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The Manitoba Beekeeper



Manitoba Honey Show p.2

Extention Report P.8

CHC Report P.9

Honey Report p.10

Safety Net Committee Report p.11

PRESIDENTS REPORT p.12

IPM Workshop p.13

Canadian Beekeeping Convention P. 15

Queen Shipments from Hawaii p.16

Kap Report p.17

Temporay Foreign Workers p.18

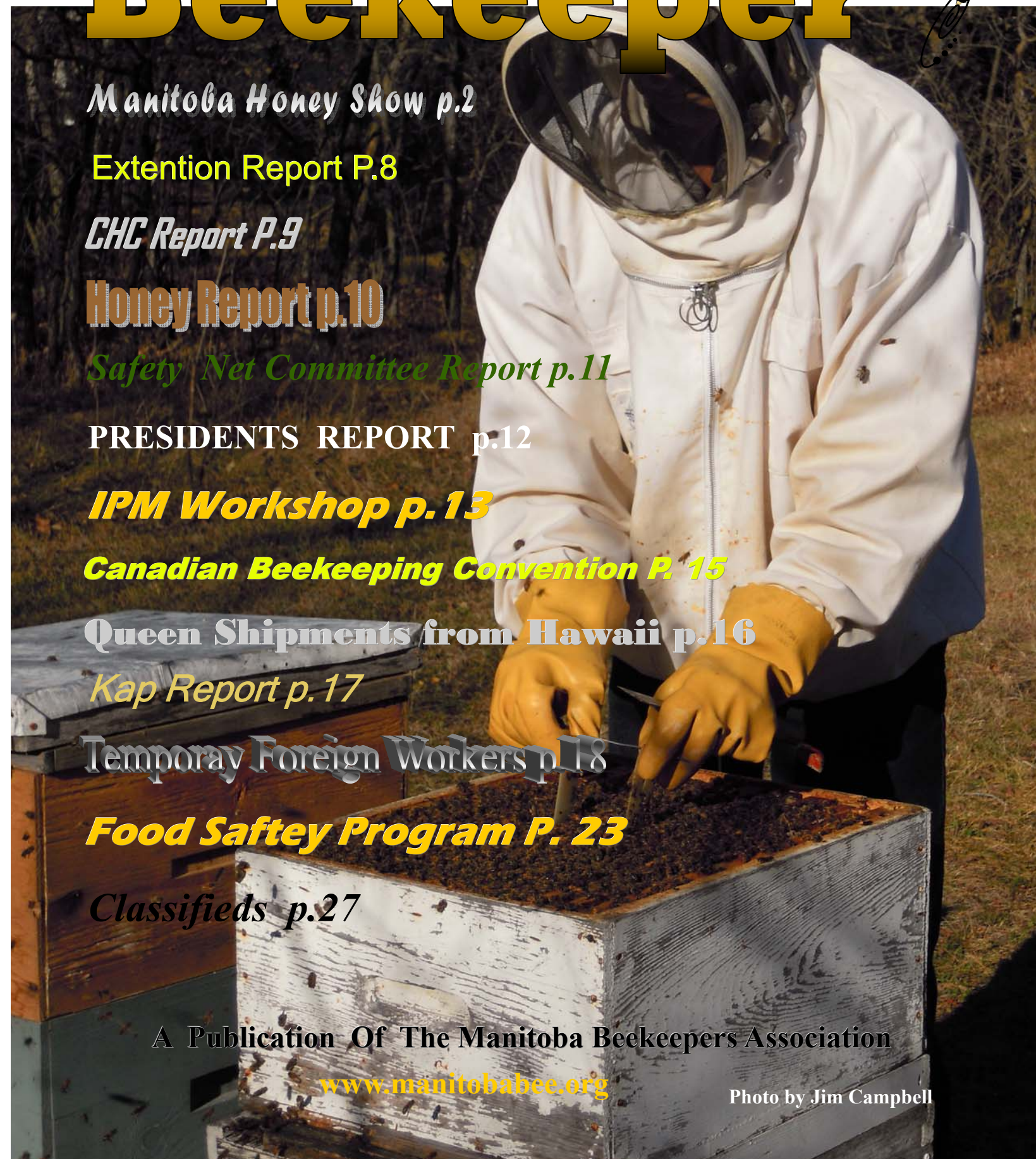
Food Saftey Program P. 23

Classifieds p.27

A Publication Of The Manitoba Beekeepers Association

www.manitobabee.org

Photo by Jim Campbell



Manitoba Honey Show

Featured new entrants !

Jim Campbell, Honey Show Reporter

The recent Manitoba Honey Show attracted considerable visitor attention with the theme "Pure Manitoba Honey-in many forms", along with several new competition entrants.

The 2011 Manitoba Honey Show took place the weekend of September 31-



October 2, at the Forks Market, Winnipeg. The purpose of the show continues to be based around interacting with consumers about the benefit of honey bees for pollinating foods we eat plus providing a healthy food, educating consumers on the uses and varieties of honey products, and empowering consumers to communicate directly with local food producers.

As part of the plan to enhance and stimulate conversations with consumers, the Show featured an array of items promoting recent innovations in honey packaging. Colourful signage drew people's attention to the beneficial uses and conveniences of honey found on store shelves "in many forms", which range from snap packs to dried wafers.

Promotion for the show was done via news releases to various Winnipeg area papers plus the Manitoba Co-operator. As a result, the cooperator conducted an interview with Jim Campbell, MBA Secretary and RRAA Executive member on 30 September, who described the purposes of the show and the value of Honey Bees to the pollination and honey economy of Manitoba.

The Honey Competition featured three new entrants for 2011, which provided a welcome sight, creating a good active competition from beginning beekeepers to those with many years under their belt. Prize winning honey frames attractively capped with beau-

tiful white wax intrigued visitors. In another area photographs highlighted various elements of the Beekeeping industry. A new category for 2011 focused on the theme "Pure Manitoba Honey-In many Forms". At the educational element showing Honey Throughout the Year, Ken Rowes had jars with different colours reflecting floral source nectar at different times of the season. Thanks to Donna, Ken, Sandra, Barb, Jim and Don for setting up the display, and Charles for bringing material from Bee Maid



Live Bees in the Observation Hive continue to enthrall both young and older visitors, where beekeeper volunteers spent many hours describing the intricacies of hive life. Thanks to staff at U of M, the yellow dot on the thorax of the queen aided viewers in their quest for the queen. Thanks to John Speer, Duane Versluis, Brian & Sandra Smith, Josh Kolesar, Don Gray and Jim Campbell for informing visitors at this station.



CLASSIFIED ADS



Wanted :Two Experienced Apiarists wanted for up to 8 months, April to November, 2012. At least 5 years experience, valid driver's licence,\$11.00 - \$14.00 (dep. on experience). CV & References to "Marg's Honey" 1051 Porcher Rd., St. Andrews, MB R1A 3N4, (204)254-4509, or margshoney@gmail.com

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Classified Advertising Information:

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Manitoba Beekeepers Association

105th Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 16 November 2011
Starting at 10:00 a.m.

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

Members \$40.00 each, Spouse/Guest \$20 each
Luncheon included



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 Maendel, 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

Conversations often led guests to express their concern for bee losses and the probable causes. Consumers are still interested in having pollinators for their gardens and fruit trees.



Interactive Demonstrations on Saturday and Sunday entertained visitors at the show by drawing attention to the benefits of our industry. Cooking and Extracting demonstrations were conducted periodically during the three-day event. Thanks to John Russell, a trained chef, taking control at the kitchen grill, while Charles Polcyn turned the manual extractor into a honey-making machine.

Meanwhile, the Hourds and Polcyns were kept busy offering samples of products, answering visitor questions, and serving their customers with a variety of honey and bee related products.

Thanks to the many volunteers helping out, the entrants for the show, MBA financial support, Bee Maid financial donation and equipment loaners. Special appreciation to the Honey Show judges: Sam Barlin, Josh Kolesar, and David Ostermann for judging the competition entries.



What a great weekend for the show! Lots of visitors and the weather was super nice!

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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 Winter 2012 issue will
be December 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.”.

MANITOBA HONEY SHOW
2011 Competition Results



Class 1

Liquid Honey, White

First place: Remo Mamaril

Second place: Raymond Hourd

Second place: Charles Polcyn

Third place: Brian & Sandra Smith

Liquid Honey, Amber

First place: Brian & Sandra Smith

Second place: Charles Polcyn

Liquid Honey, Dark

First place: Brian & Sandra Smith

Second place: Charles Polcyn

Liquid Honey, BEE-GINNER

First place: Jami Worms

Second place: Mary Louise Chown

Third place: Duane Versluis

Fourth place: Remo Mamaril

Granulated Honey, White

First place: Raymond Hourd

First place: Jami Worms

Second place: Brian & Sandra Smith

Class 2

Chunk Honey

First place: Raymond Hourd

Comb Honey

First place: Raymond Hourd

Second place: Charles Polcyn

Frame of Honey

First place: Raymond Hourd

Second place: Brian & Sandra Smith

Third place: Charles Polcyn

Beeswax

First place: Raymond Hourd

Second place: Brian & Sandra Smith

Class 3

Best Taste

First place: Raymond Hourd

Photography

a) Honey Bee Pollination

First place: Don Gray

Second place: Brian Smith

b) Beekeeping in Manitoba

First place: Alex Remkes

Second place: Jim Campbell

Third place: Brian Smith

c) Other Bees and Insects

First place: Jim Campbell

Second place: Brian Smith

d) Honey – In Many Forms

First place: Jim Campbell

Second place: Brian Smith

Champion Honey Show Exhibitor

Raymond and Donna Hourd

Honey Judges:

Sam Barlin

Josh Kolesar

David Ostermann

Congratulations to all entrants!!

CATCH THE BUZZ

High-Stakes False Advertising Hearing to be Held in U.S.

District Court in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 12, 2011 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- The first step in a high-stakes battle with important ramifications for nutrition-minded American consumers takes place on September 13, 2011, in a Los Angeles federal courtroom. **A coalition of sugar farmers' cooperatives and other producers, including C&H Sugar Company, have accused the producers of High Fructose Corn Syrup of what amounts to food identity theft.** Among the several defendants are the giant company Archer-Daniels-Midland, Cargill and the Corn Refiners Association.

The sugar farmers allege that the defendants have spent \$50 million in a mass media rebranding campaign that misleads the consuming public by asserting that High Fructose Corn Syrup (HFCS) is natural and is indistinguishable from the sugar extracted from sugar cane and sugar beets. They are also asking the Food & Drug Administration to allow HFCS to be called "corn sugar" on food and beverage ingredient labels, even though "corn sugar" has for many decades been the commonly used name of a distinct corn starch product.

"...far from being natural, HFCS is an industrially manufactured chemical made by two molecular level transformations requiring advanced technology."

The defendants' current claims that theirs is a "natural" product equivalent to real sugar are demonstrably false. In 1997, as part of an effort to expand the production and consumption of HFCS in Mexico, the defendants themselves submitted affidavits attesting to the exactly opposite conclusion in order to support their claim that HFCS would not conflict with the Mexican sugar production. In these documents, the defendants admitted that, far from being natural, HFCS is an industrially manufactured chemical made by two molecular level transformations requiring advanced technology. In a supporting affidavit, the defendants told the Mexican government that "HFCS is a unique food ingredient which is the result of extensive scientific research and development."

The misleading marketing campaign claims that "sugar is sugar" and its implication that there are no differences between HFCS and real sugar is also belied by the defendants' past admissions that there are significant differences in chemistry, functionality, use and even human perception.

The lawsuit says the defendants' three-year, over \$50 million rebranding marketing blitz to sell Americans the idea HFCS is really a "natural" product equivalent to real sugar, has misled, frustrated and confused consumers who are increasingly avoiding food and drinks containing it. Although many food and beverage makers have been replacing HFCS with real sugar in response to these consumer preferences has artificially slowed the steady decline of HFCS sales and harmed the goodwill of real sugar.

"This suit is about false advertising, pure and simple," said Inder Mathur, President and CEO of Western Sugar Cooperative. "If consumers are concerned about your product, then you should improve it or explain its benefits, not try to deceive people about its name or distort scientific facts."

The complaint states "Defendants' resort to such literally false and misleading statements harms consumers, harms the makers of real sugar and harms any dialogue based on the truth. This lawsuit seeks to put an end to the deception."

A hearing on the defendants' motion to dismiss the suit will take place in the federal courtroom of Judge Consuelo Marshall, 255 East Temple Street (Roybal Building) at 9:00am on September 13, 2011.



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2. ASSOCIATE MEMBER - A Volunteer , non voting person, with 49 or fewer honey bee colonies, out-of-province beekeeper, or non beekeeper)

\$60.00 BASIC FEE

\$ _____
- Note : ALL PAID UP MEMBERS automatically receive The Manitoba Beekeepers’ Association newsletter “ The Manitoba Beekeeper” and only Manitoba residents will receive the Canadian Honey Council newsletter “ Hive Lights”.

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Please return this completed application together with payment to:

Manitoba Beekeepers’ Association

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

Food Safety Program Feedback Sought

Chris Rempel, for Food Safety Committee



Livestock commodity groups were asked for their input into the future Food Safety For Farms program.

Commodity groups representing areas such as beef, swine, dairy, goat and honeybees attended a review meeting Friday 7 October at the invitation of Federal and Provincial officials. The meeting, held in La Salle, was called to bring together the nine Commodities, via their Livestock Steering Committee members, to review the benefits producers derived from the more than 860 farmers participating in the program, then look at improvement for the next phase. The goal of the program was to change behaviour of producers while supporting the purchase of tools to help in the process.

Several success stories were shared amongst the participants, as each committee relayed activities within their specific area. For the honeybee industry about 85 producers participated in the program, either with comb or equipment exchange, since its inception in 2009. It was noted that all 85 applications have been approved and 54 of these have been paid out. Additional applications are being accepted through 2013, and to encourage participation, MBA promoted the program in their Summer 2011 issue of the Manitoba Beekeeper.

In addition to the normal programming, there were four other projects covered by Growing Forward. The projects have been initially reported at the last Symposium, and consisted of Comb Sterilization, which was reported at the June Field Day. In addition, Pollen, Honey, and Wax testing in 2010 was communicated at the Symposium in March. In these areas, 2011 results are still coming in.

The group was polled for future ideas for programming that may encompass multiple committees. In addition, committees were requested to discuss possibilities for consideration in the second phase of Growing Forward. Ideas can relate to any or all of Food Safety, Biosecurity, Traceability, or any other area deemed important.

For Honey Producers, MBA has appointed a Food Safety Committee, consisting of Bryan Ash, Gilles Maguet and Bruce Podolsky. Producers are requested to submit their ideas to any one or all of the committee, preferably by the end of September 2011. These suggestions can then be forwarded for consideration.



not be placed on the market without authorisation.

In its judgment delivered today, the Court observes, first, that the pollen in question may be classified as a GMO only if it is an 'organism' within the meaning of the directive and the regulation, that is to say, if it is a 'biological entity capable' either of 'replication' or of 'transferring genetic material'. It holds in that regard that, since it is common ground that the pollen in question has lost all specific and individual ability to reproduce, it is for the referring court to determine whether that pollen is otherwise capable of 'transferring genetic material', taking due account of the scientific data available and considering all forms of scientifically-established transfer of genetic material.

The Court concludes that a substance such as pollen derived from a variety of genetically modified maize, which has lost its ability to reproduce and is totally incapable of transferring the genetic material which it contains, no longer comes within the scope of that concept.

The Court goes on to hold that, nevertheless, products such as honey and food supplements containing such pollen constitute food-stuffs which contain ingredients produced from GMOs within the meaning of the regulation. In that regard, it finds that the pollen in issue is 'produced from GMOs' and that it constitutes an 'ingredient' of the honey and pollen-based food supplements. As regards the honey, the Court observes that pollen is not a foreign substance or an impurity, but rather a normal component of honey, with the result that it must indeed be classified as an 'ingredient'. The pollen in question consequently comes within the scope of the regulation and must be subject to the authorisation scheme provided for thereunder before being placed on the market.

The Court observes that that authorisation scheme for foodstuffs containing ingredients produced from GMOs applies irrespective of whether the pollen is introduced intentionally or adventitiously into the honey.

Lastly, the Court holds that the authorisation obligation exists irrespective of the proportion of genetically modified material contained in the product in question.

1 Directive 2001/18 /EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 March 2001 on the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms and repealing Council Directive 90/220 /EEC (OJ 2001 L 106, p. 1), as amended by Regulation No 1829/2003 and by Regulation (EC) No 1830/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2003 (OJ 2003 L 268, p. 24).

2 Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2003 on genetically modified food and feed (OJ 2003 L 268, p. 1).

NOTE: A reference for a preliminary ruling allows the courts and tribunals of the Member States, in disputes which have been brought before them, to refer questions to the Court of Justice about the interpretation of European Union law or the validity of a European Union act. The Court of Justice does not decide the dispute itself. It is for the national court or tribunal to dispose of the case in accordance with the Court's decision, which is similarly binding on other national courts or tribunals before which a similar issue is raised.

Dr. Medhat Nasr ,Alberta Provincial Apiculturist

Pest Surveillance Branch Agriculture Research Division

Agriculture and Rural Development



Important Notice to Manitoba Honey Producers



2012 Membership Renewals

A familiar reminder for all Manitoba Honey Producers. Membership with the MBA is due as of January 1st, 2012, with payment deadline March 31st 2012 .

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

Anyone participating in the Cash Advance Program MUST be a paid up member prior to making an application, and thus you have a March 31st deadline.



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- Won't leave a residue in honey.
- Economical, Health Canada approved varroa miticide.

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OR CALL 1-800-263-2740.



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Arataki Honey Limited

Queens and Packages Bees for the Canadian Climate

We will continue to provide Carniolan Cross Queens to our Canadian customers in the spring of 2010. These Queens are the daughters of pure Carniolan queens, open mated with an increasingly Carniolan drone population. During the spring of 2009 some of our customers experienced unacceptable queen problems. The cause was determined to be due to Nosema, which came about as a result of "fumagilin" not being available to the Beekeepers of NZ. That situation has since been rectified, and "fumagilin" will again be available. Packages that did not have queen problems have been excellent honey producers this summer.

Our Packages are shipped with our own Carniolan Cross Queens, or they can be ordered with pheromone strips, and you provide your own Queens

Packages are available March through early May and orders are filling fast so order early for best available shipping Dates.

BARTEL HONEY FARMS INC

Box 156, Kleefeld MB. R0A 0V0

Tel. 204-377-4629 Fax 204-377-4069

Email nbartel@mts.net

Packages and Queens also available from
BEEMAID In Alberta or Manitoba



Your First Choice for Healthy Bees

FUMAGILIN - B
OXYTET-25
FOUL BROOD MIX
VARROA MITE CONTROL STRIPS
FORMIC ACID
BEE-REPEL
SAFETY EQUIPMENT FOR OCALIC
ACID
Bee Shaker

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Extension Report

Fall 2011

David Ostermann
Manitoba Agriculture



Extension Report, Fall 2011
David Ostermann
Pollination Apiarist

Bee Biosecurity Update - Last November (2010) you may have seen the notice "Seeking Input on Bee Biosecurity in Canada" (<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/corpaffr/newcom/2010/20101104e.shtml>). This was put out as part of a National Bee Biosecurity Initiative involving honey bee, alfalfa leafcutting bee, and bumble bee producers across Canada. In the near future, a voluntary survey will be sent to honey bee beekeepers in Manitoba and across Canada. The survey results will be used to identify potential best practices, gaps or high risk areas through a voluntary standards program. Producer input will help ensure this standard has been developed from the beekeepers' perspective, and as such, can reasonably be implemented. For more information contact David at 204-945-3861.

Inspection Results – This year, 185 operations and 4400 hives were inspected. AFB was found in 6 operations. Two (2) of these operations had rAFB with one of them being a new occurrence. A number of other operations were inspected in the same areas, and no other disease was found. MAFRI staff will work with the beekeepers to aggressively manage the disease, and the areas will be a focus for next year's inspection. Oxytetracycline remains the only registered product for AFB control in the province. AFB and rAFB have the same appearance in a hive, both may be found in an operation, and diagnosis of AFB resistance to antibiotic requires laboratory analysis.

Lab Results & Extension Calls - There were many questions about nosema this year. The samples in the lab showed higher levels compared to last year (Fig. 1). Levels were relatively high in the spring and high levels of nosema were most common in the southwestern part of the province. The reason(s) for the higher levels is unclear, but it may have been the adverse weather in the spring. Nosema is generally believed to be a "stress" disease. Beekeepers also reported higher chalk-brood this year which is also considered a stress disease.

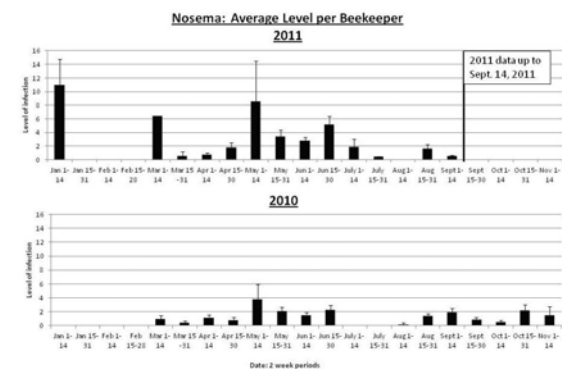


Fig. 1. Nosema levels in 2011 (top) compared to 2010 (bottom).

Levels of varroa were similar or somewhat lower than last year (Fig. 2). Apivar has been working well in the spring when used according to directions. Where beekeepers clearly skimmed on strips or didn't leave the strips in long enough, for example, poor mite control was reported. Mite resistance to Apivar has not been documented, but will likely happen eventually like other products. So it's important to watch varroa levels spring and fall. To the question - "Do I need to treat and what should I use?" – the best recommendation is - Collect a sample, analyse it or have it analysed, and use thresholds to help you decide. And remember, varroa mites increase virus loads, so early varroa control and maintaining low levels throughout the year is critical! For more information on mite monitoring, see the new video online at <http://manitobabee.org/hive/category/videos/>. There were similar or lower levels of tracheal mite this year and for most producers tracheal mite was not a problem (Fig. 3). Thanks to Lynda and Bryce for their excellent work in the lab this year!

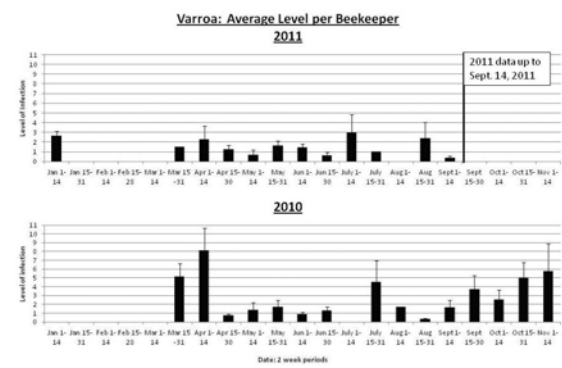


Fig. 2. Varroa levels in 2011 (top) compared to 2010 (bottom).

When Ottawa talks about job creation and streamlining programs, employees are hired and paid. In a lot of cases the producer phoning in is more knowledgeable, than the new employees he is speaking with. It was very nice, in the past, when I was able to go in and talk face to face to the Service Canada personnel looking after my application. In streamlining the program – something has been lost - unfortunately nobody seems to be responsible. Mistakes are made and it is nobody's fault...is anybody accountable?

Transition is always frustrating. I know we will get through it, especially when we can count on the expertise from our Winnipeg office.

A big thank you goes out to the experienced, Winnipeg Service Canada staff, that we certainly appreciate (you all know who I'm talking about)!

Bruce Podolski

Honey and food supplements containing pollen derived from a GMO are foodstuffs produced from GMOs which cannot be marketed without prior authorisation

That pollen is itself no longer a GMO when it has lost its ability to reproduce and is totally incapable of transferring genetic material.

The directive on genetically modified organisms (GMOs)¹ provides that such organisms may be released deliberately into the environment or placed on the market only when prior authorisation has been given.

Moreover, the regulation on genetically modified food² provides that GMOs for food use, foodstuffs containing or consisting of GMOs, or foodstuffs produced from ingredients produced using or containing GMOs must be authorised before being placed on the market.

In 1998 Monsanto obtained marketing for the genetically modified MON 810 maize. This contains the gene of a bacterium producing toxins which destroy the larvae of a parasitic butterfly, infestation with which constitutes a danger for the development of the maize plant.

A dispute has arisen between Mr Bablok, an amateur beekeeper, and Freistaat Bayern (State of Bavaria, Germany), which owns a number of plots of land on which MON 810 maize has been cultivated for research purposes in recent years. In the vicinity of those plots of land, Mr Bablok produces honey both for sale and for his own personal consumption. Up to 2005, he also produced pollen for sale as a foodstuff in the form of a food supplement. In 2005, MON 810 maize DNA and genetically modified proteins were detected in the maize pollen harvested by Mr Bablok in beehives situated 500 metres from the plots of land belonging to Freistaat Bayern. Very small amounts of MON 810 maize DNA were also detected in a number of samples of Mr Bablok's honey.

As he took the view that the presence of residues of genetically modified maize made his products unsuitable for marketing and for consumption, Mr Bablok brought legal proceedings against Freistaat Bayern before the German courts, in which four other amateur beekeepers joined.

The Bayerischer Verwaltungsgerichtshof (Bavarian Higher Administrative Court, Germany) observed that, once the disputed pollen is incorporated into the honey or pollen-based food supplements, it loses its capability to fertilise. That court seeks clarification as to the consequences of that loss. It has asked the Court of Justice, primarily, whether the mere presence, in the apicultural products in question, of genetically modified maize pollen which has lost its ability to reproduce has the consequence that those products may

Q9. Also, on Page 5, Agricultural Stream of the Pilot Project For Occupations Requiring Lower Levels of Formal Training-Low Skilled - we CAN charge the worker rent per week???

-what is the maximum per week set by HRSDC?

-what is the allowable limit defined by provincial standards?

-got a different answer from Vancouver and Winnipeg offices?

-Vancouver said Beekeepers can file an appeal for rent deducted to be more as rental rates are definitely more than \$30.00 per month - is this true?

A9. Under the Agricultural Stream of the NOC C&D Pilot Project, employers must provide accommodations for which they can recoup a maximum of \$30/week, unless applicable provincial labour standards specify a lower amount. Charging an amount greater than \$30.00/week would be contrary to program guidelines and is not permitted.

Q10. Which Foreign Worker Application goes with which NOC codes?

LMO applications are not associated with any particular NOC code, rather, they are related to distinct program streams.

A10. Please see the responses to Q5 and Q6 for further information.

Q11. Can it be "spelled out" as to:

-which NOC goes with which Foreign Worker Application?

-which web pages to go directly to the NOC codes, and NOC wages?

-got sent to different web pages from Vancouver and Winnipeg offices?

For an overview of the entire National Occupational Classification (NOC) structure based on Skill Levels and Skill types: <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/English/NOC/2006/html/Matrix.html>

A11. Please see the responses to Q5, Q6, and Q10 for further information.

Q12. NOC codes pertaining to Apiaries - Winnipeg said there were only 2 that apply, however according to the web, there seems to be 3 that could apply??-8431-C ?-8251-B ?-8611-D ?

A12. The Service Canada Offices in Manitoba currently issue LMOs for two occupations related to the beekeeping industry: Apiarist (NOC 8251) and Apiary Worker (NOC 8341). According to the National Occupational Classification (NOC) 2006, NOC 8611 is limited to harvesting labourers and does not include Apiarist/Apiary Workers at this time.

A complete list of job titles that fall under each of these NOC codes is available at:

NOC 8251: <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/English/NOC/2006/ViewAllTitles.aspx?val=8&val1=8251>

NOC 8431: <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/English/NOC/2006/ViewAllTitles.aspx?val=8&val1=8431>

NOC 8611: <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/English/NOC/2006/ViewAllTitles.aspx?val=8&val1=8611>

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Ressources humaines et développement des compétences Canada | Human Resources and Skills Development Canada

T. 819.994.5559

After receiving their reply, I still had more questions. I called the number they listed at bottom of this e-mail, and the office I reached had nothing to do with the TFW program. It was the Media Relations Office. They could not answer any of my questions, just “passed the buck”, telling me to look it up the Service Canada web site.

CHC REPORT

Bryan Ash, CHC Director



Canadian Honey Council has had a very busy summer. Our new Executive Director, Rod Scarlett has done a great job ensuring directors are working on industry issues, and ways of resolving issues.

CIBSQT is still progressing and going through a funding approval process with AAFC.

Weston Foundation has informed CHC that they have decided to sponsor an Urban Beekeeping project submitted by Heather Clay, we are still hopeful and continue to pursue potential funding for the next step in school education kits.

Queen imports for 2010 went smoothly with only the initial few shipments from Hawaii having incidents of Small Hive Beetle being found. Quebec has indicated there has been another find of SHB within a quarantine zone. They will be eradicating.

CHC is currently investigating the GMO policy in the EU and have released a statement, which can be found on the CHC web site.

Canadian Honey Council will engage in a Stock Replacement Management Symposium in Winnipeg on January 24th & 25th, 2012. The agenda has four main items:

1. Domestic Queen Production
2. Importation of Queens
3. Domestic nuc/packages
4. Importation of Packages

Invited stakeholders only will be attending the stock replacement meeting.

CHC annual convention will follow the stock replacement meeting in Winnipeg on January 26th, 27th.

Grand Prairie College will be officially launching its beekeeping certification program on October 24th/2011.


CHC directors will be meeting in Ottawa on October 16th, 17th, and 18th for a face-face board meeting. While in Ottawa we will be meeting with:

CFIA (Food), Debbie Fishbein, Connie Zagrosh and Kevin Smith

CFIA (Animal Health), Amy Snow

Advance Payments, Stephen Page

Director General Temporary Foreign Workers, Andrew Kenyon

CHC along with Quebec will be hosting an Apimodia Symposium on November 16th & 17th 2012 in Quebec City. 

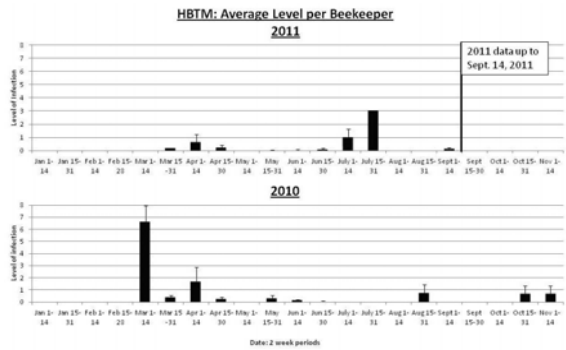



Fig. 3. Tracheal mite levels in 2011 (top) compared to 2010 (bottom).

Other Activities – There are a number of other activities and items from this past season that are worth mentioning in brief. Here’s a summary:

-Again this year, the MBA worked with MAFRI to correspond with the National Sunflower Association of Canada (NSAC) regarding concerns over pesticide use. Information about “bee safe” practices was included in their newsletter and sent to seed processors. Thanks to Darcelle at NSAC and Dr. Gavloski!

-Working with the MBA, MAFRI staff have been exploring new baits and toxins for skunk control. An EUR (Emergency Use Registration) application for “Strychnine Predacide Skunk Control (35 mg per ml Strychnine, Reg. No 24510) to control rabies and minimize honey bee colony losses resulting from skunk predation” was rejected by PMRA this year. Thanks to those working on this including Jim, Bryan, Bill, Rick, and Jeanette!

-When a beekeeper registers their operation with the provincial government they receive a registration package. This includes a fancy certificate with a registration number. This number is specific to each operation. It’s important for each beekeeper to keep this number on file for various current and future industry and government programs (e.g. BeeMaid membership, Growing Forward programs, etc.). If you’ve misplaced this number and need to know it, call 204-945-3861. 





2011 HONEY HOUSE PRICE

Manitoba Beekeepers' Association **2011 Recommended Honey House Price**

\$2.50 per pound

\$5.51 per kilogram

(in customer supplied containers).



Floral Specific or Specialty Honey may be at premium above base rate.



NATIONAL HONEY REPORT

**United States Agricultural Marketing Service Federal Market News Service
Department of Fruit and Vegetable Programs 1400 Independence Ave, SW
Agriculture Market News Branch STOP 0238
Washington, DC 20250**

Website: <http://marketnews.usda.gov/portal/fv> **Phone:** 202-720- 2175 **FAX:** 202-720-0547

www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm

Issued Monthly



Number XXXI #8 , September 15,2011

HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF August , 2011 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	\$1.68 - \$1.69			
Argentina	Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.46 - \$1.64	Mixed Flowers	Ex. Light Amber	\$1.51 - \$1.64
Brazil	Mixed Flowers	Light amber	\$1.47 - \$1.50			
Dakotas	Clover	White	\$1.65 - \$1.75			
Montana	Clover	White	\$1.65 - \$1.75			

A3.For NOC 8431: General Farm Workers, Apiary Worker is the correct job title.

Q4. *Because this is a National Program, is the paperwork being processed in Vancouver instead of Winnipeg now?*

A4.At this time applications for work commencing in Manitoba can be mailed or faxed to the following co-ordinates:

Mail: Foreign Worker Unit, Manitoba Region, P.O. Box 2250 Station Main, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4B4

Fax: 1-866-293-9979

Q5. *Is there a "checklist" that could be prepared for each NOC code which would list each required document that needs to be sent in, ex. work contract for Low skilled, sending in proof of English classes, copies of 2 paystubs, proof of paying plane tickets, etc.*

A5. Each stream of the Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP) can be associated with several NOC codes. These NOC codes are not specific to each stream, meaning that one NOC code can often apply to multiple program streams under the TFWP. Every program stream has a different set of guidelines for employers that describe what type of documentation is required when submitting an LMO application.

For the SAWP directives:

http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/workplaceskills/foreign_workers/sawp.shtml

For the Agricultural Stream of the NOC C&D Pilot Project directives:

http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/workplaceskills/foreign_workers/Agricultural/directives.shtml

Q6. *Is it the Beekeeper doing the application who decides which NOC to use OR does Service Canada decide which NOC is used according to the details put in the job details?*

A6. When processing labour market opinion (LMO) applications, Service Canada Officers will assign the NOC code based on the main duties described by the employer on the LMO application, including the job description and educational requirements of the occupation.

Q7. *If we are listing job duties for a Low Skilled, and there is one duty that could be in a High Skilled, will Service Canada change the NOC to be a High Skilled?*

A7.When developing a labour market opinion, TFWP officers assign a National Occupational Classification (NOC) code based on the main duties and educational requirements of the job offer made to the foreign worker.

If the duties appear to fall under more than one NOC code but within the same skill level, TFWP officers choose the code that corresponds closest to the predominant duties of the position.

If the duties or qualifications fall under different NOC codes and skill levels, TFWP officers choose the code at the highest skill level. Example: A worker trained and certified in carpentry would also perform some general labourer duties. In this case, the officer must choose the NOC skill level B associated with carpentry, because even if the worker performs some duties at the lower skill level C, he/she still needs to have the skills/training/certification in carpentry (regardless of how the hours of work are divided between the different duties). For more information visit: http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/workplaceskills/foreign_workers/lmodir/lmodir-9.shtml#a91

Q8. *On Page 5, Declaration of Employer, in the LMO for Occupations Requiring Postsecondary Education/ Training)-High Skilled, and Occupations Requiring Lower Levels of Formal Training-Low Skilled, and Agricultural Stream of the Pilot Project For Occupations Requiring Lower Levels of Formal Training-Low Skilled, if we do not check ALL boxes, will the application be declined?*

A8. If an employer refuses to check off one or more of the attestations on an LMO application, a written justification must be provided. Service Canada Officers will consider this information for the overall assessment of the LMO application.

Changes in Applying for Temporary Foreign Workers
“Direct Questions should mean Direct Answers”

As the Chair of the Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) committee, for the Manitoba Beekeepers Association (MBA), I wanted to contact Service Canada to discuss the changes to the program. I asked direct questions and wanted direct answers, NOT to be given links to web sites to hunt up answers for myself.



For the past few years, they have been redoing the TFW program “to streamline it for Canada”. It was time consuming to find answers on my own with the Service Canada website. I called my contact in WINNIPEG. They have always “bent over backwards” to help me with any inquiries. I have complete confidence in them and this has made the process run very smoothly. Our usual Winnipeg contact was on holidays and our call was transferred to the new centre for TFW in VANCOUVER. I called Vancouver a few times-each time speaking to various personnel-getting different answers to the same questions. So where do I go? Who do I talk to? I need to feel confident that I am receiving the correct answers when I ask a question. This was very frustrating.

I was told to, “send in your application-when we review it, if there are errors or omissions, we will send you a letter”....BS....with a little bit of verbal communication let’s do it correct the first time and not WASTE our time redoing things and resending things. Winnipeg suggested we send an email to them, with all our concerns, which they then would forward to the appropriate department to get answered. Below are the questions and answers we received. “Direct Questions should mean Direct Answers”. Most answers were just referrals to other web pages...again WASTING my time...and also money. I’m not being paid to sit on the computer - my job is to look after my bees.

THE EMAIL REPLY:
Please find below the response to your enquiry. Thank you,

- Q1.** Job duties / wages for: NOC 8251-B - Farm & Farm Managers, NOC 8431-C - General Farm Workers and NOC 8611-D - Harvesting Labour:
- What will the wages be in 2012?
- What is the list of job duties?

A1.The 2012 wages for the National List of Commodities for the Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program (SAWP) and the Agricultural Stream of the NOC C&D Pilot Project will come into effect on January 1, 2012, at which time they will be posted to the website: http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/workplaceskills/foreign_workers/commodities.shtml
The annual wage review is calculated by adjusting the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program wage rates as of January 1st of the previous year by the rate of inflation (Consumer Price Index, All-Items, year-over-year, January to June, 6-month average).
In cases where the adjusted SAWP wages do not equal or exceed the expected provincial minimum wage, the revised SAWP wage defaults to the expected minimum wage for the province.

The list of main duties for these occupations can be found at:
NOC 8611: <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/English/NOC/2006/Profile.aspx?val=8&val1=8611>
NOC 8431: <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/English/NOC/2006/Profile.aspx?val=8&val1=8431>
NOC 8251: <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/English/NOC/2006/Profile.aspx?val=8&val1=8251>

- Q2.** In previous years we used Apiarist for the job title of Farm & Farm Managers, can we still use Apiarist?
A2.For NOC 8251: Farmers and Farm Managers, Apiarist is the correct job title.
Q3. In previous years we used Assistant Apiarist for the job title of General Farm Workers, can we still use Assistant Apiarist?

Safety Net Committee Report

.Bill Lockhart,
Safety Net Chair



Research and Insurance Programs continuing as planned

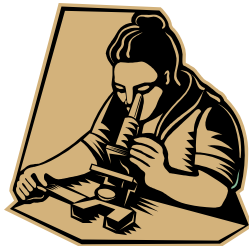
Several Reserch projects are underway at the U of M, under the guidance of Dr. Rob Currie.

At the June Field Day, Dr. Currie introduced the Varroa Treatment Screening Trials being conducted on about 45 hives at Glenlea Research Station. The trials are to evaluate the efficacy and efficiency of Mite Away Quick Strips, HopGuard, and two formulations of Thymol based treatments. The summer trials are winding down right now with students beginning to analyze data collected during the summer. The major component outstanding is the need to shake out mite samples from each colony to see how things worked out. The next phase of the Trial will be to replicate the testing as a fall treatment. This will assist in determining the effectiveness for varroa control prior to wintering the bees.

In another area, research is just being completed on the Comb Sterilization project. This study has been funded through the Food Safety For Farms funding (Part of Growing Forward by Federal and Provincial Governments). Hive equipment had been irradiated, which seemed to take care of several pest and disease elements found in the combs. Results are now being tallied by students, so information can be ready for 2012 presentations.

The Genome Canada project is ongoing with collection of bees for analysis continuing. Three producers are contributing to the project to assist in hygienic behaviour trait verification.

In another study, the nutrition needs of honeybees are being tested using poor quality syrup as the food source. Students are adding nutritional supplements, to determine how this will work for both summer and winter bees.



On the Insurance front, Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) continues to roll out the Bee Mortality pilot program as requested by MBA. From phone calls and e-mails to directors and the office, it appears there has been a good response to the insurance offering with more than 30 people seeking details on completing the information packages.



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PRESIDENTS
REPORT

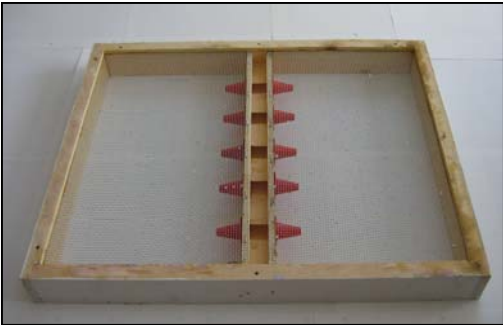
Murray Lewis



Here we are again, its time to write a report for the newsletter. Let me first apologize for not getting a report in the summer edition, no excuses I just did not get it done. Never the less, summer has come and gone with winter preparations in full swing. I hope everything goes well.

This time I am going change things up and describe to you our experience with cone style bee escapes.

Over the last few years we have been changing the management in our operation in a few different ways; one, going to queen excluded singles and two, getting away from chemicals for taking honey off. Our reasons for going to single brood chambers are two fold. One being to make comb exchange easier and two, I feel that mites can be controlled easier in one box. Now some people might question these reasons but I am not saying they are right, its just how it works best for us.



This summer we went to bee escapes for taking honey off. The first thing that is required is a method of lifting the honey supers above the queen excluder so that you can slide in two empties between the excluder and bee escape. You could lift them by hand which would be a lot of work and you would have to do that twice, so that is not an option. Most people that use escapes use a Billet Bee Loader, which by all accounts works quite well. We decided to go in another direction and bought a Ditch Witch Zahn. This is a small articulated four-wheel drive stand-on machine which we mounted a box lifting mechanism on the front. It works very well for us and can be used for many jobs on the farm.

Now we had the lifting problem solved so we could go and start our honey pulls. Most guys say to give the bees two days to clear the boxes, we found that you needed to leave them at least three days and you could take them off beeless, it worked great.

As the honey season progressed we discovered that the smallest opening in your equipment meant robbing, it is truly amazing how many openings we had in our equipment, of course trusty Duct Tape to the rescue. The local store had some very large garbage bags that we found worked great for keeping bees out and limited robbing to almost none.

As time went on we felt better and better about the bee escapes and their function, they work very well. I don't think this system is any faster than chemical removal or blowing but it is a lot less stressful on the bees.

One other issue is that when you take heavy boxes and put them up high make sure your hives are level or they will slide off on a warm day, leaving a awful mess, we now have a side-box full of hive "props".

The bee escape system works very well after the learning process and we like it very much. If anyone is contemplating going to this system give me a call and hopefully I can save you a lot of frustration.

I hope everyone had a decent crop and that your bees are feed and medicated and ready for the winter. That's all for now, get ready for a great convention and see you at the annual meeting.

Regards,

Murray Lewis



In each case in which SHB was detected, shipments were handled in a co-ordinated fashion to help prevent inadvertent introduction of SHB into Canadian colonies. As before, it was recommended that queens in any high risk shipments (i.e. those in which SHB has been detected) be placed into new queens cages prior to introduction to the hives, and all potentially contaminated materials incinerated.

In total, it was reported to the CFIA that over 100,000 queens from Hawaii were inspected across the country (in all provinces except New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Ontario and Quebec to where no queens from Hawaii were imported) during the 2011 import season. During those inspections, seven (7) live adult beetles, 14 dead beetles, and 15 larval stages were reportedly detected. The SHB were found in the early period of the import season, with the situation dramatically improving as the season progressed and exporters improved their procedures for shipping queens to Canada. Most importantly, there were no reports of SHB being introduced into Canadian colonies via imported shipments.

In addition to the inspections performed on shipments of Hawaiian queens, an additional 15,000 queens from California were also inspected. There were no reports of SHB being identified in shipments imported from California.

Overall, the CFIA received tremendous support and cooperation from the Provincial Apiculturists, the Canadian Honey Council, Canadian beekeepers, honeybee queen exporters, the Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists, and other government organizations (including the USDA and the state authorities in Hawaii). We wish to thank everyone for their cooperation and their contribution to a safe and successful honeybee import season.



KAP Report

Allan Campbell, KAP rep

Although the Commodity Groups have not held any meetings during the summer months, the Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) organization has still been busy.

On September 26, President Doug Chorney hosted a media information session at his farm in East Selkirk. The purpose of the session was to stress the position of KAP to have the government further reduce Education Tax on farmland. Several producer groups as well as the Winnipeg Real Estate Board joined KAP at the media day.

KAP supported the Manitoba Pork Council public announcement to consumers across Manitoba regarding their concern with the current political pressure on hog producers. Several commodity groups signing the media advertisement joined the pork council. The ad noted that phosphorus from hog manure was not the main cause of algae in lake Winnipeg, despite the governments' contention. The plan was to garner support prior to provincial elections.

KAP are on record opposing the farmland to be taken out of production should Manitoba Hydro proceed with the Bipole III line on the west side of the province. They wanted this issue to be one of the political debates for the October election.

In preparation for their January 2012 Annual Meeting, KAP have distributed documentation to their members. The call is for nominations for President, as is customary each year at their AGM.



Small Hive Beetle in Honeybee Queen Shipments from Hawaii:

2011 Summary of Imported Shipments

Rhéal Lafrenière,
MAFRI Provincial
Apiarist (BDS)



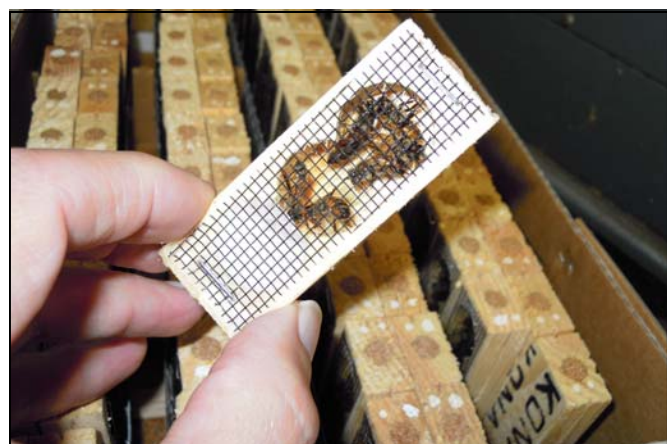
The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) was informed by provincial apiculturists that an adult small hive beetle (SHB), as well as first and second instar larvae, were found on the packing material of queens imported from Hawaii on April 7, 2011, with destinations in Manitoba and Alberta. This represented the first shipments from Hawaii for 2011.

Further inspections were performed and the findings of live small hive beetle stages were confirmed. Subsequently, producers were instructed to move all queens into new queen cages before introduction into colonies. Producers were also instructed to incinerate all original packing and shipping material. In some cases, federal or provincial inspectors were present to oversee the transferring of queens and/or the incineration of packing material. Additional inspections were also performed to ensure that no SHB larvae had already been introduced to Canadian hives.

The CFIA shared importer information with each of the provincial apiculturists under a legal agreement (Memorandum of Understanding) held with each of the provinces. This allowed the provincial apiculturists to follow-up on imported shipments of honeybees to investigate potential risks associated with the introduction of the SHB pest. Ongoing communication between the CFIA, the provincial apiculturists, and importers continued throughout the import season.

The CFIA contacted officials at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to report the findings of live small hive beetle stages in im-

ported queens from Hawaii. Consequently, import conditions were modified to help further mitigate the risk of introducing SHB into Canada. Exporters in Hawaii made immediate changes to their procedures to meet the revised protocols and to help ensure a safe supply of queens to Canada.



Inspections by the CFIA at the port of entry and by provincial apiculturists at the initial destination in Canada were ongoing throughout the import season. The CFIA worked with provincial apiculturists to determine a minimum level of inspection that was scientifically justified to reduce the risk of SHB introduction through shipments of queens from Hawaii. However, each individual province could decide independently that levels of inspection beyond the minimum were necessary, and in reality, close to 100% of the shipments from Hawaii were inspected this year. There was minimal interruption to the delivery of queens throughout this process.

On two (2) occasions, live adult SHB were detected at the first point-of-entry by CFIA inspectors. Protocols were developed to arrange for quarantine, licensing the products to destination for further provincial inspection, and identification confirmation of the specimens in the Ottawa Entomology lab. In all other cases, the SHB was detected by provincial apiculturists when inspected at destination.

IPM Mini Workshop Planned

Jim Campbell, Secretary MBA

Beekeepers are invited to take part in a mini workshop as part of the Manitoba Beekeepers' Association Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 16 November.

A short workshop on Integrated Pest Management is planned as part of the upcoming Annual Meeting. The workshop will be based on the booklet IPM For Healthy Bees, available through the Canadian Honey Council (CHC). CHC developed The Integrated Pest Management booklet, with advice from the Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists.

Plan to attend the AGM and get your booklet as part of the days' activities. Thanks to the Food Safety Program, For Farms, which is part of Canada/Manitoba Growing Forward, the cost of the booklets is already covered. However, at any time, you can purchase these booklets for \$6.00 each from CHC, by visiting their web site and placing an order.



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In conjunction with CHC and CAPA Annual Meetings, the MBA will be celebrating its 106th Annual Convention at the **2012 CANADIAN BEEKEEPING ANNUAL CONVENTION** at the historic Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, January 26-28, 2012.

Convention Theme:

Healthy Environment - Healthy Bees - Healthy Honey

Keynote Speakers:

- **Marion Ellis** – Professor and Extension Apiculture Specialist, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, USA
- **Jerry Hayes** – Apiary Inspection Assistant Chief, Florida Department of Agriculture Services, Gainesville, Florida, USA
- **Danielle Downey** – Apiculture Specialist, Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Hilo, Hawaii, USA

Convention begins **Thursday 26 January 2012 at 7:30 pm** with reports from CHC, CAPA and Government officials and a Research Symposium and Tradeshow on Friday and Saturday. Agenda details and updates to be posted on the MBA Website. See registration form for details on convention costs and hotel information.

Hope to See You in Winnipeg!

Get agenda updates and registration information under “Convention”

<http://www.manitobabee.org>