

THE MANITOBA BEEKEEPER

Spring 2016
Volume 11 Issue 2

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Red River Apiarists Association Report

Several exciting activities are taking place, or planned for the year in our association. The members guided the Executive to set a date and hold our annual **Day to celebrate the Honey Bee**, at the Forks, even though an official date has not been set by the Province or the MBA, to fall in line with the World Bee Day. (That date falls on the Victoria Day weekend!) We wanted to hold onto our position at the Forks, so this event, will be held on Saturday, June 4, 2016, as this is when the Forks can accommodate us. It will possibly be called "A Day in Praise of the Honey Bee". Further plans are in the works and will be posted on the RRAA website.



Another event that has been happening is a Queen Rearing workshop, put on by Waldemar Damert, our Club President. Two class sessions have already taken place and another will take place once the weather gets a lot warmer, out in the bee yard that is going to be set up out near the Floodway.

This brings me to the third happening: the setting up of two yards for educational purposes. One will be set up out on the Floodway, East of the city and the other will be set up at Assiniboine Park Zoo. Members have volunteered and schedules are being set up for care and keeping of these two years. Older long time beekeepers are mentoring newer and less experienced beekeepers, so that discouragement can be lessened and we can all have healthy bees. Enthusiasm for this venture has been high.

September 30th, 2016 has been set for the Honey Show at the Forks. Further information will appear in the Summer-Fall edition of the Manitoba Beekeeper and on the RRAA website.

As a Club, we continue to meet the second Tuesday of each month, except, through the summer and December. Our membership is continuing to grow and meetings are lively.

Report by Margaret Smith

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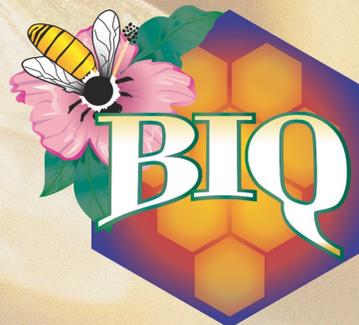
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www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/fvmhoney.pdf

Number XXXVI - # 2

Issued Monthly

March 18, 2016

HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF FEBURARY, 2016

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)

DAKOTAS			
Alfalfa	White	\$1.75	
Basswood	White	\$1.75	
Buckwheat	Dark	\$1.60	
Clover	White	\$1.75	
Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$1.75	
Western	White	\$1.70	
Western	Extra Light Amber	\$1.70	
Western	Light Amber	\$1.70	
FLORIDA			
Brazilian Pepper	Light Amber	\$1.60	
Wildflower	White	\$1.80	
Wildflower	Light Amber	\$1.40	
Mangrove	White	\$1.60	
IOWA			
Clover	White	\$1.75	
IDAHO			
Mint	Amber	\$1.60	
Wildflowers	Light Amber	\$1.60	
Wildflowers	Amber	\$1.60	
LOUISIANA			
Tallow	Light Amber	\$1.75	
MONTANA			
Buckwheat	Dark	\$1.60	
Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$1.75	
NEBRASKA			
Alfalfa	Extra Light Amber	\$1.60	
Buckwheat	Light Amber	\$1.60	
OREGON			
Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$1.60	- \$1.75
Alfalfa	Amber	\$1.60	
Mint	Light Amber	\$1.60	
Mint	Dark	\$1.60	
Wild-berry	Light Amber	\$2.30	
TEXAS			

Western	White	\$1.70	
Western	Extra Light Amber	\$1.70	
WASHINGTON			
Clover	Light Amber	\$2.00	
Mint	Dark	\$1.65	
WYOMING			
Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$1.70	
Buckwheat	Dark	\$1.70	

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	\$1.29	-	\$1.45
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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	\$1.52	-	\$1.80
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$1.22	-	\$1.75
BRAZIL				
ORGANIC	White	\$1.78		
ORGANIC	Extra Light	\$1.58	-	\$1.67
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.52	-	\$1.72
Mixed Flowers	Amber	\$1.52	-	\$1.64
INDIA				
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.13	-	\$1.59
MYANMAR				
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.28		
VIETNAM				
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.07	-	\$1.38
Mixed Flowers	Amber	\$1.50		
UKRAINE				
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$1.61		

COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING FEBURARY, 2016

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT (MD, PA, VA, WV): February weather yielded about average to above average temperatures for the month with plenty of precipitation. Most of the precipitation came in the form of rain on the warmer days, but there were a few snowy, icy days between. Beekeepers had the chance to check on colonies that are still in the area and add food as needed. Colonies in the lower elevation took advantage of a couple of warmer than average days for cleansing flights. By the end of the month, early wildflowers (skunk cabbage, etc.) and red maples were in bloom. Many colonies will be returning from the west coast soon.

ALABAMA: According to amateur beekeepers "Not much going on now, just getting ready for the nectar flow".

President's Report

Allan Campbell

It's been a busy and hectic time for me these last few weeks to say the least. I have helped to spark a conversation about our industry, the wonderful food product that we produce, and what it really means to the Canadians who are enjoying our honey. Thanks to overwhelming support from over 72,000 people, that conversation is now being had across the whole nation. I have spent entire days speaking with media as a result of public support. It turns out that Canadians really care about where their food comes from. And they are especially outraged when they discover the source of their beloved honey may be from China or Argentina even though the bottle says Canada #1 right on the front.

Our Canadian honey is produced to very stringent quality controls for food safety ensuring that it is pure and safe to eat. Especially so for those whom are CFIA inspected, or those who adhere to even higher GFSI standards. It is produced by farm workers who are given fair wages. Workers who have their human rights upheld. Workers who have their safety in the workplace being seen to. Our farmers care about the food we produce, and the people who produce it. And we care just as much for the people who consume our foods. We set high standards for our selves that we refuse to cheapen. And that all comes with a cost to produce that we must meet. We cannot be expected to compete with foreign honey that is in some cases coming in for prices below what we can produce it for. Canadians expect a quality and set of safety standards for their food that they can rely on. And it should say that right on the container. We don't need substandard honey being imported and blended by packers right here in Canada. We produce more than what we need, let those imports go to countries who need the honey.



When a consumer learns that Canadian label laws allow for foreign imports to make up a considerable portion of the contents of a bottle label that states CANADA #1 on the front label they are very upset. And I believe they should be, it is a very misleading statement. We need to put pressure on our government to change this. It's a battle we have been fighting with CFIA for decades now and though we've made very little progress on that front, perhaps now we have what we need to show the elected officials that Canadians desire a clear picture of what's on the label and inside their container.

If the world continues to buy cheap adulterated "honey" from China, which has had syrup added and filtered to the point where you don't even know what it is any more there is a very real chance that we may see the entire world honey market collapse. We will be put out of business by a product that isn't even comparable to the real thing. Market studies show that over and above the normal carryover amount, there is now a surplus of 184 Million pounds. Now that is going to take a long time to overcome, even if we can stop the flow of cheap adulterated honey that is flowing from countries like China, and the flow coming through third party countries. We need industry and government to react, to change our labelling laws, add tariffs, and perhaps limit quantities allowed into the country. These tactics have worked for commodities in other countries; I think they could work for us as well. That's my opinion on the matter for what it's worth, I know yours may vary, but I think we all need to work together to find a solution and stop this market collapse from happening.

11-year-old Girl that makes lemonade to save the bees scores million dollar Whole Foods deal.

by Alternative World News Network



Mikaila Ulmer, the 11 year old founder and CEO of BeeSweet Lemonade, has set up a deal with 55 Whole Foods stores across the southern United States.

Her lemonade and brilliant personality has gained her national attention and a \$60,000 start-up fund, as well as a trip to the White House.

It was her appearance on the television show "Shark Tank" that got Whole Foods' attention.

Mikaila became an expert on bees after she was stung twice in a week. In order to face her newly found fear of bees, her mother urged her to study up on them. She did, and she found that they were dying off at a rapid pace in what is known as colony collapse disorder. She saw the danger this posed to the food chain and wanted to help.

She began making lemonade with her grandmother's flax-seed recipe and selling it, donating 10% of the profits to help protect bees around the world.

With her immense success, she is now focused on growing the business and is developing two new flavors.

Her skeptical friends are now fully on board, seeking to start businesses of their own.

"At first, they didn't believe me," she told NBC News. "Now I am helping my friends start their own businesses."



City of Winnipeg –

Public Works

Department
Insect Control Branch

PUBLIC NOTICE INSECTICIDE USE PROGRAM FOR 2016

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 Methoprene®, Permethrin®, 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.

For further information, please call 311 or write to the Insect Control Branch, 3 Grey St., Winnipeg, MB, R2L 1V2. An appointment can be arranged with Insect Control staff to properly map beehive locations, ensuring appropriate buffer zones around your colonies.



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SPRING UPDATE

by Rhéal Lafrenière, Provincial Apiarist



Bees for Sales:

This spring, I had several beekeepers inquire about selling bees because their colonies came through the winter in good shape and they anticipated having more bees than they wanted to operate this summer. If you are looking to sell nucs, single, or doubles, please call me or send me an email with the following information:

Name > contact ph#(s) > Town/address > Nucs, Singles or Doubles > When they will be available > Price (optional)

A list of bees for sale has been created and posted on the MBA website. Please note that only beekeepers with no restrictions for selling bees will be posted on the list. Any beekeeper with a history of AFB within the last three inspection years or beekeepers with moving bees or equipment restrictions due to resistant American Foulbrood disease (rAFB) or small hive beetle (SHB) will not be added to this list.

If you are looking to buy bees this spring, please check out the “Manitoba Bees for Sale” list <http://manitobabee.org/hive/>.

Varroa Control:

It is generally recommended that beekeepers monitor for varroa and rotate acaricides to decrease the risk of treatment-resistance and contamination of wax and honey by high-residual acaricides. The following acaricides: Apistan®, CheckMite+™, Apivar®, Thymovar, Formic Acid products, and Oxalic Acid are available for varroa mite control and should be used according to instructions on their packaging. In order to minimize the risk of developing treatment-resistant mites, it is important that beekeepers try to avoid consecutive treatments (ex: spring & fall) using the same product.

That said, if you are planning to include Apivar® in your rotation of varroa treatment products, there is growing evidence that this product can be a very effective mite suppressant during the spring because of its long treatment period (i.e. maximum 56 days). Many beekeepers are now choosing to introduce the Apivar® strips early, well before the spring pollen flow to ensure the treatment has been initiated before the colonies really start to brood up.

It is important to use the appropriate number of strips based on the size of the colony and for the required amount of time. Table 1 outlines the number of strips recommended based on the size (i.e. frames of bees) of the colony. The strips are to be left in the colony for an initial 42 days, plus an additional 14 days because the strips were introduced early and the bee activity would not have been considered optimal for distributing the treatment. It is very important to reposition the strips if they are away from the bee cluster. It is also important to increase the number of strips if the bee population grows beyond the initial treatment level (i.e. 1 strip per 5 frames of bees).

(Continued on p.8)

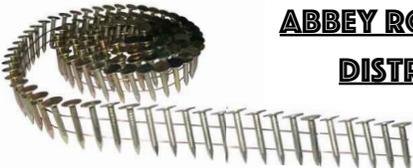
Table 1. Treatment Level: Number of Apivar® Strips per Frames of Bees).

Number of Frames of Bees	Less than 5	6-10	11-15	More Than 16
Number of Strips to Use.	1	2	3	4

Honey bee colonies should be monitored for varroa on a regular basis, preferably before treatment has been initiated and after treatment to determine if the treatment has been successful. In the principal brood rearing period, it is recommended that varroa levels should be below 1% (i.e. 1 mite per 100 adult bees) and if at all possible should not exceed 3% (i.e. 3 mites per 100 adult bees). Note that this varroa threshold information assumes honey bee tracheal mite levels are at or near zero, and that colony health is dependent on more than just mite levels. Mite levels may increase due to the development of resistance to control products, improper application of treatment, or re-infestation from a neighboring apiary. To discuss specific recommendations regarding combinations of varroa mite and other honey bee disease or concerns of possible resistance development, please feel free to contact me anytime Rheal.Lafreniere@gov.mb.ca or 204-945-4825.

NB: A video on how to monitor for varroa mite can be viewed on the MBA website at www.manitobabee.org (under videos) or Google “Manitoba Varroa Monitoring”.





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EXECUTIVE

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Executive Member:	Bruce Podolsky (2016) Box 1, Ethelbert, MB, R0L 0T0 E-mail: west10honey@gmail.com	204-742-3555 (Cell) 204-672-0036

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Philip Waldner (2016) Box 9 Grp 19 RR1 East Selkirk, MB, R0E 0M0 E-mail: Philip@waldbee.com	(Res) 204-482-3511 (Cell) 204-791-8850

2 Vacancies

NON VOTING APPOINTMENTS:

Secretary: Daryl Wright, 326 Belvidere St, Winnipeg, R3J 2H3 E-Mail: d.l.wright@shaw.ca	(Cell) 229-9343
RRAA: Marg Smith, 1051 Porcher Road, St Andrews MB, R1A 3N4 E-Mail: marg@margshoney.com	204-254-4509
BABA Rep: vacant	
Treasurer: Amber Ricard, Box 192 Baldur, MB, R0K 0B0 E-Mail: her@mynetset.ca	(Res) 535-2410

PROVINCIAL APICULTURE OFFICE:

Provincial Apiarist: Rhéal Lafrenière, 204-545 University Cres. Winnipeg, MB, R3T 5S6 E-mail: rheal.lafreniere@gov.mb.ca	(Bus) 945-4825 (Fax) 945-4327
Pollination Apiarist: David Ostermann, E-mail david.ostermann@gov.mb.ca	(Bus) 945-3861



MANITOBA BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION
2016 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

PRINT INFORMATION PLEASE

NAME: _____	COMPANY NAME: _____
MAILING ADDRESS _____ POSTAL CODE _____	
TELEPHONE _____	EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Payment Due January 1, with Deadline for membership payment – March 31, 2016

MEMBERSHIPS cover period from January 01 to December 31 of 2016

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 \$0.45/COLONY (To A Maximum Of A 1000 Colonies) LEVY \$ _____
PLUS \$0.14/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 \$ _____

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

3. INSTITUTION – A Non-Canadian individual, organization, or entity, serving as a broker or library, requesting the MBA newsletter for reference material or other use. \$100 US FUNDS BASIC FEE \$ _____

BEE RESEARCH FUNDS-DONATIONS

BARRY FINGLER MEMORIAL FUND (Manitoba Beekeepers' Association) \$ _____
 CANADIAN BEE RESEARCH FUND (Canadian Honey Council) \$ _____

INSURANCE(see MBA web section Bees-Protection for details)

BEEKEEPERS LIABILITY INSURANCE (valid 5 May 2016-5 May 2017) @ \$45.00 per year \$ _____

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

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL - \$50.00 per year \$ _____
 BEE CULTURE - \$55.00 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.
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Applicants please approve deduction by initialing here. _____

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

APPLICATION DATE: _____ APPLICANTS SIGNATURE: _____

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

Queen Rearing



The Hopkins Method

The Hopkins method of rearing honey bee queens is perfect for the beginner (and, many argue, for the experienced as well) amount of 'queen rearing equipment' and calls for the least 'handling' of eggs and other fragile bee stuff! Your first task is to get the eggs from your breeder queen. Fortunately, you do not need any special gear to do this! You just need a frame of drawn foundation. Ideally, it is empty (no brood, pollen or honey.) Go to the hive with your breeder queen and locate the brood nest and remove a full frame of capped brood from the center of it (you can use this to populate your [Starter Hive](#) (see below)). Replace the removed frame with your empty frame of drawn wax. You have just given the breeder queen a whole slew of open slots to lay in.

Wait four days and you should have a frame full of eggs and/or larva that has just hatched. These are the perfect age for building queens. Pull the frame and inspect it. You want to determine which side is best (I like to use a magnifying glass.) We're looking for a ton of eggs, most of which should be laying down and slightly curved (just hatched or hatching.)



As with most queen rearing methods, you need a [Starter Hive](#). It's probably good to get this started a day or two after you drop your frame into your breeder queen hive. This method usually requires something larger than a Nuc (but you get a lot of queens from it.) Since (as will be shown below) you stand the chance of raising 50 or more queens with this method, you need a strong bunch of nurse bees with plenty of food (or you end up with queens that were not raised under optimal conditions.)

On the good side, starting at the top of the frame, destroy two rows (left-to-right) of eggs, clear across the frame.

Leave the next row of eggs intact and then destroy the next two rows. Continue to the bottom of the frame.



To 'destroy' a cell with a queen egg in it, you can usually just push a match stick or something similar into the cell and squish it a bit. At this point, you will have a frame with several horizontal rows of good eggs. We need to create space between these eggs, as the bees may go ahead and build them out, side-by-side, effectively glueing them together, making it impossible to take one and place it into your target nuke or mating nuc. So, now you go from left-to-right, along the rows of good eggs, and destroy every 1st and 2nd cell, leaving the 3rd as is (with a good egg in it)

Note: At this point (as alluded to above), you have a frame

with a ton of potential queen cells. If things go right, you could end up with 75 queens! Since most folks do not need that many queens, it doesn't hurt to destroy a few more 'good' cells above, reducing the number of queens you will be producing. Again, as mentioned above, it takes a lot of resources and nurse bees to properly raise so many queens. So, in this case, more is not necessarily better. If you only need a couple of queens for your own hives, I think it is better to simply have 10 to 15 good eggs for the bees to start and draw.

They will still need resources (honey/pollen), but they will not need as much as they would for 75 queen cells.

Now that you have your frame of good eggs, you want to lay it down (side-ways) on the top of your Starter Hive with the good eggs facing down. Placing an empty (no foundation) frame beneath it is also required (or some kind of elevation) so that they can build out the queen cells without attaching them to the frames below.

After 10 days, carefully remove the frame and there should be a bunch of capped queen cells. The key here is that they have just gone through their sensitive phase, when it is very easy to damage them in transit. But, they are only a day or two away from hatching! *Day 10 or never* is the rule. If one hatches before you get in there, she is probably going to kill the others immediately.

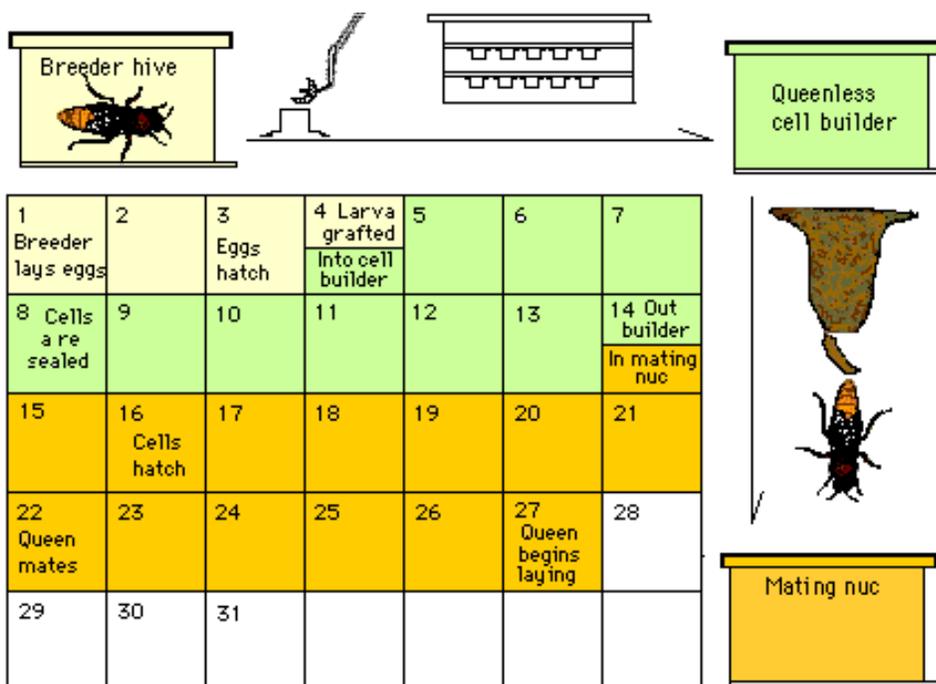


Carefully cut out the queen cells and either place them in a new Nuc (queenless for 2 days prior) or place them in a Mating Nuc.

Hopefully, you have enough cells to place 2 or 3 in each Nuc, ensuring a successful hatching and emergence (also takes care of the issue of accidentally harming a queen cell without knowing it.)

I like to give the queens a solid 10 to 14 days before checking on them. I should have a laying queen at this point!

Queen Rearing Calendar.



Reports

by Daryl Wright

MBA Convention Banquet

At the MBA Convention Banquet, Jim Campbell was honoured with the Willie Baumgartner Award. This award is given annually to a person who has made a significant positive contribution of innovative, creative and effective effort for the betterment of the bee industry of Canada. Allan Campbell presented Jim with an honorary life membership to the Manitoba Beekeepers's Association. Ron Rudiak, Lorne Peters



Survey Says!!

At the MBA convention, a survey was taken to help determine the direction of the MBA for timing of the Annual General Meeting and Convention. It was determined that these events will take place together and during the winter. Our bylaws require that the AGM take place before 6 months after the fiscal year end. This may effect when the AGM /Convention. The Directors are determining our options for dates.

The MBA also received confirmation of developing a Business Manager / Technical Team to help serve the beekeepers in Manitoba. The Directors will be working on developing a Business Plan in the coming months.

MBA Convention

The 110th MBA Convention was held at the Canad Inn Winnipeg on February 26 and 27. 115 quests and beekeepers and listened to our many guest speakers on topics ranging from queens, nuc production, honey bee health, BeeConnected App, research projects in Manitoba and across Canada. 10 vendors also attended our trade show. Thank you to all that attended and participated in the collection of information and the lively discussion on all topics.





4th ANNUAL MANITOBA BEE PRODUCERS LIVE BEE AUCTION

of BRANDON, MB. - WEDNESDAY MAY 25th 5:00 PM



Since bees are being consigned from Apiarists all over Manitoba the sale will be conducted at the Fraser Auction Service Barn in Brandon, MB by video presentation. Buyers wanting to see the bees in person will need to do so prior to sale day. Seller contact information will be posted on our website so you can contact them for directions to hive yards and info about their bees.

This sale is open to consignment of live bees. We are expecting +/-1500 colonies of bees for this sale. Numbers will be dependent on winter losses of the consignors.

We are now taking consignments of all sizes of colonies for this sale. Singles / Doubles / Nucs

All bees must be government inspected prior to the sale and test results will be made available to prospective buyers. Inspections must be arranged with Provincial Apiarist by sellers.

**CALL NOW TO DISCUSS THIS SALE
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UNRESERVED APIARIST DOWNSIZING SALE for RIVERCREST HONEY FARM (WILL & MARTHA CLARK) of BRANDON, MB. - TUESDAY MAY 24th 1:00 PM



DIRECTIONS: From JCT #10 & #349 (South of Brandon, MB) 7 Kms West on #349 Sale Site on North Side of Road
From JCT #250 & #349 (North of Souris, MB/South of Alexander, MB) 14 Kms East on #349 Sale Site on North Side of Road Watch for signs sale day!

HIVES:

- 400 +/- single brood nest colonies

Will be equalized and queen checked. Treated with Oxalic acid Oct 2015. Have not used anything but Oxalic acid and Thymovar for Varroa treatment since 2012. No AFB detected in operation in 18 yrs. All hives on 4 way pressure treated clipped pallets with screened bottom boards. A number of single hive bottoms (150) will be available for those interested in purchasing odd numbers or non palletized colonies that can be transferred / traded. Forklift loading provided

for both honey supers and hives. All hives have 3/4" fir plywood with wax dipped migratory lids. Most brood nests are dove tailed, wax dipped boxes. Will be government inspected for Varroa with less than 1% expected. Will be treated with Fumagillin for Nosema in early May 2016. Hives will have a mixture of Manitoba, Chilean, and Hawaiian queens, 2013, 14 and 15's.

SUPERS:

- 2100 - 9 frame fully drawn honey supers

60% of the frames have a plastic foundation newer frame, (painted

top bar), no metal ears, no nail ears, 99% + wood frames

EQUIPMENT:

- 300 plastic queen excluders, 5 years old
- 20' rolling gravity accordion type conveyor, used as an extracting room box return
- Single stack, threaded rod box elevator, with new motor and barrel switch
- Wax elevator/conveyor - from press or spinner to drum height



For more information contact: Will Clark 204-724-2373 willmarthoney@gmail.com
THIS IS JUST A PARTIAL LISTING, for complete listing visit www.fraserauction.com

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Lab Diagnostic Services - At this time and until further notice, the MAFRI Provincial Honey Bee Diagnostics Lab in Winnipeg is not processing honey bee disease samples. Honey bee samples for disease analysis can be mailed to:

National Bee Diagnostic Centre (NBDC)
P.O. Box 1118
1 Research Road
Beaverlodge, Alberta T0H 0C0

Phone: 1-780-357-7737
Fax: 1-780-354-8080
Email: NBDC@gprc.ab.ca

For information on cost and how to prepare & ship samples to the NBDC, please consult the following website: <https://www.thenbdc.ca/diagnostic-services> or call the NBDC directly. Also, a reminder that a video on how to monitor for varroa mite can be viewed on the website of the Manitoba Beekeepers' Association (MBA) at <http://manitobabee.org/hive/category/videos/>. Funding for the Varroa Mite Monitoring video was provided by Growing Forward - Food Safety Program, For Farms.

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Saturday, June 4th, 2016 at Forks Market, Winnipeg.

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Mitch Rodgers 1 204 871 6393
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We will be accepting wax for rendering until the end of April.

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Manitoba Beekeepers' Association 2016 Recommended Honey House Price

\$3.50 per pound \$7.70 per kilogram

(in customer supplied container)





In February 2016, the City of Winnipeg amended the Downtown Zoning By-law 100/2004 to support properly managed apiaries for beekeeping in downtown Winnipeg. Following is some helpful information and resources related to urban beekeeping.

Guidelines for Urban Beekeeping

The following City guidelines complement provincial regulations and promote good management practices for urban beekeeping.

Best Practice

- ♣ Urban beekeeping is discouraged before completing a recognized course in beekeeping and/or seeking membership in a local bee club. See resources below.
- ♣ All beekeepers shall register with the provincial apiarist and shall comply with the Manitoba Bee Act wherever required. See resources below.
- ♣ Every beekeeper shall adhere to good management and husbandry practices and maintain bees in such condition as to prevent swarming, aggressive behaviour and disease.
- ♣ Indications of disease should be reported to the provincial apiarist.

Planning and Design Standards

- ♣ Maximum number of hives on a site is four plus one nucleus hive.
- ♣ Ensure the beehives are located to ensure adequate sun exposure and airflow for the health of the bees.
- ♣ Installation of a windbreak structure may be required as bees may have trouble foraging if wind inhibits hive access.
- ♣ A constant source of water must be provided at all times for hives starting before the snow melts in the spring and continuing late into fall.
- ♣ Hive openings should be oriented away from nearby public spaces, balconies, terraces or elevated patios.
- ♣ Hives on ground level must be within a secure fenced enclosure. Hives should be set back at least 20 feet (6 metres) from the edge of a permeable fence.
- ♣ No setback is required if it is a solid fence or includes a vegetative obstruction at least 5 feet (1.5 metres) tall.
- ♣ No fencing or setback requirement for hives on rooftops or elevated decks/balconies at least 8 feet (2.4 metres) above grade.
- ♣ Rooftop locations should have access via an enclosed staircase or elevator, and have adequate structural integrity to support the additional weight of beehives.
- ♣ Appropriate railings around the perimeter of the roof should be considered for the safety of beekeepers.

<http://winnipeg.ca/ppd/planning/beekeeping/default.stm#6>





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Convention/AGM: Chair – Daryl Wright

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Foreign Worker: Chair-, Bryan Ash

Food Safety: Chair-Bryan Ash

KAP: Chair – Mark Friesen

Newsletter: Chair – Mark Friesen

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Promotion/Education: Chair – Marg Smith

Resolution: Chair – Marg Smith

Research: Chair – Daryl Wright, Rhéal Lafrenière (Dr. Rob Currie).

Safety Nets: Chair – Bruce Podolsky

Stock Replacement: Chair – Bryan Ash,



Why did my honey bees die?

MARCH 8, 2016 • BASIC BEEKEEPING | BLOG | COOL ENTOMOLOGY | PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL, article on www.beeinformed.org

LEARNING TO IDENTIFY A COMMON CAUSE OF WINTER DEATH IN NORTHERN CLIMATES

By Meghan Milbrath, Michigan State University Extension, March 8, 2016

Guest Blog

Beekeepers in northern climates have already lost a lot of colonies this winter. While official counts won't be recorded for a few months, some trends are starting to emerge. One of these trends is a specific type of colony death. In Michigan, I've received so many calls describing the scenario below, that I can describe the deadout before opening the hive, or before the beekeeper describes it over the phone. While I may impress some with these predictive powers, the frequency of these types of losses indicates a real epidemic that is affecting honey bee colonies in northern states.

Characteristics of the common early winter death in northern states:

- **The colony was big and looked healthy in the fall**
- **A lot of honey is left in the top supers**
- **The cluster is now small, maybe the size of a softball**
- **There are hardly any bees on the bottom board**
- **Near or just below the cluster is a patch of spotty brood – some fully capped, and some with bees dying on emergence (heads facing out, tongues sticking out).**
- **If you look closely in the cells around the brood, you will see white crystals stuck to the cell walls, looking like someone sprinkled coarse salt in the brood nest.**
- **You don't have records showing that varroa was under control.**

Sound familiar?

We see this classic set of symptoms over and over in the states with a proper winter. A big colony that seems to just shrink down and disappear. Many people want to use the term colony collapse for this type of death, and while collapse is a good descriptor of what happens, this is not true colony collapse disorder. This is death by varroa associated viruses.

How does it happen?

- The big colonies –While beekeepers are often surprised that their big colonies are the ones that are gone first, it makes perfect sense in terms of varroa growth. Since varroa mites reproduce in capped brood, the colonies that made the most brood (i.e. got the biggest) are the ones most at risk of having a high population of varroa. Colonies that swarmed, or didn't take off, or even fought a disease like chalk brood are *less* at risk from high varroa populations, because they didn't consistently have large amounts. You should have good notes indicating cluster size going into winter, but even if you don't, you can see the large circle of food eaten by a large cluster.

This colony had a large brood nest (indicated by the dark comb in this frame from the top deep box), and a large cluster going into winter (indicated by the large amount of honey that is eaten away where the winter cluster started). Varroa were never monitored or managed in this colony, and it was dead by February, if not sooner. (Photo by Meghan Milbrath)



- **Lots of Honey** – Lots of honey means that the colony died fairly early. Colonies with high levels of varroa, they tend to die fairly early in the season (before February), leaving lots of honey behind. Once the bees are stressed and in cluster, the viruses take their toll very quickly. In some cases the colony will even abscond in fall, or be dead before winter really hits.

The colony shown above had a third deep box that was filled with capped honey, indicating that the bees died early, and starvation was not the culprit.

- **Small cluster** – Varroa levels peak right when the winter bees are getting formed. The bees that emerge from varroa infested cells are weakened, and more importantly, are riddled with viruses. Varroa mites are notorious for carrying deformed wing viruses (DWV), but are known to transmit many more. When bees are close tight in a winter cluster, the viruses can spread very quickly.

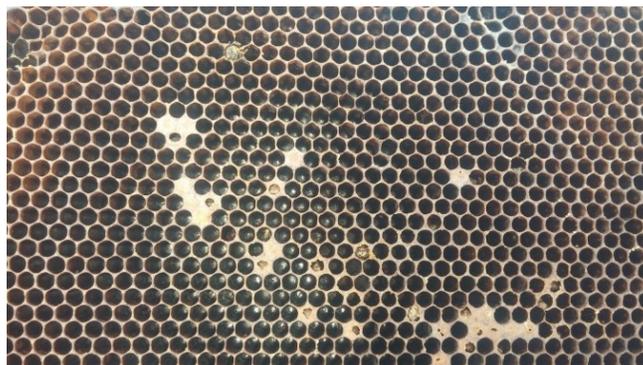
In our colony, the cluster was only the size of our hand – some bees had their heads stuck in the cells, trying to stay warm, others had fallen between the frames.

- **No bees on the bottom board** – When a colony starves, the bees just drop to the bottom board, and you end up with a pile of dead bees in the hive. When bees get sick with viruses and other pathogens, however, they often will fly away. Sick bees by nature leave the colony to die in the field, an act designed to prevent pathogen transmission in the colony. When most bees are sick, they either fly away, or are too weak to return after cleansing flights. An early fall illness means that a lot of the bodies probably got removed by workers too.

The colony we examined had only a few bees left on the bottom board (1-2 cups). We didn't see a lot of varroa, but there had been some robbing, so wax cappings covered a lot of the board.

- **Patch of spotty brood/ Bees dying on emergence** – When a colony succumbs to varroa associated viruses or parasitic mite syndrome (PMS), we see a lot of effects in the brood. Unlike American Foulbrood (AFB), which attacks the larvae at one particular stage, PMS will affect developing bees at many stages of development. It is one

Note the bee in the upper left is fully formed, and died on emergence. You can often see frozen/melted larvae along with dead pupae. Many beekeepers instantly suspect AFB, but AFB infected colonies usually will not be large and have produced a lot of honey going into the winter. (Photo by Meghan Milbrath)



- **White crystals in the brood** – Around the cells where the brood died (the last place of the brood nest), you will often see white crystals stuck to the walls of the cells. These are dry (not suspended in liquid like crystallized honey), and are the crystallized pee of varroa. Varroa mites defecate in the cells, and the resulting guanidine crystals are left behind, and visible to the naked eye.

(Continued on p.22)

Cells on the left side of this photo contain small crystals of guanine acid, indicating varroa defecation. Notice the dry, irregular shape, and that they appear stuck to the walls on the cells. Some cells on the right side of this photo contain crystallized sugar. Note the wet/liquid appearance, and that it is largely in the bottom of the cell. (Photo by Meghan Milbrath)



- **No records that varroa was under control.** Notice that this says ‘varroa was under control’, and not that ‘the colony was treated’. You may have applied a treatment, but it may have been too little, or (more likely) too late. This year was a particularly difficult year for this, because in Michigan we had a really late summer – it stayed warm enough for beekeepers to go into their hives well into October. Many beekeepers took the extra time to put on a varroa treatment, thinking that they were lucky to get one in. While that treatment could help the bees for next season, it was too late for this winter. September and October treatments would have been applied *after* varroa had gotten to their winter bees. Winter bees are born in the fall, and with their special fat deposits that allow them to live through the winter months, they are the one who carry the colony to the next season. If the winter bees have already been infected with viruses, the damage is done. No amount of treatment or varroa drop would bring the colony back.

The only way to know that you have varroa under control is to monitor using a sugar roll or an alcohol wash. Just looking at the bees does not work; varroa mites are so sneaky, that you rarely ever see them, unless the infestation is out of control, and it is too late. Many beekeepers say that they never see varroa in their hives, so they don’t think that they have a problem. In fact, a varroa infested hive can actually look like it is thriving. Underneath the lovely brood cappings, and away from our view, the mites are reproducing and biting the developing bees. The colony can look fairly healthy until the mites reach a threshold, and the colony succumbs to disease. By the time you see parasitic mite syndrome, or see varroa crawling on bees, it is often too late for that colony (especially if winter is just around the corner). Getting on a schedule of monitoring and managing mites will give you peace of mind that your healthy looking colony is indeed healthy.

- **The silver lining**

If the above scenario is familiar, don’t despair. First, you are not alone. Many beekeepers got caught off guard with varroa this year. They didn’t realize how bad it was, or got thrown off by odd weather patterns. Second, when the bees die, the varroa mites die too. We don’t yet have evidence that the viruses would stay in the equipment, so you can reuse your old frames. The honey that is left can be extracted to enjoy (if you didn’t feed or medicate), and frames of drawn comb can be given to new colonies. Most importantly, if you recognize the above scenario in your colonies, you now have more knowledge as to what is harming your bees, and you can take positive action. You have time for this season to develop a strategy. Monitor your varroa mite levels using a sugar roll kit (available at pollinators.msu.edu/mite-check/ or at Mann Lake), read about integrated pest management for varroa, and make a commitment to prevent high mite levels this year *before* your winter bees are developing. This is going to be the year!

Meghan Milbrath, Ph.D.

mpi@msu.edu /517-884-9518

Meghan Milbrath is a beekeeper and the coordinator of the Michigan Pollinator Initiative at Michigan State University. She performs pollinator related research and extension work, and works with beekeepers and stakeholders around the country. She started keeping bees over 20 years ago, and currently owns and manages a [The Sand Hill apiaries](#), where she manages 150-200 colonies for queen rearing and nuc production.

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For Sale :Cook and Beals Wax Collection System Contact Pierre at 204 248 2645

For Sale: Spring Nucs in May. 3 or 4 frame with 2016 queens. Contact Jake at 204 513 0529 or jake@destinyroad.ca

For Sale: 2007 Cook & Beals Spin Float Honey-Wax Separator with Electronic Drive with new sump & float switch. \$11000.00. Contact Bruce at 204 742 3515 or west10honey@gmail.com

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TEXT ONLY ADS

Advertisements that are usually short (i.e. typically 30-50 word, single entry) miscellaneous TEXT ONLY ads (i.e. sell/want equipment, bees, books, honey, etc) and placed in the Classified section near the back pages of the newsletter, or on web site page, are free to members and are \$10/issue, for non members.

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Advertisements that are multiple entries per advertiser (i.e. Employment for more than one category of worker), or longer than 50-100 words of text, and/or include photo, logo, sketch, diagram, etc. are subject to the following charges:

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Employment Ad changes in the newsletter for next Season.

Employment ads for next season will be in the same format for everyone in the classified section (50 words or less) if you would like to use your custom ad the charges stated above will come into effect (Display Ad) as some of the ads are taking a whole page and it is difficult to have some consistency due to the many different formats and styles being used.

EMPLOYMENT

Apiary Labourer Wanted – NOC8431

6 positions available

Wage Range starting at \$10.53 per hour

No experience required

Duties include:

- Handle, feed and care for the honey bee colonies
- Assist in the production of nucs, and or replacement beehives
- Apply appropriate disease cures/controls
- Move beehives
- Collect and package honey, pollen and/or beeswax
- Drive and maintain vehicles (including large trucks and forklifts)
- Maintain bee yard
- Manufacture, assemble and maintain beehive equipment
- Operate and maintain other apiary related equipment
- Reports to supervisor

Apiary Worker Wanted - 8431

6 positions available

Wage Range starting at \$11.35 per hour

Minimum one year commercial experience

Duties include:

- Handle, feed and care for the honey bee colonies
- Assist in the production of nucs, and or replacement beehives
- Recognize and report beehive health issues and apply appropriate disease cures/controls
- Move beehives
- Collect and package honey, pollen and/or beeswax
- Drive and maintain vehicles (including large trucks and forklifts)
- Maintain bee yard
- Manufacture, assemble and maintain beehive equipment
- Operate and maintain other apiary related equipment
- Keep limited field and/or production records
- Reports to supervisor

Apiary Technicians Wanted – NOC8253

6 positions available

Wage range is \$12.62 - \$15.00 depending on skills and experience (minimum 3 years commercial experience required)

- Handle, feed and care for the honey bee colonies
- Co-ordinate the production of nucs, and or replacement beehives
- Recognize and report beehive health issues and apply appropriate disease cures/controls
- Move beehives
- Collect and package honey, pollen and/or beeswax
- Supervise employees
- Drive and maintain vehicles (including large trucks and forklifts)
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Dauphin, MB

Wanted:Apiary Worker 2 positions (NOC 8431)

Beekeeping farm. Seasonal full time, days, evenings, Saturdays. \$11.35-13.00 per hour for 50 hrs. per week, . Employment from March 31/ 2016-October 31/2016. At Waldbee Honey Farms Inc. Box 9 Group 19 RR1, East Selkirk, MB . ROE OMO. Language is English.

Minimum 1 year experience required. Duties would be to handle, feed and care for bees; help in replacement of hives and production of nucs; move hives; collect honey; maintain and drive vehicles; maintain bee yard; manufacture, assemble and maintain beehive equipment; maintain and operate other apiary related equipment; Must be able to handle heavy loads, and work is physically demanding. Must work well with others, as well as the ability to maintain basic production records. Report to Supervisor. Would require steel toed safety boots. Send resume by mail to above address or by email to philip@waldbee.com

EMPLOYMENT

Wanted: Apiary Labourer 1 position

Beekeeping farm. Seasonal full time, days, evenings, Saturdays. \$10.70 – 11.25 per hour for 50 hrs. per week, with Medical Benefits. Employment from March 31, 2016-October 31, 2016 at West 10 Honey Ltd. Box 205 Ethelbert, MB R0L 0T0. Language is English, with Spanish as other language on site. No experience required. Report to Supervisor. Duties would be to handle, feed and care for bees; help in replacement of hives; collect honey; maintain and drive vehicles; maintain bee yard; manufacture, assemble and maintain beehive equipment; maintain and operate other apiary related equipment; Must be able to handle heavy loads, and work is physically demanding, requiring standing for extended periods, bending, crouching and kneeling. Must have own transportation. Must work well with others and able to do continuous learning. Would require steel toed safety boots. Send resume by mail to above address or by email to west10honey@gmail.com.

Wanted: Apiary Worker 4 positions

Beekeeping farm. Seasonal full time, days, evenings, Saturdays. \$11.35-13.00 per hour for 50 hrs. per week, with Medical Benefits. Employment from March 31, 2016-October 31, 2016 at West 10 Honey Ltd. Box 205 Ethelbert, MB R0L 0T0. Language is English, with Spanish as other language on site. Minimum 1 year experience required. Report to Supervisor. Duties would be to handle, feed and care for bees; help in replacement of hives and production of nucs; move hives; collect honey; maintain and drive vehicles; maintain bee yard; manufacture, assemble and maintain beehive equipment; maintain and operate other apiary related equipment; Must be able to handle heavy loads, and work is physically demanding, requiring standing for extended periods, bending, crouching and kneeling. Must have own transportation. Must work well with others and able to do continuous learning, as well as the ability to maintain basic production records. Would require steel toed safety boots. Send resume by mail to above address or by email to west10honey@gmail.com.

Wanted: Apiary Technician 4 positions

Beekeeping farm. Seasonal full time, days, evenings, Saturdays. \$12.82-16.00 per hour, depending on skills and experience, for 50 hrs. per week, with Medical Benefits. Employment from March 31, 2016-October 31, 2016 at West 10 Honey Ltd. Box 205 Ethelbert, MB R0L 0T0. Language is English, with Spanish as other language on site. Minimum 3 year experience required. Would supervise employees and interact with off-farm personnel. Duties would be to handle, feed and care for bees; co-ordinate the replacement of hives and production of nucs; Detect and report hive health and apply the correct disease cures and/or controls; move hives; collect honey; maintain and drive vehicles; maintain bee yard; manufacture, assemble and maintain beehive equipment; maintain and operate other apiary related equipment; Must be able to handle heavy loads, and work is physically demanding, requiring standing for extended periods, bending, crouching and kneeling. Must have own transportation. Must work well with others and able to do continuous learning, and keep the field and/or production records. Would require steel toed safety boots. Send resume by mail to above address or by email to west10honey@gmail.com.



EMPLOYMENT

ASH APIARIES LTD. in Gilbert Plains



APIARY HARVESTER

- Duties:**
- Supering hives
 - Harvesting honey
 - Cleaning honey extraction & storage equipment
 - Honey extraction
 - Barrel moving, preparation, filling & storage
 - Manufacture, assemble, maintain hive equipment
 - Bee yard maintenance
 - No experience required.

Start Date: June 9/2015 - July 13/2015
End Date: September 8th/2015 - October 27th/2015
Wage: \$10.70 - \$15.00 upon experience
Positions Available: 15

APIARY WORKER

- Duties:**
- Handle, feed, and care for honey colonies
 - Assist in the production of nucs, queens, or replacement hives
 - Recognize & report hive health issues & apply appropriate cures/controls
 - Move hives
 - Collect and package honey, beeswax
 - Bee yard maintenance
 - Manufacture, assemble & maintain hive equipment
 - Operate & maintain other apiary related equipment
 - Keep limited field and/or production records
 - 1 year previous commercial beekeeping experience required

Start Date: February 24/2015 - May 5/2015
End Date: October 27/2015 - November 7/2015
Wage: \$11.00 - \$15.00 upon experience
Positions Available: 15

APIARY TECHNICIAN

- Duties:**
- Handle, feed, and care for honey colonies
 - Co-ordinate in the production of nucs, queens, or replacement hives
 - Recognize and report hive health issues & apply appropriate cures/controls
 - Move hives
 - Drive and maintain vehicles
 - Collect and package honey, beeswax
 - Bee yard maintenance
 - Manufacture, assemble & maintain hive equipment
 - Operate & maintain other apiary related equipment
 - Keep field and/or production records
 - Interact with external farm personnel
 - 2 year previous commercial beekeeping experience required.

Start Date: February 24/2015 - March 3/2015
End Date: October 27/2015 - November 7/2015
Wage: \$12.00 - \$15.00 upon experience
Positions Available: 7

Apply by sending resume to:
 Ash Apiaries Ltd.
 c/o Bryan Ash
 Box 297, Gilbert Plains, MB R0L 0X0
 Phone 204-548-2036
 Fax 204-548-2112
 Email: info@ashapiaries.com

Western Apicultural Society of North America

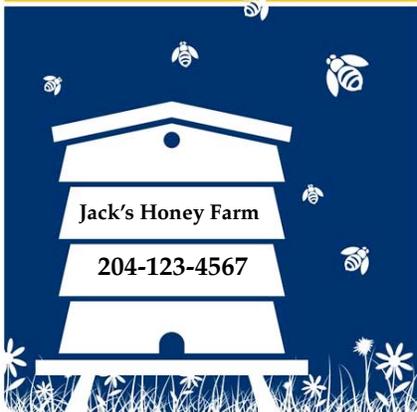


2016
CONFERENCE OCT 13-15 IN HONOLULU, HI

Don't forget you should have your contact information posted in your bee yards!



LOOK OUT BEES ABOUT
 Please do not approach or disturb the hives.



Ash Apiaries SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT 1x Oct 10 and 14 2014

Shopper:
 Oct. 10, 2014
 Herald:
 Oct. 14, 2014
 df **1x125**



APIARY TECHNICIAN

4 POSITIONS AVAILABLE
 (NOC Code 8253)

Wage: \$12.82/Hour
 Upon Experience

(Minimum 2 Years
 Commercial Experience)

Start Date: Feb. 15 - Mar. 1 (2016)
End Date: Oct. 15 - Oct. 31 (2016)

Duties:

- Handle, feed and care for honeybee colonies
- Co-ordinate the production of nucs, and/or replacement beehives
- Recognize and report beehive health issues and apply appropriate disease cures/controls
- Move beehives
- Collect and package honey, pollen and/or beeswax
- Supervise employees
- Drive and maintain vehicles (including large trucks and forklifts)
- Maintain bee yard
- Manufacture, assemble and maintain beehive equipment
- Operate and maintain other apiary related equipment
- Keep field and/or production records
- Interact with external farm personnel

APIARY HARVESTER

8 POSITIONS AVAILABLE
 (NOC Code 8431)

Wage: \$11.00/Hour

(No Experience Necessary)

Start Date: July 4, 2016
End Date: September 24, 2016

Duties:

- Supering beehives
- Harvesting honey
- Cleaning honey extraction and storage equipment
- Honey extraction
- Barrel moving, preparation, filling and storage
- Manufacture, assemble, and maintain hive equipment
- Feed bees
- Bee yard maintenance
- Reports to supervisor

APIARY WORKER

5 POSITIONS AVAILABLE
 (NOC Code 8431)

Wage: \$11.35/Hour
 Upon Experience

(Minimum 1 Year
 Commercial Experience)

Start Date: Feb. 15 - Mar. 1 (2016)
End Date: Oct. 15 - Oct. 31 (2016)

Duties:

- Handle, feed and care for honeybee colonies
- Assist in the production of nucs, and/or replacement beehives
- Recognize and report beehive health issues and apply appropriate disease cures/controls
- Move beehives
- Collect and package honey, pollen and/or beeswax
- Maintain bee yard
- Manufacture, assemble and maintain beehive equipment
- Operate and maintain other apiary related equipment
- Keep limited field and/or production records
- Reports to supervisor

For full details and to apply please visit our website at durstonhoneyfarms.com or send a resume by fax, in person, or by email to:
Phone: 204-638-6515
Fax: 204-638-3736

careers@durstonhoneyfarms.com

Durston Honey Farms

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