

THE MANITOBA BEEKEEPER

MANITOBA BEEKEEPERS'
A S S O C I A T I O N



Spring 2024

Volume 19 Issue 2

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Newsletter Editor

Dan Lecocq

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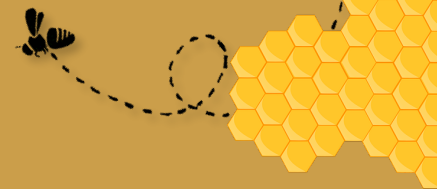
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Ian Stepler

MBA Chairperson's Spring Report



On this sunny morning of April 5th, the buzzing of bees since 9:00 AM hints at a promising spring ahead. As we eagerly anticipate a robust early pollen flow, the potential for a favorable season is welcomed, especially considering the challenges faced during the last two cool spring years. For those who wintered well, this might be an opportunity to recover and rebuild operations. That said, I am hearing high-loss reports across Manitoba that concern me, and to be honest, I don't know how to respond to it. One thing to be certain is that our association is working hard to focus on three main priorities that is crucial for the success of our Manitoba beekeeping industry:

Healthy bees – with the development of the KRTP we are working hard to get a new mite control product into beekeeper's hands within one or two years. This program also puts boots on the ground for beekeepers to access as we monitor and diagnose pest and disease problems. DO NOT hesitate to reach out to Matthew if you need assistance or guidance.

Safety net programming- while working with the Manitoba and Federal Governments, we lobby tirelessly to cut producer's premium costs, reduce deductibles, and improve assessor training.

Replacement stock- our industry needs access to more options on high quality, available, and affordable replacement stock, domestically produced or sourced from other countries. We continue to work on the mandate set for us by the membership to access California Package Bees.

These reports are always hard for me to write because there is so much variability between beekeepers across Manitoba. I guess my role within this organization is to bring that variability together and attempt to bring more consistency and continuity between beekeepers and beekeeping years with our efforts.

The MBA Convention/AGM, held on February 23-24, witnessed significant participation, with nearly a full house and a sold-out banquet. The event served to honor the retirement of Dr. Rob Currie, acknowledging his remarkable contributions to the industry at the University of Manitoba. We were delighted to see Manitoba beekeepers turning out to recognize his achievements. Planning for next year's convention is already underway, featuring keynote speaker Bob Binnie of Blue Ridge Honey, known for his extensive experience in the beekeeping industry.

Looking forward, the MBA has utilized the KRTP to help with organizing a Manitoba Beekeeper Field Day event scheduled for June 22nd at Merv Malyon's farmyard. The lineup of guest speakers promises insights into various aspects of beekeeping, including queen breeding, economics, sustainability techniques, and innovative treatments for mite control. By leveraging the expertise of the KRTP, we aspire to make field days a recurring feature in Manitoba.

The addition of Michael Clark to the Board of Directors has invigorated our initiatives. Thanks to Mike, we are gearing up for Manitoba Honey Bee Day on May 29th at Little Brown Jug in Winnipeg. This event aims to celebrate beekeepers' contributions, raise awareness about the challenges faced by the industry, and underscore the crucial role of honey bees in our ecosystem. Little Brown Jug's commitment to donating a portion of sales from their Golden Ale made with Manitoba honey adds to the event's significance. We anticipate the participation of the Minister of Agriculture and plan to utilize radio broadcasts to maximize outreach during the event.

Recent industry developments include the Canadian Honey Council's national meeting addressing the threat posed by the invasive Tropi mite. This meeting invited all the Provincial Presidents, CHC reps, and Provincial Apiarist, along with a representative from the CFIA. The meeting was well attended which reflected a collective effort to gather feedback and devise proactive measures. CHC's

(CONTINUED ON P.4)

involvement in the North American Honey Bee Strategy working group underscores our collaborative approach to addressing both US and CND industry concerns.

We are still waiting for the CFIA's decision regarding access to California Package Bees, the MBA remains vigilant, expecting updates soon. Our hands are tied regarding any further lobbying efforts until this decision is announced.

For any inquiries or comments, please reach out via email at iansteppler@gmail.com.

Ian Steppler Chairman, MBA



2024 MBA Committees

Convention/AGM: Daryl Wright, Ian Steppler, Brad Hogg, Laura Wiens, Derek Micholson, Tom Lockhart, Sheldon Reimer Michael Clark, Matthew Polinsky

Resolution: Osee Podolsky, Brad Hogg

Finance and BFMF: Ian Steppler, Paul Gregory, Nadine Lecocq(treasurer) Daryl Wright(secretary)

CHC Director: Osee Podolsky

Stock Replacement: Tom Lockhart, Mike Grysiuk

Labour: Mike Grysiuk, Paul Gregory

Workplace Safety and Transportation: Sheldon Reimer Osee Podolsky,

KAP Delegate: Michael Clark (Ian Steppler and Osee Podolsky- alternate)

Membership Resources and Communication: Ian Steppler, Brad Hogg, Paul Gregory, Matthew Polinsky

Pests & Pest Management: Paul Gregory, Tom Lockhart, Derek Micholson

Research: Chair - Sheldon Reimer, Matthew Polinsky, Ian Steppler, Osee Podolsky, Derek Micholson

Safety Nets: Paul Gregory, Osee Podolsky

Pollinator Habitat and Sustainable Initiatives: Michael Clark Paul Gregory, Brad Hogg, Ian Steppler, Derek Micholson

Board Development: Ian Steppler, Paul Gregory, Daryl Wright



Health Canada

Health Canada's Pesticide Compliance Program delivers inspections to monitor compliance within pesticide industries of the requirements under the Pest Control Products Act. This involves information to:

- determine that pesticides are used in compliance with label directions
- prevent or eliminate the presence of unregistered pesticides in Canada

Link for more information: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/pest-control-products/pesticides-compliance-enforcement/activities-results.html>

Health Canada will be **conducting inspections in the beekeeping industry this year**. This inspection is compulsory and you may receive a call from Health Canada Inspectors.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

INSECTICIDE USE PROGRAM FOR 2024

The City of Winnipeg's Insect Control Branch is involved in the control of nuisance and disease carrying mosquitoes in the City of Winnipeg and up to 8 km beyond.

Some of the control methodologies that are employed will involve the use of Deltamethrin®. However, to protect bees from potential toxic effects of this control product, a 90 metre pesticide free radius will be provided around all registered honeybee and leafcutter bee colonies within City limits (300 metre radius for colonies outside City limits). Beekeepers are encouraged to participate in this program by advising the Insect Control Branch of bee locations.

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



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MANITOBA BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

2024 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

NAME: _____ COMPANY NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____ POSTAL CODE _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

NUMBER OF COLONIES EXPECTED TO BE OPERATED IN 2024 _____. If 50 or more colonies, please complete page 2.

Payment Due January 1, 2023 with Deadline for membership payment – March 31, 2024

MEMBERSHIPS

1. **Associate Membership** (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

2. **Full Membership** (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)

Base Fee			\$200.00
Levy (50 to 1500 colonies)	Colony number	@0.50 per colony	
Additional Levy (1501 or more colonies)	Colony number (Total minus 1500)	@0.16 per colony	
TOTAL (Base Fee plus Levy plus Additional Levy)			

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. \$100.00US

BEE RESEARCH FUNDS-DONATIONS

BARRY FINGLER MEMORIAL FUND (Manitoba Beekeepers' Association)	
CANADIAN BEE RESEARCH FUND (Canadian Honey Council)	
KNOWLEDGE RESEARCH TRANSFER PROGRAM (cash or in-kind donation, please contact Secretary)	

INSURANCE (see MBA website Bees-Protection for details) **Not available after March 31**

BEEKEEPERS LIABILITY INSURANCE (valid 5 May 2024-5 May 2025) @ \$70.20 per year	
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JOURNAL SUBSCRIPTIONS - (THIS SERVICE AVAILABLE TO MBA MEMBERS ONLY) **Not available after March 31**

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL - \$67.00 per year	
BEE CULTURE - \$92.00 per year	

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. _____

IF YOU WISH TO PAY BY ETRANSFER, PLEASE CONTACT TREASURER AT: nlmba@outlook.com

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

APPLICATION DATE: _____ APPLICANTS SIGNATURE: _____

Manitoba Beekeepers' Association

Designated Representative Form

1. Business Name of Registered Producer: _____
(Business name used on original Registration form)

2. Name of Registered Producer: _____
(Name of person completing this form)

Business Number: _____ Manitoba Agriculture Registration Number: _____

The Registered Producer of a Partnership, Corporation or Hutterite Colony **must** appoint **one** designated representative to have voting representation in the Manitoba Beekeepers' Association. The designated representative must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of Manitoba.

3. Name of Designated Representative: _____
Address: _____
Postal Code: _____ Email: _____
Phone #: (204) _____ FAX: (204) _____

4. Confirmation of eligibility of person appointed above as Designated Representative:
Designated Representative's Type of Business Entity: (Please check one only)

☐ Sole Proprietor:

☐ Partnership: To be eligible, a designated representative must hold at least 10% of the assets of the partnership and be entitled to 10% of the income of that partnership. Does the person to be designated so qualify? ☐ Yes / ☐ No

☐ Corporation

To be eligible, a designated representative must hold at least 10% of the voting shares in the corporation. Does the person to be designated so qualify? ☐ Yes / ☐ No

☐ Hutterite Colony.

To be eligible, a designated representative must be a member of the Hutterite Colony. Does the person to be designated so qualify? ☐ Yes / ☐ No

5. Is the person to be designated, the designated representative of any other registered producer? ☐ Yes / ☐ No
(If "yes", to be eligible, a request to rescind that designation must accompany this form).

6. Is the person to be designated also a registered producer, as no individual who is a registered producer may be appointed as the designated representative of another registered producer? (If "yes", to be eligible, a request to rescind that registration must accompany this form)

7. I hereby affirm that the above information is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
(Signature of Registered Producer completing this form) (Date form completed)

8. Date Designated Rep. Form received: _____
(This section for MBA office use)

KRTP SPRING REPORT



Spring has been arriving at variable speeds this April and reports on wintering have also been varied. The KRTP Bee Health Monitoring Program was established for beekeepers to have an additional place to turn to with diagnostic inquiries. We process some things in our lab and others are sent out for analysis.

If you would like to get a picture of your overall apiary health status at present, listed below are some diagnostic services for common pathogens:

Full instructions for sampling, shipping and costs will be provided by the KRTP, OR, if submitted directly to an external lab, closely follow their instructions as incorrect sampling could affect results.

- Nosema: 120 bees (KRTP Lab, MB Vet Lab, NBDC)
- Tracheal: 120 bees (NBDC)
- AFB/EFB: 120 bees (NBDC) (Clinical signs in comb, MB Vet Lab)
- (AFB detection in honey, NBDC)
- Viruses – DWV, BQCV, SBV, ABPV, IAPV: 120 bees (MB Vet Lab, NBDC)
- Syrup test: 120 grams of syrup per sample (KRTP Lab)

There are more diagnostic options available via the NBDC and the KRTP can provide further information or facilitate the process. (<https://www.nwpolytech.ca/nbdc/submitsamples.html>)

In the past, the KRTP has sampled beekeepers' colonies for varroa (10 colonies per site). Until we add our second staff member in mid-May this service may be more limited depending on scheduling. It appears that beekeepers have particularly found value in this service in the fall and we will continue to offer the service as long as it is in demand.

In related 2024 season news: we have found a Field and Laboratory Technician to join our team! A permanent full-time staff member, in addition to myself, is a major step for the program and it's exciting to increase our capacity to this extent.

We will hold our Intro to Queen Rearing workshops, jointly led by Jonathan Hofer, near Elie, in June and July (dates TBA). The morning is in the classroom, lunch is provided, and we spend the afternoon with in-hive demonstrations, interactive Q&As, and grafting practice. If not for oneself, this provides a great training opportunity for employees!

For Spanish-speaking beekeepers out there the KRTP stocks copies of the CAPA Honey Bee Diseases & Pests booklet in Spanish to keep your teams sharp (\$15 each).

Stay tuned to the KRTP social media for ongoing updates, notices, and resources.

Hive Donations

While our program is well-funded by the government, there is not much surplus in the budget lines for "operations" (i.e. colonies and all their management needs). Thus, the KRTP is seeking hive donations.

Beekeeper donations keep our program active. Last season our collaborations with producers and the University of Manitoba helped us considerably in what we could accomplish in a single year. In 2023, the KRTP utilized 180 colonies to run two major research trials (Greenlight's varroa control product & UM/KRTP syrup field trial) and another set of experiments on an acaricide (Nature Recombined Science). Over 100 of these colonies came from outside the program and primarily from two sources.

(CONTINUED ON P.9)

Each year we have different projects and resources. In 2023 the KRTP put 60 of our own colonies into winter and have thus far had a 14% winter loss. We currently project requiring 100 colonies for this season and there's always more potential with more resources.

If any colonies are not used in research projects this year, they will produce honey and the profits will go back into running the program. Additionally, we want to ensure we have a core number of hives managed under optimal conditions (in contrast to experimental conditions) to increase overwintering success and reduce the need to make a call-out for colony donations in the future.

If you have a few nucs available to donate this spring, consider giving Matthew a call or email at: krtymb@gmail.com / 204-698-7399

*Furthermore, just days ago we confirmed that we'll be running a Greenlight Biosciences trial again on their varroa control product. It will run on a smaller scale than last year, but the critical objective of our prep period for the trial is to test their varroa control product on hives fairly early in the spring. If you are in a position to contribute resources, it's likely colonies can be returned at the end of the trial.

Several beekeepers expressed interest to the KRTP in reviving a collective Manitoba queen breeders support group. The KRTP convened a meeting with the beekeepers who surfaced the idea and several past members of the dormant Manitoba Queen Breeders Association (MQBA) – as well as, Derek Micholson and Dr. Rob Currie. We reviewed what was done in the past: successes and challenges, how it operated, and thoughts were shared on the potential purpose and pathway for a new support initiative for queen breeders. The summary is posted on the KRTP website.

Best wishes for a fruitful spring season.
Program Lead,

Matthew Polinsky
krtymb@gmail.com
<https://manitobabee.org/hive/krtyp/>



Paul Gregory



Interlake Spring Report

With little snow insulation on the outside colonies this winter - they have come through okay. The colonies could always be stronger and winter is not quite over at time of writing- will see how Spring treats us.

The way I see it, as beekeepers, the largest impact in our sustainability that we have seen in years, is the use of UbeeO pheromone in bee breeding. Absolutely ground breaking research!

This inexpensive tool allows anyone to select for the VSH trait in their breeding stock!

This is something all beekeepers should be demanding from their queen suppliers as the procedure is so quick, accurate and inexpensive.

VSH trait is absolutely not 100 % effective but it really does help with your mite control program. Please ask your queen supplier.

Your MBA board has been busy all winter and I am so proud of their work. We all seek collaboration within the board, while respecting the “political” differences among us.

Kudos to Brad Hogg for leading the RRAA in such a supportive capacity. Always interesting stuff they are talking about. Many thanks to our great support staff: Daryl and Nadine are so professional and giving of their personal time to help all beekeepers.

Paul Gregory

Impressions of the MBA Convention from an Associate Member

It's strange what not having any responsibilities does to your concentration and enjoyment. I didn't realize it until the end of the convention and someone asked how I had enjoyed it. Suddenly I found myself saying that I had got a whole lot out of what the speakers and researchers had to say and had enjoyed it thoroughly. It is really exciting to hear about the newest advances in product and research towards controlling Varroa Mites. This is especially true, in light of the fact that there has been evidence in Canada of resistance to some of the products we have been using.

In years past, Rob and I have made at least some of our hives available for research purposes through the U of M. After hearing some of the researchers speak, I approached one of them to ask if Hobby and Sidelineer beekeepers should consider doing this and would that be considered helpful. He said yes and that having a broader baseline would be most helpful. So, if you have enough hives, you might just want to be part of this venture. When we took part, the research people came to our apiary, marked the hives that we had chosen to take part and gave us instructions on what to do and not do with them. Mostly, we just let them do whatever they needed to do and they let us know when they were finished with them. It gives you a good feeling to be part of something much bigger.

It was so good to touch base with so many friends in the beekeeping community with whom we have been associated over these years. We were really "gob smacked" by being singled out to receive the "Bee Hive Award"...didn't see that coming at all! What a humbling experience that was! Yet, it was gratifying to know that whatever we contributed to the beekeeping and others within it, had been appreciated. While we didn't expect it, and I spoke about the effect of the convention on me, I fear that I didn't thank the MBA for the award. I am doing so now, from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely, Marg (a.k.a "The Bee Lady")



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-
- A white utility truck with a crane is lifting a wooden crate. The truck is parked on a grassy area with trees in the background. A person is standing next to the truck, operating the crane. The crane is lifting a wooden crate from the ground and placing it on a structure. The truck has a red stripe and the text "CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE" on the side.



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Does Fumagillin Help Control *Nosema ceranae*?

Nosema spp. are intestinal parasites that can infect many different organisms and one of them, *Nosema apis*, has been known in honey bees for over a hundred years. In 2006, right around the time widespread honey bee losses started to make the news it was discovered that a second species, *Nosema ceranae*, had jumped from its original host the Asian honey bee (*Apis cerana*) to the European honey bee (*Apis mellifera*). It was suspected to be responsible for widespread colony losses in Spain and set off a firestorm of research activity, including research into treatments that might control this pathogen new to the European honey bee.

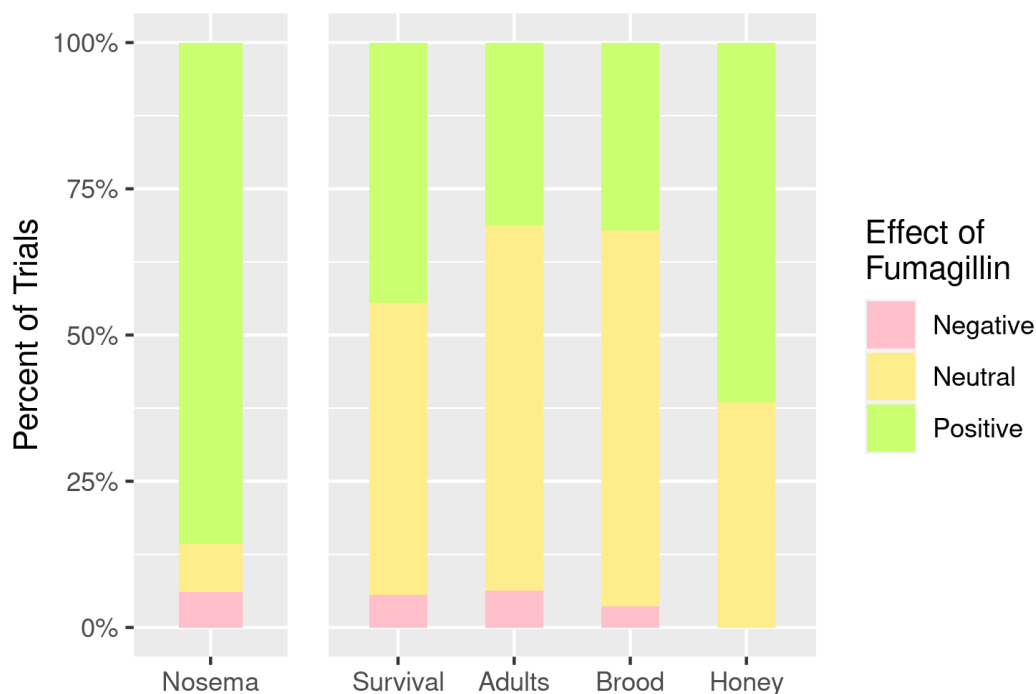
Fumagillin has been and continues to be the only treatment known to control *Nosema apis*. So, the obvious question was: does fumagillin work for *Nosema ceranae*, too?

Fumagillin is an antibiotic, more precisely, an antifungal or anti-microsporidial produced by a fungus. It has been known since the 1950s and is available as a commercial product in North America, but notably is not permitted for common use in some countries such as those in the European Union. During the spread of *Nosema ceranae* to *Apis mellifera* populations in Europe and elsewhere, quite a few scientists around the globe wrote papers pointing out that we did not know whether fumagillin was useful against *Nosema ceranae*. Then in 2015, a group of American researchers published an unexpected result: when *Nosema ceranae*-infected bees were fed extremely low concentrations of fumagillin (1/1000th of the treatment dose or less) they actually ended up with more nosema than the group that hadn't been treated.

This paper has been given a great deal of weight by serious researchers and resulted in many scientists affording plausibility to the idea that fumagillin should not be used against *N. ceranae*. It is also one of the first results that appear in a Google search for the topic. Ultimately, via many sources, the message that fumagillin does not work against *N. ceranae* has been passed on to beekeepers. It isn't true: fumagillin does work.

At the same time that some scientists were questioning whether fumagillin worked against *N. ceranae*, other scientists were doing experiments. I was part of a research team at Agriculture Canada that investigated this topic. Among other things, we conducted a systematic review that attempted to identify every controlled field trial ever published about fumagillin and summarize the results. A total of 50 papers met the screening criteria of the review. Twenty of those papers described tests of fumagillin that have taken place since 2005 and in all but one of those *N. ceranae* was believed to be the dominant species (the exception was one paper that came out just before *N. ceranae* was discovered, thus they did not do a test to identify the species of nosema).

Figure 1 shows a colour-coded summary of results from the twenty studies. They are unambiguous. Out of 19 studies that measured nosema after fumagillin treatment, 17 found less nosema in at least some of the fumagillin-treated groups. In 13 of those studies, the reduction in nosema was statistically significant for at least some groups. In addition, every study that measured nosema levels within six weeks of the treatment date (that is, within the average lifespan of a bee in summer) found either fewer nosema spores ("intensity") or fewer nosema-infected bees ("prevalence") in the treated group.



(CONTINUED ON P.15)

What about the effect of fumagillin on the bee colony? Here the results are less consistent; there are a lot more neutral results. But do you notice how little pink there is in the diagram? In fact, none of the studies found that fumagillin caused statistically significant harm to honey bee colonies, by any measure. Almost all studies showed either positive or neutral results.

It isn't hard to understand why benefits to the colony are seen less frequently than effects on *N. ceranae*. Nosema is only one of many things that influence colony performance. Sometimes it is a major factor, and in those cases, the colony (and probably the beekeeper) benefits substantially from a fumagillin treatment. Other times, some other factor controls the productivity of the hive, and in those cases, we can't detect a benefit from fumagillin.

In summary, we have clear answers to three questions:

- 1) Does fumagillin effectively control both species of nosema? Yes.
- 2) Will fumagillin treatment (at the label dose) harm your bee colonies? No.
- 3) Will fumagillin treatment make your bees more productive and increase your profits as a beekeeper? Sometimes.

“The KRTP contributed editorial comments and coordinated publishing this article in the Manitoba Beekeeper.”

This is the first of a short series of articles about fumagillin. The original paper that the article summarizes is: Peirson, M.; Pernal, S.F. A Systematic Review of Fumagillin Field Trials for the Treatment of Nosema Disease in Honeybee Colonies. *Insects* 2024, 15, 29. <https://doi.org/10.3390/insects15010029>



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Provincial Apiarist Spring Report



Manitoba Beekeepers,

It's early April at the time of writing, and spring has come a bit early again in Manitoba. As beekeepers begin to assess their mortality, the early reports I've been hearing so far have been mixed, but they are also becoming progressively worrying with some very high losses reported already. Since I normally get the bad reports first and things inevitably balance out to some degree, I am not ringing alarm bells yet, but I am keeping a close eye on it.

The 2024 Manitoba Winter Loss Survey will be sent out a bit later this spring. The data collected from that survey is extremely important to help keep track of any industry trends and to have accurate industry statistics to help make evidence-based decisions. For example, the winter loss survey data was instrumental in justifying the AgriRecovery program that many beekeepers benefitted from last year. Please take a few minutes to complete it when it arrives.

While the major causes of mortality have not yet been pinpointed this year, I believe the most likely top factors are a combination of the warm fall & winter weather and Varroa. Poor quality feed was also a factor for some beekeepers, and there have also been reports of poor-quality imported queens nationwide.

While the early spring is nice in a lot of ways—particularly for early bee management, there are some real concerns to keep in mind going into the season. If there is one thing we learned in 2021 about early springs, it's that Varroa can become a much larger issue later in the season—since mites will have had a longer time to reproduce during longer periods with no treatments in the hive. In addition, with Apivar resistance becoming a larger issue in Canada, it will be especially prudent for beekeepers treating with Apivar this spring to monitor their colonies after their strips come out. Beekeepers should seriously consider applying a shorter-acting follow-up miticide (e.g. oxalic acid) during that time before the honey flow, or perhaps consider a treatment registered specifically for use during the flow (e.g. Formic Pro). This will not only help to reduce Varroa (and viral) loads by the fall, but also clean up residual mites that may have remained due to Apivar resistance.

Please consult the 2024 Honey Bee Health Treatment Guide or contact me for more information on the available registered treatments in Canada.

Have a great beekeeping season and I hope to see many of you at the MBA field day in June!

Derek Micholson, M.Sc., P.Ag.
Provincial Apiarist
Manitoba Agriculture
Cell: (204) 791-0124
Derek.Micholson@gov.mb.ca

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Canadian Honey Council Report


The North American Beekeeping Strategy is proving to be valuable in facilitating discussions on tropilaelaps mite. Concerns have been raised that a plan needs to be developed to mitigate risks of Tropilaelaps entering Canada. Questions also arose that need to be answered is what would happen if Tropilaelaps enter Canada first or the USA first, and what types of repercussions it may have on our industry. Concerns raised by myself and other are that we need to know what CFIA's intentions are IF Tropilaelaps land in the USA so that Canadian beekeepers don't get blind sided like in 1986 with Varroa mite hitting the USA.

I have switched roles from Chair of Hive Health to Chair of Interprovincial Movement and Transportation. My hopes are to streamline the shipping of bees across Canada along with getting clear definitions on legal requirements related to E-Logs when traveling out of province with your farm truck as there seems to be significant grey areas around this. Currently Manitoba still has an exemption for Manitoba farm registered trucks regardless of axle count are exempt from hours of service within the province of Manitoba.

Osee Podolsky





Canadian Honey Council



LOOK OUT FOR WILD PIGS

Wild pigs are **WIDESPREAD** in Manitoba

To learn more or if you see evidence of wild pigs, call **1-833-SPOT-PIG** or visit **SQUEALONPIGSMB.ORG**



Ontario Beekeepers' Association Technology-Transfer Program
Orchard Park Office Centre, Suite 185, 5420 Highway 6 North, Guelph, Ontario, Canada, N1H 6J2
519-836-3609 ttp://ontariobee.com

Homemade Protein Supplement Recipe

Makes 150lbs

Following Preparation Directions Below

Dry Ingredients

100lbs Granulated Sugar
25lbs Brewer's Yeast (48% protein)
12lbs Dried Whole Egg (48% protein)

Wet Ingredients

5 litres Water (add more if needed to get proper consistency, should be malleable but not runny)
3 cups Vegetable Oil (high quality is best to preserve consistency, can dry out with watery oil)
3 cups Lemon Juice (for palatability)

Preparation:

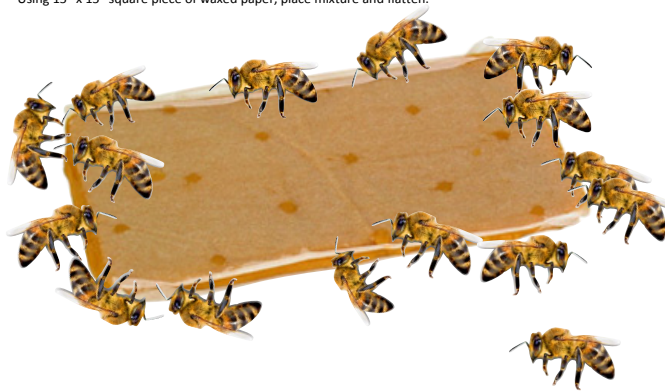
Combine dry ingredients thoroughly (TTP used a sheet of plywood and a shovel)
Add 4L of Water, 1 litre at a time, continually mixing the ingredients.
Add Vegetable Oil and Lemon Juice with the last litre of water.
Important! Add more water if necessary to obtain proper consistency.
The mixture should be malleable, but not runny (should not ooze).
Using 15" x 15" square piece of waxed paper, weigh out 1lb of mixture and flatten to make each patty.

For Smaller portions: Makes 1lb

Granulated Sugar:	300g - 1.5cups
Brewer's Yeast:	76g - ½ cup (a little heaped)
Egg Powder:	36g - ½ cup (loosely packed)
Water:	33ml - 2tbsp+ ½ tsp
Vegetable Oil:	5ml - 1 tsp
Lemon Juice:	5ml - 1 tsp

Preparation:

Combine dry ingredients thoroughly (a mixing bowl works well)
Mix Vegetable Oil and Lemon Juice with the 1 tbsp of water. **Set aside.**
Add remaining water to dry ingredients. Stir to dissolve.
Mix in the set aside oil, lemon juice and water mixture.
Important! Add more water if necessary to obtain proper consistency, but do so sparingly!
The mixture should be malleable, but not runny (should not ooze).
Using 15" x 15" square piece of waxed paper, place mixture and flatten.



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Vice-Chair:	Paul Gregory (2026)	P.O. Box 238 Fisher Branch MB R0C 0Z0	paul@interlakeforageseeds.com	204 372 6920
CHC Director:	Osee Podolsky (2026)	P.O. Box 1 Ethelbert MB R0L 0T0	osee@podolskihoneyfarms.com	204 647 2265
KAP Delegate:	Michael Clark (2027)	P.O. Box 4 RR1 Wawanesa MB R0K 2G0	beemanitoban@yahoo.com	204 7204844

DIRECTORS

Tom Lockhart (2025)	P.O. Box 209, Wawanesa, MB R0K 2G0	tcl@mymts.net	204 761 4986
Brad Hogg (2026)	P.O. Box 16, Libau, MB. R0E 1C0	brad@faithapiaries.ca	204 232 5180
Sheldon Reimer (2027)	34021 Road 29E Mitchell, MB R5G 2P3	Sheldonreimer1@gmail.com	204 381 1629
Mike Grysiuk (2025)	2 Kuharski Street, Neepawa MB R0J1H0	mgrysiuk@mymts.net	204 899 9250

Directors Terms are until the AGM of the year indicated

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RRAA Rep.	Sheldon Reimer		
BABA Rep.	vacant		

PROVINCIAL APICULTURE OFFICE:

545 University Cres. Winnipeg, MB, R3T 5S6

Provincial Apiarist	Derek Micholson	derek.micholson@gov.mb.ca	204 791 0124 204 945-4327 (FAX)
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NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service
Specialty Crops Program
Market News Division

Unit 1, Produce Row Room 101
St. Louis, MO 63102
Phone: 314-425-4520 Fax: 314-621-3214
Website: www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm

Volume XLIV – Number 3

Issued Monthly

March 29, 2024

HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2024

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

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

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

DAKOTAS

Alfalfa	White	\$1.81	- \$2.00
Alfalfa	Extra Light Amber	\$1.81	
Buckwheat	Light Amber	\$1.81	- \$2.00
Buckwheat	Amber	\$1.81	
Buckwheat	Dark	\$1.81	
Canola	White	\$1.81	- \$2.00
Canola	Extra Light Amber	\$1.81	
Canola	Light amber	\$1.81	
Clover	White	\$1.81	- \$1.85
Spurge	Extra Light Amber	\$1.81	

FLORDIA

Brazilian Pepper	Light Amber	\$1.81	
Brazilian Pepper	Amber	\$1.81	

MISSOURI

Soybean	Light Amber	\$3.00	
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OKLAHOMA

Soybean	White	\$3.00	
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WISCONSIN

Basswood	Extra Light Amber	\$2.20	
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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.

Canola	White	\$1.35	- \$1.54
Mixed Flower	White	\$1.57	- \$1.61

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 Flower	White	\$1.40	- \$1.60
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$1.08	- \$1.71
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.04	- \$1.41
Mixed Flowers	Amber	\$1.05	
Orange	White	\$2.27	
Orange	Extra Light	\$2.27	

BRAZIL

Mixed Flower	Extra Light	\$1.67	
Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$1.27	-- \$1.67
Eucalyptus	Light Amber	\$1.39	
Orange Blossom	Extra Light	\$1.74	-- \$2.35
Orange Blossom	Light Amber	\$1.28	
ORGANIC	Light Amber	\$1.24	-- \$1.42

INDIA

Mixed Flower	White	\$0.99	
Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$0.84	-- \$0.99
Mustard	White	\$0.85	
Mustard	Light Amber	\$0.96	
ORGANIC	Light Amber	\$1.16	

MEXICO

Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$0.87	
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VIETNAM

Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$0.96	- \$1.29
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COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING FEBRUARY 2024

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT (MD, PA, VA, WV) : The month of February was pretty much about normal for temperatures, but below average for precipitation including snowfall events. Beekeepers were checking on food supplies to maintain colonies. There were a few small patches of early blooming plants (skunk cabbage, crocus) bloom at the end of the month and beekeepers reported some pollen foraging by their bees especially in the southern part of the District.

ALABAMA: In Alabama, the month of February started with normal temperatures throughout the state, and drought or abnormally dry conditions in northern areas. As February progressed, temperatures were slightly above average, and precipitation in mid and northern regions resulted in easing of previous drought conditions that had persisted for several months. Despite recent precipitation, beekeepers still reported low honey reserves, likely because spring nectar flows had not come online in full force. Therefore, some beekeepers fed their colonies. Few swarms were reported, and drone brood was reported, starting early in the month. Red maple bloomed throughout the state during the month; by mid-February it's bloom had completed in the south. Henbit, Japanese camellia,

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Duties include but not limited to, feed and care for honey bees, replacement of hives and production of nucs, moving hives, supering hives, detect and report hive health and apply correct disease cures and/or controls, bee yard maintenance, keep field and/or production records, harvest honey, working on extracting line, cleaning extracting equipment and honey house, raise queens, assemble and maintenance of bee equipment, drive and maintain vehicles, other duties as assigned. Work is very physically demanding, with long days and heavy lifting. The job is located 2 hours north of Winnipeg in the RM of Fisher NE 33-23-1W in Fisher Branch, MB. Send resume by mail to Box 328 Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0 or email anita@ifsltd.ca

For Sale: 500 supers @ \$30 each (price is picked up at our location) – inquire about delivered price. 100+ Top Wintering Pillow for 4 pack configuration - \$10 each if you purchase the whole lot, for smaller orders call for price.

2024 Bees for Sale : Wendell Honey Farms will be offering 100+ overwintered 5 Frame nucs with 2023 F1 selected Buckfast Queens in the spring of 2024 - \$400 each. If you have questions or to reserve your order, please contact Tim at (204) 773-6684

For Sale: Nucs, 4 frames of brood , ^{type to enter text} with new queen and lots of bees . contact Jake @ 2045130529 , email jake@destinyroad.ca



HAVE A GREAT SPRING !!

For Sale: 5 frame Nucs in EZ NUC box – includes 3 brood and a queen selected from our own colonies – Price \$300 each – Custom sizes available – Contact Patrick Cox - Phone 204-855-2492 or Phone or Text 204-851-1266 – Oak Lake, MB

For Sale: 50 honey supers with drawn comb - \$55 each. Glycerine by the pail . Contact Paul (Interlake Honey Producers) at 204-372-6920

For Sale: Mated Queens - \$42 each and Queen Cells - \$10 each. We raise our queens from carefully selected survivor colonies for strong wintering success, mite tolerance, honey production and gentleness. Contact Patrick Cox - Phone 204-855-2492 or Phone or Text 204-851-1266 - Oak Lake, MB

Wanted: 4 or 6 or 10 frame stainless steel extractor. Motorized, serviceable, and good quality. Contact Brian. Email berich@mymts.net. or phone 204 7395481. Please leave a message if no answer. No texts on this line.

Classified Ads information

Advertisements that are usually short (i.e. typically 30-50 word, single entry) miscellaneous TEXT ONLY ads (i.e. sell/want equipment, bees, books, honey, etc) and placed in the Classified section near the back pages of the newsletter, or on web site page, are free to members and are \$20/issue, for non members. DISPLAY ADS

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* 6 frame nucs available the third & fourth weeks of May (weather dependent)
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\$280 per nuc on orders over 30
\$300 per nuc on orders less than 30



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* New Flowhive frames in original packaging

* Brood frames in supers

* Top insulation wraps and side wraps

* Other equipment such as feed pails and frame feeders new in 2023.

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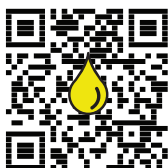
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