

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

July 2007

Eugene Makovec
Editor

Honeybee Swarms Scarce in Missouri in 2007

Beekeepers Blame Weather Patterns

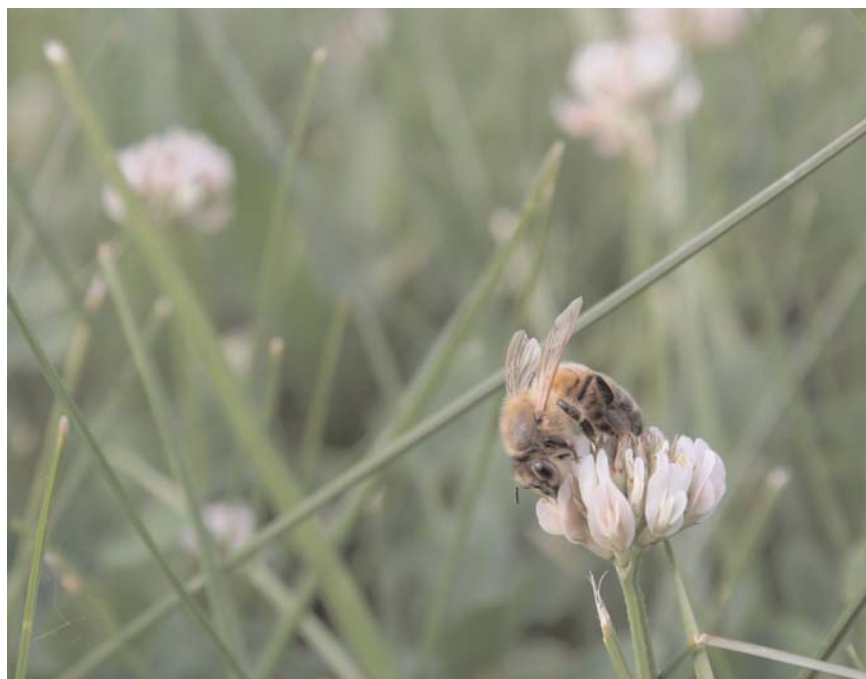
Blame CCD. Last year's drought. Or this Spring's extended cold snap. Whatever the reason, swarms have been few and far between this year in Missouri and much of the Midwest.

Linda Hibbits is the long-time Swarm Coordinator for the Eastern Missouri Beekeepers Association. In a typical year, swarm calls keep her hopping from late April through the month of May. But that wasn't the case this year. "I've only had a couple of calls," she said on May 18. "I think I only sent one person out."

An informal survey of the Bee-L internet beekeeping forum found similar comments from members. Rob Rauch, of Higginsville, in West Central Missouri, said the cold spell in April "eliminated" the normal Spring honey flow, making it "touch and go to avoid starvation so far. There are no stores at all in most hives. No stores equals plenty of space, equals no swarms."

Likewise, Bob Harrison, a commercial beekeeper in Odessa, says he's been "feeding bees to keep bees from starving."

In a normal year, Missouri bee populations begin building quickly in late February to early March. By mid-April a healthy colony, left to its own devices, will



Ahhh, sweet clover! This worker seems wide-eyed with excitement at her first taste of clover nectar. A wide variety of nectar sources contribute to the colony's Spring buildup. But for most Missouri beekeepers, clover is what really fills the supers.

Continued on page 6

— photo by Eugene Makovec

State Fair Set For August 9-19

Volunteers Needed for MSBA Honey Booth

The 2007 Missouri State Fair will be held August 9-19 in Sedalia. With the theme "It's Show Time!", the annual event will feature carnival rides and games, rodeos and tractor pulls, musical acts including Counting Crows and Alice Cooper, and a plethora of agricultural exhibits.

As always, the MSBA will host its Honey Booth to promote honey and beekeeping to the public. Missouri beekeepers will again have an opportunity to supply honey and related products for sale at the booth. Anyone interested is asked to submit bids by July 27 to Ron Vivian, Treasurer; Missouri State Beekeepers Association; PO Box 448; Oak Grove, MO 64075. A bid sheet is printed on page 3 of this newsletter.



Beekeepers can also enter the fruits of their labor in competition. Categories include everything from extracted and comb honey to beeswax and even observation hives. For a list of categories visit www.mostatefair.com/premium.html. Scroll down to "Agriculture" and download the pdf. In addition to competing against individual beekeepers, local organizations will compete against each other. Last year's club winner was Midwestern Beekeepers Association, based in Raytown, while Midwestern member Lowell Hutchison took the Individual Grand Champion award.

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From the President

by Ken Norman

Swarms, Bee problems, "Show Time", Bee nutrition

The last few months I have received several calls from around the state with problems: Honeybees in new subdivisions in Kansas City, bees in older homes in St. Louis, and a swarm in Jefferson City, to name a few.

I was talking to Paul Harris, president of Beekeepers of the Ozarks and secretary of Missouri State Beekeepers Association, who also was receiving calls from different parts of the state that he was unable to help with. In the past I would call the president of the local association nearest the area, or someone I knew off the top of my head. But I can tell you that is very inefficient and not always helpful. Paul volunteered to set up a database and network so when a call comes in about a bee problem or swarm it can efficiently be taken care of in any part of the state. If you wish to be a part of such a database, send your information to Paul Harris at 3876 South State Hwy J, Springfield, MO 65809. You can also call him at 417-890-1008 or e-mail him at harrissmengdr@earthlink.net.

The lazy days of summer have arrived and the Missouri State Fair is around the corner, with the dates being August 9 to August 19th. Dean Sanders, the new fair coordinator, will be handling all the arrangements at the Fair. Please call his cell phone number at 816-456-4683 to arrange any work time at the fair.

The Missouri State Beekeepers Association booth at the Fair is our

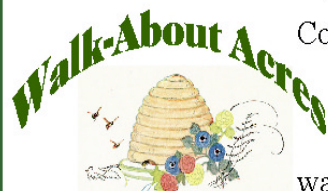
main attraction for exposing new beekeepers to our association and to the art of beekeeping. This booth shares with all fairgoers the virtues of honey, and becomes one of their primary sources of honey for the year. "It's Show Time" is this year's theme for the Missouri State Fair, so let's show the fairgoers what the Missouri State Beekeepers Association is all about.

One way all members can do this is by volunteering. So spend some time manning the booth (four-hour time slots requested), and then take in the Fair and see what our wonderful state has to offer.

The ARS and the Tucson Bee Lab have announced a joint venture with a private company to produce a new bee supplement called MegaBee. MegaBee was tested last fall and winter (2006-2007) on bee colonies getting ready to go into almonds. It was a good time to test because there wasn't much out there for bees to forage on. Essentially they were living off the MegaBee diet. "Results look very good," says Gloria DeGrandi-Hoffman, a researcher with the Tucson Bee Lab. After four years of research, the product is ready for production, with plans for market availability by August 2007. Available as a liquid and in patty form, the new supplement is likely to be manufactured in Yuma, Arizona.

I personally will be looking at better ways to keep my bees healthier, and feeding pollen or substitutes is one way to enhance their health. Whether this product is good or not, time will tell.

The MSBA Executive Board Meeting will be July 28, 2007 at 9am at Ryan's Restaurant; the address is 908 Interstate 70 Dr SW, Columbia, MO 65203.



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State Fair Workers Needed

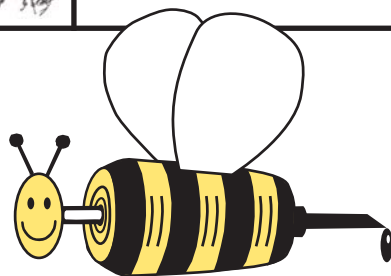
Continued from page 1

Booth Workers Needed

As always, our Honey Booth cannot operate without the generous help of MSBA members. State Fair Chairman Dean Sanders is currently recruiting for volunteers to work in four-hour shifts. It's a great excuse to spend a couple of days in Sedalia taking in all that this wonderful state has to offer. Please call Dean at 816-456-4683 to volunteer your time.

Missouri State Fair Bid Sheet

ITEM	QUANTITY NEEDED	YOUR PRICE EACH	ITEM	QUANTITY NEEDED	YOUR PRICE EACH
Extracted Honey			Lip Balm Containing Honey/Beeswax	50 pcs	
Gallon	16 singles		Describe:		
5 lb Jug	25 singles		Hand Lotion Containing Honey/Beeswax	50 pcs	
2 lb Jar	10 cases		Describe:		
1 lb Jar	15 cases		Pollen		
24 oz Bear	14 cases		8 oz	30 pcs	
12 oz Bear	17 cases		1 lb	20 pcs	
Chunk Honey; Size _____ (Large Jar)	4 cases		Hard Candy Assorted		
Niblet; Size _____ (Small Jar)	4 cases		Novelty Items		
Comb Honey			Honey Dippers		
Cut Comb	200 pcs		Honey Pot		
Ross Rounds	50 pcs		Style _____		
Creamed Honey			Style _____		
Plain	200 singles		Clothing		
Honey Sticks, assorted flavors	1 case ea		Describe:		
			Describe:		
BEESWAX & BYPRODUCTS			Describe:		
Candles			Describe:		
Rolled			Beekeeping Related Books		
Dipped			Describe:		
Molded			Describe:		
Novelty			Describe:		
Candle Rolling Sheets, assorted			Describe:		
Wicking material for candles			Describe:		
1 oz Molded Beeswax (approx wt.)	50 pcs		COMMENTS:		
1 lb Beeswax Block	20 pcs				
Soap containing honey and/or beeswax	50 pcs				
Describe:					
Describe:					
Describe:					



Apitherapy News ...

Honey Rivals Antibiotics in Benefits to Human Health

*BellaOnline Holistic Health
Site (www.BellaOnline.com)
"The Voice of Women"*

Victoria Abreo, Holistic Health Editor

Honey has been used for 5,000 years to treat many health conditions. It is also the first food sweetener known to man. It is frequently mentioned in the Bible and is depicted in prehistoric cave paintings. The Romans and Greeks called honey "the nectar of the gods". The Egyptian papyri are full of praise about the properties of honey (especially the medicinal value).

How is honey produced?

Honeybees prepare this natural sweetener by mixing nectar, the sweet substance secreted by flowers, with bee enzymes. To make the honey from nectar, honeybees evaporate much of the moisture and add compounds called enzymes that change the composition of the nectar. Some of the complex sugars are broken down into simpler ones; and some of the sugar is converted into an edible acid called gluconic acid. When the moisture content of the honey is reduced to about 17%, the bees fill the small cells of the comb and seal them with a white beeswax capping.

What is honey composed of?

Honey is made up of 35 percent protein and contains half of all the amino acids, and is a highly concentrated source of many essential nutrients. Honey contains large amount of some minerals, B-complex vitamins, and vitamins C, D and E.

Because honey is derived from the nectar of flowers and, unlike refined sugar, consists of various sugars that enter the blood stream at different times, it therefore has less effect on blood sugar levels than refined sugar.

What is honey good for?

Honey has been used as a remedy for everything from arthritis and asthma to burns, constipation, hay fever, hemorrhoids, migraine, shingles, varicose ulcers and battle wounds. One of the powerful benefits of honey was that it could ward off infections and speed healing.

How does honey heal?

Honey has anti-allergic, anti-inflammatory, antiseptic, antibiotic, antifungal and antibacterial properties.

Honey's high sugar content kills many kinds of bacteria, including some antibiotic-resistant germs. Honey also forms a moist environment, which speeds healing of wounds and minimizes scarring.

What are some uses for honey?

A study by Robert Bloomfield, published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, reports, "Applied every two to three days under a dry dressing, honey promotes healing of ulcers and burns better than any other local application. It can also be applied to other surface wounds, including cuts and abra-

sions..."

Honey heals abrasions, skin rashes and burns by drawing excess water from the tissues and reducing swelling. Honey also contains a germ-killing substance called inhibine, which helps prevent infections. Spread the honey directly on the wound and cover with a sterile bandage. When applying honey over the affected area, you can cover the area with a dressing or a dusting of cornstarch to reduce any stickiness.

As a moisturizer: Smooth a small amount of honey lightly over the skin; easily remove later with splashes of cold water or comfortable warm water. It will leave your skin baby soft.

As a bath and antibacterial soap: Wash with honey straight from the jar and enjoy sparkling clean skin. Facial blemishes and acne caused by cosmetics or allergies will clear up quickly using a nightly treatment of honey. Only a small amount is needed.

Relaxing honey bath: Put two ounces of honey in a glass with five drops of lavender oil. If the honey is too thick, heat it by placing the glass in warm water. Add one or two tablespoons of the honey-lavender mixture to your bathwater to help you relax and combat insomnia.

Hair and scalp treatment: Apply honey (with or without olive oil) to dry or damp hair about one half hour before washing.

Dental care and mouth sores: Cleans teeth, mouth and dentures and stops bleeding gums. Canker sores, blisters and mouth ulcers respond to application of raw honey.

For hay fever: Honey contains grains of pollen that, over time, may have a desensitizing effect, making it useful for the relief of allergies. Hay fever sufferers are advised to eat honey that has been harvested locally.

For relief of asthma, bronchitis and other respiratory ailments: Honey is an outstanding household remedy that can be used in combination with various medicinal herbs. For relief of coughs and wheezing associated with bronchitis or other minor respiratory ailments, mix one teaspoon of finely chopped fresh thyme in a little honey. Take the mixture as needed to soothe inflamed lungs and airways.

Bee Culture

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Hives ferment a yeasty brew, attract beetle pest

Public release date: 16-May-2007

Contact: A'ndrea Elyse Messer, Penn State
aem1@psu.edu 814-865-9481

The honeybee's alarm signal may not only bring help, but also attract the small hive beetle. Now, an international team of researchers has found that small hive beetles can detect some alarm pheromones at levels below that detected by honeybees.

The beetles associate the alarm chemicals with a good food source and head for the hive. In Africa, where the small hive beetle is a minor honeybee pest, bees quickly isolate an invading beetle, but domesticated European honeybees are not as diligent in cleaning their hives. The beetles are also aided in their invasion by a yeast that naturally occurs on pollen and produces, as a fermentation product, the alarm chemical that draws the beetles.

"It is possible that bees are being habituated to a low level of alarm hormone," says James H. Tumlinson, the Ralph O. Mumma Professor of Entomology and director of the Penn State Center for Chemical Ecology.

While small hive beetles are common in Africa and pose little threat to African honeybee hives, it appears that domesticated European honeybees have a much harder time containing the beetles in their hives. European honeybees were bred to be docile and easy to work with, while African honeybees are noted for aggression and a propensity to sting. The beetles were first seen infesting U.S. beehives in Florida in the late 1990s.

The researchers tested the response of both the small hive beetles and honeybees to isopentyl acetate (IPA), the major chemical in the bee's alarm pheromones. The first tests showed that when worker bees become alarmed, they produce from 1,500 to 10,000 times more IPA than found in an undisturbed hive. Next

the researchers used a gas-chromatograph-electroantennogram to analyze the chemical sensitivity of the insects' antennae. They report in a recent online issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences that the beetles could detect the equivalent of 2 nanograms of IPA at the entrance to an undisturbed honeybee colony, but, the antennae of guard and forager bees did not detect this level of IPA.

"This indicates strongly that the heightened sensitivity of the beetles to volatiles released from the hive entrance allows them to key in on the bee colonies without bees responding to their attack," the researchers report. Complicating the issue is the yeast that grows in the hives. The researchers found that this yeast only produced IPA when it grew on pollen. Even pollen substitute, a food sometimes provided for bees, did not increase the amounts of IPA produced.

"We are not really sure how the yeast gets into the colony," says Tumlinson. "Perhaps one beetle finds and carries the yeast in and it reproduces, or, because the yeast grows on pollen in nature, perhaps bees bring it into the hive."

This combination of domestic honeybees, small hive beetles and yeast produced IPA leads to combs so messy that the bees eventually decide to abandon the hive, leaving the beetle larvae to consume all the stored food, reproduce and multiply.

"If beekeepers can reverse the trend and eliminate the beetles, the hive can be saved," says Tumlinson. "If they can stop the beetles and remove eggs in the hive, the hive recovers." Honeybees are of major economic importance in agriculture as the major pollinating force for much orchard fruit and vegetables. Many of these fruits and vegetables will not produce without honeybees. The small hive beetle can destroy many commercial hives.

"If we can find out how this system works, there is a good possibility we will figure out ways to protect against the beetle," says Tumlinson.

Honeybees in the U.S. and Europe have been suffering from a variety of invaders and ailments including varroa mite infestations, fungal infections and beetles. Recently, beekeepers in the U.S. reported occurrences of Colony Collapse Disorder, a syndrome where hives are found abandoned, except for the queen and a few workers. Beekeepers and researchers are unsure of the cause of CCD.

"Whether or not it has anything to do with Colony Collapse Disorder, a multitude of things are all attacking bees today; these beetles are just one more thing to add to an already embattled species," says the Penn State researcher.

Researchers working on this project include Tumlinson; Baldwin Torto, International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology, Nairobi, Kenya; Drion G. Boucias, U.S. Department of Agriculture – Agricultural Research Center, Gainesville, Florida; Richard T. Arbogast and Peter E.A. Teal, University of Florida. The USDA supported this research.

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Missouri State Beekeepers Fall 2007 Meeting

Friday, November 2nd – Saturday, November 3rd

by Sharon Gibbons

Please join us for our Fall Meeting in Hannibal, MO. We have an exciting agenda planned and we hope that all of our members will attend. Perhaps car-pooling can be arranged from the western and southwestern parts of Missouri.

This two-day meeting will be held at:

QUALITY INN & SUITES

120 Lindsey Drive

Hannibal, Mo. 63401

(573) 221-4001

E-mail gm.mo179@choicehotels.com

The group room rate is \$69.95 for single or double. Please mention MSBA to get the special rate. The block of rooms will be held for us until October 18, 2007. The hotel is located on Highway 36, two miles west of the intersection of Highways 36 and 61. The room rate includes a full hot breakfast buffet. The hotel has an indoor heated pool, hot tub, exercise room and game room. The rooms include irons, ironing boards, hair dryers, and in-room coffee service. The hotel is a pet friendly hotel, allowing up to two pets for an additional \$10 charge in the smoking section of the hotel. Suites are available at an extra charge.

Dewey Caron, Dan Purvis are Featured Speakers

Speakers for our meeting include nationally renowned entomologist Dewey M. Caron from the University of Delaware. His topics will include: Honeybee Nutrition and how it might relate to CCD; Africanized honeybees in the Americas (specifically in Missouri); Fall and Winter Management; and Dewey's research on mite thresholds. Our second speaker is Dan Purvis, who will discuss queen breeding and selection of the best stock for Missouri.

Tours of Historic Hannibal, Andrews Honey Farm

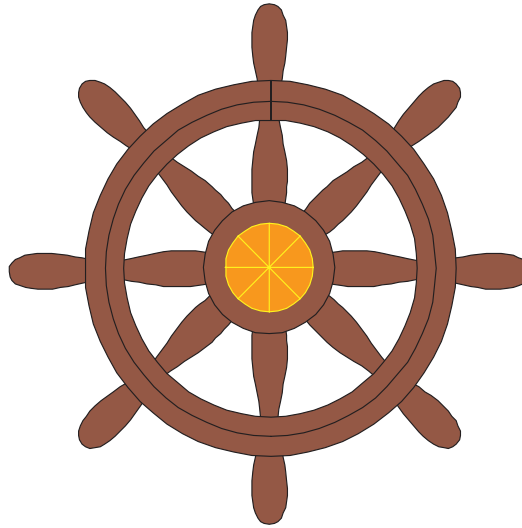
We would like to include a trolley tour of Hannibal. There would be an extra charge for the tour. Please let me know if there is any interest in it. The tour would include stops at Mark Twain Cave, Historic Downtown Hannibal, Molly Brown's Birthplace, Mark Twain Riverboat, and more. Make this meeting a mini-vacation. The special

rate includes Thursday night through Sunday. If you want to add more days, please let me know, and I will arrange the same rate.

We also will have a honey house tour of Andrews Honey Farm. You might remember that Bernie showed us slides of the construction of his honey house several years ago. Bernie is an Illinois beekeeper close to Quincy, IL. We will need to arrange a bus or several large vans for the trip to his house.

Please support our meetings by attending. If you support our banquet and lunches at the meetings, we will be able to meet the \$3000 food minimum required to get free meeting rooms.

All meeting questions can be directed to Sharon Gibbons at sgibbs314@earthlink.net.



Swarm Shortage May Be Part of Larger Problem

Continued from page 1

be straining the confines of the two deep brood boxes in which it overwintered.

As Grant Gillard said in his Spring Meeting lecture on swarm control, it's all about congestion in the brood nest. Swarming preparations are initiated in response to congestion with bees and/or nectar. When both are in short supply, there is no swarm impulse.

In fact, says Grant, "... in Jackson, MO, our swarm calls have been few and far between as well. I blame the freeze we had around Easter. It knocked out the nectar flow... Without any blooms to supply nectar and pollen, I sense the queen reduced her laying."

Whether CCD can in any way be implicated in this year's dearth of swarms is open to question. But clearly, Missouri's bees (and beekeepers) have suffered over the past few months. Last year's extended drought conditions caused negative ripple effects that are still felt today:

Low nectar supplies resulted in poor honey production throughout the state. Many beekeepers had to feed to ensure their bees' survival into December, much less through the winter.

Drought conditions also affected the quality of pollen available to the bees. This in turn affected the health of fall brood, which impacted winter survival rates.

Flowering trees, when exposed to prolonged drought conditions, not only produce less nectar in the drought year, but head into winter with reduced carbohydrate stores, which can in turn cause a dearth of nectar in the following year.

All of these factors -- reduced pollen production, delayed colony buildup, and reduced nectar flow -- add up to another poor honey crop for this year.



Missouri State Beekeepers Association Fall 2007 Meeting Registration Form

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP+4 _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

**Pre-Registration Fees: registration must be received by OCTOBER 19, 2007**

Member – Pre-registration \$20.00 X _____ = _____

Family Member— Must have paid 2007 dues as a family member \$30.00 _____
Please list names attending for name badges. _____

Non-member –Pre-registration \$30.00 X _____ = _____

Registrations made after OCTOBER 19, 2007Member -- \$25.00 X _____ = _____
(No family discount on late registrations)

Non-member – \$35.00 X _____ = _____

Friday Night Banquet & Entertainment: To be announced

Adult - \$20.00 per person (\$20.00 x _____) = _____

Child - \$12.00/child under 12 (\$12.00 x _____) = _____

Saturday Lunch

Adult - \$12.50/person (\$12.50 x _____) = _____

Child - \$7.50/child under 12 (\$ 7.50 x _____) = _____

Membership 2008 Missouri State Beekeepers Assn. Individual: ☐ Renewal ☐ New \$15.00 _____Membership 2008 Missouri State Beekeepers Assn. Family: ☐ Renewal ☐ New \$20.00 _____

Queen fund donation Donation \$ _____

Meeting fund donation Donation \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Mo. State Beekeepers Assn. . Send to Pam Brown, 1407 Sneak Rd., Foristell, Mo. 63348. *If you pre-register and then can not attend, your registration fee will be considered a donation and no refunds will be made. If you pay for meals and we are able to sell them you will be refunded for those.*

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1 pkg @ 8#

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Little Wonder Extractor Kits—A step up in size from the Junior Bench but the little wonder extracting kit is perfect for the hobby beekeeper. It is available in both hand and power styles. This four frame extractor comes complete with extractor and stand, 1 bottling bucket kit, 1 speed king electric knife, plastic uncapping tub and 1 capping scratcher.

M00396KIT LW Hand Extractor Kit \$521.00

This ships in 4 pkgs.
1 pkg @ 70# 1 pkg @ 8#
2 pkgs @ 35#

M00403KIT LW Power Extractor Kit \$764.95

This ships in 5 pkgs.
1 pkg @ 70# 1 pkg @ 13#
2 pkgs @ 35# 1 pkg @ 8#

**Holds 6
frames**

Dadant & Sons, Inc. Ranger Power Extractor Kit

Hand style also available

Ranger Extractor Kits—For those who prefer a radial extractor this is for you. The Ranger extracting kit is available in both the power and hand styles. It is capable of extracting 6 - 6 1/4" frames or shallow frames radially or three deep frames tangentially by using the optional baskets. The 6 frame radial extractor comes complete with extractor and stand, 1 bottling bucket kit, 1 speed king electric knife, plastic uncapping tub and 1 capping scratcher.

Optional baskets for deep frames sold separately.

M00400KIT Ranger Hand Extractor Kit \$618.95

This ships in 4 pkgs.
1 pkg @ 70# 1 pkg @ 8#
2 pkgs @ 35#

M00401KIT Ranger Power Extractor Kit \$839.95

This ships in 5 pkgs.
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2 pkgs @ 35# 1 pkg @ 8#

M00402 Optional Baskets, for Deep Frames, Ship Wt. 8 lbs. . . . \$79.99



Local Club Information

Beekeepers Association of the Ozarks

4th Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
The Library Center, 4653 S. Campbell, Springfield
www.ozarksbeekeepers.org

Boone Regional Beekeepers Association

3rd Sunday of odd months, 1:00 p.m., University
Outreach and Extension Office, Rt. UU, Columbia
Contact Art Gelder 573-474-8837

Eastern Missouri Beekeepers Association

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

Gasconade County Beekeepers Association

2nd Monday of month, Progressive Bank of Owensville
Contact Rodney Angell 573-764-2922
bee143@fidnet.com

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

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

Joplin Area Beekeepers

Last Thursday of each month, SW MO Bank Annex
(7th and Duquesne)
Contact Howard Thompson 417-781-0587

Mid Missouri Beekeepers

3rd Sunday of each month, Bank of Salem, Salem
Mel Williams, President

Midwestern Beekeepers Association

3rd Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
YMCA, 10301 E. 350 Hwy, Raytown
Bob Justice, President 816-358-3893

Missouri Valley Beekeepers Association

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

Parkland Beekeepers

3rd Tuesday of each month, 108 Harrison, Farmington
Contact Gene Wood 573-431-1436

South Central Missouri Beekeepers Association

May Schmitt, President 417-256-9447

Southern Missouri Beekeepers of Monett ("MOBees")

3rd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
Monett High School VO-AG Building
Robert Sperandio, President 417-235-6959

Southwest Beekeepers Association

1st Tuesday of each month
Neosho High School FFA Building
Contact Herb Spencer 417-472-7743

Is your club missing? Send your information to:
editor@mostatebeekeepers.org

Hivastan Receives Section 18 Exemption for Missouri

Hivastan, a varroa control agent (active ingredient: Fenpyroximate) has been cleared for use in Missouri for a limited time.

Fenpyroximate is used on crops such as citrus, apples and hops, but is not technically approved for use in honeybee colonies. But according to the Environmental Protection Agency's website, "Section 18 of Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) authorizes EPA to allow States to use a pesticide for an unregistered use for a limited time if EPA determines that emergency conditions exist." The Missouri Department of Agriculture applied for and received this Section 18 exemption, which applies through February of 2008.

According to Collin Wamsley, Missouri State Entomologist, the state can reapply for this exemption every year. "Thanks go to Darryl Slade of our Pesticide Bureau for doing all the work on this," said Wamsley. "He is the one who actually carries out the application process."

Hivastan is supplied in the form of patties that are placed in the hive in Spring and Fall (before and after the honey flow).

According to the product's manufacturer, Central Life Sciences, testing with the USDA showed that it "provided up to six weeks of no-mess, easy-to-use Varroa control. When used as directed, bees

transfer the active ingredient throughout the colony while they work to remove the product (which they perceive as a foreign substance) from the hive."

Unfortunately, Wamsley said the chemical is in short supply right now due to high demand from beekeepers. "You will want to contact ... your chemical dealer directly" for availability.

Missouri Names New Entomologist

Collin Wamsley was named to the post of Missouri State Entomologist in April, replacing the retiring Michael Brown.

Mr. Wamsley holds a B.S. in Agronomy and an M.S. in Agriculture from Northwest Missouri State University. He studied entomology for 2.5 years at Kansas State University before accepting a position with the Missouri Department of Agriculture in 2000. He most recently served MDA as a field entomologist in west central Missouri.

Mr. Wamsley has also assisted his predecessor with the Missouri State Fair's apiculture contest over the past five years, and has met many of the state's beekeepers in the process.

Mr. Wamsley grew up near Clarksville, MO, on a crop and livestock farm, and is proud to be a sixth-generation Missouri farmer. He lives with his wife and one-year-old daughter in Columbia.

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Honey Queen Report

Lori Guthals

Hello Beekeepers!

Summer is finally here, and it sure feels like it here in Northwest Missouri. I just got done with school a few weeks ago and it has been all fun since then!

Since the school semester ended, I have been super busy. I have been working on the farm (back home), visiting with family and attending numerous livestock shows. I've really had a good time so far, but I really can't wait for what lies ahead the rest of the summer. I will have the opportunity to do some traveling, attend some more livestock shows and then it will be time for the Missouri State Fair! I'm so excited! That always seems to be the highlight of my summer and this year is especially exciting because not only do I get to show my cattle, but I will also have the opportunity to serve as your Queen in the Honey Booth! I'm extremely thrilled about that and can hardly wait!

Well, it's that time again, when I must let you go, but as always, I would like to say as this year's Honey Queen, I look forward to serving you! If you have a fair, festival, meeting or activity you would like me to attend, please contact Kathy Hogan, Honey Queen Director, so she may relay the message to me. Her address is located in the column to the right and on the association website.

Again, I thank you for this amazing opportunity and I look forward to promoting all aspects of honey throughout the remainder of the year!

Sincerely,

Lori Guthals



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Money doesn't grow on trees, and for that we can blame the bees. Despite their ability to cultivate honey They NEVER learned how to pollinate money.

James M. Cowman

Missouri State Beekeepers Association

P.O. Box 448 Oak Grove, MO 64075

www.mostatebeekeepers.org



A carpenter bee (Zylocopa virginica) browses a Clematis in a Kirkwood yard. Commonly mistaken for a bumblebee, the carpenter is distinguished by a longer, darker and shinier abdomen.

Also unlike the bumblebee, the carpenter is solitary by nature. The female excavates a perfectly round hole in exposed wood and lays her eggs there. Like many "solitary" species, they often live in communities of a sort; where one carpenter bee nest is found, there are usually several. The sound of burrowing can be heard by one standing within a couple of feet of the site, and small piles of sawdust can be observed below.

One trait this insect shares with the bumblebee is its value as a pollinator. Passion fruit, peppers and pole beans are among the species worked by carpenters. They are, however, known for "robbing" certain crops such as blueberries by cutting slits in the sides of flowers to access nectar without contacting the pollen.

Some gardeners attract carpenter bees for pollination purposes by hanging boards outside with starter holes drilled 5/8" in diameter.

– photo by Eugene Makovec

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