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The Manitoba

Volume 5 issue 1

Winter 2011

Beekeeper



AGM Endorses Resolutions P.2

CHC REPORT P.3

Presidents Report P.5

Extension Report P.9

Honey Report p.10

BeeMaid Press Release P. 13

Report on Galveston, Texas Convention. P. 17

MANITOBA'S 105TH BEEKEEPERS CONVENTION P.14 -15

Farmer appreciation day P. 19

2010 MBA Resolutions P. 20-21

Wildlife Damage Increase P. 24

A Publication Of The Manitoba Beekeepers Association

www.manitobabee.org

Photo by Jim Campbell

AGM Endorses Resolutions

Jim Campbell, MBA Secretary

The 105th Annual General Meeting of the Manitoba Beekeepers' Association saw a crowd, of over 30 producers, gathered to hear reports on 2009 activities and provide directions for 2011.

AGM attendees in Neepawa were pleased to have received advance budget reports for the 17 November meeting. In addition, the boards' progress report in the newsletter gave an overview of the activities already undertaken. Vice Chair, Murray Lewis, rounded out the information session in the presidents' report by commenting on his observations of some of the past years events. After hearing about continued work on the Foreign Worker issues, producers heard from affiliated groups. On the national front, Canadian Honey Council worked again this year to acquire Apivar, and yet face a standstill with the traceability manual. In the Keystone Agricultural Producers report, work on further reduction on Education School Tax on farmland was emphasized.

Just before breaking for a honey infused lunch of Honey Baked Ham and Scalloped Potatoes, producers heard about activities of two of the local beekeeping associations. Brandon Area Beekeepers' Association noted their appreciation for support from Extension staff, and several others organizing and sponsoring Field Day workshops. Meanwhile, the Red River Apiarists' Association noted promotions of the First Ever "May 29 Day of the Honey Bee" plus the new theme "Honey-More than just Food, Naturally" intrigued visitors to the Honey Show in Winnipeg.

In the MAFRI presentation, the biggest concern for beekeepers remains the adverse impact of Varroa. The turn around time for samples analyzed at the Bee Lab are keeping pace with demand. AGM attendees



noted efforts to economize the inspection process resulted in disease free operations not being visited as usual. This process will be further reviewed to ensure appropriate disease monitoring continues.

Elections, then approval of eight resolutions, capped the AGM. Several resolutions reaffirmed the desire of members to have the board work in concert with other provincial organizations, and Canadian Honey Council with the underlying theme to retain livestock availability and movement, yet minimize adverse risks to our industry. Resolutions and their current status are provided under the "Bulletin" section of www.manitobabee.org for members to check at their leisure.

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If you order 100-300 nucs, the price is \$135.
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If you order over 600 nucs, the price is negotiable.
Please order before March 15, or any of the above prices will be \$5 higher.
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Email: alex_reich63@yahoo.ca
Location is: Mitchell, Manitoba - Canada

Wanted :A beekeeper with lot of experience is looking for a job for this up coming season in the Winnipeg area. Please email to Borisapiary@gmail.com

2011 MBA Committees

Newsletter:

Chair – Earl Dueck

Jim Campbell, , Rhéal Lafrenière,
David Ostermann

Nomination:

Chair – Murray Lewis ,
Bryan Ash, Bill Lockhart, Jake Maendel

Pests & Pest Management:

Chair – Bill Lockhart, Terry Karaz,
Richard Schau, Murray Lewis

Pollination:

Chair – , Chris Rempel

Bryan Ash, Bruce Podolsky ,
David Ostermann.

Promotion/ Education:

Chair – Jake Maendel,

Jim Campbell, Earl Dueck, Gilles Maguet, Richard
Schau, Rhéal Lafrenière.

Resolution:

Chair – Chris Rempel

Bryan Ash, Bruce Podolsky ,

Research:

Chair - Bill Lockhart,

Rhéal Lafrenière, Murray Lewis, Gilles Maguet,
(Dr. Rob Currie).

Safety Nets:

Chair – Bill Lockhart,

Jake Maendel , Earl Dueck ,Terry Karaz

Stock Replacement:

Chair – Bryan Ash,

Bill Lockhart, Terry Karaz , Bruce Podolsky,

Pests and Pest Management:

Chair – Bill Lockhart,

Murray Lewis,Terry Karaz, Richard Schau

Convention/AGM Committee:

Chair – Murray Lewis, Bruce Podolsky , Rhéal
Lafrenière , Jim Campbell David Ostermann,

Fee/Levy & Structure Committee:

Co-Chair -Jake Maendal Terry Karaz ,Chris
Rempel , Bill Lockhart , Rhéal Lafrenière, Jim
Campbell

Financial Committee:

Chair - Bill Lockhart, Jim Campbell
Earl Dueck and , David Ostermann, Chris Rempel

Foreign worker:

Chair-Bruce Podolsky

Bryan Ash, Allen Campbell , Chris Rempel
Rhéal Lafrenière

KAP:

Chair - Allan Campbell,

Earl Dueck, Gilles Maguet, Jim Campbell

Food Safety:

Chair—Bryan Ash,

Bruce Podolsky, Gilles Maguet

CHC REPORT

by Bryan Ash



MBA CHC Report December 16, 2010

I am delighted to act as the Manitoba Beekeepers Association, Canadian Honey council representative for the 2011 year. The fall CHC meeting in Cranbrook, BC saw the board working on policy adjustment in an attempt to make our board more open and accountable. Under the changes CHC directors may report to their provinces how they voted on issues and the review the debate that took place to reach a decision.

CFIA is asking to work with industry to conduct a bio-security survey on honey bee disease management. MBA has requested CHC to pass on more information regarding bio-security, the intentions, and a sample of what the survey will contain before releasing any membership information.

CBISQT was reviewed on October 26th and came back with some major deviations. I have written CHC asking what the deviations are to see if we can find a volunteer to help work on the on farm food safety program. CHC will have some major decisions as to the future of CBISQT.

Heather reported CFIA is ready to gazette labeling changes (Canada No.1 White) and should hopefully be in effect in about a year.

Foreign worker issues are also top concern of beekeepers across Canada. Foreign worker committee has written for clarification of the 4 on, 4 off year rule, and confirmation of who may be exempt from the rul-

ing. Wages are also of concern, understanding of how Service Canada sets a prevailing wage has been asked and a review of wages across Canada is occurring.

CHC had set up a hiring committee to hire a new executive director for the replacement of retiring CEO Heather Clay. Interviews of potential candidates have taken place and hiring is expected prior to the Galveston, Texas meetings.

Also in Cranbrook, BC, CHC created a Honey Bee Stock Replacement Committee. I co-chair this committee with Jerry Poelman of Alberta. Immediate responsibilities include working on issues to ensure continued safe import/export of queen bees and inter-provincial movement of colonies . This committee is very active with the small hive beetle found in Hawaii, and in Ontario.

Honey prices are reported to be stable at the \$1.50-1.60 range for white.

Next CHC face to face meeting will be in Galveston, Texas Jan.4th – 9th.

Bryan



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2011 Executive and Directors



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Vice President-Allan Campbell (2012)
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CHC Delegate-Bryan Ash (2013)
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KAP Delegate-Allan Campbell (2012)
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Executive Member-Chris Rempel (2011)
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Treasurer-Hilary Stewart
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Subscription Information:

The Manitoba Beekeeper is published quarterly (January, April, July and October) by the Manitoba Beekeepers Association (MBA). Subscriptions are a benefit of the MBA membership. Annual membership is \$200.00 plus .40 per colony to a maximum of 1000 colonies. An annual Associate Membership (non- voting), is available to out of province beekeepers and other interested individuals for \$60.00. This option is not available to Manitoba Beekeepers with more than 50 colonies.

Please mail your cheque payable to:
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Hilary Stewart
Box 192 , Baldur, MB, R0K 0B0

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e-mail david.ostermann@gov.mb.ca

"For more articles and information visit the MBA web
at www.manitobabee.org "

The deadline for all entries for the Spring 2011 issue will
be March 21st , 2011. Don't miss it! MBA Newsletter
Editor Dan Lecocq : e-mail dnlecocq@shaw.ca

“Articles published in THE MANITOBA BEEKEEPER
are the opinions of the Authors and are generally printed
as received. They do not necessarily express the opinions
of the Manitoba Beekeepers Association.”.

The Committee for the
Promotion of Honey and Health, Inc

Fall 2010

Ms. Maggie Land
Victim Witness Specialist
United States Attorney's Office
Western District of Washington
700 Stewart Street, Suite 5220
Seattle, WA 98101

Re: Sentencing of Mr. Chung Po Liu

The Committee for the Promotion of Honey and Health represents beekeepers, honey packers, importers and scientists from America and the international scientific community.

Chung Po Liu fraudulently introduced honey into the stream of commerce that received widespread publicity for containing antibiotic residues and adulteration. This is harmful to the reputation of honey in the eyes of consumers, who have a positive image of honey as pure, healthy and natural. Adulteration and ultra-filtration of honey remove enzymes and minerals which contribute to the healthful properties of honey. Some trans-shipped honey has been identified to contain lead, and other heavy metal contamination. Such contamination presents a danger to the long term health of children.

Mr. Liu's example encouraged others to transship and launder honey, for illegal financial gain, and he and his co-conspirators in China and America have helped bring about, over many years, an avalanche of imports of honey whose origins are suspect. If he is given a light sentence, then others will feel free to continue similar activities, which will only perpetuate the harm to the American honey industry from illegal honey imports.

Mr. Liu's activities, which were driven by a desire to make an exorbitant and illegal profit, have resulted in incalculable harm to the American honey industry and the confidence of American consumers, and a substantial loss of revenue to the U.S. government through his failure to pay anti-dumping duties on Chinese honey.

This committee respectfully requests the court to apply the maximum sentence to Mr. Liu.

Wailen Bennett, president	805-320-3318
Ron Fessenden, MD, MPH, Co-Chairman	720-851-0386
Ron Phipps, Co-Chairman	516-935-3880

Province Increases Wildlife Damage Compensation

100 per cent Coverage to be Phased In : Struthers

Beginning in fiscal year 2011-12, Manitoba agricultural producers will be able to apply for increased compensation for loss due to wildlife damage, Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives Minister Stan Struthers announced today.

“In rural areas, predators are a fact of nature and producers who do everything they can to safeguard the products, crops and livestock that are their livelihood should be compensated for losses that are beyond their control,” said Struthers. “I’m pleased that compensation will move to 90 per cent of the determined loss next year and increase to 100 per cent in 2012-13 for financial losses due to wildlife damage.”

Compensation will include damage caused by livestock predators (for example, a cow being killed by a wolf), big game (for instance, a bear damaging honey bee colonies) and migratory waterfowl (damage such as geese eating a crop).

The minister noted producers now receive compensation for 80 per cent of their loss, which is cost shared through a sixty-forty agreement between the federal and provincial governments. The additional 20 per cent will be provided by the Manitoba government.

“Producers are expected to take reasonable precautions to prevent wildlife damage and predator attacks including proper surveillance, storage and product management,” said Struthers. “When proper precautions fail, this compensation will ensure producers are not burdened with a financial loss.”

Based on recommendations from Manitoba Conservation, the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation, which manages the compensation



program, may require that preventative measures be put in place after repeat losses and deny future payments if such preventative measures are not adopted by the producer.



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PRESIDENTS REPORT

Murray Lewis



As I sit here at the kitchen table, date January 1, 2011, I wonder where the year has gone. The older I get the faster time seems to go by. I am not sure I like it, or worse yet know what to do about it.

I just watched W5, which was a special on Haiti. The hardship there people are going through is almost beyond belief. I guess what it did do was make me realize how lucky we are to live where we live. We tend to dwell on the negative and really when one looks at the big picture, do we really have a lot to complain about, I think not.

Yes we have some issues in our business but these are things that we can work together and solve. Its time to look forward and think positive.

The year brought different challenges to different areas, with moisture being the main problem. Varroa continues to be a battle, but new treatments and management techniques are coming each day. My only advice is monitor, monitor and monitor some more.

My goal as president is to try bringing the Manitoba industry together. We don't have to agree with one another but, an ongoing discussion is healthy for us all. Don't sit back and complain, get involved, everyone has something to give.

The plans for the convention are ongoing but it is looking very good and I think everyone can look forward to a great convention. More details to come later in the newsletter.

Thanks for now Murray

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c/o **Hilary Stewart** Box 192 Baldur, MB, R0K 0B0

USDA Releases 2010 Honey Bee Colony Collapse Disorder Progress Report

Report Reveals General Colony Loss Levels Increased to 34 Percent in 2010

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture has released the 2010 Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) Progress Report highlighting current research on this still mysterious disease affecting the nation's honey bees.

The report, which was mandated by Congress in 2008, summarizes research by federal agencies, state departments of agriculture, universities and private organizations to find the cause of CCD and how to stop or mitigate its impact. The report was produced by USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

"Honey bees are critical to U.S. agriculture, with about 130 crops depending on pollination to add more than \$15 billion in crop value annually. It is vital that we find a way to deal with CCD," said ARS Administrator Edward B. Knipling. "This report is an important measure of what we are learning about this serious problem."

CCD, a syndrome characterized by the sudden disappearance of all adult honey bees in a colony, was first recognized in 2006. Since then, surveys of beekeepers indicate that the industry is suffering losses of more than 30 percent annually. Before the appearance of CCD, losses averaged 15-20 percent annually from a variety of factors such as varroa mites and other pests and pathogens.

During the past three years, numerous causes for CCD have been proposed and investigated. Although the cause or causes of CCD are still unknown, research summarized in the report supports the hypothesis that CCD may be a syndrome caused by many different factors, that work individually or in combination. The sequence and combination may not even be the same in every case, explained Kevin Hackett, ARS national program leader for pollination and co-chair of the USDA CCD Steering Committee.

The 2010 CCD Progress Report is available online at: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/br/ccd/ccdprogressreport2010.pdf>.

More information about CCD can be found at: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/CCD>.

Source: Kim Kaplan, USDA-ARS



MANITOBA BEEKEEPING CLUBS (update January 13, 2011)

The Red River Apiarists' Association

January 2011

The Red River Apiarists' Association (RRAA) has just begun the new year of meetings held at the River Heights Community Centre, in Winnipeg. This group is designed for the hobby and sideline beekeeper, in and around the city of Winnipeg, although some members have anywhere from one to several hundred Honey Bee hives.

The first meeting of the year took place on 13 January 2011, and was billed as the Annual General Meeting of the association. This meeting, usually held the second Tuesday of most months, began at 7:30 p.m. with Brian Smith, 2 vice President acting as chairperson. The group chose their slate of officers for 2011. Elected were Charles Polcyn, Winnipeg, as President; John R Badiuk, Winnipeg, as 1st Vice President, Brian Smith, Emerson, as 2nd vice President, John Speer, Hazelridge, as treasurer, Ron Rudiak, Steinbach, as Secretary, Ken Rowes, Anola, as Newsletter Editor, and Jim Campbell, Stonewall, as MBA representative. The educational portion of the meeting focused on a report from Rhéal Lafrenière, on the activities of the Galveston, Texas convention.

For information about upcoming meetings and events, visit web site www.beekeepingmanitoba.com of contact Charles Polcyn, RRAA President at 204-284-7064.

WEB SITE <http://www.beekeepingmanitoba.com/>

The Brandon Area Beekeeping Association

The Brandon Area Beekeeping Association (BABA) continues to meet for informal discussions about our beekeeping industry in the Southwest area of the province. This group brings together commercial and hobby beekeepers alike.

The meetings normally take place the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Trails West Inn, from 7:00p.m. For BABA, February 15, 2011 .

For information on upcoming meetings, send an e-mail to: brandonareaba@gmail.com, or call some of the beekeepers in the area, such as Dan Lane at 204-728-9129, or Bill Bygarski at 204-726-4177, or Bill Lockhart at 204-535-2377 , or Merv Malyon at 204-725-1479.

WEB INFO <http://brandonareabeekeepersassociation.blogspot.com/>



Important Notice to Manitoba Honey Producers



2011 Membership Renewals

A familiar reminder for all Manitoba Honey Producers. Membership with the MBA is due as of January 1st, 2011, with payment deadline March 31st 2011 .

Please submit your application form to the MBA treasurer.: If you prefer to receive an invoice, please contact Hilary Stewart or email : manitobabeekeepers@mts.net

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Non Credit Course

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University of Manitoba & Manitoba Agricul-
ture, Food and Rural Initiatives

Date: 9 Wednesdays from 26 January to 23* March,
2011 + Apiary demonstration in April. *No classes 23
Feb, U. of M. mid-term break



Time: 700-9:30 p.m.
Location: 220 Animal Science/Entomology Building
Fees: \$75 (course fee) + recommended text

“Beekeeping in Western Canada” \$27.50

Honey bees can be managed with ease by urban people. Besides the honey and bees wax they produce, and their value as pollinators of various crops, their highly developed social organization provides fascinating material for study.

This series of lectures and demonstrations will deal with the nature of beekeeping; the life history, anatomy, and so-
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plants, nectar flows; seasonal management ; pests, parasites diseases and their control; regulations; honey houses; extracting
equipment; grading and marketing honey and beeswax.

Registration: Limited enrolment. Registrants should come to the first meeting of the class unless notified otherwise.
Written requests for withdrawals involving tuition refund (subject to a \$10 administration fee) will be accepted before the
SECOND meeting of the class. No refunds will be made after that date. The University reserves the right to cancel any
course and refund full fee, and to reschedule classes cancelled due to unavoidable circumstances.

Instructors:

Dr. R.W. Currie, Professor, Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Manitoba, (474-6022)
R. Lafrenière, Provincial Apiarist, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, (945-4825)
D. Ostermann, Extension Apiarist, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, (945-3861)
Tear off and Mail to:

R.W. Currie, Dept. of Entomology, University of Manitoba, R3T 2N2

Registration Fee(s) # People__ * \$75 = __\$. # Text books *27.50\$= __\$. Total amount_____ \$.

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Name _____ Home Phone _____

E-mail _____

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WHEREAS protocol revisions were necessary to permit timely importation of Hawaii queens while mitigating risk of
acquiring Small Hive Beetle in Canada, and

WHEREAS finding a replacement source of 80,000 quality queens if Hawaii were no longer permitted to export queen
to Canada would be next to impossible at this point in time,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that even if risk mitigating conditions placed on importing queens from Hawaii
cannot fully guarantee “zero” risk of acquiring Small Hive Beetle, Manitoba producers support continued importation of
queens from Hawaii.

5. INSPECTION PROGRAM

WHEREAS MBA contributes an annual Inspection Program Cost Recovery amount of \$12,000 to the Province, and

WHEREAS MBA desires to reduce the Cost Recovery expense in it annual budget, and

WHEREAS MBA has negotiated with MAFRI to test a pilot program to bypass for one year, those producers having a
disease free history, to see if inspection costs could be reduced while maintaining a reasonable inspection level, and

WHEAREAS MBA recognizes some producers are concern about missing a third party assessment under the traditional
inspection program, and

WHEREAS the pilot program appears to have merit,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That MBA negotiate with the Province for a reduction in Cost Recovery amount
from \$12,000 to \$10,000 by adopting a revised inspection criteria.

6. TEMPORARY WORKERS

WHEREAS Western Canada has a growing and fundamental need for both skilled and unskilled temporary foreign
workers to maintain a healthy honey industry, and

WHEREAS Canadian embassies in other countries, such as Manila, have been extremely difficult to work with when-
ever many of our workers have been denied work visas for no credible reason, and

WHEREAS embassy staff, when pressed, reportedly admitted potential employees were deemed a ‘flight risk’ when ac-
tually there was a lack of communication and sufficient information gathered for processing applications, and

WHEREAS the Canadian honey industry will not function to it’s full potential without temporary foreign workers that
can be accessed in a timely and forthright manner.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That MBA lobby AAFC and Citizenship & Immigration Canada to instruct em-
bassy staff to be more supportive of Canadian beekeepers requests for qualified temporary foreign workers.


7. APPRECIATION

WHEREAS: Beekeepers appreciate the inspection program and its assessment of both hobby and commercial opera-
tions, and

WHEREAS: Extension Staff support the beekeeping industry through organizing education and research symposiums,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that MBA inform the MB Ag Min or our appreciation for the work Rhéal and
David do on our behalf

8. CHILE QUEENS

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: the MBA support efforts to have the CFIA negotiate a protocol with their counter-
parts in Chile, to allow Canadian sourced Apis Melifera genetic material to be imported into Chile for Queen Breeding
purposes. 

Resolutions Approved at the MBA AGM 17 November 2010

1. SMALL HIVE BEETLE IN CANADA

WHEREAS Small Hive Beetle (*Aethina tumida*) was discovered on September 8, 2010 in Ontario, in an area close to the Michigan, USA border, and

WHEREAS Ontario quarantined and monitored some areas for infestation, and

WHEREAS although it appears this pest failed to establish an endemic population where invaded previously in MB and AB, and

WHEREAS on going investigation into the possible establishment of SHB in QC, is pointing toward the beetle not being able to establish a endemic breeding population, and

WHEREAS honey bees move interprovincially such as ON to Maritimes, ON to MB/AB, MB to BC, and BC to AB/MB,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that MBA work closely with other provinces to ensure protocol flexibility while mitigating risk of SHB dispersal during interprovincial movement of honey bees.

2. FUMAGILIN-B LABEL EXPANSION.

WHEREAS Studies are underway by Dr. Pernal, Beaverlodge, AB, on how best to apply Fumagilin-B to control Nosema ceranae, and

WHEREAS preliminary results of the three year study are promising, and

WHEREAS Manitoba producers are anxious to have effective treatment options for Nosema disease control, and

WHEREAS MBA has recently encouraged Medivet to expand label directions to include additional methods of applying Fumagilin-B,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That MBA continue communications with Medivet Pharmaceuticals regarding timing of possible label expansion for Fumagilin-B.

3. APIVAR EUR

WHEREAS Provinces across Canada, under co-ordination of CHC, successfully applied for and received approval from PMRA for Emergency Use Registration of Apivar for the period 1July 2010 to 30 June 2011, and

WHEREAS producers continue to be concerned about the limited number of options for varroa mite control, and require the treatment option that Apivar provides

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that if Apivar is not registered by the expiration date of the EUR by June 30th, 2011, MBA work with other provinces to seek Emergency Use Registration of Apivar for 2011-2012 season.

4. QUEEN AVAILABILITY

WHEREAS Manitoba producers are needing honey bee queens in early spring, and

WHEREAS Hawaii, a traditional source, discovered Small Hive Beetle during spring 2010, and

WHEREAS small hive beetle has been discovered in MB, AB, QC and has appeared to fail to establish endemic population, and

Extension Report Winter 2011

David Ostermann
Manitoba Agriculture



Bee Biosecurity in Canada

Since the CFIA put out a notice in November entitled “Seeking Input on Bee Biosecurity in Canada”, there have been questions about what this is about - this article addresses those questions.

The Office of Animal Biosecurity (OAB) of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) was created in 2006 following the Avian Influenza outbreak. It was created to provide leadership in the development and coordination of biosecurity activities for the CFIA. This includes the development of farm level biosecurity standards and supporting documentation for agricultural commodities. Currently, the OAB is working with at least 8 commodities.

Biosecurity refers to activities that minimize the risk of introducing and spreading disease and pests. “Putting preventive measures in place to keep animals healthy has been a long-standing and successful practice on Canadian farms. Biosecurity planning helps to ensure that practices routinely carried out on your farm are beneficial to animal health” according to the CFIA.

Two (2) “deliverables” of this project include a voluntary national Standard for biosecurity as well as a guidance document to assist producers in implementing the Standard:

1. Standard for biosecurity in the bee sector will be;

- outcomes based
- informed by national benchmarking survey of current biosecurity practices in the bee industry
- informed by a critical examination of best practices and guidelines both within Canada and internationally

- informed by the expertise and experience of bee biosecurity advisory committee (bee BAC) members
 - the Standard should be realistic, achievable, and applicable to all sectors of the bee industry
2. Producer guidance to the biosecurity Standard will;
- be a document intended to assist producers in implementing the Standard
 - provides examples of protocols to achieve the outcomes based Standard

To help develop the biosecurity Standard, beekeepers in Manitoba and across Canada may be contacted about the benchmarking survey of current biosecurity practices in the bee industry. Participation in the survey is voluntary. Participants may be asked about their current practices in order to assess the current risk of introducing and spreading disease and pests, such as AFB and varroa mite. The plan is to complete the survey in early 2011.

This is a federal-provincial initiative with provincial government responsible for implementation. A company called Serecon Management Consulting (Alberta), in collaboration with eBiz Professionals Inc (Ontario), has been contracted to develop the Standard.

The bee biosecurity advisory committee (bee BAC) provides advice and recommendations to the OAB and Serecon for the development of the biosecurity Standard and associated activities. As the signatory to the Memorandum of Understanding, final decisions reside with the CFIA. The national committee consists of members from industry, academia, provincial governments, AAFC, and CFIA, from across Canada.

Once the Standard is complete, funding will be available at the producer level. The goal is to have the Standard completed in late 2011 and the guidance document completed in early 2012.

Funding is available for this process from the following; Funding to improve biosecurity and traceability under the Growing Forward framework Treasury Board Submission (2009) and Memorandum of Understanding: Growing Forward Program initiatives and development (September 2009).



2010 HONEY HOUSE PRICE

Manitoba Beekeepers' Association

2010 Recommended Honey House Price

\$2.50 per pound

\$5.51 per kilogram

(in customer supplied containers).



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NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



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Washington, DC 20250
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www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm
Issued Monthly

Number XXX #11, December 15,2010

HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF November , 2010 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)

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.

Canada (Province not Reported)	Mixed Flowers	White	No report.		
Argentina	Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.50 - \$1.54	Mixed Flowers	Ex. Light Amber \$1.50 - \$1.55
Brazil	Mixed Flowers	Light amber	\$1.33 - \$1.35		
Dakotas	Clover	White	\$1.55 - \$1.60		
Montana	Clover	White	\$1.50 - \$1.60		

Farmer Appreciation Day 2010

Jim Campbell, MBA Secretary

Manitoba Legislators joined with farmers to informally discuss rural related issues at the recent Farmer Appreciation Day held at the Legislative Buildings, Winnipeg.

In celebrating the 7th Annual Farmer Appreciation Day, Keystone Agriculture Producers treated elected officials to a “Made in Manitoba” luncheon. The event, on 29 November, in the Public Dining Rom of the Manitoba Legislative Building in Winnipeg, was based on the theme “Shape the Future”. It was designed to encourage legislators to seek out answers on food and rural related issues by communicating with experts who would be pleased to speak with them about the agricultural sector. Agricultural expertise has faces, and those faces belonged to several farmers and commodity groups present.

Minister Struthers, Ron Brunel, Hon McFadden, and others provided greetings. Minister Struthers, after introducing his colleagues, noted, “Leadership in KAP is valued”, and further commented, “All legislators are aware of the agricultural influence on the Manitoba economy”. Hon McFadden also reflected on the Strategic importance of KAP, their contribution to industries within his riding, and the fact they grow the best food. Meanwhile, Rob Brunel, KAP emphasized the fact that his organization no longer just deals with the Agriculture Minister, as issues cover a much broader spectrum dealing with Water Stewardship, Labour, Transportation, Health and Safety, Education, Environmental, Social, and many other Ministerial areas. He noted “our emphasis for today is MLAs and Farmers Working Together, as KAP strives to have a good working relationship to develop policies for both short and long term”.



Jim Campbell speaking with Hon Stan Struthers, Minister Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives.

Several tables were set up to encourage conversation during the lunch break. The informal setting stimulated open interaction. On behalf of the industry, informal beekeeping dialogue for MBA took place with several Ministers such as insurance request with Min Struthers, drainage issues with Eichler, temporary workers with Borotsik, plus justice with Swan.

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- 14 Presentation/posters on Varroa Mite

11 Presentation/posters on Bee Nutrition

7 Presentation/posters on Bee Viruses

6 Presentation/posters on Honey & Market

5 Presentation/posters on CCD

3 Presentation/posters on Beekeeping Education

3 Presentation/posters on Urban Beekeeping

3 Presentation/posters on Small Hive Beetle
- 3 Presentation/posters on BMP

2 Presentation/posters on Human Health

2 Presentation/posters on Pollination

2 Presentation/posters on Hive Products

1 Presentation/posters on Apitherapy

1 Presentation/posters on Homeland Security

1 Presentation/posters on Africanized bees

Here are a few of what I thought were the presentation highlights for me:

- HopGauard** varroa mite control soon to be registered. It will likely be registered first in the US but they want to pursue registration in Canada. Field trials in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario will start this spring.

Remeebee, which is an Israeli Acute Paralysis Virus (IAPV) treatment will soon be released in the US. The manufacture, Beeologics is planning to pursue registration in Canada soon after the registration in the US. They are also developing a multiviral treatment and a varroa mite control treatment using RNAi technology. The multivirus treatment is 1+ year from registration in the US but the varroa mite treatment is over 2 years from being released.

Some acaricides are much more toxic to worker bees than queens such as fluvalinate, coumaphos and thymol. Whereas amitraz toxicity to workers and queens is similar! So if you are seeing damage by the acaricide to the worker bees depending on the product you may also have damaged the queen, this may be especially true for amitraz.

Some of the inert adjuvants added to pesticides to aid in the distribution of the active ingredient can be as toxic to bees and in some cases more toxic than the active ingredient. Unfortunately, inert’s toxicity is usually not taken into consideration when determining of the lethal dose calculation (i.e. LD50) of the pesticide.

Nosema ceranae infects drone honey bees more readily than *N. apis*, which might explain why it may spread faster to uninfected hives that *N. apis*.

HoneyB Healthy does not control the growth of Nosema disease very well but it does appear to have some impact on longevity of bees, at least in cage studies, whereas Fumagilin-B has good control of Nosema disease growth but it did not extend the life-span of bees in the cage study. In one case you have bees that live longer but they are still infected with Nosema disease. In the other you may have bees that die quicker but if they survive the winter they should theoretically have less Nosema disease. Perhaps a combination of the two treatments is the way to go, but that was not presented.

I would highly recommend any beekeeper big or small try to get out to one of these large beekeeping meetings at least once – it is worth it. BUT be prepared to run between the various sessions, so stay fit. In fact, if you really want to maximize your coverage of the all the talks, it would be best to partner with one or two other people and have them attend talks that you did not see and compare notes in the end. Again a big frustration about these meetings is that there is going to be a lot of stuff you are going to miss. Word of advice, if you are listening to a talk that you are not particularly interested in, get up and go to another talk. There is no rule where you can only leave when the talk is over – time is too valuable.

The next ABF meeting will be in Las Vegas, Nevada (around January 8th, 2012) and the next CHC meeting will be in Winnipeg, Manitoba also in January but at least one week after the ABF meeting.

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UPCOMING EVENTS 2011

Jan 4-8

North American Beekeeping Conference, Galveston Texas, USA

Jan 26

Beekeeping for the Hobbyist, U of M, Wpg

Jan 26-28

Keystone Agricultural Producers AGM, Wpg

Mar 4-5

Beekeeper Symposium, Viscount Gort Hotel, Winnipeg

Mar 18-20

Ag in the City, Forks Market, Winnipeg

May 29

Day of the Honey Bee, Forks Market, Wpg

Jun 25

Beekeepers Field Day, TBA



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KAP Report

Allan Campbell, KAP delegate

Manitoba’s speech from the throne was delivered on 16 November 2010, with a focus on looking back on past priorities and successes. In general, throne speeches broadly outline the government's plans and producers look forward to more details on how the stability and economic growth of the sector will be addressed.

KAP is pleased that the province has committed to work with other levels of government to focus on drainage issues and provide resources to help farmers, including those in the Interlake region.

“We appreciate that the issue of the devastating weather conditions producers have experienced for multiple years was mentioned in the speech and we look forward to announcements on further initiatives related to excess moisture,” said Rob Brunel, KAP President. “At this time we are concerned with support for livestock producers who require immediate feed assistance going into the winter months.”

It is important for the government to move forward with production insurance for the cattle, hog and bee keeping sectors and producers are encouraged to learn the province has made this commitment. KAP appreciates that the government will focus on improving business risk management programming as current safety net programming is not working effectively for Manitoba’s farm operations.

In its speech, the province noted that since 2004, \$180 million has gone back to farmers through the Farmland School Tax Rebate. KAP encourages the government to meet its commitment to reduce farmland education taxes for 2011 by increasing the rebate by five per cent.

“When the provincial budget for 2010 was released we were disappointed to see the Farmland School Tax Rebate was not increased from 75 per cent, and we hope the province will come through on this commitment for 2011,” said Brunel. “We want to see education tax removed from all property, including farm production buildings.”

Another concern regarding Manitoba’s farm operations is the impact the west side Bipole III route will have on producers. KAP hopes to work with the province to discuss how landowners’ issues can be addressed.

In another area, KAP hosted its’ 7th Farmer Appreciation Day at the Manitoba Legislative buildings in late November. See the article elsewhere in this newsletter.

Plans are underway for the January 26-28, 2011 Annual Meeting in Winnipeg. In the past MBA has submitted resolutions at the AGM and have been successful in having them adopted and acted upon. I look forward to attending and participating as your representative to this larger agricultural organization.

One nomination for the position of President was received at the office by the deadline and we are pleased to announce that Doug Chorney will be elected as the President of KAP for 2011. The elections for the two Vice President positions will be held during the AGM.

mic acid as well as Emergency registration plans for 2011. It would appear that another year of Emergency Registration for Apivar will be needed for the 2011 season.

All in all this was a very productive and informative meeting!

The North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow (NABCT) in Galveston Texas was an opportunity of a lifetime for me. This is only the second time in my 15 year career that I was able to attend a large beekeeping conference with over 1000 people in attendance. The first time was Apimondia99 in Vancouver. This was a joint meeting between the following beekeeper organizations: American Beekeeping Federation (ABF), American Honey Producers Association (AHPA) and Canadian Honey Council (CHC). In addition to the beekeeper groups several support groups also took this opportunity to hold their meetings in conjunction with the NABCT such as American Association of Professional Apiculturists (AAPA), Apiary Inspectors of America (AIA) and National Honey Packers and Dealers Association (NHPDA).

Attendance at this conference was estimated to be approx 1,100 with 56 different vendors in the tradeshow. The conference was broken down into various sessions, which in some cases where concurrent sessions (i.e. they were occurring at the same time), so you had to choose which talks you wanted to attended and move between the various rooms to take them in. For example, the following is the schedule for the various sessions:

American Beekeeping Federation General Session Jan 5 – 7, 2011	
American Bee Research Conference (ABRC)	Jan 6 – 7, 2011
Serious Sideline Symposium	Jan 6 – 7, 2011
Tradeshow	Jan 5 - 8, 2011
Shared Interest Group (SIG) – Jan 5, 2011	
Commercial	
Honey Producer/Packer	
Package Bee & Queen Breeder	
Small Scale Sideline	
Interactive Workshops – Jan 8, 2011	
- Problem Solving and Decision	- Best Management Practices
- Tax Compliance in the US	- Stress Management
- Apitherapy	- Successful Backyard Beekeeping
- General Beekeeping Q & A	- Impact of Honey on Health
- Truth in Labelling	- National Honey Bee Advisory Board
- Soap Making	- Train the Trainers
- Measuring Quantitative traits for Varroa Resistance	
- Using Beeswax and Honey to Make Natural Skin Care Products	

If I had any negative comment to make about this meeting was that there was too much stuff to see. I counted the number of talks that there were on various subjects and this is what I came up with:

28 Presentation/posters on Breeding & Nucs
17 Presentation/posters on Pesticide Impact
17 Presentation/posters on Nosema Disease

Honey Bee Meetings Report

By Rhéal Lafrenière, MAFRI Provincial Apiarists



I had the opportunity to go to two honey bee meetings recently; the OBA-CAPA meeting in Markham Ontario and the North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow in Galveston Texas. The Ontario Beekeepers' Association (OBA) – Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists (CAPA) meeting was somewhat considered the “national” meeting in Canada, given that Canadian Honey Council (CHC) was holding their meeting in Galveston with the American Beekeeping Federal (ABF) and the American Honey producers Association (AHPA).

The OBA, like usual, put on a very good meeting with lots of good speakers in the research symposium. One of the keynote speakers was Don Hopkins, State Apiary Inspector for North Carolina. Don gave two excellent talks! The first talk was about his development work in several third-world countries (Kazakhstan, Bolivia and Haiti), you never really appreciate what you have until you have seen what others have to do just to make a subsistence living. Don's other presentation was on small hive beetle. He shared his experience on how the beekeepers in his State as well as many of the neighbouring States around North Carolina had to adapt their beekeeping practices to deal with this new invasive pest. He showed a short video clip of the larvae feeding on the pollen stores in the hive – I was absolutely disgusting. Although in continues to be a problem in the southern US if you do not manage it, Don reported that most beekeepers have the beetle under control and consider it a nuisance most of the time rather than a super threat.

Another keynote speaker at the OBA-CAPA meeting was Dr. Rob Currie. Most of us are familiar with Rob's research given that he presents an overview of the research conducted in his Lab at the University of Manitoba at the MBA convention every year. Rob is like a “Rock Star” in Ontario, beekeepers surround him after his presentation wanting to ask more questions. Again sometimes you do not appreciate what you have until you see it through someone else's eyes. Rob talked about reducing viral load in honey bees using RNA interference (RNAi) technology. This was from the work his graduate student Suresh Desai has been doing looking at how RNAi can be used to manage viruses like Deformed Wing Virus (DWV) in honey bee colonies. You will hear more about this research at this year's MBA Convention on March 4 & 5, 2011 at the Viscount Gort Hotel in Winnipeg (see page 14-15) for more details).

The final keynote speaker was Medhat Nasr, Provincial Apiculturist in Alberta. Similar to Rob many of you may be familiar with what Medhat brings to the table at meetings like this. Not only does Medhat convey a lot of interesting information, his presentation style is so full of enthusiasm. Medhat talked about the disease surveillance program they have in Alberta and how that has influenced the winter loss situation there.

In addition to the keynote speakers there were lots of interesting talks. For example Andony Melathopoulos gave a talk on the Nosema research that was being conducted at the Beaverlodge research Station, which Dr. Steve Pernal will address at this year's MBA convention. Pierre Giovenazzo, University of Laval talked about the small hive beetle experience in Québec. It would appear that although the beetles can survive till spring, it is hard for them to establish a successful reproductive population without annual invasion from the US. Cynthia Scott-Dupree, University of Guelph also gave an excellent presentation on the impact of farming including agrochemicals on leafcutting bee pollinators.

The meeting also included several reports from the federal agencies such as Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) as well as Agriculture Agri-Food Canada (AAFC).

The CAPA Annual General Meeting was also part of the joint meeting but was closed to non members. Like typical annual meetings, the meeting was comprised of various reports from the activities of the committees over the last year. Import issues such as queens from Hawaii, small hive beetle discovery in Ontario, and pest control registration were all big topics of discussion. The Import committee is working on the queen import issue with CFIA, the interprovincial movement issue because of small hive beetle is also being worked on by the Import committee as well as the Stock Replacement working group. The pest control registration issues are being worked on by the Chemical committee and there have been several advances in securing the registration of 65% liquid for-



PRESS RELEASE

December 13, 2010

Neil Specht, Chairman and the Board of Directors of Bee Maid Honey Limited are pleased to announce the continuation of apicultural research funding by Bee Maid Honey.

Bee Maid will consider project proposals in any area of apiculture or pollination research. Preference will be given to the area of honey, and the production of pure quality honey in the Canadian beekeeping industry.

Proposals for projects are to be submitted to Bee Maid Honey by February 28, 2011. Projects are expected to be completed within one year of funding, although renewal applications will be considered.

Bee Maid Honey Limited is the marketing arm of the Alberta Honey Producers Co-operative Limited and the Manitoba Cooperative Honey Producers Limited. Honey produced by beekeepers in western Canada is processed and packaged at Bee Maid's Winnipeg, MB and Spruce Grove, AB plants.

Bee Maid Honey is proudly owned by Canadian Beekeepers.

For further information and to receive an application for research, please contact:

Guy Chartier – Bee Maid Honey Limited

Phone: 204 786 8977 ext. 234, Fax: 204-783-8468, E-mail: guychartier@beemaid.com

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- **Randy Oliver** - Beekeeper, Pollinator, and Researcher, Grass Valley, California, USA Varroa updates, Pollination plans, etc.
- **Dr. Steve Pernal** - Researcher AAFC Beaverlodge, Alberta, Nosema update, Past Solutions from Beaverlodge.
- **Dr. Rob Currie, and Undergrads** - U of M, RNAi progress, Project updates from Manitoba.



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to talk about Nosema Control
at Beaverlodge**

All Honey Producers are encouraged to get Registration Forms in early.

Symposium topics will cover valuable up to date information and views from across USA, Canada, and here in Manitoba. Educational topics could include Nosema Control options, Oxalic Acid treatments for Varroa, Honey B Healthy value, RNAi futures, and more!