

THE MANITOBA BEEKEEPER



Picture taken by Michelle Schram at Fresh Roots Farm

11th Manitoba Beekeepers' Association Convention

Free Intermediate Beekeeping workshop

Improvements on the Temporary Foreign Worker Program

Proposed Government Changes to Front of Package Labelling

Winter 2017

Volume 12 Issue 1

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Newsletter Editor

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MANITOBA AGRICULTURE EXTENSION REPORT

Rhéal Lafrenière Provincial Apiarist

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Health Canada Veterinary Drugs Directorate (CVDD) announced a new rule regarding the use of antibiotics. The new rule could end over-the-counter (OTC) sales of many medically important antimicrobial drugs intended for use in livestock feed or water, placing their use under the supervision of a veterinarian. A new guidance for Industry is being developed by CVDD, which will call on drug manufacturers to voluntarily stop labeling medically important antimicrobials for performance use such as growth promotion. Some of the same products however, are labeled for prevention or control of disease, and the new rule places those applications under the control of licensed veterinarian.

At this time, fumagillan will be exempted for this regulatory change but oxytetracycline and tylosin will be affected. Provincial Apiarists, CAPA and CHC have requested to be included in the consultation process regarding honey bee antibiotics. Health Canada has acknowledged that apiculture poses a unique challenge when it comes to veterinary oversight and has expressed interest in working with the provinces as well as CAPA and industry to generate solutions for these unique challenges. Although we do not know when OTC access to oxytetracycline and tylosin will be affected, it is very unlikely that it will occur in 2017, whereas this initiative is being formally launched in the United States as of January 1, 2017.

"You may ask how we are going to be able to control AFB when OTC of antibiotics will no longer be available." Well you know me; this sounded like the perfect opportunity to do some extension on the fundamentals of how antibiotics work to control AFB. I would also like to highlight some of the cultural (i.e. non-chemical) practices that can be used to control AFB. Some of these practices can be used instead of chemicals but many of them can be used in conjunction with antibiotic treatments. Beekeeping is no different than any other agricultural industry, the trend throughout the 70s, 80s, and 90s were more inputs equals more outputs and adding new and/or more chemicals were most people's "goto input". Now that we have been on the so-called "chemical treadmill" for over 50 years it is hard to imagine food production without them. It is not to say that chemicals have not played an important role in the growth and development of Agriculture, but it has likely come at a cost.

In the case of antibiotics used for the control of AFB; residues in honey, resistant strains of the disease, and reliance on drugs to manage disease at the exclusion of cultural disease control practices has now all become too real. Like it or not, we are going to have to look at our current practices and work within these new rules to continue to control AFB. Our advantage is that we know a lot about this disease and despite not being able to completely eliminate AFB, there are numerous examples of how to manage it with and without chemicals. Knowing why and how antibiotics work will help us to argue their importance in managing economically disease like AFB in beekeeping and use them to our maximum advantage.

At this time oxytetracycline hydrochloride, which is the active ingredient in products like Oxytet, Oxysol, and Foulbrood mix and tylosin tartrate (Tylan Soluble) are currently the only registered antibiotics to be used for the control of AFB and EFB. These antibiotics are bacteriostats, in that they do not kill the bacteria but rather prevent it from growing and reproducing. The antibiotic hasn't cured the disease only suppressed it! The bacterial spores remain viable and once the antibiotic is no longer present the disease has the potential to resume growing and reproducing again. The way antibiotics work to control AFB is that hopefully it has slowed down the development of the disease to the point where the natural disease control mechanisms of the hive are able to overcome the disease.

These natural control mechanisms may be as simple as the bees cleaning up the cells, thereby reduce the bacterial load in the hive. An alternative to simply allowing the bees to clean up the disease themselves is to help the colony reduce the spore load by removing infected frames from the hive. This way the bees do not have to contaminate themselves while trying to remove that gluey mess or even worse the scale. Both processes are not 100% effective and in cases of heavy disease infection, these methods are likely to be ineffective at reducing the amount of spores in the hive. In those cases, the hive may need to be destroyed by fire and/or rendered for its wax. The real problem with relying on antibiotics to suppress the disease to non-detectable levels is that we are not fostering the natural disease control mechanisms of the hives.

(Continued on p.4)

The other problem with being dependent on antibiotics to control AFB is that it is not only an individual beekeeper's problem but also a community problem. Even if an individual wanted to stop using antibiotics to control AFB, it would be very difficult. Our prophylactic use of antibiotics has caused the disease to be in remission but it is likely still present. Unless that person is working in an isolated area the possibility for re-infection would be significant.

Cultural methods of AFB control have been around for as long as the disease has. One method that most beekeepers are familiar with is the destruction of infected hives. In some countries such as New Zealand this is the primary method of controlling disease. Other countries choose to decontaminate the equipment either using heat, radiation, fumigants and/or disinfectant solutions. As you can imagine these methods of decontaminating equipment do not address the concern of controlling the bacterial spores in the bees, which is often the primary source of infection when bees have come into contact with the disease in a neighbouring operation. One method to control AFB without killing the bees is to relocate the adult bees from an infected hive into a new hive with only foundation. This procedure works because you are removing the bees from the diseased equipment and making them build comb with the contaminated honey they have in their gut. By feeding disease free sugar syrup and pollen substitute to the bees, by the time the bees have built enough combs to start raising brood, the AFB spore load in the adult bees will be too low to cause a infection in the brood of the new hive. Although this method has been proven to work, it could be argued that it is not very practical, especially for the large commercial beekeepers.

One simple and practical method of reducing the amount of disease spores in the hive is to cull-out the old brood frames on a regular basis. In many European countries, frames that are older than 5 years old are generally culled out of the operation, where as in North America, many beekeepers still do not have a regular frame cull program. Introducing a couple of frames of foundation or disease-free, newly drawn comb into your brood chamber every year would greatly reduce the age of the comb in your hives.

There are many other issues regarding antibiotic use in honey bee colonies, which I am not going to go into at this time, such as amount of antibiotic used per application, the methods of application, and the breakdown times of antibiotic residues. These are all very important issues and I would be glad to continue this topic in the next issue of the Manitoba Beekeeper. For now, I would just like to say that we need to start considering how we can minimize the negative impact of no longer having OTC access to antibiotics but knowing that we will still have access to use antibiotics to control AFB and manage the spread of the disease as part of our ongoing biosecurity strategy.

For more details about the Federal Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance and Use in Canada, please go to the following Health Canada website: http://healthycanadians.gc.ca/publications/drugs-products-medicaments-produits/antibiotic-resistance-antibiotique/action-plan-daction-eng.php?_ga=1.148951734.1657724179.1402327215



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RRAA Winter Report

“ No Report At This Time”



NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



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

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HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 2016 IN VOLUMES OF 10,000 POUNDS OR GREATER UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

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

- REPORT INCLUDES BOTH NEW AND OLD CROP HONEY - (# Some in Small Lot --- +Some delayed payments or previous commitment)

ARKANSAS			
Soybean	Light Amber	\$1.60	
CALIFORNIA			
Alfalfa	Extra Light Amber	\$1.75	
Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$1.55	- \$1.75
Buckwheat	Extra Light Amber	\$1.75	
Cotton	Light Amber	\$1.75	
Orange	White	\$2.30	
Valley	Light Amber	\$1.75	
Wildflower	Light Amber	\$1.75	
Wildflower	Amber	\$1.75	
DAKOTAS			
Alfalfa	White	\$1.70	
Alfalfa	Extra Light Amber	\$1.65	- \$1.70
Buckwheat	Extra Light Amber	\$1.70	
Buckwheat	Light Amber	\$1.55	- \$1.65
Canola	White	\$1.65	- \$1.70
Canola	Extra Light Amber	\$1.65	- \$1.68
Clover	White	\$1.65	- \$1.89
Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$1.65	- \$1.70
Clover	Light Amber	\$1.65	
Spurge	Extra Light Amber	\$1.65	
Sunflower	Extra Light Amber	\$1.65	- \$1.70
Wildflower	Extra Light Amber	\$1.65	
Wildflower	Light Amber	\$1.55	
FLORIDA			
Brazilian Pepper	Light Amber	\$1.60	
Orange Blossom	Extra Light Amber	\$2.30	
Wildflower	Extra Light Amber	\$1.75	
Wildflower	Light Amber	\$.95	
HAWAII			
Macadamia	Light Amber	\$1.60	
Wildflower	Light Amber	\$1.60	
MICHIGAN			
Star Thistle	Extra Light Amber	\$2.00	
MINNESOTA			
Alfalfa	White	\$1.65	
Canola	White	\$1.65	
MISSISSIPPI			
Soybean	Light Amber	\$1.60	
MONTANA			
Alfalfa	White	\$1.60	- \$1.70
Basswood	White	\$1.70	
Buckwheat	Light Amber	\$1.55	- \$1.65
Clover	White	\$1.65	
Spurge	Light Amber	\$1.60	- \$1.70
Wildflower	Light Amber	\$1.55	

NEBRASKA			
Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$1.60	
Clover	White	\$1.70	
Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$1.65	
NEW YORK			
Golden Rod	Light Amber	\$2.50	
TEXAS			
Clover	White	\$1.65	
Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$1.65	
Clover	Light Amber	\$1.65	
WYOMING			
Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$1.65	

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.

Canola	White	\$.97	- \$1.03
Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.04	- \$1.06

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

ARGENTINA			
Mixed Flowers	White	\$0.91	- \$.98
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$0.91	- \$1.02
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$0.84	- \$.98
Mixed Flowers	Amber	\$0.99	

BRAZIL			
Orange Blossom	Extra Light	\$2.44	- \$2.53
ORGANIC	Extra Light	\$1.75	- \$2.05
ORGANIC	Light Amber	\$1.73	- \$2.17
ORGANIC	Amber	\$1.89	

INDIA			
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$.86	- \$.94
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$.84	- \$.89
Mustard	Light Amber	\$.85	- \$.93

MEXICO			
Orange	Light Amber	\$1.91	
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$.91	

VIETNAM			
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$0.70	- \$.89
Mixed Flowers	Amber	\$0.70	- \$.73

UKRAINE			
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$.92	- \$.97
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.17	
Sunflower	White	\$.88	- \$.90
Sunflower	Extra Light	\$.88	- \$.90
Sunflower	Light Amber	\$.88	



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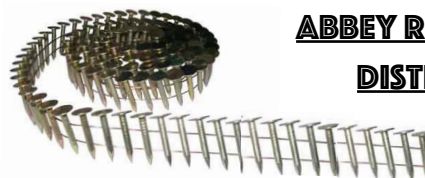
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Monsanto Laboratories and Purina Agricultural Research Farm



In early November, I was able to participate in a tour to Monsanto Laboratories and Purina Agriculture Research Farm in St Louis with the Canadian Honey Council.

Monsanto, Bee Health Division, is working on a product, called BeeDirect; which is to provide honey bees protection to the Varroa mite. This product is a non GMO approach to RNA interference (i). New genetic material is not incorporated into the organism's DNA. It is not a replicating virus. dsRNA specifically targets Varroa genes.

The active ingredient is produced externally and delivered to Varroa in the hives to initiate RNAi. The dsRNA causes Varroa mite gene suppression which results in mite mortality.

In laboratory studies, 0, 1x and 10x doses of dsRNA were fed to caged Honey Bees. After 3 weeks, no increases bee mortality was detected.

Field trials in 2014 and 2015 were conducted in various environments and geographic locations. Mites were significantly reduced over a 19 week period. Survival of treated colonies was 75% and non-treated colonies survival was 40%. Field trials were expanded in 2016 and further trials will be conducted in 2017.

A challenge to this project is the delivery of the product, BeeDirect. This product is fed to the bees in a sugar solution and must be taken up by the nurse bees. Developing bee larvae is fed the dsRNA by the nurse bees and subsequently the Varroa mite feeds on the larvae. The Bee Health Team believes the method used in 2016 is superior to previous attempts. They are currently waiting for data to confirm this improved system.

RNAi is not new to Agriculture. Since 1995, Products have been developed for virus suppression, quality traits and insect control.

The ecological risk to non-targeted organisms is low as this product only targets Varroa mites. Environmental risk is low as this product degrades within 72 hours in the hive. Monsanto is currently working on obtaining approval from regulatory agencies.

Purina Agriculture Research Farm has established a Bee Health Team and is researching a feed supplement for honey bees. Their goal is to have different products available for different times of the year and particular for pollination. An effect of intense pollination (i.e. almonds) is that colonies cannot maintain their growth and come out of pollination cycle in a weakened state. Purina is hopeful that they can develop a product that can allow colonies to maintain their health during and after pollination. They are on track to release their first product within the next 12 to 15 months.

Discussion on feed supplements was that once natural pollen is available, bees tend to ignore substitute feed. This is an area that Purina is aware of and are looking at ways that this supplement will be taken by bees regardless of the time of year and the availability of food.

These meetings were very interesting and hopefully these products will be available to beekeepers in the near future.

Daryl Wright

EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS LIST 2017

MANITOBA BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE

President:	Mark Friesen (2017)	Box 2007 Morden, MB R6M 1B7 E-mail: mfriesen.mouse@gmail.com	204 250-3960
Vice-President:	Paul Gregory (2019)	Box328 Fisher Branch R0C 0Z0 paul@interlakeforageseeds.com	204 372 -6920
CHC Director:	Allan Campbell (2017)	RR5 Comp 31 Dauphin, MB, R7N 2T8 allan.campbell@durstonhoneyfarms.com	204 638-6515 204 590-9441 (cell)
KAP Delegate:	Paul Gregory (2019)	Box328 Fisher Branch R0C 0Z0 paul@interlakeforageseeds.com	204 372 -6920

DIRECTORS

Marg Smith (2019)	1051 Porcher Road, St Andrews, R1A 3N4	marg@margshoney.com	204 254-4509
Jeff Warburton (2018)	Box1642 Carman R0G 0J0	jwarburton@mymts.net	204 745 2410
Lee-Ann Vanderpoele (2019)	Box 5 Laurier R0J 1A0	littleannvan@gmail.com	204 647 5608
Jake Maendel (2017)	Box 168, Gunton, MB, R0C 1H0	jake@destinyroad.ca	204 513-0529 (cell) 204 886-2215 (FAX)
Vacant (2018)			

NON-VOTING APPOINTEES

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RRAA Rep.::	Marg Smith	1051 Porcher Road, St Andrews, R1A 3N4 marg@margshoney.com	204 254-4509
BABA Rep.:	vacant		

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Provincial Apiarist	Rhéal Lafrenière	rheal.lafreniere@gov.mb.ca	204 945-4825
Pollination Apiarist	David Ostermann	david.ostermann@gov.mb.ca	204 945-3861

MBA Presidents' Report

Winter 2017



Mark Friesen

The New Year has been off to a snowy start, for those wintering outdoors like myself it will set the bees up nicely for the cold winter. It should also insure good moisture in the fields for the coming spring and benefit the farming. In my region; the south; there hasn't been this much snow in many years and leads me to wonder what the spring runoff will be like this year.

Although the reports of bulk honey sales have been slow there has been honey moving across the west and though the prices are not as promising as they once were they are reporting some improvement. That being said, the prices are still not above cost of production for many producers and that leaves the honey industry in continued danger.

Earlier this season our organization sent out a link and some arguments to consider in response to the Health Canada plan to change labeling on honey packaging. The labeling of honey as a dangerous food for high levels of sugar could have a negative impact on the honey industry. We hope you took time to fill out the questionnaire and as an organization we too put the pen to paper and voiced our opinions for you. The deadline will have passed by the time of this publication but we are hoping that the efforts to change the Front of Package labeling will have been effective.

Other avenues that continue to be worked on by the board include the ongoing registration of a product for skunks, and preparing a bmp for wax rendering plants to name a few.

I am very excited about the coming Beekeepers convention on February 25, and 26. This year is the first time in some 15 years we will be holding a Special AGM and beginning the transition into having a combined convention AGM. Topics to be presented remain TBA but it may help membership learn and understand some of the work we have been doing as a Board.

Looking forward to seeing you there bye for now.

Flumethrin new mite control has been approved

Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) is granting full registration for the sale and use of Flumethrin Technical Insecticide and Bayvarol Beehive Pest Control Strip containing the technical grade active ingredient flumethrin to control varroa mites in honeybee hives. For more information see the link below.

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/pubs/pest/_decisions/rd2016-34/index-eng.php



(Packaging possibly not exactly as shown.)

MBA Board Update

November 17, 2016 Annual General Meeting



The AGM of the Association was held on November 17, 2016. Talks were presented by Robert Manasty, MASC on the over wintering insurance program, Stephanie Crykshank, Manitoba Agriculture on TFWP revision and Rheal Lafreniere, Manitoba Agriculture on Small Hive Beetle in Canada, Inter-Provincial Movement of Bees and Antimicrobial Stewardship Initiative. Reports were received from the Executive Director of Canadian Honey Council, MBA President and the Honey Bee Inspection Program and Bee Health Survey.

Seven Resolutions were passed at the AGM by the voting members. Please see the MBA web page for a list of these Resolutions. If you have any questions or comments concerning the Resolutions or about the AGM, please Contact a Board Member or email the secretary at d.l.wright@shaw.ca

Resolutions of the AGM are available on the website, <http://manitobabee.org/hive/>

Congratulations



The Manitoba Beekeepers' Association Bee Hive Award is awarded to Rheal Lafreniere. This award recognizes Rheal's long service of work with the beekeeping community in Manitoba. Rheal is a strong promoter of the health and survivability of beekeeping in Manitoba; working with the MBA and beekeepers on an exhaustive list of projects, accessibility to grants and research initiatives. Rheal is also highly regarded in Canadian Beekeeping with his leadership and advice in Regulatory affairs.

Please join us at the Banquet on February 24 to celebrate Rheal's Award and to recognize his contributions to the Beekeeping industry in Manitoba and in Canada.



The Manitoba Beekeepers' Association would like to recognize Bruce Smirl and award him a Life Membership to the MBA.

Bruce has been involved for more than 45 years in the honey bee industry starting as a graduate student at the University of Manitoba and continuing as a commercial beekeeper. Bruce has been a supporter and mentor to many beekeepers as well as the MBA.

Please join us at Lunch February 24th when we will present Bruce with his award.

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11th Manitoba Beekeepers' Association Convention

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February 24- 25, 2017



Keynote Speakers:

- Mike Palmer, Vermont. - "The top 10 things all beekeepers should know about managing bees"
- Jean Marc Leforze, British Columbia – " Nuc Production"
- Michael Melason, Ministry Of Agriculture New Brunswick – " Blueberry Pollination"

CAHRC- Labour -Black Legged Tick - Skunks - Honey Market Analysis - National Bee Health - Colony Sensors
- Honey Bee Longevity - Bee Biosecurity Tools - U of M Research Tools - Queen Rearing

** Tradeshow*

** Free Beekeeping Workshop*

F R E E

Intermediate Level Beekeeping Workshop

Manitoba Agriculture, in co-operation with the Manitoba Beekeepers Association (MBA) is offering a free intermediate level Beekeeper Workshop during the MBA annual convention.

Manitoba has experienced a 30 per cent increase in the number of registered beekeepers in the last three years.

The workshop will focus on how the successful wintering of bees and the production of nuclear colonies are essential to successful beekeeping in Manitoba.



Date: Saturday, February 25, 2017

Time: 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Place: Canad Inns Destination Centre – Polo Park
1405 St. Matthews Avenue, Winnipeg

The workshop is open to all new beekeepers that have registered as a beekeeper with the Province of Manitoba in the last five years, regardless of whether they paid to attend the convention. The workshop is also open to all convention attendees that paid the convention registration fees. Seating may be limited.

For more information on the intermediate level Beekeeping Workshop, contact Manitoba Agriculture at 204-945-4825 or email at rheal.lafreniere@gov.mb.ca.

For information on the MBA Annual Convention, please visit the MBA website at www.manitobabee.org or contact Daryl Wright at 204-229-3943 or D.I.wright@shaw.ca.



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Approved location for The Growing Assurance – Food Safety
On-Farms program for comb exchange .



MBA Committees 2017

Convention/AGM: Chair – Daryl Wright, Lee Ann Vanderpoele

Finance: Chair – Amber Ricard, Jake Maendel, Marg Smith

Foreign Worker: Chair- Allan Campbell

Food Safety: Chair- Allen Campbell

KAP: Chair – Paul Gregory, Jeff Warburton

Newsletter: Chair – Mark Friesen

Nomination: Chair – Jake Maendel

Pests & Pest Management: Chair
Mark Friesen

Promotion/Education: Chair
Marg Smith

Resolution: Chair – Marg Smith

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

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source

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requirements. Dry or liquid
– small lots or trailer loads.

Bee Maid buys light
and dark beeswax
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**Manitoba Cooperative
Honey Producers**
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Winnipeg, MB R3H 0T4
204.783.2240 ext. 228

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Honey**
Highway #3
Tisdale, SK S0E 1T0
306.873.2521

Shop online at: **www.beemaidbeestore.com**
www.beemaid.com



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

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

Phone: 1-780-357-7737

Fax: 1-780-354-8080

Email: NBDC@gprc.ab.ca

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

Honeybee Inspectors Wanted

The provincial honey bee inspection program will be starting in May for approximately 2 months and the month of September. I am looking for experienced beekeepers that are interested in this type of part time work. Hourly rate and expenses are reimbursed. If you are interested, please contact Daryl Wright at d.l.wright@shaw.ca or 204 229 9343.



Analysis of Varroa and Nosema Levels

Have your bees checked for Varroa and Nosema levels of infection. Samples can be submitted throughout the year. Contact Daryl Wright at d.l.wright@shaw.ca or 204 229 9343 for more information.

CHC Directors Report – Allan Campbell Galveston, TX

It was a busy and exciting week of January 8-14 as Honey council met for our board meetings and Annual General Meeting in Galveston as we co-hosted the North American Beekeeping Conference and trade show united with the American Honey Producers and the American Beekeeping Federation.

Our first day started with a tour of AHP's past President Randy Verhoek's 10,000 hive migratory operation IntegriBees LLC. Randy currently overwinters and raises queens at his Danbury, TX farm before moving to California for almonds and then honey production in Bismarck, ND. It was very impressive to see how Randy manages that scale of operation and how streamlined almost all aspects of his business has become.

Later, at our board meetings there was much discussion around the current issues of Antimicrobials, and our ongoing consultations with CFIA who would like to see dispensing handled by veterinarians which we are suggesting could be handled in a better way.

Honey council has now joined the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) and we will now be sending delegates to Ottawa to meet with them on a semi regular basis.

We heard progress reports on adulterated honey and transshipping, there is still much work to be done on that front but we have set a strong priority on that mandate to fix what we can within the Canadian system and set things right with our most important trading partner to the South.

Front of Package labelling changes is the next biggest hurdle we are working to overcome; We have engaged a consultant to help us prepare a response to proposed FOP labelling and steer CFIA in a direction that would be much less damaging and confusing to the consumer than what they have been proposing.

Our AGM focused on executive elections, reconfirming Kevin Nixon as Chair, as well as resolution brought forward by the provincial delegates on a range of topics.

Highlighted in these resolutions was centered around labelling changes, improved testing of both foreign and domestic honey for adulteration and transshipment.

There was also a number of resolutions also brought forward and carried that maintain supporting the country remain closed to the importation of package bees from the USA, but continuing to allow queen importation as status quo.

There is also much support for funding a lab service in Canada that could provide honey testing on a much higher level which would eliminate the need for sending samples to Europe for analysis.

As for the rest of the week in Galveston we worked diligently at promoting our Canadian Honey at the CHC booth set up we had in the trade show vendor area and networking with industry insiders and gaining a wealth of knowledge from the many speaker panels that had presentations on every topic imaginable. I feel we accomplished a lot and am looking forward to the next opportunity.



Proposed Government Changes to Front of Package Labelling

Recently Health Canada issued information concerning changes to Front of Package Information. The MBA and CHC have been in discussion concerning the impact these changes will have on our industry. From this, a document has been produced on the issues and points to be communicated. Please see the document below. Further information will be available in January.

“Proposed front-of-package nutrition labelling”

Draft positions and key messages for the honey industry

December 18, 2016

Background

Health Canada is proposing mandatory front-of-package labelling for foods high in nutrients of public health concern including sugars. Honey is included in the sugar category. As currently proposed, single ingredient honey packaging would require a “high in sugar” front of package label. The proposed changes could have serious impact on the consumption of honey in Canada; as well as on fruit, vegetable and oilseed production in Canada. The Canadian honey industry wishes to raise key points on the impact of the proposed changes as part of the consultation process.

DRAFT Key Issues and related messages

Issue	Talking point	Advice to Health Canada
Labelling honey for saturated fat and sodium content is misleading	Single macronutrient products like honey should be exempt from front of label warnings. It is misleading to indicate saturated fat and sodium content for a food that has never contained these macronutrients	Exempt single ingredient: single macronutrient labels from front of label warning to avoid confusing consumers.
Proposed 100 gm daily value for sugars is arbitrary and not science-based ((TBC-regulatory status of this proposed change))	Current %DV for honey based on a 2-tsp serving size for honey is long standing and familiar to consumers. Prior consultation proposed an arbitrary level of 100 gm as a DV for all sugars including honey. More research needs to be done to determine the relevant %DV for sugars in the Canadian diet	Continue to use existing %DV for honey until research is completed
Labelling honey as a source of sugar only ignores the health-related nutrients not present in other sugar sources	The proposed changes make allowance for a different approach for products in a nutrient category that would be a healthier choice (ie identification of saturated fat oils vs other fats). Much like dietary fats are not all equal, honey offers health related benefits not present in other sugar sources	Education campaign focused on attributes in honey beyond sugar content
Reduced honey consumption and resulting reduction in pollinator activity will have a significant negative impact on production of fruit, vegetables and oilseeds and therefore health of Canadians	Honey bee activity is crucial to the successful production of many nutrient rich food products (berries, fruits, vegetables, oilseeds). The sale of honey supports this pollination service. Actions that may reduce/suppress the financial viability of the honey industry must recognize the threat such actions have on the availability of a broad range of nutrient rich food products for Canadians.	Request an “Indication of business impact” assessment be conducted before applying proposed changes to honey products

MANITOBA BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

2017 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

PRINT INFORMATION PLEASE

NAME: _____	COMPANY NAME: _____
MAILING ADDRESS _____	POSTAL CODE _____
TELEPHONE _____	EMAIL ADDRESS _____
NUMBER OF COLONIES EXPECTED TO BE OPERATED IN 2017 _____	

Payment Due January 1, with Deadline for membership payment – March 31, 2017

MEMBERSHIPS cover period from January 01 to December 31 of 2017

MANITOBA BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

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

\$200.00 BASIC FEE, PLUS \$0.45/COLONY (TO A MAXIMUM OF 1,000 COLONIES) LEVY \$ _____

PLUS \$0.14/COLONY (FOR 1,001 COLONIES AND GREATER) HONEY COUNCIL LEVY \$ _____

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

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

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

BEE RESEARCH FUNDS-DONATIONS

BARRY FINGLER MEMORIAL FUND (Manitoba Beekeepers' Association)

\$ _____

CANADIAN BEE RESEARCH FUND (Canadian Honey Council)

\$ _____

INSURANCE(see MBA web section Bees-Protection for details) Not available after March 31

BEEKEEPERS LIABILITY INSURANCE (valid 5 May 2017-5 May 2018) @ \$70.20 per year

\$ _____

JOURNAL SUBSCRIPTIONS - (THIS SERVICE AVAILABLE TO MBA MEMBERS ONLY) Not available after March 31

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL - \$60.00 per year

\$ _____

BEE CULTURE - \$55.00 per year

\$ _____

Paid by: CASH _____ CHEQUE _____

TOTAL AMOUNT

\$ _____

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

THERE IS NO “AUTOMATIC” DEDUCTION FOR PAST MEMBERS.

Applicants please approve deduction by initialing here. _____

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

APPLICATION DATE: _____ APPLICANTS SIGNATURE: _____

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

Ver. jan17

Government of Canada takes early action to improve the Temporary Foreign Worker Program

December 13, 2016

Gatineau, Quebec

Government of Canada

“Improving access to job opportunities for Canadians and creating the conditions for growth will help families in the middle class and those working hard to join it. That’s why today, the Honourable John McCallum, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, and the Honourable MaryAnn Mihychuk, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour, announced first steps as part of the Government’s commitment to bring forward a suite of meaningful changes to make the Temporary Foreign Worker Program work for workers, for employers and for the Canadian economy. These initial improvements are being taken now while the Government continues to work on the development of a more comprehensive policy.

In order to prevent unnecessary hardship and instability for both workers and employers, the four-year cumulative duration rule will no longer apply to temporary foreign workers in Canada, effective immediately. The cumulative duration rule, known as the “four-in, four-out” rule, was put in place in April 2011, limiting work for some temporary foreign workers in Canada to four years who then became ineligible to work in Canada for the next four years.”

The Manitoba Beekeepers Association and the Canadian Honey Council played a very important role in having this cumulative duration rule changed. Since 2013, MBA Directors have met with provincial government officials and the Minister of Agriculture to have this rule rescinded. Many letters and meetings in Winnipeg and Ottawa resulted in support by the Provincial Minister of Agriculture. Last year, a meeting with the staff of the Federal Ministry of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, and Ministry of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour resulted in further support.

We would like to acknowledge the time and commitment of our provincial staff for our industry, Rheal Lafreniere and Stephanie Cruikshank. Rheal and Stephanie’s support was instrumental in supporting the industry concerns and suggestions and having these issues gain the support of the Minister of Agriculture. We would also like to recognize Allan Campbell, Bryan Ash, Marg Smith and Directors and members of the MBA, Rod Scarlett and CHC and David Tharle (Alberta) who gave their time and commitment to seemingly endless meetings, letters and discussions to see this important issue to conclusion.

CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale :180 brood boxes with 10 frames drawn comb and new wax dipped box. Can sell frames separately. \$4/comb, or \$55/box with the frames.

- 500 new wax dipped bee boxes \$14.77

- 4 frame nucs with 2016 queen, approx.140. call for pricing.

- Double brood chamber colonies, approx. 200. call for pricing.

- 4 - 2500lb. bolt on torsion suspension hubs with 14" tire and rims \$550.00

- (surplus)28ga. galvanized metal bent for dimensions of standard hive lids 16-3/4"X20-1/4"X1/2"lip(300) \$4.80/pc and 4 frame nuc lids 8-1/2"X20-1/4"X1/2"lip(200)\$3.96/pc

Contact Chris at: [204-872-2398](tel:204-872-2398), email: pilotman1977@gmail.com

CLASSIFIEDS/EMPLOYMENT

For Sale: Spring quad wraps with Reflectix insulation for sale

Fits snugly over four colonies or can custom sew to your dimension pricing: single high is \$20 – double is \$25, Contact Interlake Forage Seeds Ltd at (204) 372-6920 , (800)-990-1390.

For Sale: Cowan uncapper , new in 2013, used one year,\$9000 contact Irwin Harlton,Souris,Manitoba, ph.204 483 2382

Winkler Canvas – 204 325 9548 – Beehive covers starting at \$65. www.winklercc.com

For Sale: 3 and 4 frame nucs for sale , with new queens , Contact Jake at 204 513 0529

Order now for the 2017 honey season. We have Chilean Queens, 1.2kg Honeybee Packages for sale with Queens available from March until the first week of June and Chilean packages are available from March to April. In the middle of May until June we have 4 Frame Nucs with a new Queen that are locally produced and from June until the first week of September Alberta/ BC Local queens are available. Please contact us either by email or telephone for pricing & delivery dates. Chris Stewart (403)427-0472/ castanedaystewarhoneyco@outlook.com / www.castanedaystewarhoneyco.com or Lorne Newby at (250)506-0015/ dchcgutter@gmail.com

Interlake Honey Producers Ltd

Positions:

3 seasonal full time General Farm labourers

For the 2017 honey harvest. Those with bee sting allergies need not apply. Work is mostly outdoors, so must be able to work under hot conditions.

Duties : Include, but not limited to, putting out boxes in yards, pulling honey boxes to bring to warehouse for extracting. Working on the extracting line, cleaning extracting equipment and honey house. Long days and heavy lifting are part of the job.

The wages are starting at \$12.94 per hour.

The job is located 2 hours north of Winnipeg in the RM of Fisher NE 33-2-1W in Fisher Branch, MB.

Please apply to Box 328 Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0 or email: kristens@interlakeforageseeds.com

Waldbee Honey Farms Inc.

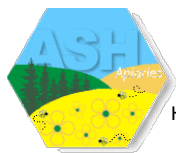
Positions:

Apiary Worker 2 positions (NOC 8431)

Beekeeping farm. Seasonal full time, days, evenings, Saturdays. \$11.35-13.00 per hour for 50 hrs. per week. Employment from March 31/ 2017-October 31/2017. At Waldbee Honey Farms Inc. Box 9 Group 19 RR1, East Selkirk, MB . R0E 0M0. Language is English.Minimum 1 year experience required.

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

EMPLOYMENT



ASH APIARIES LTD.

Box 297 Gilbert Plains, Manitoba R0L 0X0
Has the following seasonal employment opportunities

APIARY WORKER

Duties:

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

Start Date:

February 23/2017 - May 4/2017

End Date: October 27/2017

Wage: \$11.50 - \$15.00 upon experience

Positions Available: 15

APIARY HARVESTER

Duties:

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

Start Date:

June 5/2017 - July 10/2017

End Date:

September 8/2017 - October 27/2017

Wage: \$11.00 - \$15.00 upon experience

Positions Available: 15

APIARY TECHNICIAN

Duties:

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

Start Date:

February 23/2017 - March 2/2017

End Date: October 27/2017

Wage: \$12.94 - \$16.00 upon experience

Positions Available: 7

Apply by sending resume to:

Ash Apiaries Ltd
c/o Bryan Ash
Box 297
Gilbert Plains, MB
R0L 0X0
Fax (204) 548-2112
Phone (204) 548-2036
email: info@ashapiaries.com
Or in person
www.ashapiaries.com

DURSTON HONEY FARMS

APIARY TECHNICIAN

5 POSITIONS AVAILABLE NOC Code 8253
- \$12.94/Hour Upon Experience (Min. 2 Years Experience)

START DATE: February 15, 2017

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

Apply online through our website:

durstonhoneyfarms.com

Telephone: 204-638-6515

Fax: (204) 638-3736

Email: careers@durstonhoneyfarms.com

Main Office: Highway 5 & 10 South

2KM South of Dauphin, Manitoba

SE 28-24-19

DURSTON HONEY FARMS

APIARY WORKER

2 POSITIONS AVAILABLE NOC Code 8431 -
\$11.46/Hour Upon Experience (Min. 1 Year Experience)

START DATE: February 15, 2017

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

Apply online through our website:

durstonhoneyfarms.com

Telephone: 204-638-6515

Fax: (204) 638-3736

Email: careers@durstonhoneyfarms.com

Main Office: Highway 5 & 10 South

2KM South of Dauphin, Manitoba

SE 28-24-19

EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

WEST 10 HONEY LTD, Box 205, Ethelbert, MB R0L 0T0 has the following positions available:

APIARY LABOURER (4)

Wage: \$11.00 up. Dates required: April 1st, 2017 for 7 months
No experience required.

Duties: Handle, feed and care for bees; Help in replacement of hives; Harvest honey; Maintain bee yards; Maintain and drive vehicles; Manufacture, assemble, and maintain beehive equipment; Maintain and operate other apiary related equipment; Wrap hives. Reports to Supervisor.

APIARY WORKER (4)

Wage: \$11.46 up. Dates required: April 1st, 2017 for 7 months
Minimum 1 year experience preferred.

Duties: Same as above plus Help in replacement of hives and production of nucs; Maintain basic production records. Reports to Supervisor.

APIARY TECHNICIAN (5)

Wage: \$12.94 up. Dates Required: April 1st, 2017 for 7 months
Minimum 3 year experience preferred.

Duties: Same as above plus Supervise employees and interact with off-farm personnel; Co-ordinate the replacement of hives and production of nucs; Detect and report hive health and apply correct disease cures and/or controls; Keep field and/or production records.

ALL POSITIONS: Seasonal full time, days, evenings, Saturdays as required; Medical Benefits; Language is English and Spanish; Must have own transportation; Must be able to handle heavy loads as work is physically demanding; Must work well with others and be able to learn continuously.

Send resume by mail to above mailing address or by email to west10honey@gmail.com.

Lewis & Sons Enterprises Ltd.

#40 Beaver St. Austin, Manitoba

Box 316 R0H 0C0

(204) 637-2277, lfarms@mymts.net

Apiary Technician

3 Position Available

(NOC Code 8253)

Apiary Technician Duties:

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

Start Date:

- March 1 - April 15 2017

End Date:

- October 15 2017

Wage:

- \$12.82 - \$15.00 Depending on experience

New Rutherford Apiaries

(4647204 Manitoba Ltd) located northwest of Austin, MB in the RM of North Norfolk (69033).

Positions available March 20, 2017 through November 5, 2017.

Two positions available for full time, seasonal apiary workers

Duties include:

Helping with: honey harvesting/extracting, feeding/medicating hives, moving hives, making hive increases, queen rearing, building hive equipment, bee yard maintenance, and cleanup.

Must have commercial beekeeping experience. Work is physically demanding, often in a very hot environment with weekend and evening hours required. Wage rate of \$11.46 to \$15.00/hour depending on experience.

Apply to: Mike Lewis at:
mikebeehive@hotmail.com or ph:(204)-466-2551

Harlton Apiaries

Box 644, Souris, MB. R0K 2C0, 204-483-2382 or

email: iharlton@mymts.net.

Positions:

2 Apiary Workers (**NOC 8431**) for the 2017 seasonal from April 1 to October 31, 2017.

Wage \$12-\$15 hr. depending on experience.
Drivers License an asset.

Duties include:

Feeding, unwrapping bee hives, moving hives to summer locations, queen checking, disease inspection, supering hives, pulling and extracting honey, fall feeding, moving hives to winter locations, wrapping hives for winter.

1 – 2 years experience. Send resume to Irwin Harlton, Harlton Apiaries, Box 644, Souris, MB. R0K 2C0 204-483-2382 or email:

iharlton@mymts.net.

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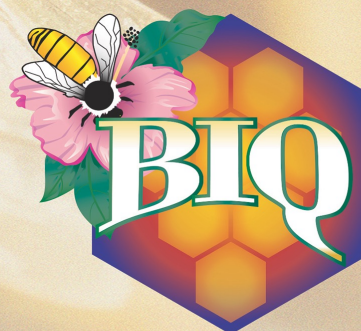
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The XL is Canada's preferred forklift for beekeeping. Test drive one today!

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