discount. See www.mostatefair.com for schedules and details.

Booth volunteers needed:

Please consider volunteering at our MSBA Booth at the MO State Fair in Sedalia this year. The booth is in the air-conditioned AG Building on the southeast side of the fairgrounds. (See map on page 6, and at http://www.mostatefair.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/2013-off-season-map_revised_4-11-2013.pdf.) If you sign up to help, your admission ticket can be picked up at the RED Caboose located on Hwy 65 (outside the fairgrounds), just North of Gate #11. Go onto the fairgrounds at this entrance and park your vehicle.

The days we need to fill are Aug. 8th (first day), Sat. Aug 10, Aug 13, 14, 15 and Aug 18th (last day). We need 5 to 6 people in the booth each day - 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Call Dean Sanders (816-456-4683) or Steve Harris (314-805-6451) and sign up for as many hours/days as you can. Arrangement for overnight accommodations nearby is available for you to reserve dates of your choice.

Jobs in the booth include answering questions at our observation hive, selling honey, ice cream, honey sticks and other honey related

by-products, plus educating the public about the Honeybee. If you've never worked at or been to the Fair, try it for a day. You get to meet and work with other beekeepers, and Dean and Steve or other experienced workers will be there to help answer any of your questions. See you at the Fair!

Enter your honey and other products:

Even if you are unable to help out at our booth, you can still participate in the Honey Competition. A list of products to enter are: Cut comb, bulk comb, light extracted, dark extracted, sealed honey frames, candied (creamed) honey, 3 lb beeswax cake, beeswax art design, beeswax candles and "the queen & her bees". Judging of honey entries will include degree of density, moisture content, free from crystals, clarity, cleanliness of containers, flavor & aroma, color, appearance of containers, and uniformity of volume. Score Sheet for judging the other additional items and more specific guidelines plus an entry form can be found on the State Fair web site at <http://www.mostatefair.com/premium-guide>. Under "Agriculture and Home Economics" you will find "Agriculture Rules and Classes" (with Apiculture beginning on page 2) and the "Agriculture Entry Blank".

Start planning now and decide what to enter. Get your jars selected (preferably glass, but not a requirement) and get your creamed honey started by early July. Even if you are just beginning your beekeeping adventure, please consider entering your honey products for judging. You get a score sheet for each item you enter and it's a great way to see how you're doing in preparing your honey for sale or even to give to your friends and neighbors.

If you are unable to deliver your entries to Sedalia yourself, maybe your local club can help find someone. Let's fill up the showcase this year and let the public see our beautiful bounty from all over Missouri.

Note: We will match your winnings if you are a member of the Missouri State Beekeepers Association.



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From the President by John Timmons

Swarms, swarms, and more swarms! It's that time of the year again. The ringing of the phone is almost certainly another homeowner, or business owner, in a near panic over an ominous looking, football-size cluster of bees hanging from a limb, a deck, or the underside of their new barbeque grill.

The first step, of course, is to ask that ever important question, "Are you certain they're honey bees?" Satisfied with their first answer, we move on to the next, "How high up are they?" If we're still satisfied (and trust that the caller knows the difference between six feet and sixty), we then provide comfort by assuring them that they're not under attack and that this is just another example of Nature's wonderful way. We assure them that, unless they poke the cluster with a stick, the kids will be safe. And then, rushing to the truck with cell phone in hand, we add, "Please don't spray them with anything. I'll be right there!"

A source of panic for the non-beekeeper is a source of wonder (and a new hive) for the beekeeper. It's one of those wonderful times of the year that we're glad we do what we do.

And we continue to be a growing group. Available seating at beginning beekeeping classes continues to be filled to capacity. More and more requests come into the MSBA website and local association websites, wanting information about how to become a beekeeper. Several years ago I speculated that the surge in interest in beekeeping would soon wane. The market would be saturated, I declared.

I was wrong ... big time!

Just in the past month, I've attended the first meetings of two new clubs, Quad County Beekeepers in Troy, and North Central Missouri Beekeepers Association in Macon. Both have wonderful meeting facilities. But I've got advice for both clubs. You'd better start looking for a bigger meeting hall! Both meeting rooms were close to capacity at their very first meeting! And these weren't simply existing members from neighboring clubs with nothing better to do than go to a meeting. A large percentage of those in attendance were new faces.

So I ask myself, "Why doesn't the membership list of our state beekeeping association, the Missouri State Beekeepers Association, grow at the same rate as the increasing list of beekeepers in Missouri?" I've been asking myself that question a lot over the past couple of years. I've been asking other beekeepers the same question. And the answers that I get are interesting. Some of the answers are constructive, some are bewildering, and some are downright insulting, like I just stole their favorite hive tool!

In the future, I'm going to be asking that question more often. I may ask you. And I hope your answers will help define solutions leading to the inevitable course corrections required of our state beekeeping association ... a new identity, with a compelling message to beekeepers across the state that the MSBA is more than just another "beekeeping club". That's what the local associations are for.

No, the state beekeeping association is more than a beekeeping club. It's that organization that represents you by keeping its eye on the big picture. It helps to define beekeeping initiatives and programs to assist the local associations. It makes certain that you're represented at major events such as the Missouri State Fair. And it makes certain that you're represented in Jefferson City when the word "beekeeping" one day finds its way into some messy legislative entanglement. And you can take it to the bank that, with the ever-increasing number of urban beekeepers, "beekeeping" will soon find its way onto the desk of a state legislator.

Yes, there is no doubt that we have one of the best, if not the best,

state association newsletter in the country. And we have some of the best membership conferences, with some of the best programs around. And every year, in the month of August, dozens and dozens of beekeepers from across the state travel to Sedalia to put on a great beekeeping show at our booth at the Missouri State Fair.

But perhaps that isn't enough. Perhaps we should start putting a little more emphasis on those initiatives and programs that I mentioned earlier.

So, you may ask, "Where are all these initiatives and programs that you're talking about?" Well, you might be surprised to know that there are a lot of MSBA board members and directors working hard to put together a comprehensive agenda for our future; a future that defines our state beekeeping association with a new mandate, a new direction, and new responsibilities.

So the next time you're sitting with a group of beekeepers, turn to the guy or gal on your right, and ask them if they're a member of the Missouri State Beekeepers Association. If they say yes, then turn to your left and ask the same question. Odds are that in one of those two cases, you'll find someone that isn't a member. Then ask them why not, and tell them why our state beekeeping association is so important, and ask them to help lend a hand in our efforts by becoming an active member of the MSBA.

I welcome your comments and suggestions. Email me at president@mostatebeekeepers.org. I promise I'll read every email.

Until next time,
John



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Beekeeping a growing enterprise in Afghanistan

by Manzoor Ahmad

Afghanistan is an agricultural country and the majority of its people is busy and involved in agriculture or agri-businesses to feed their families. Beekeeping is one of the agri-businesses that have the potential to provide jobs to hundreds and thousands of people in the country. With the passage of time the number of people entering beekeeping is increasing because of market availability for honey in the region.

Beekeeping is one of the traditional and profitable agri-businesses and there are many people involved in this business which generates sufficient income to feed their families. People involved in this business have many challenges including technical deficiency, lack of advanced beekeeping and the unavailability of modern beekeeping equipment in order to extend and develop this business sector.

The Eastern region is also known as Ever Green region of Afghanistan; it has good climatic conditions for all agricultural and animal husbandry and production, especially for beekeeping. Eastern Region is covered by snowy mountains and various green valleys, and therefore it has always has flowers in season, in different areas at different times. This is the reason for beekeepers' attraction in this zone, with almost 700 small and medium sized beekeeper farms located in this region.

In 2007, when a beekeeper association was formed in Nangarhar province due to more beekeepers available in this province, the number of beekeepers was less than 100. Now there are more than 700 beekeepers in east zone, which shows the trends and interest of people in beekeeping. The Season Honey Processing and Packaging Company in Nangarhar is the first and only honey processing facility in Afghanistan, and it motivated many people to



start beekeeping businesses. In fact, all the honey produced in the region is purchased, processed and offered to the market in the region, as well as in Kabul and other cities of Afghanistan, by the mentioned facility.

Many organizations working in agricultural development established hundreds of orchards in the region as well as in the country, providing favorable conditions for beekeeping and honey production in the country, which also encourages people to start beekeeping as a

continued next page



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Afghan beekeepers struggle to bring their craft into modern era

continued from page 4

permanent business.

While looking to the favorable conditions, market availability for honey and people's interest in the business, the number of jobs the sector provides will significantly increase. There are 1250 beekeepers in Afghanistan and 212 of them are female, but 700 of them exist in east zone of Afghanistan. Unfortunately the people recently starting beekeeping lack technical skill, knowledge and modern techniques of beekeeping; therefore, they can't get maximum benefit/profit from the business, which makes them disappointed and thinking of leaving the business. They lack the knowledge about the diseases and their treatment cure, and the skill of how to get bee venom, propolis, pollen and royal jelly. They also lack skill in artificial queen rearing, standard extraction of honey, and what and how to feed during off-seasons due to unavailability of seasonal flowers in the area.



Manzoor Ahmad is Manager of the Nangarhar Beekeepers Association, a Beekeeping Trainer, and CEO of Season Honey Processing and Packaging Company. He is also a member of the Missouri State Beekeepers Association.

photos by Manzoor Ahmad

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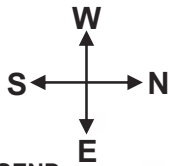
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MISSOURI STATE FAIRGROUNDS MAP 2013

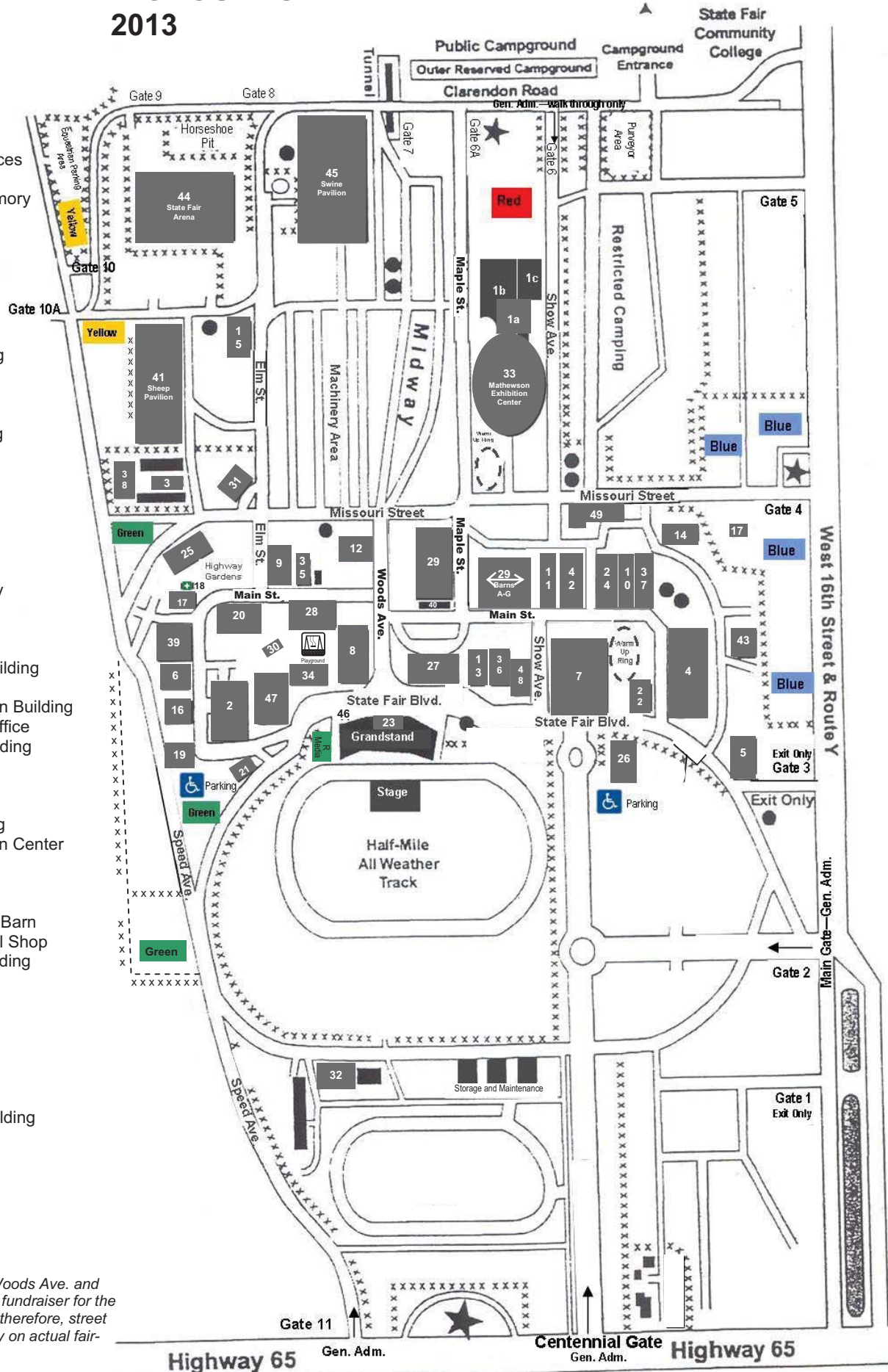


LEGEND

1. a. Administrative Offices
b. Assembly Hall
c. National Guard Armory
2. Agriculture Building
3. Carpenter Shop
4. Cattle Barns
5. Charolais Barn
6. Children's Barnyard
7. Coliseum
8. Commercial Building
9. Conservation Building
10. Donnell Barn
11. Donnelly Arena
12. Family Fun Center
13. Farm Bureau Building
14. Feed and Forage
15. FFA Building
16. Fine Arts Building
17. Fire Station
18. First Aid Station
19. Floriculture Building
20. 4-H Building
21. Frisco Engine Display
22. Gerken Dairy Center
23. Grandstand
24. Hereford Barn
25. Highway Gardens Building
26. Highway Patrol
27. Historic Administration Building & MSF Foundation Office
28. Home Economics Building
29. Horse Barns
30. Kids Stage
31. Log Cabin
32. Maintenance Building
33. Mathewson Exhibition Center
34. MEC Building
35. Missouri Beef House
36. MO-Ag Theatre
37. Mules & Draft Horse Barn
38. Plumbing & Electrical Shop
39. Poultry & Rabbit Building
40. Pork Place
41. Sheep Pavilion
42. Shorthorn Barn
43. Simmental Barn
44. State Fair Arena
45. Swine Pavilion
46. Ticket Office
47. Varied Industries Building
48. Womens Building
49. Youth Building

- Public Restrooms
- xxx Fencing
- ☆ Hospitality Booth

Naming rights for Main St., Woods Ave. and Maple St. are auctioned as a fundraiser for the MSF Foundation each year; therefore, street names may appear differently on actual fairgrounds signage.



Highway 65

Gen. Adm.

Centennial Gate
Gen. Adm.

Highway 65



Missouri Honey Queen scholarship by Wanda Johnston, Queen Chair

Candidates are needed to have a successful Missouri Honey Queen Program. Please search your local bee clubs for young single ladies between the ages of 18 and 24. Applications are being accepted between now and the deadline of August 31, 2013. All information regarding the scholarship and application process can be found on the web site: <http://mostatebeekeepers.org/msba-honey-queen/>

The Hy-Vee in Kirksville, Missouri hosted a "Honey of a Party" on Saturday May 11th. Megan Allen, our Missouri Honey Queen, was invited to represent the Missouri State

Beekeepers Association at the event. Request forms for Honey Queen events can be found on the web site: <http://mostatebeekeepers.org/msba-honey-queen/>

The MSBA fall conference is October 25th and 26th at the Lodge of the Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri. There will be a silent auction again this year so please remember to bring your items for the auction benefiting the Honey Queen Program. Thank you and I hope to meet you there.

A note from the Honey Queen by Megan Allen

Greetings everyone,

I hope everyone's bees made it through the winter ok, mine are doing well and both hives survived the winter. They are very busy bringing pollen into the hive and hopefully making lots of delicious honey!! I am excited to taste my honey this year and see if it is as good as last year's. It was in great demand from all my relatives!!!

I went to Maryville over the Memorial Day weekend to pick up two more hives of bees that Keith Dugan picked up and started for me. I really appreciate the fact that he started them for me since Nursing school is keeping me so busy. I am almost in my 5th and last term and then I will graduate as an LPN in September.

We also went on a swarm call over the holiday weekend at a neighbor down the road's house. She actually had two swarms, but unfortunately, one was in the grass on the ground and had been badly damaged by her mower. We looked for a Queen to try to save some of the hive, but never found her. The other hive was 15-18 feet in the air on a limb. Dad set the ladder up for me and I suited up. Up I went with a box and a bee brush. I tried several times to brush them into the box, but obviously I didn't get the queen and they flew right back onto the branch. Dad, down below, did get several stings from this, but wouldn't let go of the ladder because he was afraid I would fall ... that's taking care of the Queen!!! Well, when in doubt, step back and figure it out. We decided to strap a nuc to the limb they were on, and made a quick run to Hy-vee for Lemongrass paste. We put Lemongrass paste in the Nuc, dad climbed the ladder, strapped it to the limb and the bees immediately started crawling towards the Nuc. Some went in and then came back out and started toward the other bees, while still others were headed towards the Nuc. Dad said, I don't think it's working ... they're leaving ... mom and I told him we thought it was working, they were just communicating

with the rest of the bees that they had found a great home. We decided to come back right at dark to lock them in. Dad again climbed the ladder, locked the swarm in, unstrapped the nuc, hauled it down the ladder and home we went. The next day we added a frame of honey and a frame of brood to the nuc, they seem really happy now, and we will leave them there for a week or so and then transfer them to a full sized hive. Success!!! Our first swarm capture.... And best of all....Free Bees!! The only down side is Dad claimed the bees since he says he did all the work and besides, he heard that feral bees work harder and he likes hard workers...

As for my queenly activities, we traveled to Kirksville for an event at the Hy-Vee store. It was a beautiful day and a wonderful drive. The store was really decorated very impressively. There were people with bee bowties, bee cupcakes, and the Hollenbecks from Hollenbeck honey farm were there as well selling local honey. I talked to many people about honey bees and beekeeping; several were interested in beekeeping and we steered them towards bee clubs or bee keepers in the area. Many were not aware of how important bees are to the ecosystem. Special thanks to the Hollenbecks and Hy-bee (Hy-vee) for having me out and giving me the opportunity and support to help educate people.

Happy Swarm Catching!! Oh, and Dad is now talking about building a bee vac ...

Megan Allen

2013 Missouri State Honey Queen





Winter Loss Survey 2012 – 2013: Preliminary Results

Honey bee colony losses in the United States, Winter 2012-2013

May 1, 2013

Dennis vanEngelsdorp^{1*}, Nathalie Steinhauer¹, Karen Rennich¹, Jeffery Pettis², Eugene J. Lengerich³, David Tarpy⁴, Keith S. Delaplane⁵, Angela M. Spleen³, James T. Wilkes⁶, Robyn Rose⁷, Kathleen Lee⁸, Michael Wilson⁹, John Skinner⁹, and Dewey M. Caron¹⁰ for the Bee Informed Partnership.

Note: This is a preliminary analysis. A more detailed final report is being prepared for publication at a later date.

The Bee Informed Partnership (<http://beeinformed.org>), in collaboration with the Apiary Inspectors of America (AIA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), is releasing preliminary results for the seventh annual national survey of honey bee colony losses. For the 2012/2013 winter season, a total of 6,287 U.S. beekeepers provided validated responses. Collectively, responding beekeepers managed 599,610 colonies in October 2012, representing about 22.9% of the country's estimated 2.62 million colonies.

Preliminary survey results indicate that 31.1% of managed honey bee colonies in the United States were lost during the 2012/2013 winter. This represents an increase in loss of 9.2 points or 42% over the previous 2011/2012 winter's total losses that were estimated at 21.9% (Figure 1). This level of loss is on par with the 6 year average total loss of 30.5%².

On average, U.S. beekeepers lost 45.1% of the colonies in their operation during the winter of 2012/2013. This is a 19.8 point or 78.2% increase in the average operational loss compared to the previous winter (2011/2012), which was estimated at 25.3%. The difference between average loss and total loss is explained by the respondent pool: while a majority of the respondents (95%) were backyard beekeepers, they managed a small fraction of the colonies represented in the survey (6%). For this reason total loss (which is more heavily influenced by commercial beekeeper losses) is more representative of national losses.

Survey participants indicated that they considered a loss rate of 15% as "acceptable," but 70% of them suffered losses greater than this.

¹ Based on NASS 2012 figures

² Previous survey results found a total colony loss in the winters of 21.9% in the winter of 2011/2012, 30% in 2010/2011, 34% in 2009/2010, 29% in 2008/2009, 36% in 2007/2008, and 32% in 2006/2007 (see figure attached)

The Bee Informed Partnership is funded by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA.

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⁶. Appalachian State University

⁷. Robyn Rose, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service,

⁸. University of Minnesota

⁹. University of Tennessee

¹⁰. Oregon state University

*Corresponding author



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European Commission moves to ban neonicotinoids

Action imposes two-year moratorium on systemic insecticide class, but will it help bees?

by Eugene Makovec

The European Union moved on April 29 to impose a two-year moratorium on a group of systemic pesticides known as neonicotinoids. The action will take effect December 1, and amounts to a virtual ban on clothianidin, imidacloprid and thiamethoxam, though there are some exceptions including use in greenhouses and some post-bloom use in field crops.

The action was taken by the European Commission, the executive authority of the EU. It was first proposed in January of this year, but was blocked temporarily in March by nine countries including Britain and Germany. The United Kingdom's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) cited problems with much of the research used to support such an action, saying, "Laboratory-based studies demonstrating sub-lethal effects on bees from neonics did not replicate realistic conditions, but extreme scenarios.... The risk to bee populations from neonicotinoids, as they are currently used, is low."

The issue was revisited on appeal in April, when it again failed to obtain the necessary votes from member states. However, under EU rules, the Commission was able to enforce it without that approval.

Bayer and Syngenta react

Pesticide companies reacted predictably. "We have two controls for all of this," said Dr. Julian Little of Bayer in the UK. "One is France; we've had massive restrictions on these products for over 10 years, [and] have we seen any improvement in bee health? No.

"The other control is Australia where neonicotinoids are used in exactly the same way as in the UK -- same formula, same crops -- and they have the healthiest bees on the planet. The difference there is they don't have varroa."

A statement from Syngenta said, "No evidence from the field has ever been presented that these pesticides actually damage bee health, with the case against them resting on a few studies which identify some highly theoretical risks. Regardless of the outcome, we will continue our work with anyone who shares our goal of

improving bee health, which is vital for sustainable agriculture as well as the future of our business."

It's complicated

What is actually causing higher-than-normal losses is still open to question, but one thing that most honeybee researchers seem to agree on is that it is much more complex than one pesticide, one virus or any other single cause. According to commercial pollinator and field researcher Randy Oliver, while there may be a lot of factors, the biggest by far are the varroa mite and the viruses it spreads. On his website scientificbeekeeping.com, and in his long-running "Sick Bees" series in the American Bee Journal, Oliver has repeatedly cast doubt on lab-based studies that have fingered neonics as a primary

culprit in bee declines. While the authors of such studies report widely on the deleterious effects of purportedly "field-relevant" doses, Oliver notes that bee

colonies in the actual "field" do not appear to be suffering the same consequences as those poisoned in the lab.

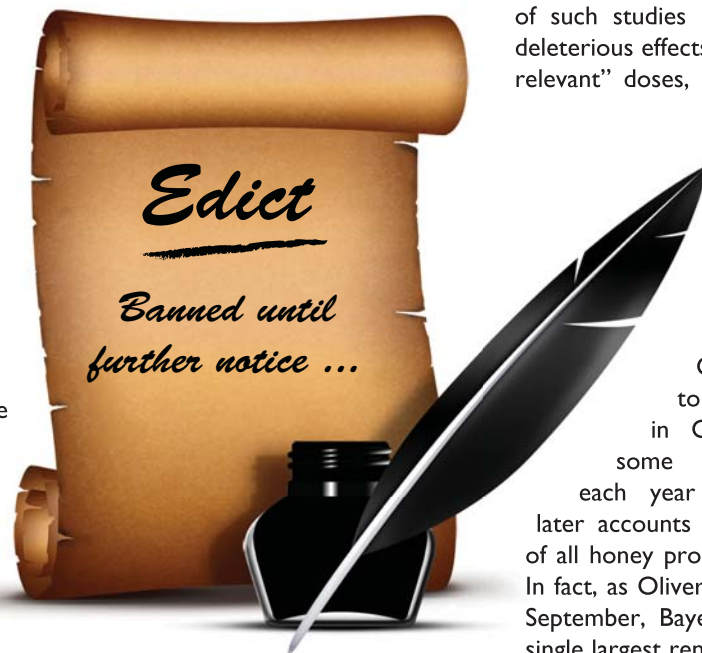
As further evidence, Oliver and others point to the huge crop of canola in Canada, which draws some 300,000 beekeepers each year for pollination and later accounts for about 80 percent of all honey produced in that country. In fact, as Oliver pointed out in ABJ in September, Bayer CropScience is the single largest renter of hives in Canada, for pollination of its seed crops. Would

beekeepers be flocking to those fields year after year if their colonies were coming home dead?

Varroa is still with us

It is by no means clear that neonics were the cause of colony collapse disorder. In fact, in early research shortly after CCD became an issue, deadout hives were tested for pesticides. Dozens were found, both farmer- and beekeeper-applied, but neonics were not high on the list.

While few colony losses in recent years fit the description of CCD, fewer still appear to be a result of neonics or any other pesticides. University of Maryland entomologist Dennis vanEngelsdorp has been an instrumental member of the CCD working group and the Bee Informed Partnership (BIP) annual colony loss survey. (See page 8.) In an April interview in ABJ, vanEngelsdorp said of this year's survey results, "Clearly, with the backyard beekeepers the message is YOU NEED TO CONTROL FOR MITES. It's astonishing to me how many don't!"



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continued on page 13



Local clubs continue to add up by Eugene Makovec

Take a look the facing page and you may notice that our list of locals has grown considerably in recent years. In fact, when I edited my first MSBA newsletter in January 2006, we listed only six such clubs. By January '07 this had doubled to 12, though it is likely that some of these additional had already existed and were just not known to the state organization. But since that time, media publicity surrounding “the great bee die-off” that began in the winter of 2006-07 has resulted in hundreds – possibly thousands – of Missourians giving beekeeping a try.

Some of the increased club count can of course be attributed to “swarming”, as existing clubs in populated areas simply outgrew their meeting spaces and/or became utterly incapable of serving all their new members. In the greater St. Louis area, for example, Kirkwood-based Eastern Missouri Beekeepers spawned first the Three Rivers club (#19 on the map below, 2009), and then St. Louis Beekeepers (#24, 2012). Three Rivers, in turn, just last month spun off another new group, Quad County Beekeepers (#27).

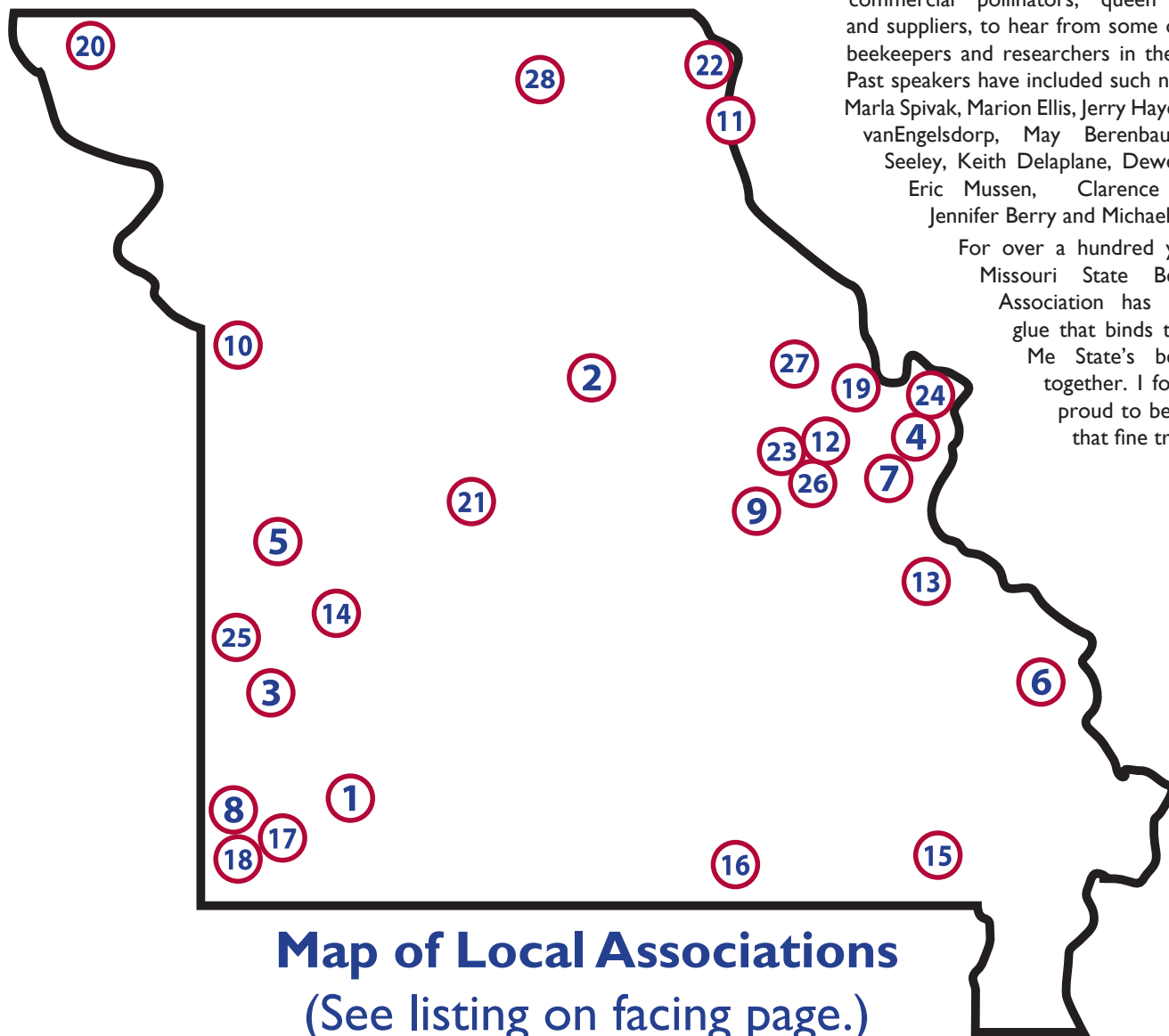
But we also have several recently-formed clubs in areas of the state where none appear to have existed before, at least not in modern times -- the latest being North Central Beekeepers (#28) in Macon, up in the lonely northern part of the state.

I am told that the MSBA at one time had as many as 850 members, more than double the current total. Beekeeping has certainly waned over several decades, in Missouri and elsewhere, But as we now see a resurgence in beekeepers and local clubs to serve them, it would seem to follow that our state organization should grow right along with them. John shares some pointed comments and ideas in this regard in his President's column on page 2 of this newsletter.

Certainly the local club, where you can get together 10 or 20 miles from home, is the best place to go for hands-on learning and personalized mentoring. But we at the state level have a great deal to offer in addition. Our semiannual conferences bring hobbyists together with

commercial pollinators, queen breeders and suppliers, to hear from some of the top beekeepers and researchers in the country. Past speakers have included such notables as Marla Spivak, Marion Ellis, Jerry Hayes, Dennis vanEngelsdorp, May Berenbaum, Tom Seeley, Keith Delaplane, Dewey Caron, Eric Mussen, Clarence Collison, Jennifer Berry and Michael Palmer.

For over a hundred years, the Missouri State Beekeepers Association has been the glue that binds the Show-Me State's beekeepers together. I for one am proud to be a part of that fine tradition.



Map of Local Associations
(See listing on facing page.)



Local Beekeeping Associations

- 1 Beekeepers Association of the Ozarks**
4th Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
Darr Ag Center, 2401 S. Kansas Expwy, Springfield
Bruce Snavelly, President 417-732-5219
www.ozarksbeekeepers.org
- 2 Boone Regional Beekeepers Association**
3rd Sunday of month, 3:00 p.m., Columbia Insurance Group, 2102 Whitegate Dr. (back door), Columbia
President Jim Duever 573-254-3373
www.boonebees.org
- 3 Busy Bee Club**
4th Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m., Cedar County Health Center, Owens Mill Road, Stockton
Neal Lee 417-276-3090, Neil Brunner 314-276-4252
grnthumb@alltel.net
- 4 Eastern Missouri Beekeepers Association**
2nd Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m., location changes. Bob Sears, President 314-479-9517
www.easternmobeekkeepers.com
- 5 Golden Valley Beekeepers**
2nd Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m. (but varies)
Henry County Courthouse, Clinton MO
Tom McCormick, President 417-644-7507
tlmccormick@mccormickcos.com
- 6 Jackson Area Beekeepers**
4th Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
First Pres. of Jackson, 206 E. Washington
Contact Grant Gillard 573-243-6568
gillard5@charter.net
- 7 Jefferson County Beekeepers Association**
2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., Hwy B & 21
Jefferson County Extension Center, Hillsboro
Contact Scott Moser 636-285-7295
- 8 Joplin Area Beekeepers Association**
Last Tue. of each month, 7 pm, SM Bank Community Building (7th and Duquesne Rd), Joplin
Steve Davis, President 620-202-0232
- 9 Mid Missouri Beekeepers**
3rd Sunday of each month, 2 pm, Old Train Depot, St. James. Steven Todd, President 573-885-6650
steventdd447@gmail.com
- 10 Midwestern Beekeepers Association**
Nov-March, 2nd Sunday of each month, 2:30 p.m.
April-Oct, usually 3rd Thursday of month, 7:00 p.m. (Schedule varies; please call first to confirm.)
Bass Pro Shop, Independence, Conservation Room
Cathy Misko, President 660-656-3485
cathymisko@earthlink.net
- 11 Mississippi Valley Beekeepers Association**
Last Tuesday of Month in Quincy, IL
Contact Bernie Andrew 217-938-4975
- 12 Missouri Valley Beekeepers Association**
3rd Monday of each month, 7:00 pm, Union
Location varies, contact below if unsure
President Calvin Brandt cvbrandt@landolakes.com
- 13 Parkland Beekeepers**
3rd Tuesday of month, 7pm, Ozark Federal Savings
President Jim Johnson 573-330-6498 or 573-330-6499
- 14 Pomme de Terre Beekeepers**
2nd Thursday of each month, 7 pm
Missouri Extension Office, Hermitage
Contact Bessi Shryer 417-745-2527
- 15 SEMO Honey Producers**
2nd Thursday of month, Church of Christ, Poplar Bluff
Contact Ernie Wells 573-429-0222
wells.ernie@gmail.com
- 16 South Central Missouri Beekeepers Association**
1st Friday of month, Howell Electric Coop, West Plains
Monty Wiens, President 417 257-3994
- 17 Southern MO Beekeepers of Monett "MOBees"**
3rd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
United Methodist Church, Hwy 37 NW of Monett
Leon Riggs, President 417-235-5053
- 18 Southwest Missouri Beekeepers Assn. of Neosho**
1st Tuesday of month, Neosho High School FFA Bldg
President Roger Ross 417-472-3504
- 19 Three Rivers Beekeepers**
3rd Monday of month, University of Missouri Extension, 260 Brown Road, St. Peters, Missouri, 7:00 p.m.
For info: 2952 Greenleaf Drive, St. Charles, MO 63303
info@threeriversbeekeepers.com
- 20 Northwest Missouri Bee Busters**
1st Monday of odd months, 7:00 p.m.
511 4th Street, Conception Junction, MO 64434
Gerald Auffert, President 660-944-2535
- 21 Lake of the Ozarks Beekeepers**
3rd Saturday of month, 1:00 p.m.
UMC Extension Office, 100 E. Newton, Versailles MO
Contact Russell Kasnick 573-372-3122
- 22 Northeast Missouri Beekeepers Association**
1st Friday of month, 6:30 pm Running Fox Elementary (3 miles south of Wayland) Acting President
Randy Ewart 573-248-5561 rewart@centurytel.net
- 23 Gasconade Region Bee Keepers**
2nd Tuesday 7:00, First State Comm. Bank, Owensville
President Rodney Angell 573-259-5811
2224 Nowack, Rosebud MO bee143@fidnet.com
- 24 St. Louis Beekeepers**
4th Tuesday 6:30, Schlafly Bottleworks
contact@saintlouisbeekeepers.com
www.saintlouisbeekeepers.com
- 25 Western Missouri Beekeepers**
2nd Tuesday 6:30, Moor-View Community Room, Nevada
Caroline Phillips, President 417-321-3587
bcphillips81@gmail.com
- 26 Meramec Valley Beekeepers**
First Sunday 2:30 pm Bourbon, MO American Legion Hall
Contact Sam Elia 573-732-5597 samnora1@gmail.com
- 27 Quad County Beekeepers**
1st Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Missouri Extension Office, Troy
Contact Fred Meder (573) 760-2574
quadcountybeekeepers.com
- 28 North Central Missouri Beekeepers Association**
1st Monday, Area Career Center, Macon, 7:00 pm
Contact Dan West (660) 651-7582, www.ncmobees.org

See state map on facing page for approximate geographic locations.

MSBA Membership Application

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____
My local association is _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone Number _____ Email _____

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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 \$15.00 ☐

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Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Make check payable to: Missouri State Beekeepers Association
Mail to: P.O. Box 214 Dexter, MO 63841

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

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ROOT
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Will banning neonics save bees?

continued from page 9

What also appears to be clear is that weather can play a significant role. The winter of 2011-12, for example, was unseasonably warm, with spring arriving very early, and colony losses dropped from the recent average of around 30 percent to about 20. When winter became harsher and longer again in 2012-13, and late snows were followed by heavy spring rains that prevented many beekeepers from getting into their bees, loss levels popped back up to 30 percent, with starvation becoming a major factor.

Where do we go from here?

Yet we continue to hear the drumbeat against the neonics. Anti-pesticide groups (Beyond Pesticides, the Center for Food Safety, organic farm groups, etc.) have seized upon the issue of bee losses as proof of the dangers of this pesticide class. But what few seem to realize is that the neonics were adopted so quickly in part *because* they are systemic, targeted specifically to the pests that feed directly on their leaves and roots, especially early in their growing cycle. The clear advantage to farmers (and regulators) is that there is no need to spray the field later (perhaps multiple times), indiscriminately exposing both good and bad insects, including those downwind of the actual crop being treated.

That does not mean that the use of neonics is not without concern. One fear is that, even though the actual amount of pesticide applied to fields is much lower than that of older types, the pesticide does not completely break down with the plant, and some residue remains in the soil, with a half-life of anywhere from a few weeks to a couple of years depending on soil conditions and used. The product

There are also continuing, spotty reports of bee kills from planter dust due to improper sowing procedures, seed companies reportedly are working to resolve. *careful what you wish for.*

Another concern shared by environmentalists, beekeepers and farmers is that widespread use of one class of pesticide will speed the development of resistance among its target pests, making them more difficult to control down the line.

But for now, neonicotinoids are the pesticides of choice for a variety of reasons, including their relative safety (to both humans and pollinators) compared with some of the nasty chemicals they replaced. And given that farmers will always seek means of controlling the pests that ravage their crops, perhaps one message to some of today's anti-neonic activists should be, *be careful what you wish for.*

As University of Minnesota entomologist and MacArthur Fellow Marla Spivak said last year, "One of the biggest concerns is that if all neonics are banned, other much more harmful pesticides will be registered."

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Columbia, Columbia MO 65211

Missouri State Beekeepers Association
PO Box 214 Dexter, Missouri 63841
www.mostatebeekeepers.org



Hunker down, ladies!

What a difference a year makes. The last week of May brought another round of “April showers” to eastern Missouri. These hives in Foley brace for one of many thunderstorms to cross the area. With farm fields flooded again and Highway 79 temporarily closed two miles away, last year’s drought is officially over.

This newsletter is published six times per year, in even months. Submissions are due by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

The email edition is in color, and contains hyperlinks and bonus back-page material, while the print version is in black-and-white. If you are a member currently receiving the printed newsletter and you wish to upgrade, just send an email to editor@mostatebeekeepers.org with “email newsletter” in the subject line. I’ll reply with confirmation, and add you to my list.

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