

# THE MANITOBA BEEKEEPER



Picture by Ray Giguere

**[www.manitobabee.org](http://www.manitobabee.org)**

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# Field Day Sunny for 2012

Jim Campbell, Promotion Committee

The 2012 Beekeepers Field Day took place about 45 minutes East of Winnipeg, under bright sunny skies, and saw about 50 people gather at Derrco Apiaries.

On Thursday 7 June, Beekeepers, Families, Philippine guests and Summer Beekeeping Staff, gathered in the Honey House at Derrco Apiaries, Anola, Manitoba for the information session starting off the Field Day events. Vern and Sue



Derraugh's family run farm has been in operation for several years and has potential to operate several hundred colonies during the summer months.

Bee Maid began the days' activities by updating attendees on the continuing development of their web site. Guy Chartier, who just returned from meetings in Edmonton, invited everyone to check out the latest videos about honey. He also described successful unique customer marketing using a variety web based tools. Karen Miles noted plans to encourage the number of coop members in achieving their food safety goals, plus options for new producers providing honey to the cooperative.

Following the BBQ Smokey and Hot Dog lunch, from Cherie's Catering, the group moved back to the Bee Yard. Here, Vern ( Top right picture) and his son Troy ( Bottom right), talked about their method of sustainability plus demonstrated the simplicity of their family operation. Attendees enjoyed being shown the setup for grafting cells for Queen production, the finisher hives where cells were developed, and the mating nucs where a new hive has its beginnings. The extracting room area revealed how things can be done using minimal labour and efficient use of equipment. Later on, MBA updated producers on the various letters sent on their behalf. MBA is awaiting response from PMRA regarding the availability of Apivar after June 30. As well, the Winter Bee Insurance program seemed to have gotten off to a good start, and there are changes to the application process underway. In addition, Canadian Honey Council, through grants from Growing Forward, provided copies of their new Agricultural Chemical Safety poster for attendees to take home.

Dr. Currie, U of M, reported on the Varroa Control Evaluation project, noting the treatments he is using and the plans for the upcoming summer. He noted the differences in treatment methods and procedures, as the project goes into its second year.

David Ostermann, MAFRI, stressed the concern for Bee Lab results indicating a high level of nosema again this year. He noted the desire to have a skunk control product, yet there are not many options. A company in New Zealand is willing to send a research representative to test some products, provided airfare can be covered by Manitobans.

The group expressed appreciation to Bee Maid, for their contribution to the success of the day, Vern and Sue for hosting, as well as for others responsible for organizing the event!



# Provincial Apiarist Report

Rhéal Lafrenière

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives



This year's honey bee loss survey was only four questions. As part of the Harmonized National Survey, it was decided that survey fatigue was starting to be evident based on the decrease in responses that all province were reporting when

conducting surveys. Especially during the busy spring season!

At this time, the average winter mortality including spring loss is approximately 16%. This is based on responses from beekeepers representing approximately 44% of the colonies in the province. Losses in 2011-2012 are significantly lower than the losses last year (34%). Long, warm fall and a mild, short winter allowed the bees to maintain larger than normal population throughout the winter and spring. Beekeepers have been reporting that making up losses was much easier this spring because of the abundance of strong colonies they could take brood from. One problem with having big population early in the season is that the colonies will consume a lot of food during periods of dirth, so feeding expenses have been higher than normal. Another problem is swarming! Although reports of swarming earlier this spring were really not that much higher than normal, the last two weeks (i.e. end of June beginning of July) the number of reported swarms have increased dramatically.

That said most beekeepers we have talked to are fairly optimistic for good honey production this year, as long as the weather holds out (i.e. warm and relatively dry) during July and August. Last year, honey production in Manitoba was considered above average at 200 lbs per colony, so the expectation is set pretty high!

Earlier this year, we heard about problems with queen acceptance and establishment with some of the imported queens, so we asked beekeepers to report on their positive and negative experience with queen introduction this spring. We have tabulated the information and although we did not get a lot of responses, approx 20, overall the reported success with California queens stood out this spring, no negative responses and a rate of non-acceptance of approximately 4% or less. Reports on queens from Chile were also favourable, with generally good acceptance and establishment but the rate of failed queens was a bit higher at 5 – 10%.

The higher rates of problems were reported with queens introduced into strong splits. Hawaiian queens, more specifically Kona queens had a very wide range of acceptance and supersedure problems. Some beekeepers reported good success with only 2% failure to establish, whereas other beekeepers reported 50+% failure. The timing of introduction did not seem to be a critical factor with reports of problems from April to June. More commonly, the reports of problems with high rates of poor acceptance and supersedure were associated with introducing queens to “larger” nucs or splits. Several producers reported that they had greater success when the queens were introduced into small nucs. Without knowing for certain the cause of the problem, there appeared

to be issues with the queen's ability to assert her reign over the population of bees she was introduced to. Whether there were pheromone problems or health problems with the queens, the rate of failed queens on average was high at approximately 15%±10% (i.e. huge variability). Lastly, although we did not get anyone to submit a report on the Australian queens, the few verbal conversations that we had with some beekeepers that tried them were not very positive in terms of high rates of establishment problems.

This fall a more detailed survey will be conducted on hive management activities including making hives and introducing queens. The fall survey will also inquire about sale of bees from beekeeper to beekeeper. It is not only important that all sales of bees are reported to the province but that the contact information of the buyers is also included. This is to ensure that beekeepers purchasing bees for the first time become registered beekeepers.

It is also important that all inter-provincial sale/movement of honey bees and equipment be directed through the Provincial Apiculture office. In order for the bees or equipment to enter another province, a disease risk assessment has to be conducted. This involves providing the Provincial Apiculture office(s) where the bees would be travelling to with a recent disease history of the bees or equipment. Many provinces require that the beekeeper purchasing bees from outside the province to apply for an import permit.

Although Manitoba does not have an import permit application process per se, it does require a letter of permit for inter-provincial



movement of bees. Likely not a lot of difference in outcome, just a little less formal (i.e. no application to fill out). For example, if you wanted to bring in queens from Ontario, we need to get a recent disease history on the donor hives where the queens were produced (i.e. mating nucs) as well as from the queen bank (if applicable) and hives where the attendants came from.

The protocol used for queens from Ontario would be equivalent to the protocols from Hawaii, with the exception that we would not be inspecting the shipment at port of entry. They would have to be from hives with 1% or less varroa, no foulbrood disease, hand-picked attendants and queens and no small hive beetle in the shipment. This inspection and report would have to be carried out by the provincial authority in the province of origin from where the bees came from. In the case of Ontario, Paul Kozak's inspection program would have to conduct the necessary inspection and Paul would have to send the report on to us in order for us to produce the letter of permit for inter-provincial movement of bees from Ontario to Manitoba. The letter is good for 30 days from date of issuance.

We will not issue a letter of permit if the inspection results in question do not meet protocol and/or are greater than 30 days old. CFIA handles the imports from outside of Canada and Manitoba would honour the federal permit and not require any additional letter of permit for movement from port of entry even when outside of the province. For more information on Inter-provincial movement of bees and equipment, please contact the Provincial Apiculture office or visit the Province of Manitoba website ([www.gov.mb.ca](http://www.gov.mb.ca)) and search Inter-provincial movement of bees

## Bee Insurance Updated

Safety Net Committee

Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) has completed a review of items presented by representatives of the Manitoba Beekeepers' Association (MBA) to their board.

MBA met with the MASC board in March, and expressed appreciation the Overwinter Bee Mortality (OBM) Insurance Program option for its members. In response to member feedback, several items were tabled for discussion, and subsequent review by staff.



Although at the time of the meeting, honey bees were not yet out of wintering facilities, preliminary industry feedback indicated a good survivability record. However, after completing producer spring evaluations, feedback revealed some confusion on contract terms could happen. This concern was forwarded to MASC on behalf of members.

MBA is pleased to advise members of two important changes for 2012-13. Firstly, the deadline for putting colonies into storage has been changed to November 15, from October 31, starting with the 2012/13 program.

Secondly, the application form will be linked to the MBA provincially approved Regulation covering mandatory registration, and therefore will have space for the four digit MBA Registration Number. The insurance program will thus be a benefit for any paid up member, as these have been provided numbers in early June via e-mail or regular paper mail. MASC agency staff will be contacting OBM clients directly to obtain their MBA number and update their files.

In another area, MASC has clarified an item on defining a surviving colony. In OBM contract there is a definition for frames of brood as follows: "Frame of Brood" means a frame with at least two-thirds (2/3) of the cells on each side of the frame filled with brood or eggs or covered with live Bees or a combination thereof. Therefore when assessing the overwintered colonies, producers are to remember this definition when interpreting a colony strength when filling out their spring inspection reports.



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# *PRESIDENTS REPORT*

*Summer 2012*

Presidents Report  
Allan Campbell, MBA President



This is sure a busy time for all of our producers. With the early spring and warm weather the flowers began blooming sooner. This resulted in many starting extracting well ahead of normal.

For me, the mild winter meant lots of bees to manage. This has created lots of extra work around our operation. Trying to make extra boxes, look for more equipment, and then get everything in place for the honey flow causes our producers much stress.

The weather has sure played havoc as well. Producers along the Saskatchewan border are seeing periodic rain clouds place a damper on beekeeping. Some farmers along the Assiniboine River were surprised to see their field flooded when the Shellmouth Dam overflowed with extra water from out west. Meanwhile in Southern and Eastern Manitoba, the long hot dry spell placed stress on flowering crops. Reports of canola flowers dying off early were also common in central Manitoba. Meanwhile in the Northern regions, delays in planting meant some crops flowered just recently.

Honey production varies from region to region, yet indications are the early honey looked quite well. We hope the next round works out, and then hope for some fall rains to help with winter pollen supplies.

## *Advance Payment for Beekeepers*

Manitoba Corn Growers Association, in Carman, administers the Advance Payment for Crops Program, for paid up MBA Producers. Call 204-745-6661, and most anyone who answers the phone can help. Request a Cash Advance Program application form. As a Manitoba Honey Producer you are eligible for an interest free advance up to \$100,000, and interest bearing after that to \$400,000. Advance is calculated at about 80 cents per pound (may vary slightly for a given year) for honey inventory.

This program is a real benefit to producers, as repayment of loan comes due upon honey sale, or by July of the following year.

Call Manitoba Corn at 204-745-6661 or e-mail: [jackie@manitobacorn.ca](mailto:jackie@manitobacorn.ca)



**Lab Results & Extension Calls** - The samples in the lab generally showed lower nosema levels compared to last year (Fig. 1). Colonies came out of winter relatively strong which made them less susceptible to stressors and any adverse weather, which may have been a factor.

We've received quite a few calls from the public about swarms. Whereas nosema was more a problem last year, this year swarming and the spring dearth were bigger concerns for beekeepers.

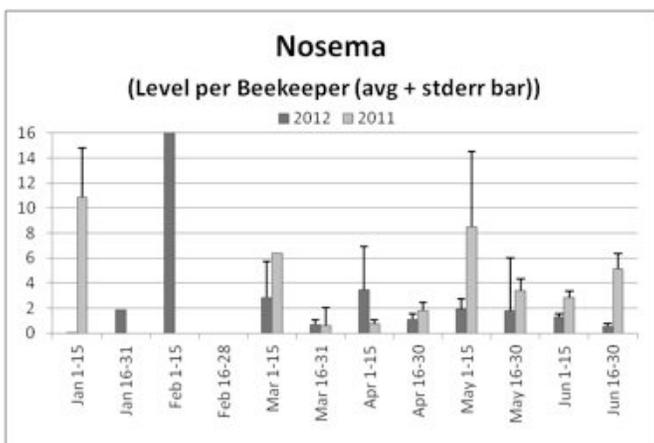


Fig. 1. Nosema levels this year (2012) were generally lower than last year (2011), year-to-date.

Levels of varroa were somewhat similar or lower overall compared to last year (Fig. 2). To the question - "do I need to treat and what should I use?" - it is recommended to collect a sample, analyse it or have it analysed, and use thresholds to help you decide. Remember that varroa mites increase virus loads, so early varroa control and maintaining low levels throughout the year is critical! For more information on mite monitoring, see the video online at <http://manitobabee.org/hive/category/videos/>.

Mite resistance to Apivar® has not been documented and appears to continue to be effective when used according to label directions. For more information on managing varroa and other in-hive treatments see the "2012 Recommendations for Administering Antibiotics and Acaricides to Honey Bees".

The industry has seen new varroa products come out in the past couple years, including Thymovar® and

Mite Away Quick Strips™ (MAQS). One way to learn about or become more comfortable with new products in your operation is to try them on a small number of hives before deciding to use them on a larger scale. This gains you experience with products and helps you assess any limitations and/or risks before putting them in all your hives.

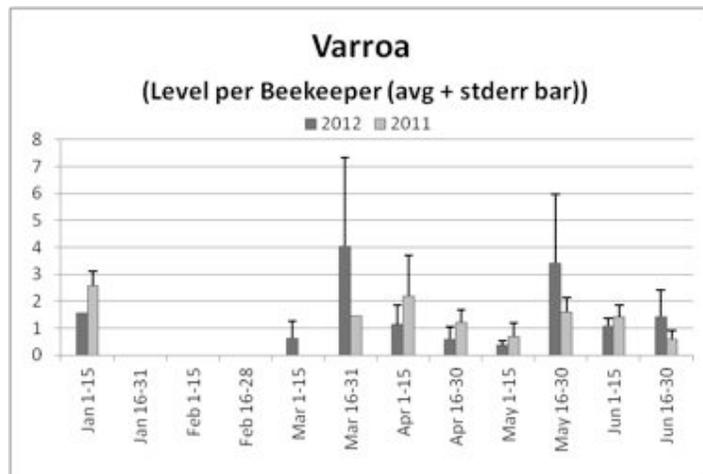


Fig. 2. Varroa mite levels this year (2012) compared to last year (2011) year-to-date.

There were generally similar levels of tracheal mite this year. In the past few years tracheal mite has not been a problem for most producers (Fig. 3).

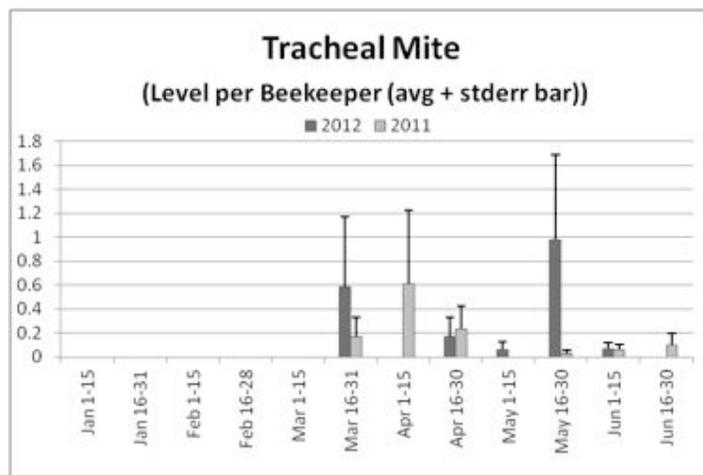


Fig. 3. Tracheal mite levels this year (2012) compared to last year (2011) year-to-date.

**Thanks!** - Thanks to Lynda and our summer student Jamie for their excellent work in the lab this year! We all wish Lynda Klymochko a great retirement with her husband Bill, and thank her again for 19 years of hard work and service! Lynda processed many, many bee samples, and she will be missed.

# QUEEN ACCEPTANCE A TOUGH GO?



We have tabulated the information that we got from producers that responded to our inquiry about queen introduction acceptance and supersedure rates. Although we did not get a lot of responses, approx 20, overall the reported success with California queens stood out this spring, no negative responses and a rate of non-acceptance of approximately 4% or less. Reports on queens from Chile were also favorable, with generally good acceptance and establishment but the rate of failed queens was a bit higher 5 – 10%. The higher rates of problems were reported with queens introduced into strong splits. Hawaiian queens, more specifically Kona queens had a very wide range of acceptance and supersedure problems. Some beekeepers reported good success with only 2% failure to establish, whereas other beekeepers report 50+% failure. The timing of introduction did not seem to be a critical factor with reports of problems from April to June. More commonly, the reports of problems with high rates of poor acceptance and supersedure were also associated with introducing the queens to larger nucs or splits. Several producers reported that they had greater success when the queens were introduced into small nucs. Without knowing for certain the cause of the problem, there appeared to be issues with the queen's ability to assert her reign over the population of bees she was introduced to. Whether there were pheromone problems or health problems with the queens, the rate of failed queens on average was high at approximately 15%±10% (i.e. huge variability). Lastly, although we did not get anyone to submit a report on the Australian queens, the few verbal conversations that we had with some beekeepers that tried them were not very positive in terms of high rates establishment problems.

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# CATCH THE BUZZ

Ex-Honey Import Worker Gets 2 Years For Skirting Duties. Another gets 5 years.

Information provided by True Source Honey

Law360, Chicago (June 22, 2012, 4:16 PM ET) -- An Illinois federal judge sentenced a former honey import worker to two years in prison Friday for participating in a scheme to avoid nearly \$1.5 million in anti-dumping duties by falsely declaring the origin of Chinese honey, a charge stemming from a larger probe into an alleged honey smuggling ring.

U.S. District Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer issued Shu Bei "Kathy" Yuan's sentence roughly two months after the Chinese national inked a plea deal with the government copping to entry of goods into the U.S. by making false statements on documents. Yuan has been in custody since her arrest in Los Angeles in February 2011, and will be credited for time served.

Yuan is one of a slew of defendants to face charges over Chinese honey duties. Her former boss Hung Ta Fan has already been sentenced for scheming to duck more than \$5 million in duties, and in 2010 German international trading company Alfred L. Wolff GmbH, several executives and other entities were indicted on charges they illegally avoided nearly \$80 million in anti-dumping duties.

At the time of Yuan's arrest, prosecutors said the charges against her related to an investigation of ALW's honey importing practices.

On Friday, Assistant U.S. Attorney William Hogan told Judge Pallmeyer that Yuan had played a role in an overall scheme that had a "devastating effect" on the multibillion-dollar U.S. honey industry, and said the defendant "was not some innocent pawn in this process."

Yuan was actively involved with Fan in the shipment of the Chinese-origin honey at issue, which was falsely declared as South Korean honey and shipped by order of an ALW unit, and personally signed the purchase order for that product, Hogan said.

The defendant's lawyer, Stephen Komie of Komie & Associates, told the judge that his client was not the mastermind of the plot. "She was never the decision maker here," Komie said, asking that she be sentenced only to time served or probation. Judge Pallmeyer called Yuan's involvement in the honey transactions "very significant" and said that a 24-month sentence, the maximum penalty for the charge, was appropriate. Yuan is also required to shell out nearly \$1.5 million in restitution, to be paid jointly and severally with Fan.

After the sentencing, Komie said that Yuan was disappointed with the punishment, and that she had been a victim of Fan's scheme. Hogan declined to comment further.

According to her plea agreement, Yuan worked for Fan, who owned and operated several California-based honey import companies including Blue Action Enterprise Inc. and Honey World Enterprise Inc., from roughly June 2004 through September 2005.

In the spring of 2004, she introduced Fan to executives of ALW Inc., a unit of the larger German company, and in March 2005 that subsidiary issued a purchase order, which Yuan later signed, to Blue Action for 200 full container loads of "Taiwan White Honey" valued at roughly \$4.56 million, the

agreement said.

But much of the honey imported for that order was rejected by ALW's customers thanks to sugar adulteration, so Fan arranged for an unnamed Chinese honey broker to start supplying Chinese honey, transshipped through South Korea and falsely imported to the U.S. as South Korean honey, to fulfill the order, the plea deal said.

Prosecutors alleged that between roughly August and November



2005, Fan, ALW, employees of that company and others caused Blue Action to fraudulently import roughly 26 entries of Chinese-origin honey falsely declared as South Korean honey for ALW.

Those imports had a total declared entry value of roughly \$808,000, meaning that the avoided anti-dumping duties totaled nearly \$1.5 million, the agreement said.

One of those entries occurred in August 2005, when Yuan introduced into U.S. commerce — and caused others to do the same — roughly 37,000 kilograms of Chinese-origin honey that was falsely declared as originating from South Korea, prosecutors said. That entry caused losses to the U.S. of about \$58,000 in uncollected anti-dumping duties, the plea agreement said.

Fan was sentenced in 2010 to 30 months in prison in a related case. Several individual defendants in the ALW case have pled guilty, though earlier this month prosecutors dropped the charges against the corporate defendants, without prejudice, in the wake of an asset sale they said left the ALW entities without any viable assets.

In 2001, the U.S. Department of Commerce found that Chinese honey was being dumped into the U.S. at artificially low prices. The government imposed duties of 183 percent, a rate that increased to 212 percent in June 2006.

Meanwhile, Chin Chou has copped a plea bargain and agreed to turn over everything, honey and money, confiscated with his case of conspiring to smuggle Chinese-origin honey into the U. S. in violation of Title 18 – basically, avoiding the import duty keeping the price of the product much lower than honey that was charged for the duty, or for U. S. honey which costs more to produce... for this he gets up to 5 years, with early release at 3 years, and a \$250,000 fine and has to be very, very cooperative with law enforcement officials.

The honey was mislabeled as rice syrup, or fructose blended syrup so was not eligible to have duty collected. It was, in fact, honey. Once imported, the rice syrup labels were removed and labels declaring the contents as honey were added. The honey was sold to businesses in this country. The amount of honey confiscated came to 18,368 barrels, containing 12,122,880 pounds of product.

[Hive Tracks](#) is a powerful web [application](#) making beekeeping records accessible and secure and is unmatched in ease of use and value.

( Continued on page 12 )

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## Manitoba Events and News

### **\* Manitoba Honey Show Invitation**

Honey Producers across Manitoba are invited to enter the Manitoba Honey Show Competition. Show takes place at The Forks Market, Winnipeg, Manitoba, September 28-30, 2012

For Entry Forms and details, see [www.manitobabee.org](http://www.manitobabee.org) and check out the Event page

### **\*Director Elections**

Designated Representatives of Manitoba Beekeepers' Association are invited to fill positions on the Board of Directors.

Interested producers should contact Murray Lewis, Nomination Committee Chair prior to the 14 November Annual Meeting elections.

Contact Murray at 204-637-2596 or e-mail [lfarms@mts.net](mailto:lfarms@mts.net)

# Bee Day Celebrated

Jim Campbell, Promotion Committee

Customers from Winnipeg and surrounding areas came to Bee Day 2012 to learn about pollination and sample sweet honey.

The third Annual Day of the Honey Bee was celebrated at the Forks Market, Winnipeg on Saturday 26 May. The event, which began a few years back, is used to communicate



the importance of Honey Bees in the provisioning of our everyday food. Plants require some mechanism to move pollen from one part of the flower to another in order to produce seeds, fruit or vegetables. For about 1/3 of the food we eat, the mechanism is the Honey Bee. The bee pollinates many crops.

Normally, May 29 is set aside to recognize pollination and the foods we eat; yet Manitobans felt Saturday would be a better fit for talking with customers. Displays were being created across Canada from Vancouver to Ottawa. The Winnipeg display area featured a large yellow banner depicting “Day of the Honey Bee” hung on the upper walkway. Meanwhile, on the main floor a green poster cited “Great Foods pollinated by Honey Bees”. Nearby “Live Bees” continues to attract young and old to get close and personal.

Getting close to bees means being able to hear their “buzz” and watch the Queen. It also provides a discussion point for visitors to talk with farmers who produce the sweet honey. Throughout the day, volunteer beekeepers staffed the display, answered questions, and encouraged visitors to visit the tables to buy colourful wax candles, artisanal honey, and gift jars for themselves or friends.

Proclamations from The Province of Manitoba, and several Municipalities including Lac Du Bonnet, Gimli, Eriksdale, Swan River, St Andrews, Springfield Whitemouth, Ethelbert, and Rockwood suitably highlighted the day. Meanwhile, The Forks Market published an announcement of the event in their May newsletter.

**Appreciation was extended to members of the Red River Apiarists’ Association for organizing, promoting and staffing the event!!**



# NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service  
Fruit and Vegetable Programs  
Market News Branch

Federal Market News Service  
1400 Independence Ave, SW  
STOP 0238

Washington, DC 20250

Phone: 202-720- 2175 FAX: 202-720-0547

Website: [www.marketnews.usda.gov/portal/fv](http://www.marketnews.usda.gov/portal/fv)  
[www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/fvmhoney.pdf](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/fvmhoney.pdf)

Number XXXII - #5

Issued Monthly

June 15, 2012

## HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF May, 2012

### IN VOLUMES OF 10,000 POUNDS OR GREATER UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Prices paid to beekeepers for extracted, unprocessed honey in major producing states by packers, handlers & other large users, cents per pound, f.o.b. or delivered nearby, containers exchanged or returned, prompt delivery & payment unless otherwise stated.

- REPORT INCLUDES BOTH NEW AND OLD CROP HONEY -

(# Some in Small Lot --- +Some delayed payments or previous commitment)

#### CALIFORNIA

Buckwheat	Extra Light Amber	\$1.74
Sage	Extra Light Amber	\$1.84
Sage	Light Amber	\$1.74

#### DAKOTAS

Clover	White	\$1.75 - \$1.85
Sunflower	Extra Light Amber	\$1.70
Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$1.75
Alfalfa	White	\$1.85
Buckwheat	Light Amber	\$1.70
Buckwheat	Extra Light Amber	\$1.85
Western	White	\$1.70
Western	Extra Light Amber	\$1.70

#### FLORIDA

Pepper	Light Amber	\$1.40
Gallberry	White	\$1.80
Galberry	Extra Light Amber	\$1.70 - \$1.75
Gallberry	Light Amber	\$1.50
Orange	White	\$1.85 - \$1.90
Orange	Light Amber	\$1.85 - \$1.90
Orange	Extra Light Amber	\$1.80 - \$1.90
Palmetto	Extra Light Amber	\$1.75 - \$1.80

Prices paid to Canadian Beekeepers for unprocessed, bulk honey by packers and importers in U. S. currency, f.o.b. shipping point, containers included unless otherwise stated. Duty and crossing charges extra. Cents per pound.

Mixed Flowers	white	\$1.63 - \$1.75
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.28
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light Amber	\$1.39 - \$1.42
Clover	White	\$1.56 - \$1.65

Prices paid to importers for bulk honey, duty paid, containers included, cents per pound, ex-dock or point of entry unless otherwise stated.

Argentina			
Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.38 - \$1.51	
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light Amber	\$1.37 - \$1.50	
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.35 - \$1.36	
Brazil			
Orange	Extra Light Amber	\$1.82 - \$1.86	
ORGANIC	White	\$1.79	
ORGANIC	Light Amber	\$1.50 - \$1.58	
ORGANIC	Extra Light Amber	\$1.64 - \$1.70	
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.36	
Chile			
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light Amber	\$1.41	

## Manitoba Beekeepers" Association 2012 Recommended Honey House Price

**\$2.75 per pound**

**\$6.10 per kilogram**

**( in customer supplied containers)**



# Manitoba Honey Show

## September 28th-30th, 2012

### Centre Court, Forks Market

### Winnipeg, Manitoba



**NOD**

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## MANITOBA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION 2012 AGM

106th Annual General Meeting  
Wednesday November 14,  
2012  
Starting at 10:00 a.m.

Auditorium, Neepawa United  
Church  
475 Mountain Avenue,  
Neepawa, Manitoba

Members \$40.00 each  
Spouse / Guest \$20.00

LUNCH INCLUDED



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# MBA CHC Report

JULY 20, 2012

Bryan Ash



The Federal Government continues improvements on streamlining the process to access temporary workers. Service Canada Temporary Foreign worker Web site now has an online Web Registration. For more information visit [http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/workplaceskills/foreign\\_workers/index.shtml](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/workplaceskills/foreign_workers/index.shtml) Producers requiring temporary summer helpers will need to complete an employer profile in order to become registered. Once you are approved HRSDC will send out your online Web User ID Code and Password. Service Canada reports online applications should take around two weeks to get a decision on the Labour Market Opinion (LMO) application. Employers will be able to view the progress of their application on line.

Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) recently announced Apivar has received conditional approval for the full registration. Now Arysta Life-Sciences needs to work through the requirements, which likely is mainly labeling changes for this year; thus, we should be able to get Apivar supplies on time for fall treatments.

In the traceability arena, CBISQT manual is nearing completion. Bee bio-security manual is also nearing completion.

CHC had a conference with CFIA and CAPA regarding Bee Repellant products benzaldehyde and butyric acid, and received some very good news. Health Canada completed its risk assessment and determined that neither butyric nor benzaldehyde pose a significant health risk to consumers. Due to this, CFIA is no longer testing for either of these two products and is working towards removing them from the regulations. CHC will be receiving confirmation detailing this in the next couple of weeks, which will be distributed to industry. However, It is still important that producers continue to use best management practices when using these products. Even though CFIA is no longer including these in their mandatory tests, should an inspector have concerns about the amount of acid being used, they could take a sample and send off to a lab for analysis. CFIA made it very clear that this issue would not have been resolved had it not been for the dedicated work of CHC on behalf of the entire industry.

Importation of queens from Hawaii and California went very well this past spring and summer, with no incidents of small hive beetle being reported.



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ELISE@HONEY.CA NORMAND@HONEY.CA

# EPA Does Not Suspend Clothianidin and Releases Petition for Public Review

The EPA is denying a petition requesting emergency suspension of clothianidin based on imminent hazard. The agency will, however, be taking comment from the public for 60 days on the petition's request for cancellation of clothianidin. The agency received the petition from a group of beekeepers, Beyond Pesticides, Pesticide Action Network of North America and others on March 20, 2012. The petition alleges that clothianidin poses an "imminent hazard," requiring swift regulatory action to protect bees. After considering the petition and the supporting information, the EPA is denying the request to suspend clothianidin use because the petition fails to show that an imminent hazard to bees exists. Under the FIFRA standard, suspension is appropriate only if there exists a substantial likelihood of serious, imminent harm. Having reviewed the petition and supporting information, the EPA does not believe there is a substantial likelihood of imminent serious harm from the use of clothianidin. Specifically, the EPA does not believe the petition demonstrates that the use of clothianidin is causing or will cause:

- \* significant reduction in populations of domestic bees or native pollinators,
- \* significant decreases in honey production,
- \* serious effects on other agricultural systems as a result of decreases in pollination services or
- \* a reduction in pollination of wild plants in a way that may alter ecosystems.

EPA is continuing its comprehensive scientific evaluation on all the neonicotinoid pesticides, including clothianidin. This extensive review will determine if any restrictions are necessary to protect people, the environment, or pollinators. Also, in September, EPA will seek independent scientific peer review on how to better assess the risks of pesticides to pollinators. This effort will improve our understanding and strengthen the scientific and regulatory process to protect honey bees and other pollinators.

The EPA's response denying the petition is available at [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov/home;tab=search) <<http://www.regulations.gov/#!home;tab=search>> under docket EPA HQ-OPP-2012-0334 <<http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0334;dct=FR%252BPR%252BN%252BO%252BSR>> .

A Federal Register notice next week will open a 60-day comment period on the remaining issues in the petition. The EPA will respond to the entirety of the petition at a later date after it has obtained and reviewed any public comments.

In the same Federal Register notice, the EPA will announce the availability of the final work plan for clothianidin's re-evaluation under Registration Review and its response to comments received during the initial public comment period for the registration review of clothianidin.

=====<[http://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/fancy\\_images/stock/2011/03/12385/body-hr\\_original.gif?1308456211](http://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/fancy_images/stock/2011/03/12385/body-hr_original.gif?1308456211)>

=====<[http://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/fancy\\_images/stock/2011/03/12385/body-hr\\_original.gif?1308456211](http://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/fancy_images/stock/2011/03/12385/body-hr_original.gif?1308456211)>

\*For information about this pesticide and access to the documents being announced see: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/status.htm>

\*\*For information about this pesticide and access to the documents being announced see: [http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/registration\\_review/reg\\_review\\_status.htm](http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/registration_review/reg_review_status.htm)

# Registration Numbers Issued

Fee and Levy Committee

Manitoba Beekeepers' Association (MBA) issued producers with unique numbers to identify registration of their respective beekeeping operation.

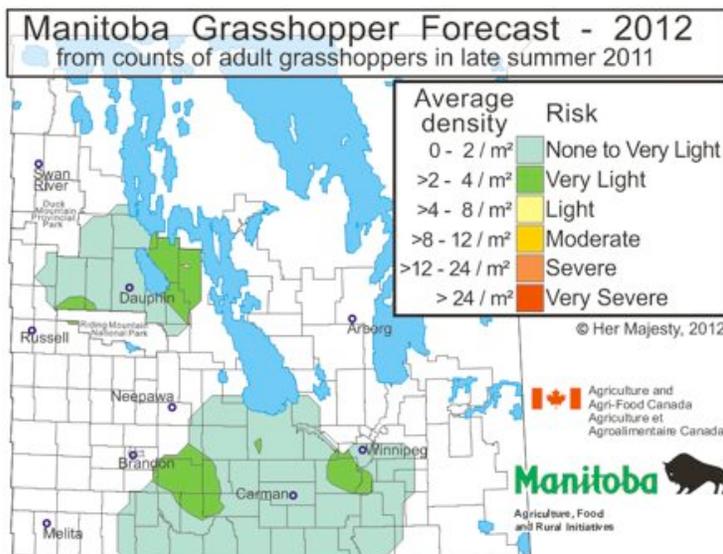
During June 2012, paid up Registered Producers across Manitoba received a unique four digit MBA Registration Number, and were to keep this secure.

All producers are reminded the MBA number is in addition to being registered with the province. Provincial



numbering is for every beekeeper, regardless of their colony count, and is in compliance with the Bee Act of Manitoba for the purpose of disease control. It is available from either Rhéal or David at Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives offices.

The MBA Registration Number follows The Honey Producers Registration Order, which is made under the *Manitoba Honey Marketing Plan Regulation*, Manitoba Regulation 244/87 R, and is Regulation No. 1, 2010 of the Manitoba Beekeepers' Association. As a member benefit, the Overwinter Bee Mortality Insurance Application form requires this number.



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2012 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

PRINT INFORMATION PLEASE

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MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF COLONIES EXPECTED TO BE OPERATED IN 2012 \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Due January 1, with Deadline for membership payment – March 31, 2012

**MEMBERSHIPS cover period from January 01 to December 31 of 2012**

**MANITOBA BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION** NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_

**1. MEMBER – A Producer who keeps 50 or more honey bee colonies in Manitoba, and who is a sole proprietor, or is the Designated Representative of a partnership, corporation or Hutterite colony.**

**\$200.00 BASIC FEE, PLUS \$0.40/COLONY (TO A MAXIMUM OF 1,000 COLONIES) LEVY \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**PLUS \$0.13/COLONY (FOR 1,001 COLONIES AND GREATER) HONEY COUNCIL LEVY \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**2. ASSOCIATE MEMBER – A Volunteer, non-voting category, for beekeepers with 49 or fewer honey bee colonies in Manitoba, or a local or out-of-province industry supporter. \$60.00 BASIC FEE \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**NOTE: PAID-UP MEMBERS automatically receive the MBA newsletter “The Manitoba Beekeeper”, and only MANITOBA RESIDENTS may receive the Canadian Honey Council’s newsletter “Hive Lights”.**

**KEYSTONE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS** NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP - \$157.50 per year (including 5% GST) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**BEE RESEARCH FUNDS-DONATIONS**

BARRY FINGLER MEMORIAL FUND (Manitoba Beekeepers' Association) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CANADIAN BEE RESEARCH FUND (Canadian Honey Council) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**JOURNAL SUBSCRIPTIONS** - (THIS SERVICE AVAILABLE TO MBA MEMBERS ONLY)

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL - \$45.00 per year \$ \_\_\_\_\_

BEE CULTURE - \$45.00 per year \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SPEEDY BEE - \$29.00 per year \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Paid by: CASH \_\_\_\_\_ CHEQUE \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I request that the above amount be deducted from my account at the Manitoba Co-operative Honey Producers Limited.

THERE IS NO “AUTOMATIC” DEDUCTION FOR PAST MEMBERS.

Applicants please approve deduction by initialing here. \_\_\_\_\_

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT. INFORMATION MAY BE USED TO PROVIDE PRODUCTS OR SERVICES BENEFITIAL TO MEMBERS.

APPLICATION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ APPLICANTS SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this completed application together with payment to:  
Manitoba Beekeepers' Association  
c/o Hilary Stewart, MBA Treasurer, P.O. Box 192 Baldur, MB, R0K 0B0

## Millions of bees stolen from Alberta honey producer

A honey producer near Grande Prairie, Alberta, suspects another beekeeper may be responsible for the theft of millions of his bees.

More than 150 of his 3,000 hives were taken over the past several weeks. Estimated cost of his loss \$60,000. The RCMP are now investigating the theft.

Provincial Apiarist Medhat Nasr finds it really hard to understand.



## A Guide to Identifying Food Products - CFIA

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) will soon propose new regulations designed to improve the oversight of imported food products. These new regulations would require importers to have a licence. To help importers understand if they would be affected, CFIA has published on its website A Guide to Identifying Food Products Affected by the Proposed Imported Food Sector Product Regulations. <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/eng/1334784241708>



This Guide will help importers broadly determine if the proposed regulations would apply to their products. It has been prepared as a reference document only. For more information, visit [www.inspection.gc.ca](http://www.inspection.gc.ca)

## Swarms! Swarms and more Swarms!!

Local beekeeper Ray Giguere has been extremely busy removing swarms from trees, signs and even a central air conditioner!

This year seems to be a very busy on the swarm removal side of things!



# CLASSIFIEDS

**For Sale:** Bee hive boxes and frames for sale.

(Used, but clean) \$20.00 each please call  
Lori Schroen at 204-475-2894

**For Sale :**100 single hives and nucs,300 metal queen excluders,150 two-way hive pallets with bottomboards.

Conrad Isaac ph. 204 377 4738 or email  
[conisaac@mymts.net](mailto:conisaac@mymts.net)

**Wanted:**Looking for a heated sump. Please send specs. and info to [giguerehoneyfarms@shaw.ca](mailto:giguerehoneyfarms@shaw.ca)  
Also looking for a 3/4 or 1 ton truck with lift. Older model is fine.

Ray Giguere

<http://www.honeyman.ca>

Winnipeg,MB.

[giguerehoneyfarms@shaw.ca](mailto:giguerehoneyfarms@shaw.ca)

**For Sale:** Older Cook and Beals heat exchanger-no heat unit, 320 surplus brood chambers, 100 wax dipped sloped bottom boards, 2007 Cowan all stainless/air ex- tractor with wax collection system, (uncapper not in- cluded). All items are in very good to excellent condi- tion. For more information please call Chris Rempel 204-637-2397

**For Sale:** 100-135 hives,100 (4 frame nucs), Maxant 30 frame S.S. parallel extractor, Cowan uncapper, S.S. Beemaid wax melter ,Honey supers, brood chambers, 100 queen excluders, barrel cart, super cart, feeder pails and much, much more...! Please call John Turner at 204-767-2076 for more info.

**Wanted :**I am looking for a large number of drawn comb full-depth honey supers. I would also be interested in clean brood chambers. I would also be interested in honey pumps/syrup pumps. Please contact Ted Turnbull at 204 769 2118.

**For Sale:**Beekeeper's Special: 1989 - 6000 GMC Low Profile, rebuilt 366 eng, new carb and distributor

5 Speed Manual, 22"5 Front, 19"5 Rear, 20 foot steel deck, hooks , smoker box and 2 x 8 foot underbed boxes,

Dual step-side tanks,HD front bumper, HD front and rear hooks, HD rear hitch, plugs ins and brake control,

Many new parts and complete 13 years of service records. \$ 12,000.00 OBO.

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cell: 306-862-770

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# CLASSIFIEDS

**For Sale:** 230 Strong Hives for sale just before fall feeding, best offer. Also 1100 Honey Supers available, please call Pat at ph: 204-372-6491

**For Sale :** Cook and Beals Spinner  
Works perfectly as this unit still works everyday in our honey house.  
Available end of september.  
Huge number of hive top feeder, some brand new and also older ones (from \$6.00 to \$15.00 ).  
15 drums, stainless tank heavy gauge with stand and also a Cowen wax recovery system.  
100 bee escape board (\$8 .00 each).  
Phone : 204 248 2645 only serious inquiry please.

**For Sale:** Customized 240 frame Cowan extractor plus spare motor and includes 10 ft uncapper auger with spare motor.( \$2500) Also Cook and Beals honey wax separator with spare motor, belts and bearings ( \$6000). Dakota Guinness uncapper(\$1000) Toledo 1000lb. Barrel scale (\$1500), 15 ft roller (\$300), Cook and Beals sump (\$150.00), Float switches (\$50 each), 55 gal. Plastic tank (\$200), 500 gal. Plastic tan with electric pump (\$650), Honey color Grader 2000 Lovibond (\$100), Refractometer (\$150), Bees for spring of 2012, doubles and singles, please call Terry Karaz, Gladstone, 1-204-385-2923

## Classified Advertising Information:

Classifieds Adds are \$ 10.00 for a maximum of 50 words.

Email Dan Lecocq at [dnlecocq@shaw.ca](mailto:dnlecocq@shaw.ca) or ph 797-3322

**For Sale :** Manitoba Raised Queen Bees for sale in Spring 2012. Mated Queens (available late-May) Under 60 ordered: \$22.50 each, Over 60 ordered: \$20.00 each

EXTRA: All Mated Queens will be clipped and marked. Vir- gin Queens. \$7 each (available mid to late May) EXTRA: 4% extra for expected infertility rate. Cells. \$3 each (available mid-May) EXTRA: 4% extra for expected survival rate. BONUS: If you order over \$600 worth of Queens, which can include any combination of Mated, Virgins, and Cells and you will recieve FREE DELIVERY anywhere in Manitoba. Call/Text: (204) 721-0271 Email: [dan\\_can2003@hotmail.com](mailto:dan_can2003@hotmail.com) Location: Treesbank, Manitoba

**Wanted :** I am looking for someone who can extract my honey (about 100 drums) this season. Please call 204-417-9778 and ask for Boris.

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# MBA Committees for 2012



**Convention/AGM: Chair – Murray Lewis, Rhéal Lafrenière, Jim Campbell, David Ostermann, Bruce Podolsky.**

**Fee/Levy: Co-Chair-Jake Maendal, Terry Karaz, Chris Rempel, Rhéal Lafrenière, Jim Campbell.**

**Finance: Chair – Chris Rempel, Earl Dueck, Jim Campbell, David Ostermann, Murray Lewis**

**Foreign Worker: Chair-Bruce Podolsky, Bryan Ash, Allan Campbell, Chris Rempel, Pierre Faure, Rhéal Lafrenière.**

**Food Safety: Chair-Bryan Ash, Gilles Maguet, Bruce Podolsky,**

**KAP: Chair – Gary Momotiuk, Earl Dueck, Gilles Maguet, Jim Campbell**

**Newsletter: Chair – Earl Dueck, Jim Campbell, Rhéal Lafrenière,  
David Ostermann**

**Nomination: Chair – Murray Lewis, Bryan Ash, Bruce Podolsky, Jake Maendel, Pierre Faure,**

**Pests & Pest Management: Chair – Murray Lewis, Terry Karaz, Richard Schau,**

**Pollination: Chair – Chris Rempel, Pierre Faure, Bruce Podolsky, David Ostermann.**

**Promotion/Education: Chair – Jake Maendel, Earl Dueck, Gilles Maguet, Richard Schau, Jim Campbell, Rhéal Lafrenière.**

**Resolution: Chair – Chris Rempel, Bryan Ash, Bruce Podolsky**

**Research: Chair – Murray Lewis, Pierre Faure, Gilles Maguet, Rhéal Lafrenière,  
(Dr. Rob Currie).**

**Safety Nets: Chair – Gary Momotiuk, Earl Dueck, Jake Maendel, Terry Karaz, Bruce Podolsky**

**Stock Replacement: Chair – Bryan Ash, Terry Karaz, Pierre Faure,**

# Scholarship Available from MBA

Jim Campbell, MBA Secretary

Manitoba Beekeepers' Association is committed to sustainability of the beekeeping industry and is taking steps to support young people entering the business.



Over the past year, Grand Prairie Regional College (GPRC), Fairview Campus, in Alberta has been designing a Commercial Beekeeping Certificate Course to begin in January 2013. MBA is supporting Manitoba students to take part in this education by providing one \$500.00 Scholarship.

The GPRC web site indicates the course is designed to prepare graduates to make a living as beekeepers, this program provides a thorough study of apiculture and the beekeeping business. Classroom study is combined with industry work experience and practicum visits to large commercial operations to provide a solid foundation for commercial beekeeping. The program is divided approximately equally into theoretical and practical learning. A highlight is the extensive study of queen rearing. A unique feature is the 26-week paid work experience: students are placed with commercial beekeepers where they work for a salary and acquire practical experience with beekeeping and honey production.

The web site goes on to identify the program consists of Theory of Apiculture for the first sessions, and then Business of Beekeeping for the October to November session.

For details on the 45 week course, academic prerequisites and admission details, refer to admissions section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar> or contact the Registrar's office.

MBA recognizes farmers in the Agricultural Sector are aging, and it is important for young people to be prepared take over the businesses in the future. To this end, MBA established a scholarship program for a Manitoba student.

Students attending, or applying to, the 2013 Commercial Beekeeping course will be invited to submit an application form along with a brief essay about their interest in beekeeping. For 2013 MBA will award one scholarship. With industry support, MBA plans to include the scholarship as an ongoing benefit to the industry.

Until details are up and running on [www.manitobabee.org](http://www.manitobabee.org) students can obtain details from the MBA office by sending a request to [mbasecretary@mts.net](mailto:mbasecretary@mts.net)





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 Tel. 403 652 4441, Fax 403 652 3692

[info@medivet.ca](mailto:info@medivet.ca)

[www.medivet.ca](http://www.medivet.ca)



City of Winnipeg – Public Works Department  
**Insect Control Branch**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**INSECTICIDE USE PROGRAM FOR 2012**

The City of Winnipeg's Insect Control Branch is involved in the control of nuisance and disease carrying mosquitoes in the City of Winnipeg and up to 24 km beyond.

Some of the control methodologies that are employed will involve the use of control products including Chlorpyrifos®, Diflubenzuron®, Methoprene®, Permethrin®, Pyrocide®, and Malathion®. However, to protect bees from potential toxic effects of these control products, a 300 metre pesticide free radius will be provided around all registered honeybee and leafcutter bee colonies. Beekeepers are encouraged to participate in this program by advising the Insect Control Branch of bee locations.

The only allowable exception to this spray policy will involve the use of *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *israelensis* (Bti) or *Bacillus sphaericus*, which are considered non-toxic to bees.



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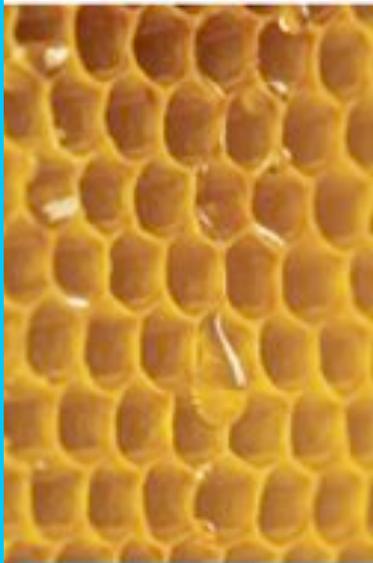


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## Safety Poster Available

Canadian Honey Council is making available an “Agricultural Chemical Safety in Apiculture” poster to producers across Canada.

Posters have been supported by a grant from Growing Forward (Federal and Provincial governments) and were developed in concert with the Canadian Agriculture Safety Association. The purpose of the material is to encourage safety within our industry by reminding workers to “Read The Label Every Time And Stay Safe”.

MBA has several FREE copies, some of which were distributed at the Beekeepers Field Day in June. Should you want one or two, please e-mail [mbasecretary@mts.net](mailto:mbasecretary@mts.net) and place your order.

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