

# THE MANITOBA BEEKEEPER



**The 2025 season begins!**



### In this Issue

- 03 BABA Report
- 05 P.A Report
- 08 Directors and Committee list
- 09 Beehive Award
- 12 Chairmans' Report
- 13 Classifieds
- 14 KRTP Report
- 16 USDA Honey Report
- 17 MBA Member Registration

### Newsletter Editor

Dan Lecocq  
Phone or text: (204) 797-3322  
Email: [dnlecocq@shaw.ca](mailto:dnlecocq@shaw.ca)

[www.manitobabee.org](http://www.manitobabee.org)



## Manitoba Beekeepers' Association

**MISSION:** The Manitoba Beekeepers' Association provides the voice for beekeepers working toward a sustainable and profitable honey bee industry through education, research and lobbying.

Contact information for the MBA Executive and Directors is available under the 'directors' link inside this issue.

PO Box 48123 Lakewood PO, Winnipeg, MB,  
R2J 4A3

Facebook: [@ManitobaBeekeepersAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/ManitobaBeekeepersAssociation)

Twitter: [@MantiobaBee](https://twitter.com/MantiobaBee)

Website : [manitobabee.org](http://manitobabee.org)

# PRAIRIE SUN BEESWAX

## Wax Rendering & Sales

Wax rendering of cappings, frames and slum.  
Cash paid for finished blocks.

**Ted & Joanna, Jordan & Emily Turnbull**  
**Elgin, Manitoba**

**For delivery & pricing call**

**204-769-2118**

**204-741-0703**

**[www.prairiesunbeeswax.com](http://www.prairiesunbeeswax.com)**

## BRANDON BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

As we transition from long winter into the new season Manitoba Beekeepers are starting to prepare for the new productive year.

BABA has a slight change as Nazariy Dyakiv voluntarily accepted position of President for 2025

BABA's April meeting was very successful and productive, attendance was well over 40 beekeepers,.

We had Matthew Polinsky from the KRTP and Manitoba Provincial Apiarist Derek Micholson give us a report and presentation on the Tropilaelaps mite, which is very alarming for North American beekeepers. As it is becoming harder to keep our bees alive and now with a new threat the Tropilaelaps mite it won't make things any easier.

Unfortunately, a lot of Manitoba beekeepers are discovering high winter losses as we start unwrapping outdoor hives and moving the indoors colonies out to the spring yards. Higher losses perhaps due to higher varroa loads in the fall of 2024 and possibility pesticide exposure.

Wishing to all very productive season and successful recovery.

Best regards:

Nazariy Dyakiv

BABA President



National Bee  
Diagnostic Centre  
Technology Access Centre

## New Honey Testing Services



We've expanded our slate of fee-for-service testing options to include the sugar spectrum in honey samples. For more information or to submit a sample, 780-357-7737 or email NBDC@nwpolytech.ca

NWP.me/NBDC



**Fraser  
Auction  
Service Ltd.**  
Brandon, Manitoba

**SERVING BEEKEEPERS  
IN ALBERTA, SASKATCHEWAN,  
AND MANITOBA  
FOR OVER 20 YEARS**

If you are thinking  
of buying or selling,  
please call

1-800-483-5856 or 204-727-2001

Fax: 204-729-9912

**or check our website:  
[www.fraserauction.com](http://www.fraserauction.com)**



ODEM INTERNATIONAL  
YOUR PARTNER IN SALES



WE BUY HONEY & WAX

1 800 567-3789 | [info@odem.ca](mailto:info@odem.ca) | [odem.ca](http://odem.ca) | ASK FOR PHILIPPE OR SÉBASTIEN

# BEAT THE BANK

## WITH A CASH ADVANCE FROM MANITOBA CROP ALLIANCE!

Get up to \$100,000 interest free!  
Low interest rates, knowledgeable staff, fast service.

Visit [mbcropalliance.ca](http://mbcropalliance.ca) to get started.



CASH ADVANCE



Agriculture and  
Agri-Food Canada

Advance Payments  
Program

Agriculture et  
Agroalimentaire Canada

Programme de  
paiements anticipés



# Provincial Apiarist Report

*Derek Micholson*

As we progress through another spring, a few issues and things to note have come up:

## 1. Winter Mortality:

At the time of writing, it is currently unknown what Manitoba's overall winter mortality will be. While it was known early on that some operations would be facing devastating losses this spring, some other early spring conversations provided a bit more optimism. However, spring-dwindle seems to have been tougher than normal for some operations and that early optimism has largely faded. All in all, it seems to be a pretty mixed-bag and I suspect the provincial average to land somewhere over 30%. As always, I ask for your assistance in calculating the provincial statistic by making sure to submit your winter loss survey—which will be emailed out in late May.

-

## 2. Varroa Levels in Imported Packages:

Manitoba's Tech Transfer program (KRTP) recently received 80 New Zealand packages, sampled every colony immediately after installing and found average varroa infestation levels of 1.6%—with 16 samples having infestations > 3%. Packages contained half strips of Apivar during transit and—at the time of writing—the KRTP was just about to conduct following up amitraz resistance testing on the imported mites. The findings were communicated to CFIA to communicate back to NZ to try to prevent this from occurring again in the future.

A recommendation was put out to Manitoba beekeepers purchasing packages— from NZ or anywhere else—to do your own due diligence to sample your packages upon arrival and do not assume they are arriving mite-free. Additionally, beekeepers should strongly consider treating all packages with Oxalic Acid (or another non-amitraz treatment) as soon as possible after installing, before brood production ramps up. A follow-up sample after treatment is also highly recommended to monitor the efficacy of your chosen treatment.



## 3. Amitraz-resistance:

Amitraz-resistance is an ever-increasing issue everywhere and practicing proper Integrated Pest Management (e.g. consistent monitoring and rotation of different treatment chemistries) is more important than ever. To keep tabs on the situation in Manitoba, the KRTP will be sending Manitoba mites to the NBDC for analysis of genetic mutations associated with resistance.

-

( Continued on p.6 )

#### 4. **Provincial Bee Inspection Program**

A new two-year inspection program contract was signed in Spring 2025. While there is little change to the team of appointed Manitoba bee inspectors under the Bee Act, a newly registered business, *Prairie Apiary Consulting* (run by Jordan Janisse), now holds the contract.

#### 5. **FieldWatch / BeeCheck is now live in Manitoba:**

The online platform *BeeCheck*, run by the company *FieldWatch*, is now live in Manitoba for beekeepers to use.

*BeeCheck* is a voluntary mapping platform that aims to increase communication between beekeepers and pesticide applicators prior to spraying. Mapping can be done either publicly or privately. The private system only allows pesticide applicators that have a paid subscription to the site to be able to view bee yard locations. More information can be found at <https://beecheck.org/>



#### 6. **Tropilaelaps mites:**

Through my invitations to local beekeeping association meetings this spring, I have enjoyed the opportunity to connect with many beekeepers on the topic of *Tropilaelaps* mites. The threat of *Tropilaelaps* accidentally arriving in North America is real; however, through education, conversation, and careful planning, the North American industries can prepare themselves as much as possible for any accidental incursions and try to catch them early. There are many educational resources out there, including a Project Apis m. video series on YouTube (search: @Projectapism), a recently recorded Apimondia webinar, also on YouTube (search: @ApimondiaFederation), and [www.honeybeepests.org/tropi](http://www.honeybeepests.org/tropi). I strongly recommend educating yourself—at least a little bit—about *Tropilaelaps* mites.

All the best this season and please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns,

Cheers,

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





# FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS: PREMIUM QUEEN BEES

EXCLUSIVE BREEDER OF GOLDEN WEST QUEENS & SASKATRAZ QUEENS  
SHIPPING TO CANADA



**OLIVAREZ HONEY BEES**



**BIG ISLAND QUEENS**

## *EXPERTLY BRED*

OUR QUEENS ARE NURTURED  
IN IDEAL ENVIRONMENTS TO  
ENSURE STRENGTH, HEALTH, AND  
LONGEVITY.

## *FAMILY TRADITION*

DECADES OF BEEKEEPING  
EXCELLENCE AND A COMMITMENT  
TO QUALITY.

## *NATIONWIDE SHIPPING*

DELIVERING HEALTHY QUEENS  
FROM CALIFORNIA AND HAWAII  
DIRECTLY TO YOUR HIVES.

**WWW.OHBEES.COM | 530.865.0298**

## EXECUTIVE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Chairperson:

Ian Steppler (2027)  
P.O Box 7 Miami MB,  
R0G 1H0  
T 204 435 2491  
[iansteppler@gmail.com](mailto:iansteppler@gmail.com)

### Director:

Tom Lockhart (2025)  
P.O Box 209, Wawanesa MB,  
R0K 0G0  
T 204 761 4986  
[tel@mymts.net](mailto:tel@mymts.net)

### Secretary:

Shaun Kendrick  
P.O Box 291, Arborg, MB,  
R0C 0A0  
T 204 494 0480  
[shaun.mbeea@gmail.com](mailto:shaun.mbeea@gmail.com)

### Vice-Chairperson:

Paul Gregory (2026)  
P.O Box 238, Fisher Branch,  
MB, R0C 0X0  
T 204 372 6920  
[paul@interlakeforageseeds.com](mailto:paul@interlakeforageseeds.com)

### Director:

Brad Hogg (2026)  
P.O Box 16, Libau, MB,  
R0E 1C0  
T 204 232 5180  
[brad@faithapiaries.ca](mailto:brad@faithapiaries.ca)

### Treasurer:

Nadine Lecocq  
P.O Box 48123, Lakewood P.O  
Winnipeg, MB, R2J 4A3  
[nlmba@outlook.com](mailto:nlmba@outlook.com)

### CHC Director:

Osee Podolsky (2026)  
P.O Box 1, Ethelbert, MB,  
R0L 0T0  
T 204 647 2265  
[osee@podolskihoneyfarms.com](mailto:osee@podolskihoneyfarms.com)

### Director:

Sheldon Reimer (2027)  
Road 29E, Mitchell, MB,  
R5G 2P3  
T 204 381 1629  
[sheldonreimer1@gmail.com](mailto:sheldonreimer1@gmail.com)

### Provincial Apiarist:

Derek Micholson  
545 University Crescent  
Winnipeg, MB, R3T 5S6  
T 204 791 0124  
( FAX) 204 945 4327  
[derek.micholson@gov.mb.ca](mailto:derek.micholson@gov.mb.ca)

### KAP Delegate:

Michael Clark (2027)  
P.O Box 4, Wawanesa MB,  
R0K 0G0  
T 204 720 4844  
[beemanitoban@yahoo.com](mailto:beemanitoban@yahoo.com)

### Director:

Mike Grysiuk (2025)  
2 Kuharski St., Neepawa, MB,  
R0J 1H0  
T 204 899 9250  
[mgrysiuk@mymts.net](mailto:mgrysiuk@mymts.net)

### KRTP Lead:

Matthew Polinsky  
545 University Crescent  
Winnipeg, MB,  
R3T 5S6  
T 204 698 7399  
[krtymb@gmail.com](mailto:krtymb@gmail.com)

## MBA COMMITTEES 2025

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

**Resolution :** Osee Podolsky, Ian Steppler,

**Finance and BFMF:** Ian Steppler, Paul Gregory and Nadine Lecocq ( Treasurer ) Shaun Kendrick ( Secretary )

**CHC Director:** Osee Podolsky (Mike Grysiuk) Alternate

**Stock Replacement:** Tom Lockhart, Mike Grysiuk

**Labour:** Paul Gregory, Mike Grysiuk

**Workplace Safety & Transportation:** Sheldon Reimer, Osee Podolsky

**RRAA Representative** Sheldon Reimer, Mike Gordon

**KAP Delegate:** Micheal Clark

**Membership Resources & Communication :** Ian Steppler, Bradd Hogg, Paul Gregory, Matthew Polinsky

**Pest & 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 & Sustainable Initiatives:** Paul Gregory Micheal Clark, Brad Hogg, Ian Steppler, Derek Micholson

**Board Development :** Ian Steppler, Paul Gregory

**BABA Representative** Naz Dyakiv

**CBF Representative** Tom Lockhart



# MIELS D'ANICET

Api Culture Hautes-Laurentides Inc.

## QUEENS 2025

- NORDIC BREEDING LINES -

Shipping by Air Canada Cargo + Canada post + UPS

SINCE 2001

GENETIC :

CARNICA + LINGUSTICA

ISOLATED MATING STATIONS

ORDER HERE : [reines.mielsdanicet.com](https://reines.mielsdanicet.com)



Anicet Desrochers, Owner | Queen breeder  
[reines@api-culture.com](mailto:reines@api-culture.com) | 819.587.4825 poste 208

## ABBEY ROAD DISTRIBUTION LTD.



1075 KEEWATIN ST  
 WINNIPEG, MB  
 R2X 2Z3  
 PH: (204)694-6800  
 FX: (204)697-1335  
[INFO@ABBEYROADDISTRIBUTION.COM](mailto:INFO@ABBEYROADDISTRIBUTION.COM)


25 YEARS OF SUPPLYING THE BEE KEEPING INDUSTRY WITH A VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE STAFF. IN HOUSE SERVICE DEPARTMENT WITH A LARGE INVENTORY OF PARTS. WE CARRY A WIDE RANGE OF FASTENERS, TOOLING, SHIPPING SUPPLIES AND PACKAGING MATERIALS SUITED FOR YOUR INDUSTRY:

- STAPLES
- NAILS
- BULK SCREWS
- COIL NAILS
- STRIP NAILS
- PLASTIC & STEEL STRAPPING
- STRETCH WRAP & TAPES
- SERVICE ON MOST MAKES OF STAPLING AND NAILING EQUIPMENT IN HOUSE





## BEEHIVE AWARD

MBA Chairman Ian Steppler presents the “Beehive Award” to past secretary Daryl Wright for all his hard work and dedication to our association and industry in Manitoba. Daryl was instrumental in getting the KRTP up and running and many other programs that have benefitted beekeepers across this province.






## BEEKEEPERS — BUILDING FOR — BEEKEEPERS



- QUALITY WOODENWARE BOXES
- FRAMES AND PINE LUMBER
- UNASSEMBLED, ASSEMBLED
- WAX-DIPPED, FOOD-GRADE FINISH

available at

 Shop Online  Austin, Manitoba  
[lewisandsons.ca](https://lewisandsons.ca) 1-866-800-2077

# From Hives to Honey



Please visit our website.

**FROMHIVESTOHONEY.CA**

**(306)-931-1715**



**NEW FORMULA From Vita Bee Health**

# Pr OXYTET-62.5



**The New oxytet formulation for bees from Vita BeeHealth Canada is now available from your veterinarian.**

PRODUCT	WDDC CODES	CDMV CODES	VP CODES
VITA BEE OXYTET 62.5 10kg	140997	127978	5262020
VITA BEE OXYTET 62.5 400g	140996	127977	5262010
VITA BEE OXYTET 62.5 100g	140995	127976	5262000
VITA BEE FUMAGILIN - B POWDER 24g	141023	-	5262100
VITA BEE FUMAGILIN - B POWDER 96g	141024	-	5262105
VITA BEE FUMAGILIN - B POWDER 454g	141025	-	5262110
VITA BEE AFB DIAGNOSTIC KIT	141026	-	5262115
VITA BEE EFB DIAGNOSTIC KIT	141027	-	5262120

Available as 100g sachets for small holdings or 400g tubs and 10kg pails for commercial use.



**Vita Diagnostic kits for the early detection of European Foulbrood & American Foulbrood**

It is vitally important to detect EFB and AFB as early as possible in order to prevent its further spread to healthy colonies.

Vita's two quick and effective diagnostic kits, developed with Central Science Laboratory enable every beekeeper and veterinarian to test for the presence of EFB or AFB in bee colonies.



## FUMAGILIN-B



**TO PREVENT NOSEMA IN HONEY BEES**

Effective against *Nosema apis* and *N. ceranae*



beehealth  
CANADA

www vitabeehealth.com

780-676-0239

f vitabeehealth

healthybeeguide.com

@vitabeehealth

## Manitoba Beekeepers Association Director's Report

I held off on putting this report together until the last minute. Not because I procrastinated, but to get a clearer picture of how our bees actually made it through winter here in Manitoba. Early in March, things looked promising. I was hearing a lot of optimism from outdoor beekeepers as they cracked the lids for a quick look. Even from indoor operations, the first signs were encouraging.

But as we moved further into spring, that tone started to shift. I'm now hearing more and more about shrinking clusters, dwindling strength, and increased mortality. There are definitely some producers who came through well, but for many, a 20 percent loss is being considered a win. That says a lot. From the conversations I've had and what I've seen myself, I'd estimate the average loss across the province to be somewhere between 30 and 40 percent, with quite a few cases pushing over 50. We'll have a clearer picture once the provincial winter loss survey wraps up in mid-May.

On another note, on March 18th I joined Michael Clark and Derek Micholson for a meeting with the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Ron Kostyshyn. We sat down to talk about a growing challenge in our industry—the loss of flowering biodiversity across our rural landscape. With the way land is being managed these days, natural growth is being pushed out, and that's leaving less and less habitat for our bees and other pollinators to thrive.



Our association has been looking at how Crown land and ditch right-of-ways are being managed. There are 80,000 acres of these ditches spread across Manitoba, and if we can shift the management approach, they could become a meaningful source of natural floral resources to help support our colonies.

During the meeting, we brought forward some ideas around funding and policy that could help municipalities and watershed districts support this shift in land use. Specifically, we talked about:

- The challenges municipalities face in accessing funding for roadside habitat projects
- Opportunities for better collaboration between municipalities, watershed districts, and government
- How existing policy and funding mechanisms could be used to support pollinator-friendly initiatives

We've been told Manitoba Agriculture is planning to set up a working group to explore these ideas further. That's encouraging, and I'm hopeful we can make some real progress here. Our bees need more flowers on the land. So do all the other pollinators we rely on. I think we have a real opportunity to make a difference.

I want to take a moment to thank everyone who joined us for this year's **119th Convention AGM**. It was one of our best-attended and highest-grossing events in nearly a decade! The event was a great success, and the trade show was top-notch. Thanks to everyone who helped make it happen — we couldn't have done it without you.

( Continued on p.13 )



One of the real perks of being involved with the convention is the chance I get to meet so many interesting people who are directly connected to our industry. Year after year, I have the privilege of picking people up from the airport, treating them to supper, and really getting to know the folks who play a key role in what we do. This year was no different, as we had the pleasure of hosting **Bob Binnie** from **Blue Ridge Honey Farms** in North Georgia, USA, who was our keynote speaker at the convention. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet Bob and spend time talking nothing but bees over a few good meals. I'm already looking forward to next year's convention and the chance to meet even more incredible guests and industry leaders.



## Classifieds



Busy Bee Apiaries Ltd is offering for sale : 5 frame nucs: 3 brood, 1 feed and 1 empty frame, \$335.00/nuc. Also will have Strong singles for \$550.00 To reserve your order, contact Chris at 204-872-2398 or email: [canbeeman@gmail.com](mailto:canbeeman@gmail.com)

Rivercrest Honey Farm/5 frame nucs in a Jester EZ nuc box, 3 brood and a MB Queen Breeding selected for gentleness and overwinter hardiness Call or text for current pricing. Will Clark. 204 724 2373

Nucs for sale: 2025 laying queen, 3 brood frames, 5 frames of bees. Single hives: 2025 laying queen, 5 brood frames, 8 frames of bees, 3 frames of store honey. Fully assembled bee hives on custom 4 hives pallets. Available by May 20, 2025

Pricing depends on quantities, custom order and deliveries available. For any inquiries, please contact Gabriel at [nucs@thrivehoney.ca](mailto:nucs@thrivehoney.ca) or ph (403) 593-0406

WANTED 4 frame extractor, prefer stainless steel. Motorized or manual, serviceable or repairable. Contact Brian email [berich@mymts.net](mailto:berich@mymts.net) or phone 204 7395481. Please leave a message if no answer. No texts on this land line.

Looking for complete extraction line in good shape. 60 frame, but open for whatever size you have. Please contact [erwiniriklassen@gmail.com](mailto:erwiniriklassen@gmail.com)

4 frame nucs with new queen. Call Jake : 204-513-0529 or email: [jake@destinyroad.ca](mailto:jake@destinyroad.ca)

Overwintered splits with local 2024 queen for sale. \$300 for four frames of bees in a cardboard nuc box; \$400 for min 6 frames bees in Langstroth box. [mdjpeirson@proton.me](mailto:mdjpeirson@proton.me)

Honey Supers and Brood chambers for sale.

Honey Supers: Standard langstroth super (9 5/8 depth), 8 frames with metal spacers, Most with cut handles, all with 7/8" cleats on short side. Mostly wood with plastic foundation, with 1/4 ish frames one piece plastic frames. \$40/each (approx. 1400 available)

Brood chambers, used last summer. Standard Langstroth super with 10 frames, cut out handles. Most have 7/8 thick super walls. Bottom board and flat lid provided. \$15/each (approx. 350 available)

Email with questions or for pictures. [M.W.Friesen@gmail.com](mailto:M.W.Friesen@gmail.com)

### HONEY BEES FOR SALE:

Approx 500 single brood chamber colonies for sale. 2025 queens 10 frame equipment Average 4 frames brood. Available at the end of May after BC fruit pollination season. Available from Saskatchewan Call or Text Wayne 306 231 7966

### Classified Ads Information

Text only classified/ employment ads 50 words or less are free to MBA members and a cost of \$20 per issue for non-members. Questions regarding classified or commercial advertising please contact Dan @ 204-797-3322 or email [dnlecocq@shaw.ca](mailto:dnlecocq@shaw.ca)

# KRTP

## Spring Update

The KRTP has been busy wrapping up office work from last season, planning activities, preparing resources, attending meetings, and continuing to strengthen the program's administrative system. We're also focussing on financial workflows to ensure resources are used efficiently and strategically.

Special thanks go to recently retired MBA secretary Daryl Wright, current secretary Shaun Kendrick, and MBA treasurer Nadine Lecocq. The KRTP couldn't operate at its current level without the dedication and support of these individuals.

Alongside developing field plans for the year, we've also been finalizing the new MBA website. We're excited to soon direct you to the KRTP's new home on the revamped site — it may even be *live* by the time you receive this newsletter!

We've now moved from an early April marked by highly variable weather across the province to a more stable pattern. Beekeepers are beginning to talk about their wintering success and it thus far it sounds like results are mixed. In informal conversations with beekeepers, many mentioned a higher-than-usual percentage of late-season culls last fall. That said, wintering overall seems to have been "okay". Hopefully, that trend holds through the rest of April — by the time you're reading this, we'll all have a clearer picture.

What we consider "okay," "acceptable winter loss," or "economically sustainable winter loss" in the beekeeping business is a conversation of its own. That discussion aside, the CAPA report : [Statement on Honey Bee Wintering Losses in Canada for 2024](#) offers a snapshot of national winter loss averages from 2007 to 2023: 27.7%. Manitoba's 10-year average aligns almost exactly at 27%. Of course, a more nuanced record of the condition of surviving colonies each year would provide a deeper understanding of both "winter loss" and long-term sustainability.

This spring update will first highlight the tech program's activities focused on our industry's ongoing core challenge: *varroa*. It's always the same issue, but with an ever-evolving set of challenges that require us to proactively adapt our management strategies.

### *Varroa*

- In March the KRTP helped put on the webinar *Staying Ahead of Varroa: Challenges and Strategies*. A national webinar that was organized jointly by the Canadian Bee Tech Transfer Program Committee, the CHC, and Veto Pharma. Notably, Phil Lester had an excellent presentation on understanding the development of miticide resistance, what *we know* and *do not know* about integrated resistance management for *varroa*.



There were also excellent rundowns of common emerging challenges and robust approaches to control strategies, provided by provincial apiarists Julie Ferland (QC) and Geoff Wilson (SK), respectively. The [recording is now posted](#) on the Veto Pharma YouTube and will be added in the KRTP section of our new website.

- The KRTP will be collecting mites from 40-50 apiaries across the province as part of a 2025 countrywide miticide resistance surveillance project lead by Patricia Wolf-Veiga at the NBDC. The goal of this project is to analyze *varroa* mites for genetic mutations linked to miticide resistance, in order to better understand the geographical distribution and extent of resistance in *Varroa* populations across Canada. To support this effort, we're seeking mite samples from all regions of the province. Participants can collect samples and receive results within a few months — there is no cost to take part.

( Continued on p.15 )

Please contact me for full instructions, as some details are still being finalized. That said, to assess the presence of resistance-associated mutations at the apiary level, we'll generally need the following:

- 1) One sample must consist of 20 mites
  - 2) One sample should be drawn from multiple colonies at a single beeyard 3) *Varroa* may be collected via shake and stored in rubbing alcohol or windshield fluid. *Varroa* may also be collected from natural drop on sticky boards and then stored in a solution.
  - 4) Beekeepers must provide as much **varroa treatment history** as possible for the sampled beeyard – up to 24 months of *varroa* treatment history is ideal.
- \*Additionally, the NBDC will soon offer a fee-for-service analysis for detecting resistance mutations in *varroa* mites, with a quick turnaround time for results. I'll share an update online as soon as I receive more details from them.
- The KRTP will be conducting a third field trial of GreenLight Bioscience's *Varroa* biopesticide, **Norroa™**, in 2025. Rather than solely assessing general efficacy, this trial will evaluate the product under typical management practices tailored to local seasonal conditions, with timely late-summer and fall interventions. We shared our 2024 results during the KRTP presentation at the convention. That presentation will be posted online soon; however, due to our NDA with GreenLight, we're unable to include the full results. A snippet of those results should still be available for those who missed the convention.
  - We've been wrapping up our winter experiment evaluating the efficacy and safety of oxalic acid glycerin extended-release strips ([Varroxsan](#)) in an indoor wintering setting. While not yet a registered treatment, this work is part of a collaborative project with Sarah Wood and Alvaro de la Mora Peña from the University of Saskatchewan, who ran a parallel trial at their site in Saskatchewan. The treatment period ran for eight weeks, from January 23 to March 18. We're now catching up on sample processing — including more than 1,400 sticky boards, which the University of Saskatchewan has generously offered to count. Final colony assessments will continue in early May as weather conditions improve. Special thanks to Phil Veldhuis for providing 80 colonies to run the experiment and allowing us full access to his overwintering shed throughout the experiment.

### Online and In-person Events

On April 24th at 7:30 PM, we'll be streaming a live webinar on YouTube with guest speaker Lynae Ovinge: *"How Beekeepers Can Do Research: Practical Ways to Find Answers in Your Operation."* We hope this session will offer valuable insights for beekeepers looking to try new approaches this season and accurately assess whether they're working. Lynae is an experienced researcher and frequent collaborator with commercial operations in Alberta. Special thanks to Brad Hogg for helping us set up the livestream, making it easy for people to tune in by simply clicking the YouTube link. You'll also be able to ask your questions in the chat!

### Confirmed Dates:

- **April 10<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM:** MQBA Start-Up Meeting #2 with guest speaker Les Eccles  
(Contact us for the recording of this Zoom meeting.)
- **April 15<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM:** KRTP will participate in the Brandon Area Beekeepers Meeting
- **April 24<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM:** KRTP hosting webinar with Lynae Ovinge (YouTube Live)
- **May 13<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM:** KRTP will participate in the RRAA meeting alongside other guests to be confirmed.
- **May 24<sup>th</sup>** KRTP Beginner Spring Seasonal Management Review @ Beemaid Supplies
- **July 19<sup>th</sup>** KRTP Beginner Summer & Fall Seasonal Management Review @ Beemaid Supplies

### Tentative Dates:

- **June 7<sup>th</sup>** KRTP Introduction to Queen Rearing Workshop @ Scott Creek Honey – Eli, MB
- **No Date Yet:** MBA 2025 Field Day – updates will be posted on the MBA website

For information about the KRTP's services, including breeder evaluations (hygienic testing and UBeeO testing), the Bee Health Monitoring Plan, syrup testing, or, if you have any other questions about management practices or accessing resources, please feel free to reach out to us via email or phone. We're happy to assist you. In the coming week, I will be updating forms and service offerings, all of which will be easily accessible on the new MBA website.

KRTP Program Lead  
Matthew Polinsky  
[krtplib@gmail.com](mailto:krtplib@gmail.com)



**Sustainable Canadian  
Agricultural Partnership**





# PUBLIC NOTICE

## INSECTICIDE USE PROGRAM FOR 2025

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.



Public Works  
Travaux publics

LIVE WEBINAR

ORGANIZED BY



STREAM LIVE ON YOUTUBE

### How Beekeepers Can Do Research:

Practical ways to find answers in your operation

With Lynae Ovinge



Thursday, April 24th  
7:30 PM (CDT)

## 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](http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm)

Volume XLV – Number 3

Issued Monthly

March 28, 2025

### HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF FEBURARY 2025

#### 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	Buckwheat	Light Amber	\$1.91
	Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$1.91
	Orange	White	\$2.15
	Sage	Extra Light Ambe	\$1.91
DAKOTA	Clover	Extra Light Ambe	\$1.85
		White	\$1.85
FLORIDA	Brazilian Pepper	Light Amber	\$1.50
MONTANA	Clover	White	\$1.91
NEW JERSEY	Mixed Flower	Light Amber	\$3.00
NEW YORK	Mixed Flower	White	\$3.00

Prices paid to Canadian Beekeepers for unprocessed, bulk honey by packers and importers in U. S. currency, f.o.b. shipping point, containers included unless otherwise stated. Duty and crossing charges extra. Cents per pound.

CANADA	Canola	White	\$1.35
	Mixed Flower	White	\$1.50

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	\$1.64
		Extra Light	\$1.47 - \$1.62
		Light Amber	\$1.10 - \$1.56
		White	\$1.47 - \$1.59

**MANITOBA BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**2025 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**  
 January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ COMPANY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
 TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 NUMBER OF COLONIES EXPECTED TO BE OPERATED IN 2025 \_\_\_\_ If 50 or more colonies, please complete page 2.

Payment Due January 1, 2025 with Deadline for membership payment – March 31, 2025

**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 2025-5 May 2026) @ \$75.00 per year	
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

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

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL - \$72.00 per year	
BEE CULTURE - \$98.00 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](mailto: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 Voting Form – **Complete only if you have not completed this before.**

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this completed application together with payment to:  
Manitoba Beekeepers' Association  
PO Box 48123 Lakewood PO  
Winnipeg, MB, R2J 4A3



# BeeMaid

## BEE SUPPLIES

### Plan Ahead for Spring!


Ensure you're well prepared for the new season by securing your supplies now.

- ◆ Guaranteed Availability
- ◆ Avoid the Rush
- ◆ Quality You Can Trust
- ◆ Easy Ordering
- ◆ Knowledgeable Staff

Don't wait for Spring to catch you off guard. Order now and make sure your hives are ready to thrive!



#### Connect with us:

 204-783-2240 \*228

 645 Black Diamond Blvd, Winnipeg

 [www.beemaidbeesupplies.com](http://www.beemaidbeesupplies.com)



**Port Hope**  
5029 County Road 2,  
Port Hope, ON L1A 3V5  
T: 905 753 2623

**Manitoba**  
31060 PR501 Rosewood Rd  
Dufresne, MB R5K 0P2  
T: 204 866 2402

# Bees, Education, Equipment, and Support.

We are your first and last stop for all of your beekeeping needs! Our knowledgeable staff can help point you in the right direction to get the most out of your business, no matter the size. No request is too small, we are here for you!

QUALITY WOODENWARE   GLASSWARE WAREHOUSE  
PREMIUM STAINLESS STEEL   PROTECTIVE CLOTHING  
HONEY BEE IMPORTING



## Buzzworthy Products:

### ApiLife Var Varroa Mite Control



ApiLife Var is an effective and natural treatment against varroa mites based on essential oils. It is the market leader in Europe for Thymol-Based Mite Treatments.



### InstantVap 18V Cordless Vaporizer

Battery powered, cordless oxalic acid vaporizer with battery protection electronics! Battery socket of your choice.



### Apis Biologix BIO-CONTROL

Apiary performance and disease management through improved nutrition. Respecting and mimicking nature in the finest of details – used to bring the nutritional profile of syrup feedings into alignment with that of floral nectar.



### Lyson | 4-Frame Electric Extractor MINIMA

Perfect for beekeepers with only a few hives. This cost-friendly motorized tangential extractor provides a low barrier to entry without sacrificing ease of extraction. It is fast and efficient, accepting both medium and deep Langstroth frames.



Shop Online: [dancingbeemanitoba.com](https://dancingbeemanitoba.com)   [info@dancingbeemanitoba.com](mailto:info@dancingbeemanitoba.com)   [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/DancingBeeManitoba) [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/DancingBeeEquipmentManitoba) [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/DancingBeeEquipmentManitoba)

100% Canadian Made Woodenware & Stainless Steel   Dancing Bee Equipment Manitoba