

# THE MANITOBA BEEKEEPER

The background of the cover is a photograph of a beehive yard. In the foreground, there is a dense field of bright yellow wildflowers. In the middle ground, several wooden beehives are arranged in rows. Behind the hives, there are large, leafy green trees. The sky is blue with some white clouds.

**Summer 2017**  
**Volume 12 Issue 3**



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Website:

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Newsletter Editor

Dan Lecocq

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# MBA PRESIDENTS'S' REPORT



## Summer 2017

Mark Friesen

Summer is heating up and in the southern region of the province where I am there is enough rain to keep things developing, but we could use more. I see lots of canola acres and there is potential this year for an excellent crop.

Bulk honey prices seem to have plateaued and though the Canadian dollar remains weak so does the honey price. Affecting real change for the honey market remains the foremost concern around the MBA discussions. One thing we have been reviewing is the framing of a designated marketing fund for honey, where all the funds collected as in a check off system would go towards marketing efforts.

Beehives are still being sold at decent prices from auctions and equipment prices remain stable if not very strong, this gives me some optimism as people are optimistic that the markets for beekeeping and honey will improve.

I have been following the Agristability program quite closely and at the time of my writing this am still waiting for the adjustor to release the forms for my own application, I remain hopeful that the program should return a payment for most beekeepers given the devaluation of honey by foreign market influences.

My season is progressing nicely and the canola is bolting throughout my region. I am planning that in the coming week I will start supering and preparing the facilities for honey production.

I hope you all are having great spring and the Honey prices continue to trend upwards. Bye for now.







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# Happy Honey Harvest!!!!!!



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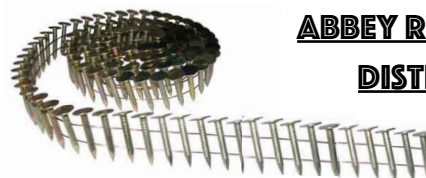
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<b>Vice-President:</b>	Paul Gregory (2019)	Box328 Fisher Branch R0C 0Z0 <a href="mailto:paul@interlakeforageseeds.com">paul@interlakeforageseeds.com</a>	204 372 -6920
<b>CHC Director:</b>	Allan Campbell (2017)	RR5 Comp 31 Dauphin, MB, R7N 2T8 <a href="mailto:allan.campbell@durstonhoneyfarms.com">allan.campbell@durstonhoneyfarms.com</a>	204 638-6515 204 590-9441 (cell)
KAP Delegate:	Paul Gregory (2019)	Box328 Fisher Branch R0C 0Z0 <a href="mailto:paul@interlakeforageseeds.com">paul@interlakeforageseeds.com</a>	204 372 -6920

### DIRECTORS

Marg Smith (2019)	1051 Porcher Road, St Andrews, R1A 3N4	<a href="mailto:marg@margshoney.com">marg@margshoney.com</a>	204 254-4509
Jeff Warburton (2018)	Box1642 Carman R0G 0J0	<a href="mailto:jwarburton@mymts.net">jwarburton@mymts.net</a>	204 745 2410
Lee-Ann Vanderpoele (2019)	Box 5 Laurier R0J 1A0	<a href="mailto:littleannvan@gmail.com">littleannvan@gmail.com</a>	204 647 5608
Jake Maendel (2017)	Box 168, Gunton, MB, R0C 1H0	<a href="mailto:jake@destinyroad.ca">jake@destinyroad.ca</a>	204 513-0529 (cell) 204 886-2215 (FAX)
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Treasurer:	Amber Ricard	Box 192, Baldur MB R0K 0B0 <a href="mailto:MBARicard@gmail.com">MBARicard@gmail.com</a>	204 535-2410
RRAA Rep.::	Marg Smith	1051 Porcher Road, St Andrews, R1A 3N4 <a href="mailto:marg@margshoney.com">marg@margshoney.com</a>	204 254-4509
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### PROVINCIAL APICULTURE OFFICE:

545 University Cres. Winnipeg, MB, R3T 5S6

204 945-4327 (FAX)

Provincial Apiarist	Rhéal Lafrenière	<a href="mailto:rheal.lafreniere@gov.mb.ca">rheal.lafreniere@gov.mb.ca</a>	204 945-4825
Pollination Apiarist	David Ostermann	<a href="mailto:david.ostermann@gov.mb.ca">david.ostermann@gov.mb.ca</a>	204 945-3861



# Honey Bee Losses – Survey 2016-17

Rhéal Lafrenière, Manitoba Agriculture Provincial Apiarist

In the fall of 2016, we were already anticipating that there would be some higher losses due to varroa mite. Last fall, I visited with several beekeepers that were seeing higher levels of varroa mite in the fall either because they did not treat in the spring or had to cut the treatment short because of the early honey flow. I was also getting reports from beekeepers that were using oxalic acid when there was lots of brood in the hives that originally thought they were getting good varroa control to find out that the mites population was rebounding back to where it had been within a couple weeks. In spite of all that, most beekeepers reported that they were quite satisfied with the condition of the bees going into winter and optimistic about having a successful winter.

In terms of winter losses, 2016-17 appears to be relatively low year for losses, where average winter loss including spring culls up to May 21, 2017 was calculated to be 16.8%. This calculation was based on the sixty (60) replies we received back from the e-mail and mailed-out surveys. In terms of number of colonies represented in the calculation, I received data from 36,328 full colonies and 5,717 nuclear colonies, for a total of 42,045 colonies. As in previous years, the data from Winnipeg was added to the Central region dataset and Eastern and Interlake regions were combined into one region. I typically get a better response from the Southwest region, but this year I only got back 9 surveys, which unfortunately resulted in the lowest colony representation among all the regions. In future, if the number of returned surveys does not improve the data from the Southwest may have to be combined with other regions or we may be forced to only report on the provincial average with no regional breakdown.

Table 1 is a breakdown of the average winter losses by region. This year, the average total losses reported in the various regions were all below 20%. The highest being the Eastern/Interlake region at 19.7% and lowest being the Southwest region at 13.4%. It is important to note that the overall average loss difference between full colonies and nucs was approximately 8% lower in nucs and that the overall average loss difference between indoor vs outdoor colonies was approximately 5½% lower in indoor wintered colonies. This trend is similar to previous years.

**Table 1: Manitoba Average Losses Based on Full and/or Nuc Colonies Wintered Indoors and/or Outdoors - Results from Wintering Loss Survey 2016-17 (by Region)**

Region(s)	Full Hives	Nuc Hives	All Hives
Central and Winnipeg (21)	Indoor = 14.4% Outdoor = 21.0% Both = 16.3%	Indoor = 11.8% Outdoor = N/A Both = 11.8%	Indoor = 13.9% Outdoor = 21.0% Both = 15.6%
Eastern and Interlake (17)	Indoor = 22.6% Outdoor = 12.2% Both = 20.6%	Indoor = 12.1% Outdoor = 14.3% Both = 12.1%	Indoor = 21.3% Outdoor = 12.2% Both = 19.7%
Northwest (13)	Indoor = 11.8% Outdoor = 24.3% Both = 19.5%	Indoor = 8.3% Outdoor = 6.1% Both = 7.5%	Indoor = 11.0% Outdoor = 22.6% Both = 17.8%
Southwest (9)	Indoor = 11.7% Outdoor = 14.0% Both = 13.5%	Indoor = 12.5% Outdoor = N/A Both = 12.5%	Indoor = 12.0% Outdoor = 14.0% Both = 13.4%
<b>MANITOBA (60)</b>	<b>Indoor = 15.3% Outdoor = 20.7% Both = 17.9%</b>	<b>Indoor = 10.7% Outdoor = 6.2% Both = 9.9%</b>	<b>Indoor = 14.4% Outdoor = 19.9% Both = 16.8%</b>



As part of the survey, beekeepers were asked to identify some of the pest management activities they did to monitor and control pests and disease in their colonies, which could influence the health of the bees going into winter. Table 2 is a breakdown of the sampling methods used to monitor varroa mite levels in the colonies. Alcohol was the most commonly used method at 46.7% and was the method of choice by most of the beekeepers in every region. In the Eastern-Interlake region, 23.5% of the beekeepers reported looking in drone brood was also a commonly used method of monitoring varroa. Although looking for mites in drone brood can provide some sense of presence/absence of varroa in the hive, it is not a very accurate way of monitoring actual mite levels. I personally do not recommend this method as the principal varroa mite monitoring method to use when making decisions on what products to use to control the mites and have chosen not to include it in our annual drug feeding recommendations. It is important to note that an average of 36.7% of the beekeepers reported not monitoring for varroa at all, which in this day and age of resistance is a very high risk activity and could result in a very costly mistake. To quote the Varroa Monitoring video that the MBA put out several years ago, “Hoping for the best is not a control option”. Below is the hyperlink to the fore mentioned video if you need a refresher:

<https://archive.org/details/VarroaMiteMonitoring>

**Table 2: Monitored for Varroa Using either Sticky Board, Alcohol Wash or Other methods - Results from Wintering Loss Survey 2016-17 (by Region)**

Region(s)	Sticky Board	Alcohol Wash	Other (e.g. drone brood)	Did Not Monitor
Central and Winnipeg (21)	0	52.4%	19.0%	28.6%
Eastern and Interlake (17)	0	29.4%	23.5%	47.1%
Northwest (13)	7.7%	61.5%	7.7%	23.1%
Southwest (9)	0	44.4%	0	55.6%
<b>MANITOBA (60)</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>46.7%</b>	<b>15.0%</b>	<b>36.7%</b>

Table 3 is a regional breakdown of the percentage of beekeepers reporting that they treated for Varroa using one of the top three commonly reported active ingredients: amitraz (Apistan), oxalic acid (vaporizer and drizzle methods) and formic acid (MAQS, MiteGone and Mite Wipes). The active ingredient most commonly reported used by beekeepers was Amitraz (Apistan), where it was most commonly used in the spring but also commonly used in the fall in the Eastern-Interlake and Northwest regions. Unfortunately it was also commonly used in both spring and fall in the Central –Winnipeg region. Using back to back treatments is not generally recommended because it can promote the development of product resistance in pest, so it is best to avoid doing so whenever possible.

Oxalic acid was most commonly used in the fall but also saw some use in the spring in most of the regions, except the Eastern-Interlake region. No beekeepers reported using oxalic as back to back treatments, (i.e. spring and fall). Formic acid was most commonly used in the fall, with no beekeepers reporting using just in the spring but there were some reports of using it spring and fall in the Central –Winnipeg and Eastern-Interlake regions.

Only one beekeeper that returned his/her survey indicated that he/she did not use any varroa control products at all. All other beekeepers indicated that they used at least one varroa control products either in the spring or in the fall.



**Table 3: Treated for Varroa Using Top Three Treatments: Apivar, Oxalic and Formic Acid (MAQS, MiteGone or Mite Wipes) - Results from Wintering Loss Survey 2016-17 (by Region)**

Region(s)	Treated with Apivar Spring &/or Fall	Treated with Oxalic Spring &/or Fall	Treated with Formic Spring &/or Fall
Central and Winnipeg (21)	Spring = 61.9% Fall = 9.5% Both = 23.8% Total = 71.4.2%	Spring = 9.5% Fall = 23.8% Both = 0 Total = 33.3%	Spring = 0 Fall = 23.8% Both = 4.8% Total = 23.8%
Eastern and Interlake (17)	Spring = 47.1% Fall = 23.5% Both = 17.6% Total = 70.6%	Spring = 0 Fall = 23.5% Both = 11.8% Total = 23.5%	Spring = 0 Fall = 17.6% Both = 11.8% Total = 17.6%
Northwest (13)	Spring = 46.2% Fall = 30.8% Both = 15.4% Total = 77.0%	Spring = 7.7% Fall = 30.8% Both = 0 Total = 38.5%	Spring = 0 Fall = 7.7% Both = 0 Total = 7.7%
Southwest (9)	Spring = 77.8% Fall = 0 Both = 11.1% Total = 77.8%	Spring = 11.1% Fall = 44.4% Both = 0 Total = 55.5%	Spring = 0 Fall = 33.3% Both = 0 Total = 33.3%
<b>MANITOBA (60)</b>	<b>Spring = 56.7% Fall = 16.7% Both = 18.3% TOTAL = 73.4%</b>	<b>Spring = 6.7% Fall = 28.3% Both = 3.3% TOTAL = 35.0%</b>	<b>Spring = 0 Fall = 20.0% Both = 5.0% TOTAL = 20.0</b>

Table 4 is a summary of the monitoring and treatment activities for Nosema as well as American Foulbrood disease (AFB). In general, monitoring for Nosema disease occurred more commonly in the fall but a significant amount of monitoring also occurred in the spring or in combination with fall monitoring (i.e. both spring and fall). That said, on average only 38.4% of beekeepers reported monitoring for Nosema at all. The Eastern-Interlake had the lowest incidence of monitoring for Nosema in either spring or fall at 29.4%.

**Table 4: Monitored and/or Treated for Nosema or AFB Using Antibiotics: Fumagilin (Nosema) and Oxytetracycline or Tylosin (AFB) - Results from Wintering Loss Survey 2016-17 (by Region)**

Region(s)	Monitored for Nosema Spring &/or Fall	Treated with Fumagillin Spring &/or Fall	Monitored for AFB Spring &/or Fall	Treated with Antibiotics Spring &/or Fall	
				Oxytetracycline	Tylosin
Central and Winnipeg (21)	Spring = 14.3% Fall = 28.6% Both = 4.8%	Spring = 0 Fall = 14.3% Both = 19.0%	Spring = 4.8% Fall = 4.8% Both = 81.0%	Spring = 18.2% Fall = 0 Both = 59.1%	Spring = 0 Fall = 4.8% Both = 0
Eastern and Interlake (17)	Spring = 5.9% Fall = 23.5% Both = 11.8%	Spring = 5.9% Fall = 41.2% Both = 5.9%	Spring = 11.8% Fall = 0 Both = 76.5%	Spring = 11.1% Fall = 11.1% Both = 61.1%	Spring = 0 Fall = 0 Both = 0
Northwest (13)	Spring = 15.4% Fall = 15.4% Both = 15.4%	Spring = 7.7% Fall = 7.7% Both = 23.1%	Spring = 7.7% Fall = 7.7% Both = 76.9%	Spring = 9.1% Fall = 9.1% Both = 72.7%	Spring = 0 Fall = 14.3% Both = 0
Southwest (9)	Spring = 11.1% Fall = 33.3% Both = 11.1%	Spring = 22.2% Fall = 22.2% Both = 33.3%	Spring = 11.1% Fall = 11.1% Both = 77.8%	Spring = 12.5% Fall = 0 Both = 75.0%	Spring = 0 Fall = 11.1% Both = 0
<b>MANITOBA (60)</b>	<b>Spring = 11.7% Fall = 26.7% Both = 8.3%</b>	<b>Spring = 6.7% Fall = 21.7% Both = 18.3%</b>	<b>Spring = 8.3% Fall = 5.0% Both = 78.3%</b>	<b>Spring = 12.9% Fall = 4.8% Both = 61.3%</b>	<b>Spring = 0 Fall = 6.0% Both = 0</b>

Table 5 is a summary of the top three commonly reported suspected causes of mortality over winter. Issues with queens was rank as the top cause followed by weak hives in the fall and starvation. Not surprising, these cause are the commonly reported every year, especially when the winter losses are relatively low. In this survey, we did have 11 out 60 beekeepers reported that their winter losses was 30+%. In those cases, the top three reported suspected causes of mortality were slightly different. Tied for first place was “weak hives in the fall” and “weather”. Tied for second place was “ineffective varroa control”, “queen issues”, and “starvation”.

**Table 5: Top Three Reported Suspected Causes of Mortality – Results from E-mail Survey 2016-17 (by Region)**

Region(s)	First Most Commonly Reported Cause	Second Most Commonly Reported Cause	Third Most Commonly Reported Cause
Central and Winnipeg (21)	Queen issues	Weak hives in the fall	Weather
Eastern and Interlake (17)	Queen issues	Weak hives in the fall	Starvation
Northwest (13)	Queen issues	Starvation	Ineffective Varroa control
Southwest (9)	Weak hives in the fall	Queen issues	Starvation
<b>MANITOBA (60)</b>	<b>Queen issues</b>	<b>Weak hives in the fall</b>	<b>Starvation</b>

Lastly, I personally want to thank all the beekeepers that took the time to fill out and e-mail or mail in their surveys. Next year, I will also be sending out the survey to beekeepers with less than 50 colonies to see how the hobby industry is fairing with monitoring and controlling pests & diseases as well as wintering their bees. THANK YOU!



### **Red River Apiarists` Association Report** Submitted by Marg Smith

During June, July and August, the Red River Apiarists` Association does not hold regular monthly meetings. However, that does not mean that we are idle, by any stretch of the imagination. `Whether a beekeeper has one, or 101 or more hives, there is always something to do and to learn.

John Russell Badiuk has been running a casual `Beekeeping 101` course for relatively new beekeepers at the Stonewall site. This has been more a hands-on course, including basic bee biology, frame handling, bee health, queen spotting, splits, and swarm control, so far. There were 10 in the first session and 7 in the second.

The 2017 queen rearing sessions had not been scheduled as of this writing, but have probably taken place as well. John Russell had 14 people confirmed. This course covers the Jentor system from start to finish. Joining forces with others in the MBA who are doing this kind of course, will, no doubt raise the knowledge and expertise of Manitoba queen raisers in several different areas of the province.

We, in **RRAA**, welcome all beekeepers to our meetings. We **meet on the second Tuesday of each month (except December, and June through August)**. The meetings are held at the **Legion Hall, 920 Nairn Ave., at 7:30 p.m.. The first meeting will be September 12.** For more information, please see the Red River Apiarists` Association website.





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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.

**Safety Nets: Chair** – Paul Gregory

**Stock Replacement: Chair**



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# "Pollinator Projects in Manitoba (2017)"

## Pollinator Project at Manitoba Beef & Forage Initiative (MBFI) Brookdale Farm

The goal of this project is to establish and compare pollinator use of two different seed mixes at Brookdale Farm; one from Syngenta (Operation Pollinator); the other a native seed mix from a local business.

*Operation Pollinator* is an international biodiversity program from Syngenta to boost the number of pollinating insects on commercial farms. It works by creating specific habitats, tailored to local conditions and native insects. The species in the Syngenta seed mix include one grass and 5 forbs which provide a succession of flowering plants throughout the growing season and a continual source of pollen and nectar for pollinators. The major benefits of the seed mix are the provision of high-quality nutrition, particularly from the protein-dense pollen of legumes which can aid in the development of bee larvae<sup>1</sup>. The seed mix will be distributed across the three Prairie Provinces in a pilot program beginning this year administered through local Conservation Districts. Producers can apply to receive free seed to plant up to two acres. At Brookdale Farm, the mix has been planted in two locations; along Hwy 10 in an area previously used as gravel storage; and around a riparian area that had a high density of foxtail barley and invasive weed species.

The Syngenta mix will be compared to a custom native seed mix from Prairie Originals in Selkirk. This mix is composed of three grasses and 14 forbs meant for wetter clay soils such as those found at Brookdale Farm. This mix will provide a variety of flowers throughout the summer that will provide food for pollinators and nesting habitat. This mix will be sown in front of the recently constructed shop which is highly visible to visitors.

Sampling for pollinators will begin in summer of 2018 (depending on funding). For more information, please contact Kim Wolfe (Manitoba Agriculture) at [kim.wolfe@gov.mb.ca](mailto:kim.wolfe@gov.mb.ca).

### Prairie Originals Mix

#### Grasses:

Big Bluestem  
Switchgrass  
Slough Grass

#### Forbs:

Wild Iris  
Swamp Milkweed  
Wild Mint  
Black-eyed Susan  
Stiff Goldenrod  
Helenium  
Blue Vervain  
Culver's Root  
Turtlehead  
Joe Pye  
Narrowleaf Sunflower  
Flat Top White Aster  
New England Aster  
Tall Meadow Rue

### Syngenta Mix

#### Grasses:

Timothy

#### Forbs:

Alsike clover  
Red clover  
Birdsfoot trefoil  
Yellow and white sweet clover  
Phacelia

Kim Wolfe, M.Sc.  
Research Development Specialist  
Transformation Branch  
Manitoba Agriculture  
810 Phillips Street, Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 3J9  
T: 204-871-4373 F: 204-239-3180

## SUPPORT TOOLS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLLINATORS

The intent of this AAFC research is to develop support tools and recommendations for pollinators, with a focus on native bees. The primary objectives of this project are to develop an assessment tool to guide a producer or land manager in evaluating their land for pollinator habitat and to develop pollinator habitat design and establishment recommendations. These tools are needed for producers to conserve and benefit from native pollinator services in insect-benefiting crops systems in Canada.

The first objective is the refining of an assessment tool to make the connection between land use and resource availability for pollinators. We are testing an assessment tool developed for the Upper Midwest United States by the Xerces Society that walks land managers through evaluating the key habitat characteristics on their land (e.g. location, patch size and shape of flora resources, availability throughout growing season). Land managers will use this assessment make recommendations on enhancing the resources in an area to provide the missing elements to support pollinators in the agro-ecosystem.



For the second part of the project we are testing establishment techniques and plant species recommendations while tracking plant material availability, material and labour costs. We are using past research to select the most appropriate vegetation and best practices for the establishment and maintenance of wild pollinator habitat, and develop a site planting guide for producers. This project is building on previous AAFC-funded studies into the design of field margin habitats for pollination services and the effects of landscape pattern and the importance of wild bees in canola production systems. The project is taking advantage of information on floral resources needed to support pollinators in non-cropped areas determined through Manitoba based research by project partners Dr. Diana Robson at the Manitoba Museum and NCC, AAFC work in Alberta and the Atlantic region and in the upper mid-west by Xerces.

These tools will assist producers in choosing margin management options by providing recommendations for planting or conserving pollinator habitat within the landscape for maximum economic benefits in the most efficient and effective way.

Melanie Dubois, M.N.R.M, CWB©  
Senior Riparian and Biodiversity Biologist I  
Spécialiste principale des zones riveraines et  
de la biodiversité  
Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada | Agriculture  
et Agroalimentaire Canada  
Telephone/Téléphone: 204-578-664



## ESTABLISHING A QUARANTINE AREA FOR BEE COLONIES INFESTED WITH SMALL HIVE BEETLE IN THE PEACE RIVER, ALBERTA

On July 19, 2017 Alberta has established a quarantine area in the Peace River region where small hive beetle (SHB) was detected in a beekeeping operation during an inspection. The SHB infested honey bee colonies were imported from Ontario without a permit from the Provincial Apiculturist. The quarantine area is in northern Big Lakes county, eastern Smokey River County and the Green View County as well as the southern area of Northern Sunrise County in northern Alberta.

Bee colonies owned by 15 beekeepers within the 15 km travel radius of this pest are included in the quarantine, and all affected beekeepers have been notified. While these beekeepers will not be able to move their colonies or sell honey bee colonies, bee nuclei and package bees out of the quarantine area for the duration of the quarantine, they can continue to operate and produce and sell honey as usual.

The quarantine will initially be in place for 45 days, and could be lifted if two consecutive inspections of bees in the quarantine area show that hives are SHB-free.

The quarantine enables the Agriculture and Forestry (AF) bee inspection team to further investigate and inspect bee colonies within the quarantine area to determine infestation levels and take actions to help control and prevent the spread of SHB, including:

- Detailed visual inspections and use of pollen substitute patties and traps to aid in trapping any SHBs in bee colonies moved from Ontario.
- Detailed inspection and determining high risk practices used in honey houses and bee equipment and capping storage places.
- Conducting targeted inspections to bee colonies within flight distance of bee colonies infested with the SHBs to ensure no spread of the SHB to these operations.
- Teaching and demonstrating the inspection process for the SHB and practices to mitigate the SHB in beekeeping operations within the quarantine Area.

SHB is an emerging pest. It is regulated as an immediately notifiable pest under the Federal *Animal Health Act*, and as a listed pest under the *Alberta Bee Act* and Regulations. To date, it has not been found in Alberta since 2006 when an accidental introduction from imported package bees from Australia was reported

AF was able to eradicate it by the following spring.

SHB poses a risk to honey bee health and can damage beekeeping equipment and spoil honey. It can spread through the movement of honey bee colonies and equipment, and through normal beekeeping activities including bringing brood combs to honey houses during extraction season, combining weak colonies, exchanging combs between bee colonies, keeping weak colonies, storage of wax capping and leaving debris in honey houses where beetles can use for feeding and pupation .

This incident is a good reminder for all beekeepers to be vigilant to prevent the establishment and spread of this pest in Alberta. Best management practices include:

- Importing or moving bees through the proper channels and with appropriate health certification and permits from the Provincial Apiculturist.
- Understanding details of the SHB's lifecycle, and recognizing larvae and adult beetles.

- Being vigilant and looking out for the SHB whenever examining bee colonies as a part of routine management. Early detection will enable beekeepers to have a better chance of succeeding in controlling the SHB.
- Good apiary management practices including maintaining strong colonies; good hygiene practices, and changing extraction and honey handling procedures to protect honey from fermentation and becoming rotten.
- Any suspected findings of the SHB must be reported immediately to the Provincial Apiculturist.

AF continues to work with the beekeeping industry and other stakeholders to manage this new pest, and the current risk remains low for most Alberta beekeepers if they are following the provincial transportation regulations and best management practices.

Any questions related to SHB and its management in Alberta can be directed to Medhat Nasr, PhD., Provincial Apiculturist: Office Phone: 780-415-2314; Cell Phone: 780-554-1566: email: [medhat.nasr@gov.ab.ca](mailto:medhat.nasr@gov.ab.ca).



## **Inter-provincial movement of bees!**

The report above shows that improper inter-provincial movement of bees can be a high risk route for disease and/or pest transmission. It is therefore important that Manitoba reviews its current inter-provincial movement policy and procedure to ensure that it properly addresses current biosecurity



threats. This will involve industry consultation so I will be looking to the MBA to be the principal industry representative body for this review. Given that this is a busy time of year for beekeepers and that there is little to no inter-provincial movement occurring at this time, the review will start at the end of August – beginning of September.

Rhéal Lafrenière M.Sc. P. Ag.  
Manitoba Agriculture  
Industry Development Specialist -  
Provincial Apiarist  
Ag. Services Complex Bldg. 204-545  
University Cres.  
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3T 5S6  
Phone: (204) 945-4825 Fax:  
(204)945-4327 Cell (204) 791-0124  
e-mail: [Rheal.Lafreniere@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Rheal.Lafreniere@gov.mb.ca)

# NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



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Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service  
Specialty Crops Program  
Market News Division

Federal Market News Service  
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Washington, DC 20250

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[www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/fvmhoney.pdf](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/fvmhoney.pdf)

Number XXXVII - # 6

Issued Monthly

June 23, 2017

## HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 2017

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

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

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

#### CALIFORNIA

Almond	Light Amber	\$1.60	
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#### DAKOTAS

Alfalfa	Extra Light Amber	\$1.65	- \$1.70
Clover	White	\$1.65	- \$1.85
Clover	Extra Light Amber	\$1.65	- \$1.80
Star Thistle	Extra Light Amber	\$1.70	
Sunflower	White	\$1.70	

#### FLORIDA

Brazilian Pepper	Light Amber	\$1.60	
Orange Blossom	White	\$2.40	- \$2.50
Orange Blossom	Extra Light Amber	\$2.40	- \$2.50
Orange Blossom	Light Amber	\$2.40	
Sea Grape	Light Amber	\$1.60	

#### HAWAII

Macadamia	Light Amber	\$1.60	
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#### MICHIGAN

Wildflower	Light Amber	\$2.00	
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#### MINNESOTA

Canola	White	\$1.70	
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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.

Basswood	White	\$1.25	
Canola	White	\$1.25	
Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.15	- \$1.27
ORGANIC	White	\$2.12	

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

#### ARGENTINA

Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.03	- \$1.49
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$ .91	- \$1.49
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$ .91	- \$1.39

#### BRAZIL

Orange	Extra Light	\$2.52	
ORGANIC	Extra Light	\$2.18	- \$2.23
ORGANIC	Light Amber	\$1.75	- \$2.29
ORGANIC	Amber	\$2.18	

#### INDIA

Mixed Flowers	White	\$ .93	- \$1.20
Mixed Flower	Extra Light	\$ .90	- \$ .94
Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$ .80	- \$ .95
Mustard	Extra Light	\$ .89	- \$1.18
Mustard	Light Amber	\$ .89	- \$1.18

#### VIETNAM

Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$ .83	
Mixed Flower	Amber	\$ .73	- \$ .82
Mixed Flower	Dark	\$ .73	

#### UKRAINE

Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$ .89	- \$ .93
Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$ .90	- \$ .93
Sunflower	White	\$ .93	
Sunflower	Extra Light	\$ .93	- \$1.07
Sunflower	Light Amber	\$1.07	

#### URUGUAY

Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.35	
Mixed Flower	Extra Light	\$1.35	
Mixed Flower	Amber	\$1.24	
ORGANIC	Light Amber	\$2.21	

## COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING MAY, 2017

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT (MD, PA, VA, WV): Overall, the month of May was wet and cool throughout the District, which was far from normal. Temperatures were 5-15 degrees below normal for most of the month with several days of overcast, wet weather. Bloom of blackberries, tulip poplar, black locust, sourwood, white clover, viburnums and various wildflowers was very good; however, pollen and nectar quality and gathering was hindered by the wet weather. Field work was also impeded by the wet fields. By the end of the month, the weather slightly improved as did colony honey making activity. Most beekeepers have reported colonies are generally in good health. Good news for Maryland beekeepers occurred in May as Governor Larry Hogan signed the MD Pollinator Habitat bill ensuring pollinator habitats planted on designated state lands (established by a 2016 Maryland law) will be free of pollinator-harming pesticides. This is the first law in the country to restrict the use of pollinator-harming pesticides on government land. Honey sales at the Jessup wholesale market for 1-pound containers are trading at \$5.25-6.25.

ALABAMA: May was an average honey production month for many Alabama beekeeper. Rain was the reason that many gave for the bees not being able to put by more stores. Even so, most beekeepers seem okay with the season so far. By next month, all nectar flows will be over. Extracting the surplus honey produced this season will then begin.



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

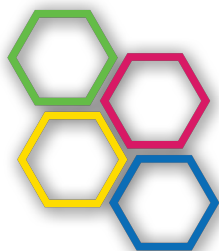
National Bee Diagnostic Centre (NBDC)  
P.O. Box 1118  
1 Research Road  
Beaverlodge, Alberta T0H 0C0

Phone: 1-780-357-7737

Fax: 1-780-354-8080

Email: [NBDC@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:NBDC@gprc.ab.ca)

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



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# 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



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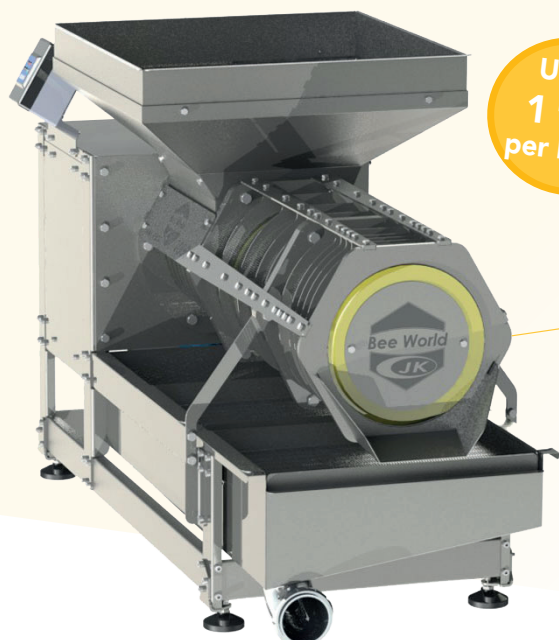
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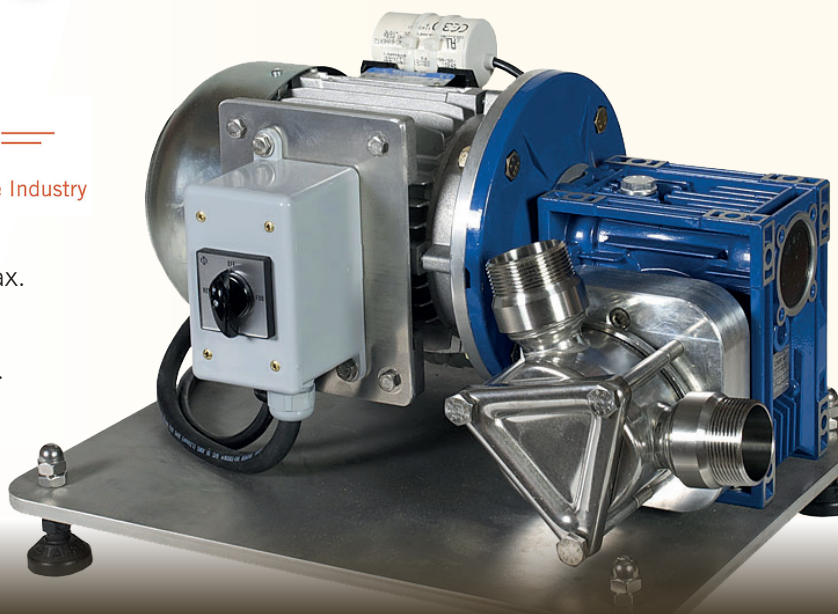
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