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# Canadian Honey Council

The Canadian Honey Council (CHC) is the national organization of the Canadian beekeeping industry and Hivelights is the industry's magazine. Our association is an "organization of organizations". One of the benefits of belonging to our member organizations is that all members receive a copy of Hivelights magazine. In order to receive Hivelights you must be a current member of your provincial association. International subscribers can receive our high quality magazine for a fee of \$50 Canadian per year.

Schools, libraries, non beekeepers, university or government personnel can receive Hivelights magazine through special membership as "Friends of Canadian Apiculture".

Please contact the CHC office for more information.

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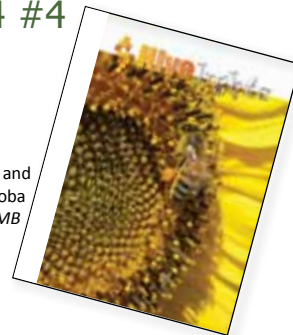
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# HiveLights

November 2011 Vol 24 #4

Honey Bee collecting pollen and  
pollinating a sunflower in Manitoba  
Photo: Jim Campbell, MB



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# Canadian Honey Council Report

Rod Scarlett, Executive Director, CHC

The summer was both educational and eventful. In Late June I attended the Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Sector Council AGM in Charlottetown. At the AGM completed projects were reviewed and future initiatives were outlined.

There are a couple of projects going forward that should be of particular interest to CHC. One is the Agricultural HR Toolkit, where they plan to research, develop and market a field tested HR Toolkit specifically to meet the unique needs of the agricultural sector. It certainly could be useful, particularly to those beekeepers who hire foreign workers. The other interesting project is "Agriculture Going Global: International Agricultural Marketing Resource Development". This project is designed to develop resources to provide entrepreneurs and their businesses with specific information that outlines the steps involved in exporting agricultural goods and services. It also will develop training modules on basic international agricultural marketing.

The second day was an information forum where topics such as HR trends, issues and foreign worker programs were discussed. The latter session was particularly interesting as the SAWP and the Temporary Foreign Worker Program were discussed. A new agricultural stream of the NOC C and D pilot project commenced on April 1, 2011. It applies to all NOC C and D workers entering the country to work in sectors categorized under the National List of Commodities. Unlike SAWP, it has no source-country restrictions. Employers are free to choose between the SAWP and the new Agricultural Stream of NOC C and D Pilot Project. Employers hiring under the new Agricultural Stream will:



- Offer the SAWP wages
- Have to sign the new Agricultural Stream contract
- Enrol all workers in the applicable provincial workers' compensation program

- Provide accommodation for which they can recoup a max of \$30 per week unless provincial standards specify a lower amount

It should be noted that beekeepers need to be aware that as of April 1, 2011 there is a cumulative maximum of four years that any foreign worker can work in Canada. It applies to all employment programs.

In mid July there was a Pollinator's meeting in Lethbridge sponsored by the Alberta Beekeepers. The pollination industry is tied closely to hybrid canola seed production. A presentation of how the industry operates and a tour of a field with some of CHC Director Jerry Poelman's hives were the highlights.

The CHC is awaiting final word from



Alberta Beekeeper's President Terry Greidanus explaining hive health.  
Photo: Rod Scarlett

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada concerning CBISQT funding. As well, the Board recently agreed to apply for funding under the Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program. This project will look at stock



Jerry Poelman discusses pollination.  
Photo: Rod Scarlett

replacement and queen breeding both domestically and internationally as well as incorporating some hive health issues.

Of major import is the recent commitment by the CHC to host an Apimondia symposium in 2012 on Queen Breeding, Selection and Honey Bee Health in Quebec City, November 16-17, 2012. World class speakers will offer an update on Honey Bee Queen breeding and pathology. Visit <http://www.craaq.qc.ca/Calendrier/1205?d=2012-11> for details.

Finally, the Board continues with its monthly teleconferences and if any of you should have issues or concerns please to not hesitate to contact your regional Director or the CHC office.

This fall, beekeepers are invited to participate in a confidential National study of disease, pests, and parasite management practices used by Canadian honey beekeepers. The study will be conducted in November and December of 2011, and you receive an invitation letter in November with further information about the study at that time. The results of the study will be used to identify potential best practices, gaps or risks, and provide important information to support the development of a Voluntary National Farm Level Biosecurity Standard for the honey beekeeping industry. Your input is required to ensure that this Standard is practical, achievable and relevant in the context of Canadian beekeeping.

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# Product Label Violations and Applications of Non-Registered Products

Paul van Westendorp, Provincial Apiculturist, British Columbia

I'd like to draw your attention to the recent enforcement action taken by the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) of Health Canada. In August 2011, PMRA issued a notice of violation for \$4,000 under the Administrative Monetary Penalties Act to Sue Harvey for the use of an unregistered pest control product, Apiguard, EPA Reg. No. 79671-1.

Regrettably, this has not been the only instance of control product violation reported in BC since 2002, as shown in the table below;

Date enforcement action issued	No. & Type of enforcement action	Home Location of Bee Keeper	Type of Violation of the Pest Control Products Act
2002	1 Warning	BC	Use not according to label
	2 Warnings	Alberta	Use not according to label
2003	3 Warnings	Alberta	Use not according to label
2006	1 Warning	BC	Use not according to label
	1 Penalty (\$4,000)	Alberta	Not registered
2007	1 Penalty (\$4,000)	Alberta	Use not according to label
2008	BC Min.of Env - Ticket (\$650)	Alberta	Not Registered, Unsafe Disposal
2009	1 Warning	BC	Use not according to label
	1 Penalty (\$5200)	Alberta	Not registered
2010	1 Penalty (\$4000)	BC	Not registered

It is important to note that PMRA inspections are directed to commercial operations whose honey crops are produced as human food. The Canadian beekeeping industry prides itself on producing honey of the highest quality and its international reputation deserves protection. It is incumbent upon all beekeepers to only apply registered pest control products and use them according to label instructions.

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## Membership in CHC

National organizations with a vested interest in honey bees, in addition to the existing provincial beekeeper organizations, are eligible for membership in the Canadian Honey Council. Applications are subject to review by the CHC Membership Committee. Those associations that meet established criteria are then considered for approval by the Board of Directors. Application form available from CHC office.



# RegionalReports

## Maritimes

No report available.

## Québec



Scott Plante

A very nice month of July was followed by a wet and cool month of August and then in September

it was just too late. Early crop reports throughout the province, indicate a normal to poor season. This will help the wholesale and retail honey market remain strong.

Three new locations were found positive to hive beetle in the newly established buffer zone along the Quebec, American and Ontario border. Protocol which was established in the spring was followed to deal with this situation.

Work has begun for the preparation Apimondia in the fall of 2012 in Quebec City.

To end on a good note, there seems to be little to no varroa this fall in our hives, and since the lack of honey didn't honey bound the queen in the month of August, we have nice, big, healthy hives for winter. I just hope they received enough fumagillan.

Suite à un mois de juillet des plus agréable, les apiculteurs

du Québec ont fait face à un mois d'août froid alors que septembre, pour sa part, fut assez beau bien que trop tard malheureusement. Nous enregistrons pour la saison 2011 des rendements variant de très faible à plutôt normaux. Cela favorisera le prix au détail et la vente en gros du miel.

Trois nouvelles locations ont été trouvées positives au petit coléoptère de la ruche dans la zone déjà établie longeant le Québec, les États-Unis et l'Ontario. Le protocole de contrôle, déterminé lors du printemps pour répondre à la situation, a été suivi dans chacun des cas diagnostiqués.

Nous avons débuté le travail afin de préparer Apimondia qui aura lieu à l'automne 2012 à la ville de Québec.

Afin de terminer sur une bonne note, il semble y avoir peu de varroas cette année dans nos ruches, de plus le manque de miel n'a pas causé de blocage de ponte comme c'est le cas parfois en août. Nous avons de belles grosses ruches en santé afin d'hiverner. J'espère qu'elles recevront toutefois suffisamment de fumagillan.

## Ontario

Ontario beekeepers have dealt with many challenges this season. Beginning with a provincial average of 43 percent winter loss and that followed by any incredibly cool and wet spring didn't result in busting colonies for the honey flow. Lots of splitting and

nuc production was the norm in many areas. Fortunately we had some great weather throughout July and August and some areas have reported an average to above average crop.

As of June 2011, Ontario honey is an eligible crop under the new Horticulture Self Directed Risk Management Program. This is a program where Horticultural crop producers, including beekeepers, can set up a savings account to deposit a percentage of their sales from the previous year. These deposits are to be matched by the government. Another SDRM program is a welcomed



Tim Greer

sign of continued government support. It is the desire of the Ontario Beekeepers Association

to see the government continue to work with industry on a Honey Bee Mortality Insurance program.

This summer saw a decrease in the number of colonies moved to New Brunswick and Quebec for Blueberry and Cranberry pollination. Approximately 14,700 honeybee colonies were sent in 2011. With the high winter mortality some beekeepers chose to keep their healthy bees in Ontario to make up some of their losses.

Throughout the entire season there has been ongoing surveillance and monitoring for Small Hive Beetle. The provincial bee inspectors and the OBA tech transfer program have been continually involved in the quarantine area in and

around Essex County. As the season progressed there were two new SHB finds within the quarantine area. A third was just outside the quarantine area with a direct trace out to a nuc from within the quarantine the year before. And most recently an adult SHB has been found in a colony in eastern Ontario within 10 km of the New York border. It is believed that this geographical proximity to bees in New York is the source of this beetle. No other life stages of SHB were found. The location has been quarantined and inspections are ongoing.

The Ontario Beekeepers' Association will hold their Annual General Meeting on November 17 and 18, 2011 at the Hilton Fallsview, Niagara Falls, Ontario. Speakers include Dr. Frank Eischen, USDA Honey Bee Research Lab, Weslaco, TX., and Gary Reuter, University of Manitoba.

## Manitoba

Fall has arrived and I'm sure everyone is finishing up feeding, grouping hives into winter yards, and wrapping or placing hives nearby indoor wintering sheds. I believe this will be a year honey producers will remember for a lifetime as heavy flooding occurred during spring and summer, major colony losses in some areas, and a beautiful August/September for honey harvest. Most honey producers are very happy with their honey crop considering the start the bees had in the spring. Manitoba will have an average to above average crop this year. Manitoba honey producers are looking forward to the

► pg 7





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stock replacement meeting in Winnipeg on January 24th & 25th and hosting the CHC



Bryan Ash

Producers are asking for more options for stock replacement and to minimize risk of operating fewer colonies due to winter losses and poor hive health. Manitoba Agriculture Services Corporation has kick started a winter mortality insurance program taking into effect the 2010-2011 winter.

September honey prices are stable and comparable to 2009 crop year.

## Saskatchewan

By all reports it appears that the Saskatchewan honey crop was once again mixed with reports of "best crop ever" and other with "one of our poorest crops ever". Unlike last year (with some exceptions), where the spotty crops were within regions and dispersed through most of the province, this year it is more regional with the south east region leading production while the north east generally at the other end of the spectrum. The crop variances between producers are directly related to the weather. In some areas seeding was spread out over several weeks because of a wet spring leading to a long drawn out growing season. Though, others saw seeding uninterrupted by weather unfortunately leaving a consistent but short growing season for canola. Wet weather in July also hampered many areas that experienced

reduced honey production. Some areas reported rainfalls as much as 5" in single storms and as many as 14 days of lost production in July. This wet weather caused the drowning of crops that struggled to recover and lack of foraging weather for the bees. By all accounts, if not for the poor weather experienced in July, Saskatchewan could have produced a record crop. Where the final average will play out is difficult to gauge until the provincial apiarist completes the fall survey.

Honey prices have softened slightly and hover around the \$1.50/lb range. However, should the decline of the CND dollar continue and reports of a shortage of quality white honey prove true, there are hopes of a price increase. Whether that is realized remains to be seen going forward.

September weather has been above ideal for finishing honey pulling and extraction as well as colony treatments, medication, feeding and wrapping. A September flow in some areas had the colony feed requirements substantially reduced from normal. Many beekeepers have been asking, "Where was this whether in July?" With minor exceptions because of resistant issues or poor spring treatment success treating varroa mites, reports abound of bees looking good to exceptional going into winter. With the success of many Saskatchewan beekeepers through the last four years during a time of extreme high winter losses across Canada, more Saskatchewan beekeepers (and other prairie beekeepers) are seeing the value of their approach to self sustainability

and self reliance from within the CND industry for stock replacement as vital to long term success. With this success, the industry can experience growth and profitability. Early reports are that SK colony numbers continue trending upwards again this year with estimates of close to 115,000 colonies (and nucs) heading into winter. If not for succession/labour issues causing uncertainty, many believe this number would be increasing at a faster rate. SK definitely has untapped



Corey Bacon

land base areas and conditions to see colony numbers double. Of course many factors contribute to growth, especially honey prices. However, other factors are also paramount as we saw the positive impact of the hybrid canola seed industry had on the growth of the AB industry during the 90's and early 2000's.

As workers start to depart it time already to begin the process for next season. Last season Saskatchewan saw our TFWP and SAWP LMO processing transferred to the Vancouver Service Canada department because of a medical leave with the Saskatoon officer that handled all beekeeper and SAWP files. Beekeepers that became accustomed to processing times of less than one week were now faced with waits up to 10+ weeks. Coupled with the slow processing at the Guatemala embassy for TFWP work visa's and waits for transit visa's, it was not uncommon to hear of beekeepers workers arriving as much as 2-3 months late. In some cases, the slow processing times dictated that workers would

not arrive for the summer season putting beekeepers in a precarious situation. Most went short staffed. According to a meeting between a SK MP and the SBA, this is an effort to streamline. Seems odd that streamlining seems to take jobs from smaller centres and relocate them all to the major centres where staff has a disconnect and lack of understanding to agriculture. Regardless of where the offices are located, beekeepers in Saskatchewan acknowledge we need better service as our industry's reliance on foreign labour is not going to solve itself overnight, if ever. With the attitude in Canada towards physical labour, less students seeking summer employment, the seasonal nature of the industry and stinging insects, foreign labour is a reality that more beekeepers will become accustomed to. While there has been a lot of effort by our political system to ensure the protection of foreign workers (rightfully so) we also need to see the same protection afforded for the small business owners that employ these workers as the use of foreign workers increases each season. On rare occasions we hear in the media about the alleged abuse of a single employer against a foreign worker, where the media may sensationalize the story and paint foreign worker employers with a single broad stroke, the more common alleged abuse of the system by foreign workers and the negative impact on small business owners and the CND taxpayers is rarely discussed. It will be up to industry to work with government to ensure a fair and equitable system that protects both employer and employee and punishes abuses by all parties,

including workers.

The SBA TAT program continues to progress in our second of three years of funding. Early spring (cold temperature 5C – 10C) trials of MAQS (Mite-Away Quick Strips), Thymovar and Apivar in winter wraps were conducted with another set of trials at a mid temperature range (10C – 20C). While the cold temperature testing was not theorized to be the best treatment option regarding efficacy, testing was done to look at different efficacy levels of these different products in multiple window's of treatment. MAQS trials were also conducted between brood chambers as well as above the second brood chamber. Additionally, a two-year trial using 65% formic (varying doses), MAQS and Apivar were concluded. All samples and data have been collected and analysis continues with the expectation that results will be available by the SBA Convention Nov 30th – Dec 2nd in Saskatoon at the downtown Sheraton Cavalier Hotel (1-800-325-3535) over looking the Saskatchewan River. Fall trials, including oxalic acid are well underway. The TAT team also performed nosema testing throughout the year. Results from "cup of soup" treatment versus pail feeding of medication to treat/prevent nosema are interesting. Beekeepers are looking forward to results from the TAT at our convention.

Wink Howland has stepped down as secretary/treasurer and all around "get it done guy" that kept the motor fine-tuned for the Saskatchewan beekeeping industry. It will be a strange site at the board table without Wink's presence as he has put in over 20 years

combined as a director and then is his position as secretary/treasurer for the SBA, SBDC and TAT Steering Committee (including 10 years with CHC). These are definitely big shoes to fill. Regardless of the circumstances in Wink's business and/or personal life over the years, his commitment and dedication to the CND and SK beekeeping industry never wavered. On behalf of the Saskatchewan beekeeping industry I would like to thank Wink for his hard work and tireless dedication to the beekeeping industry as well as Wink's family for sharing him and his time with us.

THANK YOU WINK!!!

## Alberta



Lee Townsend

Fall is here but Mother Nature decided now would be a good time to give us summer weather.

It has been one of the hottest September's on record in Alberta, which has been helpful for producers to prepare their colonies for winter. It's just unfortunate that we did not have this same weather in July and August during honey production.

Overall, honey production in Alberta was below average once again. The crops seem to be better than they were the past two years, and some regions even experienced bumper crops, but it is extremely frustrating once again to see the production below expectations. If you talk to ten different producers in Alberta, you'll get ten different answers as to what

the primary cause for the lack of production was, but it does appear to be a combination of weather and smaller colonies (due to aggressive splitting) when the main flow hit. It also doesn't help when the primary flow arrived three weeks late. It is interesting to note though that many producers are noticing a large amount of their 2011 production to be between 1mm-10mm in color, with the primary floral source being Canola. This has been a consistent trend the last number of years, which is helpful in our ability to export premium honey from Alberta.

As most producers in Alberta are now monitoring their hive health in-house, it's refreshing to hear that our bees are going into winter in very good health. Our Varroa levels are well under the threshold, and it seems that the Nosema levels are very low as well. I recall I said the bees were healthy going into winter last year, and we still wound up at a provincial average of around 30% mortality. IF the weather cooperates, we shouldn't have a repeat of this. That being said, there are times it feels like it's a coin toss as to what will survive the winter.

It will be a very busy winter for the CHC board. There are numerous important issues that CHC is continuing to work on, and each board representative will have a detailed report as to what the status of these issues are at the provincial AGM's. It has been refreshing to witness CHC take the lead on many of the issues before us, and we will continue to do so on behalf of the members.

The end to another summer in Alberta has drawn to a close.



Jerry Poelman

Overall it has been an average year here. Some producers have had a difficult summer recovering

from heavier than first anticipated winter losses. Then having the challenge of a small window in the weather to make up those losses and try to get a honey crop. Some of these producers had to make a choice as to make enough splits to maintain their hive numbers, but then intern to have a short honey crop. It seems that other producers had a good year and produced above average honey crop. The southern part of the province had above average yields and some of the beekeepers had average to below average has you went further north.

The one good thing for a small crop is that the price is stable between a \$1.50 and \$1.70. This is good because we can still remember what it was like to sell honey for below the \$1.00 mark. Exports still seem to be slow, but hopefully will pickup with the Canadian dollar slipping below par. Hopefully it will stay there, but only time will tell.

The health of the colonies going into winter has been exceptional with varroa counts being low and nosema being down too. We have had a good fall in Alberta with warm weather to prepare the hives for winter. They have had a good fall pollen flow and depending on the winter I would think that our beekeepers are in good shape.

Medhat Nasr is still doing his surveillance program and

should have results of his cross province sampling for our fall meeting. This is the last year for this program at this level, but it has been very beneficial in educating producers on testing for their colony health and being pro active in their treatments.

One of the challenges that we face in Alberta is still to maintain and develop more options for healthy stock replacements. When we have beekeepers that lost 40% of their bees over winter and then with a short supply of replacement stock or because of price they split all their healthy colonies. They then struggle to produce a good crop of honey or struggle to be able to supply strong healthy colonies for pollination.

Canola pollination season went well with a slow start but good weather in July and August. It was difficult for some beekeepers to be able to provide colonies at their initial contract numbers, but in the end I believe that everyone was able to find enough bees. This is a strong industry and does appear to be stable with potential growth still. The future for canola prices seems to be holding suggesting that in the prairie provinces that commercial canola acres could remain high and there by ensuring seed acreage also high. This should help keep the beekeeping industry strong in Alberta.

## British Columbia

Summer eventually arrived in British Columbia at the beginning of August. Although the coastal blueberry and blackberry flows were not very intense, the cool and damp weather in June and

July did extend the nectar flow. An above average yield is expected for those whose colonies were strong. Those with hives for pollination may not have reached averaged yields as efforts are on numbers rather than strength for honey production. In the Interior, the cool, wet weather caused ranchers to delay cutting alfalfa for hay until early August so fields were over 90 % in bloom. The summer rain also enhanced roadside volunteer alfalfa and sweet clover giving record honey yields.

Another surprise for beekeepers this summer, was low mite populations, probably due in part to the slow growth of brood. Reports on mite populations in early September, however, indicate immediate intervention is needed to ensure winter survival. Those pulling honey in September and delaying mite treatments will be jeopardizing colony survival as happened on Vancouver Island, two years ago.

Interest in raising and selecting queens reared in our province continues to gain momentum as more beekeepers realize overwintering of domestic stock is more successful than relying on foreign replacements. Our BC Honey Producers' queen rearing courses continue to attract sufficient numbers to remain financially viable despite the loss of funding from the Investment Agriculture Foundation. There is also increasing interest in overwintering five frame Nucs as a number of commercial beekeepers have been successfully doing for many years rather than become increasingly dependant upon

foreign packages.

We are fortunate in B.C. in having several outstanding honey retail outlets providing a great variety of products from the hive as well as displaying educational media and promoting our industry. They are also demonstrating leadership to sideliners by setting price levels that really reflect the work and value of keeping honeybees. For example, a 500 gm jar of blueberry honey should be above \$ 7.00 and not given away at a lower price.

Our recent edition of BeesCene again reveals the successful transition of editorial leadership. Many thanks to our retiring editor, Diane Dunaway, for helping Heather



Gerry McKee

"get up to speed" in supporting the excellent BeesCene standard which gives us the most outstanding provincial magazine on beekeeping in Canada. Any B.C. beekeeper who does not subscribe to BeesCene, is not "walking the talk".

Heather Sosnowski's letter from the editors, reminds us that "unexpected strengths and insights can be created when diverse points of view come together." We need to create opportunities for new and diverse options in resolving challenges not only in beekeeping husbandry but also in the growth of our B.C. Honey Producers "who care" about our industry.

Such an opportunity to collaborate and network with beekeepers from remote parts of our province and neighbours in Alberta and Washington State, is our

upcoming Conference, "BEE a SURVIVOR" at the Delta Vancouver Airport Hotel, October 20 – 23, 2011. Outstanding speakers, the "best of the best" in North America along with a great Trade Show exhibition provides a great way to prepare for a successful beekeeping season. The outstanding and very popular Celtic folk band, BLACKTHORN, will entertain at our Banquet in the evening between our two educational days. Perhaps, our Maritime colleagues will travel to our side of the country to enjoy our Western hospitality while learning to "BEE a SURVIVOR."

## CO-OP Honey Packer

On September 6, 2011, the Court of Justice of the European Union (EU) ruled honey containing pollen from genetically modified (GM) crops would now require full safety approval and would have to be labeled as GM. Prior to this ruling, the EU had ruled that honey, including nectar and pollen collected from GM



Gordon Marks

plants, did not have to be labeled as originating from GM plants. The ruling was the result of a legal challenge from a German association of beekeepers who took the Bavarian government to court following GM pollen from a government sanctioned field trial of GM corn being found in the beekeepers honey.

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including Canadian companies like Bee Maid Honey, who export honey to the EU are now assessing the impact of this ruling on their ability to supply honey to the European market. Most major honey exporting countries are affected by this ruling. In Canada, canola provides a valuable source of nectar for the honey bee and produces a light, mild flavoured honey. The majority of the canola grown in Canada is from GM varieties. While

these varieties meet the very rigorous standards set by Health Canada (HC) and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), they have not received regulatory approval in the EU.

The EU imports over 40% of its annual consumption of honey and relies heavily on countries where GM crops are grown. As a result, European honey packers and honey exporting countries where

GM crops are grown are all contesting this ruling and hopefully a solution can be found.

For many years, Canada has enjoyed the reputation around the world as a quality supplier of honey and is one of the few countries that is sold as an "origin honey". In other words, Canadian honey is not usually sold as a blending honey with other origins; it is sold as "Canadian Honey" because

of its reputation for quality. While the collection of pollen from GM plants in Canada is something that most Canadian beekeepers cannot control, we can control that our honey meets the quality standards that our export customers have grown to expect and that Canadian honey maintains its reputation as one of the premium honeys in the world.

*See GM Polen in Honey... Not Safe says EU Court. Report on page 21.*

## Fred Rathje Memorial Award Nominees

**Fred Rathje** served, 1975 – 1982 as Canadian Honey Council's Executive Secretary Treasurer. He was well known in the honey industry for his enthusiasm and love of anything pertaining to honey. Born in Grenaa, Denmark in 1905, he came to Canada in 1925. He farmed in the Innisfail area and survived the Depression with his wife, Ethel, making paste which they sold to offices in Calgary. His interest in beekeeping and packing honey occurred in the early forties and continued throughout his life. He died in 1982 after a brief illness.

When he was manager of the Central Alberta Dairy Pool Honey (CADP) plant at Bassano, Alberta, he gained respect from beekeepers as he did not take advantage of them as was not uncommon by other packers at the time. In 1966, when the Canadian Beekeepers Council entered into a national honey promotion Queen contest based on the development of Honey recipes in home Economics classes

throughout Canadian Schools, Freddie fully supported the program by investing heavily in sales promotion His efforts paid off as CADP sales in April 1969 increased by 99% and overall Canadian sales increased by 15%. This Honey program greatly assisted in the movement of a 10 Million pounds of Canadian Surplus.

Fred was honoured many times by the beekeepers and others. He was an Honorary Life Member of Alberta Beekeepers Association, Saskatchewan Beekeepers Association, Canadian Honey Council and the Canadian Honey Packers Association. He also contributed in his community by serving on the Bassano Hospital Board for 18years (16 being chairman).

Freddy was known for his clowning and hi-jinx not only at honey conventions but also in Bassano. He was always active, retiring as manager at 78 years of age but, did not

grow old in spirit. Even when he was ill in hospital, he was concerned about the Canadian Honey Council - an indication of his basic philosophy of never completely retiring or ceasing to contribute to the industry he loved. In the eyes of those who knew him in the 60's and 70's, 's to receive the Fred Rathje award would be an outstanding honour.

*Contributors: 1. Howard Bryans, 1982, President's eulogy at CHC's AGM. Howard received the 2010 Fred Rathji Memorial Award. He died in the spring of 2011.*

*2. Lew Truscott, 2011, Beekeeper; Past President of Canadian Beekeepers Council and good friend of Freddie Rathje.*

**Willy Baumgartner** was a Swiss-educated chemist who immigrated into Canada when he was in his twenties. After a successful career in Ontario with a pharmaceutical company, Willy moved west to Calgary in 1980. He established Medivet - an enterprise making a variety of veterinary medicines mostly for cattle and horses. Soon his High River, Alberta, company began to specialize in pharmaceuticals for honey bees.

Willy began understanding bees and beekeeping. He and Ursula - his wife and business partner - enjoyed traveling to dozens of beekeeping gatherings: the local Calgary Beekeepers' Club, provincial meetings across Canada, international meetings in the USA and farther afield. They were regulars at Apimondia meetings and were major supporters of Vancouver's Apimondia 99. In 2007 he received an achievement award from the Alberta Beekeepers Association; and, in 2009 he became an honorary member of the Alberta Honey Producers Co-op.

Adony Melathopoulos, of the Beaverlodge Research Farm, says, "There was no better supporter of beekeeping research in Canada than Willy Baumgartner's Medivet Company". His business donated tens of thousands of dollars to research - all without any expectations or restrictions.

*Contributor: Ron Miksha.*

*If you would like to nominate someone please contact one of the CHC Directors.*

# Seeking Input On Bee Biosecurity In Canada

Rod Scarlett, Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Honey Council

The Government of Canada, working in partnership with the Canadian Honey Council, Provincial Apiarists, and the Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists, is seeking input from the bee industry on disease, pest, and parasite management practices – or farm level biosecurity.

This fall, you are invited to participate in a confidential National study of disease, pest and parasite management practices used by Canadian honey beekeepers. The results of the study will be used to identify potential best practices, gaps or risks, and provide important information to support the development of a Voluntary National Farm Level Biosecurity Standard for the honey beekeeping industry. Your input is required to ensure that this Standard is practical, achievable and relevant in the context of Canadian beekeeping.

“Bees are a major contributor to the health and vitality of agriculture,” said Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz. “This Government is pleased to support the creation of standards that will contribute to the stability of such an important industry in the agricultural community.”

“The CHC is pleased to participate in this benchmarking exercise for farm level biosecurity,” said Heather Clay, Chief Executive Officer, CHC. “This standard is important to help control the spread of bee pests and diseases.”

The standard, which is expected to be released in 2012, will benefit all managed bees in Canada. This standard is being developed in partnership between Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the Canadian Honey Council, Provincial Apiarists, and the Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists.

## What is Biosecurity?

Farm level biosecurity refers to “best practices” that reduce incidence through prevention and the more rapid control of the spread of serious infectious diseases, parasites and introduced insect pests. For beekeepers, farm level biosecurity management practices are designed to minimize the introduction and spread of diseases, parasites and pests to, within and beyond the apiary. This includes storage and honey processing facilities as well as protecting bees and equipment while in transit. Bee biosecurity also addresses treatment protocols.

For more information on biosecurity, please visit:  
[www.inspection.gc.ca/biosecurity](http://www.inspection.gc.ca/biosecurity).

For more information on the bee biosecurity standard project, or to provide feedback, please contact the CHC.

For more information  
Canadian Food Inspection Agency  
Media Relations 613-773-6600

# Commentaires Sollicités Sur La Biosécurité Apicole Au Canada

Rod Scarlett, Directeur général, Conseil canadien du miel

Le gouvernement du Canada, en collaboration avec le Conseil canadien du miel, les Apiculteurs provinciaux et l'Association canadienne des apiculteurs professionnels sollicite les commentaires de l'industrie apicole sur les pratiques de gestion des maladies, des organismes nuisibles et des parasites. Ces pratiques de gestion prennent le nom collectif de biosécurité à la ferme.

Cet automne, vous êtes invité à prendre part à une enquête nationale confidentielle sur les pratiques de gestion des maladies, des organismes nuisibles et des parasites appliquées par les apiculteurs canadiens. Les résultats de cette enquête serviront à déterminer les meilleures pratiques possible, les lacunes ou les risques et à fournir d'importantes informations sur lesquelles s'appuiera le développement d'une norme nationale volontaire de biosécurité à la ferme destinée à l'industrie apicole. Votre participation est nécessaire pour assurer que cette norme sera pratique, réalisable et pertinente dans le cadre de l'apiculture canadienne.

« Les abeilles jouent un rôle essentiel dans la santé et le dynamisme de l'agriculture. Notre gouvernement est heureux d'appuyer l'élaboration de normes qui contribueront à la stabilité d'une industrie si importante au sein de la communauté agricole. » Gerry Ritz, ministre de l'Agriculture.

« Le Conseil canadien du miel est heureux de prendre part à cet exercice d'analyse comparative dans le cadre de la biosécurité à la ferme. Cette norme est essentielle pour aider à contrôler la propagation des maladies et des organismes nuisibles qui touchent les abeilles. » Heather Clay, ancienne directrice générale du Conseil canadien du miel.

Cette norme, dont la publication est prévue pour 2012, sera utile pour toutes les abeilles d'élevage du Canada. Son élaboration est le fruit d'une collaboration entre Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada, l'Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments, le Conseil canadien du miel, les Apiculteurs provinciaux et l'Association canadienne des apiculteurs professionnels.

## Qu'est-ce que la biosécurité?

La biosécurité à la ferme renvoie aux pratiques qui réduisent, par la prévention et le contrôle plus rapide de la propagation, les incidences de maladies infectieuses graves, de parasites et d'insectes nuisibles non indigènes. Pour les apiculteurs, les pratiques de biosécurité à la ferme sont conçues pour minimiser l'introduction et la propagation de maladies, de parasites et d'organismes nuisibles dans l'exploitation apicole et au-delà.

Pour obtenir plus d'information sur la biosécurité, veuillez consulter <http://inspection.gc.ca/francais/anima/biosec/biosecf.shtml>.

Pour obtenir plus d'information sur le projet d'élaboration de norme en matière de biosécurité apicole ou pour faire part de vos commentaires, veuillez contacter le Conseil canadien du miel ou l'Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments:

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## Queen Rearing And Selection Practices And Their Impact On The Genetic Diversity And Fitness Of Honey Bee Colonies

submitted by A. Robertson

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### Apimondia Working Group On Honey Bee Diversity And Fitness (Awg 7)

The Apimondia working group on honey bee diversity and fitness (AWG 7) was created on October 25, 2010 as a Scientific Working Group of Apimondia.

### The Aim

The aim of this AWG is to collect information on honey bee queen rearing practices, and examine their impact on the genetic variability and general health of honey bee colonies. The AWG consists of 23 members from 16 different countries. The world wide survey being conducted by this AWG is focused on gathering information on how selection methods, instrumental insemination, disease management procedures, introduction of exotic honey bee lines, queen replacement strategies, and loss of local colony populations due to introduced parasites and pathogens,

affect the ability of our honey bees to survive and reproduce.

### The Output

The information collected in a common document will contribute on an international level to our understanding of how apiculture practices affect honey bee genetics, health and productivity. The main question is if selection, commercial queen rearing at a large scale, instrumental insemination and damage to feral colony populations due to Varroa, affect the genetic variability (and the health) of productive honey bee colonies.

### PERSPECTIVES

The Apimondia working group on honey bee diversity and fitness is open to any useful contribution providing information from every continent, in order to support apicultural practice.



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# Plants for Bees

## The Common Sunflower

by Geoff Todd, Canadian Honey Council, Calgary

The common Sunflower is a native of Mexico and Peru, introduced into this country in the sixteenth century and now one of our most familiar garden plants.

It is an annual herb, with a rough, hairy stem, 3 to 12 feet high, broad, coarselytoothed, rough leaves, 3 to 12 inches long, and circular heads of flowers, 3 to 6 inches wide in wild specimens and often a foot or more in cultivation. The flower-heads are composed of many small tubular flowers arranged compactly on a flattish disk: those in the outer row have long strap-shaped corollas, forming the rays of the composite flower.

The genus *Helianthus*, to which the Sunflower belongs, contains about fifty species, chiefly natives of North America; many are indigenous to the Rocky Mountains, others to tropical America, and a few species are found in Peru and Chile.

They are tall, hardy, annual or perennial herbs, several of which are grown in gardens, being of easy cultivation in moderately good soil, and that useful plant of the kitchen garden, the Jerusalem Artichoke (*Helianthus tuberosus*), is also a member of the genus.

The name *Helianthus*, being derived from *helios* (the sun) and *anthos* (a flower), has the same meaning as the English name Sunflower, which it is popularly supposed has been given these flowers from a supposition that they follow the sun by day, always turning towards its direct rays. But since the word 'Sunflower' existed in English literature before the introduction of *H. annuus*, or at any rate before its general diffusion in English gardens, it is obvious that some



Common Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus* LINN.)  
Photo with permission: Botanical.com

other flower must have been intended. The Marigold (*Calendula officinalis*) is considered by Dr. Prior to have been the plant described by Ovid as turning to the sun, likewise the *solsaece* of the Anglo-Saxon, a word equivalent to

*solsaequium* (sun-following). The better explanation for the application of the name to a flower is its resemblance to 'the radiant beams of the sun.'

In Peru, this flower was much revered by the Aztecs, and in their temples of the Sun, the priestesses were crowned with Sunflowers and carried them in their hands. The early Spanish conquerors found in these temples numerous representations of the Sunflower wrought in pure gold.

In some of the old Herbals we find the Rock-rose (*Helianthemum vulgare*) also termed Sunflower, its flowers opening only in the sunshine. The so-called 'Pigmy sunflower' is *Actinella grandiflora*, a pretty perennial 6 to 9 inches high, from the Colorado mountains.

The Sunflower is valuable from an *economic*, as well as from an ornamental point of view. Every part of the plant may be utilized for some economic purpose. The *leaves* form a cattle-food and the stems contain a fibre which may be used successfully in making paper. The *seed* is rich in oil, which is said to approach more nearly to olive oil than any other vegetable oil known and to be largely used as a substitute. In prewar days, Sunflower seed was sometimes grown in this country,

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especially on sewage farms, as an economical crop for pheasants, as well as poultry. The *flowers* contain a yellow dye.

It forms one of the well-known crops in Russia, Spain, France, Germany, Italy, Egypt, India, Manchuria and Japan. The average acre will produce about 50 bushels of merchantable seeds, and each bushel yields approximately 1 gallon of oil, for which there is a whole series of important uses.

The oil pressed from the seeds is of a citron yellow colour and a sweet taste and is considered equal to olive oil or almond oil for table use. The resulting oil-cake when warm pressed, yields a

less valuable oil which is used largely for technical purposes, such as soap-making, candle-making and in the art of wool-dressing. As a drying oil for mixing paint, it is equal to linseed oil and is unrivalled as a lubricant.

The residue after the oil is expressed forms an important cattle-food. This oil-cake is relished by sheep, pigs, pigeons, rabbits and poultry.

The pith of the sunflower stalk is the lightest substance known; its specific gravity is 0.028, while that of the Elder is 0.09 and of Cork 0.24. The discovery of the extreme lightness of the pith of the stalk has essentially increased the commercial value of the plant. This light cellular substance is

now carefully removed from the stalks and applied to a good many important uses, chiefly in the making of life-saving appliances. The pith has been recommended for moxa, owing to the nitre it contains.

#### **Chemical Constituents**

The black-seeded variety yield between 50 and 60 per cent of the best grade of oil. The oil has a specific gravity of from 0.924 to 0.926, solidifies at 5 degrees F., is slightly yellowish, limpid, of a sweetish taste and odourless. It dries slowly and forms one of the best burning oils known, burning longer than any other vegetable oil. Ludwig and Kromayer obtained a tannin which they called Helianthitanic acid, and gave it the





formula  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{9}\text{O}_8$ . On boiling with moderately diluted hydrochloric acid, they obtained a fermentable sugar and a violet colouring matter. E. Diek found only small quantities of Inulin, large quantities of Levulin and a dextro-rotatory sugar. All parts of the plant contain much carbonate of potash.

#### Extraction

For the extraction of the oil, the seeds are bruised, crushed and ground to meal in a five-roller mill, under chilled iron or steel cylinders. The meal, after being packed in bags, is placed in hydraulic presses, under a pressure of 300 atmospheres or more, and allowed to remain under pressure for about seven minutes.

All edible oils are thus obtained and are known in commerce as 'cold-drawn oils' or 'cold pressed oils.' As a preliminary operation, the seeds are freed from dust, sand and other impurities by sifting in an inclined revolving cylinder or sieving machine, covered with woven wire, having meshes varying according to the size and nature of the seeds operated upon. This preliminary purification is of the greatest importance. The seeds are then passed through a hopper over the rollers, which are finely grooved, so that the seed is cut up whilst passing in succession between the first and second rollers in the series, then between the second and the third, and so on to the last, when the grains are sufficiently bruised, crushed and

ground. The distance between the rollers can be easily regulated, so that the seed leaving the bottom roller has the desired fineness. The resulting more or less coarse meal is either expressed in this state, or subjected to a preliminary heating, according to the quality of the product to be manufactured. The oil exuding in the cold dissolves the smallest amount of colouring matter, etc., and hence has suffered least in its quality.

By pressing in the cold, only part of the oil or fat is recovered. A further quantity is obtained by pressing the seed meal at a somewhat elevated temperature, reached by warming the crushed seeds either immediately

► pg 16

## Sunflower Production in Canada

National Sunflower Association of Canada, [Canadasunflower.com](http://Canadasunflower.com), [info@canadasunflower.com](mailto:info@canadasunflower.com)

Sunflower production is relatively small in Canada but nonetheless an important part of the Manitoba Agricultural industry. All sunflower varieties that are grown in Manitoba are hybrids and based on their end use, can be classified into either oil or confectionary-type sunflowers.

Since the initiation of the NSAC, the association has annually conducted on-farm strip trials of new confection and oil type sunflower hybrids, hosted summer tours of research plots and strip trials, and taken over administering the finances of the Manitoba Sunflower Committee. The NSAC also organizes and conducts winter grower meetings in various regions to pass along the latest technologies and information in sunflower production.

Since the establishment of the NSAC in 1996, sunflower acreage has climbed from 63,000 acres to 180,000 acres in 2008. Approximately 90 per cent of all sunflowers grown in Canada are located in Manitoba, but a growing share is finding its way into southeastern Saskatchewan. Other small pockets of sunflowers are found in south central Alberta and southern Ontario.

Approximately 65 per cent of all Canadian sunflowers are confection type, which are marketed primarily as roasted snack food in the shell or as dehulled seeds for the baking industry. Although a significant percentage of this market is domestic (North America), Canadian processors are increasingly accessing markets in Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

Oilseed sunflowers are used in both birdfeed and the crushing industry for sunflower oil producing one of the highest quality vegetable oils. The birdfeed market is mostly the oilseed type, however some of the smaller confection seeds are also used for birdseed.

Manitoba's largest export market includes the USA and several European countries. Oil-type sunflowers grown in Manitoba are either exported for oil crushing or used as bird food both domestically and internationally. Confectionary sunflowers are processed locally in Manitoba and are sorted based on size, with the largest sizes (Jumbos) being the premium product. Within Manitoba there are several secondary processors that roast and flavour in-shell sunflower seeds.

after they leave the five-roller mill, or after the 'cold-drawn oil' has been taken off. The cold pressed cakes are first disintegrated, generally under an edge-runner. This oil is of a second-grade quality.

Vertical hydraulic presses are at present almost exclusively in use, the Anglo-American type of press being most employed. It represents an open press, fitted with a number (usually sixteen) of iron press plates, between which the cakes are inserted by hand. A hydraulic ram then forces the table carrying the cakes against a press-head and the exuding oil flows down the sides into a tank below.

According to the care exercised by the manufacturer in the range of temperature to which the seed is heated, various grades of oils are obtained.

### Cultivation

In growing crops of the Sun flower, various methods of planting and spacing are recommended in different countries. It is best, says a scientific American authority, to plant in rows running north and south, the seeds to be placed 9 inches apart, in rows 30 inches apart. But in this country, instead of sowing in the open, the most successful growers sow in boxes, or singly in pots under glass, afterwards planting the seedlings out in ground that has been well prepared and enriched with manure. Not that rich soil is essential, practically any kind of soil is suitable so long as it is open to sun and light and splendid returns of seed have been obtained from waste land without any preparation beyond digging the soil. A well-tilled soil is, however, desirable for successful Sunflower cultivation, preferably with not too much clay in its composition. It should be well ploughed in the autumn and harrowed in the spring. A

certain depth is necessary, as the roots will spread from 12 inches to 15 inches in each direction.

The seed should be sown thinly in boxes in March and when the plants have made three or four leaves, they should be potted off into small pots and grown on if possible in gentle heat. Where no heat is available, a



Two honey bees pollinating the sunflower. Photo: Jim Campbell

cold frame is the next best thing. Provided that frost can be excluded, a cool, unheated glasshouse may be used. When established, they should be gradually hardened off for planting out in May, after all danger of late spring frosts is past.

Suitable compost for seeds and potting off is: 1 part leaf mould, 1 part sand, 2 parts loam. If this is not available, any good garden soil will do and it need not be very finely sifted. The seeds germinate readily and grow very rapidly. Ordinary farmyard manure should be dug into the soil at the rate of 3 cwt. per rod, as they are gross feeders. The Sunflower plants should be planted 3 feet apart between the rows and 2 feet from plant to plant in good soils, and slightly closer on poor soils. An application of superphosphate before or at the time of planting, at the rate of 1 1/2 OZ. per square yard will encourage early maturing of the seed. It is of interest to note that the plant assimilates a large quantity of potash and therefore it must not be planted in the same soil the second year. Seeds should not be

sown *in the open* until late in April, only a sunny border being chosen.

### A Bee Plant

The Sunflower is a good bee plant, as it furnishes hive bees with large quantities of wax and nectar. They have been proved to do best on deep, stony soil, and it is an advantage to grow them where bees are kept, as they are much visited by the honey-bee, fertilization of the flowers ensuing.

### Harvesting

No more attention will be needed until the heads commence to ripen, when they should be looked to daily, as the seed soon falls if left too long and also, as the seed ripens, garden pests of the larger sort, birds and squirrels in particular, are always troublesome. Some growers prevent the loss caused by the attacks of birds to whom the seeds are particularly attractive and by the shaking out of the ripe seeds, by surrounding the heads with bags of rough muslin, but this can only be done when growing on a small scale. With a large plantation, scare away birds by any of the usual methods. When the head shrivels and the seeds are ripe, cut the plants at the ground level, standing them with their heads uppermost, like shocks or sheaves of corn. When the heads are thoroughly dry, cut them off and thresh out the remaining seeds by standing each head on its side and hammering it with a mallet. Store the seeds in bags, in a dry place.

### Sunflower Plants as Green Food

With Sun flowers there need be little waste. The green leaves, when gathered young, make a good succulent green food for poultry stock of all ages. They can be finely minced up and added - raw - to the mash for young or adult stock, or they can be boiled and put in the soft food. The leaves are much appreciated by rabbits, horses, cows and other stock. The dried leaves can be rubbed up or reduced to a meal form and be well scalded prior to inclusion in the mash, and the ripe seeds can also be ground into a meal if desired.





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# 2011 Fraser Valley Queen Rearing Workshop – May 14-15, 2011

Heather Higo

For the last 2 years, the BCHPA has provided Queen Rearing workshops under the umbrella of an Integrated Pest Management workshop series. It was my pleasure in both years to lead the weekend workshops offered in the Fraser Valley at Campbell's Gold Honey Farm and Meadery in Abbotsford, BC.

Workshop participants ranged from hobbyists with a few colonies to serious side-liners and larger beekeepers who wished to increase their range of skills to enhance their operations. Great contacts were made, and the exchange of ideas continued throughout the weekend as the entire workshop was relaxed and informal, with lots of great questions and suggestions and a few laughs, too.

Participants in the workshop were provided with a booklet outlining the first day introductory presentation on queen rearing biology and basic methodology, and the second day presentation on drones and mating. Also included were several articles on queen rearing basics, including the Doolittle method, Laidlaw's queen rearing methodology, queen-right queen rearing, and the Cloake board method.



Helen's successful Queen cells. Photo: Helen Lightfoot

The workshop was largely a hands-on experience, beginning after coffee with the students setting up colonies for queen rearing that had been



Queen cups with new grafts. Photo: Helen Lightfoot

specially moved on site for the course. Participants also selected frames of brood of the right age for grafting, and were then given time to practice-graft in small groups with grafting tools that were provided and available for sale. Participants learned hands-on to use a wooden mold for wax dipping and to make their own bars of wax queen cups for grafting. The facility was ideal for such a workshop, with ample room for tables and extra lighting and adjustable frame stands for grafting provided by Wayne Niedig.

On the second day, participants each did a "real" graft of up to 15 cups on a bar which was immediately placed into one of the colonies the students had prepped the day before. They were also shown how to remove and handle "ripe" queen cells,

and 10 days later they returned to pick up the proud results of their own grafts, which varied between 1 and 14 queen cells each. Some real grafting stars had been revealed, and mated queens resulted a few weeks later!

Participants examined the many types of mating nucs that we provided, giving them many options and ideas for their own designs and we then discussed the importance of timing for queen rearing, feeding, drone preparation and mating.

Aside from teaching and demonstrating queen rearing basics, my goal with the workshop was to foster the idea amongst participants that in our own operations we can choose the qualities in our bees that we consider most important, such as pest and disease resistance, honey production, gentleness, or hygienic traits, and through selection of our grafting and drone stock we may be able to increase the frequency of those traits, producing bees that are well-suited to our operations and in particular, to our local environments. Selecting and



Installed Queen cell. Photo: Helen Lightfoot

rearing our own queens may prove to be a vital tool in enhancing the management of our honey bees.

I look forward to hearing some success stories from this next generation of queen rearers. Thanks for a rewarding week-end!

# WORLD NEWS

## GM Pollen in honey...

### Not Safe says EU Court

Alan Harman, submitted by Kim Flottum, Beeculture.com

The European Court of Justice upheld the rights of beekeepers and consumers to keep honey free from GM contamination. Europe's highest court ruled in Brussels that honey contaminated with genetically modified (GM) crops would need full safety approval and would have to be labeled as GM.

Environmental group Friends of the Earth Europe says the ruling opens the way for Europe's laws on GM crops to be strengthened.

"This is a victory for beekeepers, consumers and the movement for GM-free agriculture in Europe," group's food campaigner Mute Schimpf says.

"Honey should remain free of contamination from the biotech industry. This ruling rewrites the rule book and gives legal backing to stronger measures to prevent contamination from the likes of Monsanto.

The court ruling confirmed that existing laws that allow traces of unauthorized GM contamination are insufficient and need revising. The ruling was the result of a legal challenge from a German association of beekeepers who took the Bavarian government to court following the contamination of honey from a governmental field trial of Monsanto's maize MON 810.

The case was forwarded to the European Court of Justice, which was asked to rule whether honey containing GM-pollen is defined as a GM product and if any trace of a GMO in honey needs an authorization as a GMO. The court said it needs special authorization before it can be sold in Europe. The German beekeepers are seeking compensation for honey and food supplements that contained traces of

pollen from genetically modified maize. The beekeepers had their hives near site where the Bavarian government was growing MON 810 maize for research purposes.

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

The court concluded that a substance such as pollen derived from a variety of genetically modified maize, which has lost its ability to reproduce and is totally incapable of transferring the genetic material which it contains, no longer comes within the scope of that concept. But it ruled that, nevertheless, products such as honey and food supplements containing such pollen constitute foodstuffs which contain ingredients produced from GMOs within the meaning of the regulation. In that regard, it found that the pollen in issue was "produced from GMOs" and that it constitutes an "ingredient" of the honey and pollen-based food supplements. It ruled that pollen is not a foreign substance or an impurity, but rather a normal component of honey, with the result that it must indeed be classified as an ingredient.

"The pollen in question consequently comes within the scope of the regulation and must be subject to the authorization scheme provided for there under before being placed on the market," a court statement says.

It said the authorization scheme for foodstuffs containing ingredients produced from GMOs applies

irrespective of whether the pollen is introduced intentionally or adventitiously into the honey. Lastly, the Court ruled the authorization obligation exists irrespective of the proportion of genetically modified material contained in the product in question.

## USA- Announced a Partnership To Promote Honey Education

submitted by Medhat Nasr, Alberta Provincial Apiculturist, Pest Surveillance Branch, Agriculture Research Division, Agriculture and Rural Development, E-mail: medhat.nasr@gov.ab.ca

The National Honey Board (NHB) is pleased to announce a new partnership with the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP). Together, the organizations will develop a honey education program, based on recent research findings that uncovered widespread confusion surrounding the age when honey can be introduced to young children. Focused on health professionals who deal directly with parents of young children, education efforts will dispel honey misconceptions, explain the benefits of honey and remind parents that honey can be given to children older than one year of age.

"It's widely known that honey shouldn't be fed to infants, but most people don't know why or at what age it can be introduced," said Cheri Barber, DNP, RN, CRNP, President of NAPNAP. "The truth is that honey can be introduced to a child at one year of age. It's important that health care professionals and families with young children understand the facts about honey." Barber added that honey has been used for centuries to help soothe coughs, and with the recommended removal of over-the-counter cough medicines containing dextromethorphan (DM), parents are turning to effective natural remedies like honey.

The National Honey Board confirmed earlier this year through focus



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groups and a nationally fielded online survey that there is a need for honey education. Research\* revealed that moms are confused about when to feed honey to their children, citing reasons for avoidance like allergens, bacteria and the like. But the educational program of NHB and NAPNAP would set the record straight:

Because infants' gastrointestinal systems are immature and thus susceptible to contracting infant botulism if spores are present, the Centers for Disease Control, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the California Department of Public Health and other health associations recommend that certain foods not be fed to infants under one year of age, including honey. After 12 months of age, honey may be introduced to a child's diet. Botulinum spores occur in nature, but honey is one of the potential dietary sources for infant botulism.

The research showed that moms are nearly as likely to think honey is a potential food allergen as they are to identify its association with bacterial illness (36% avoid feeding infants honey because they think it's an allergen, 39% avoid honey due to its association with bacterial illness). Only one percent of moms chose "risk of botulism" as a reason to avoid feeding honey to infants. However, when provided the specific risk of "baby may get infant botulism," this number jumped to 43%.

According to the research, more than half of moms (57%) erroneously think children should be 2 years or older before feeding them honey.

The consumer research also showed that 82% of moms would be more likely to feed honey to their children close to their first birthday if they learned they could introduce it from one of their top trusted sources, especially if they receive an educational handout from their pediatric healthcare provider's office.

Overall, moms expressed excitement about rediscovering honey and its

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uses as a culinary ingredient and as a natural cough remedy, and want to learn more about honey.

"Our study showed that moms trust pediatricians and nurse practitioners the most to provide correct information about the age at which children can eat honey," said Catherine Barry, director of marketing for the National Honey Board. "This finding confirms that we have the ideal partnership with NAPNAP for this public information campaign. Our efforts will begin this August."

#### Research Methodology

The National Honey Board research was conducted by the Ketchum Global Research Network and consisted of three focus groups among moms (two in Denver and one in Chicago in January 2011), three focus groups among health care professionals (one in Chicago and two at the annual NAPNAP conference in Baltimore, March 25, 2011). Directional findings from the focus groups helped form questions that were given in an online nationwide survey of 500 moms with children ages 5 and younger. The

survey sample has a margin of error of +/- 4.4%.

The National Honey Board conducts research, advertising and promotion programs to help maintain and expand markets for honey and honey products. These programs are funded by an assessment of one cent per pound on domestic and imported honey. The National Honey Board is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) is the professional organization for pediatric nurse practitioners (PNPs) and other advanced practice nurses who care for children and is committed to improving the health care of infants, children, adolescents and young adults. An association of nearly 7,500 health care providers throughout the United States, NAPNAP has 48 Chapters nationwide.



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

**Convention Theme:**

***Healthy Environment - Healthy Bees - Healthy Honey***

**Keynote Speakers:**

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

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

**Hope to See You in Winnipeg!**

**Get agenda updates and registration information under “Convention”**  
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# Bee Stock Risk Management Symposium

Winnipeg Fort Garry Hotel, Tuesday and Wednesday, January 24 and 25, 2012

The Canadian bee, pollination and honey industries have undergone significant changes in the past decade. Of particular concern are the high winter loss mortality rates that have encumbered the industry in recent years. Whether these losses are localized, regionalized and occur nationally has a tremendous impact on stock availability, which in turn impacts production. Considerable research has, is, and will continue to be conducted in order to identify causes for the losses and certainly the Canadian Honey Council will continue to work hard in ensuring beekeepers have sufficient tools to address health and environmental concerns. Aside from these issues it is also very important that beekeepers have access to stock in a timely fashion. Work on domestic breeding and supply continues and discussion how it can be expanded to address industry needs is instrumental in ensuring a risk management strategy.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency, in co-operation with the industry and the provinces has worked hard to ensure import opportunities exist, opportunities that have protocols in place that protect the health and wellness of the bees. Currently, there are a limited number

of countries that Canadians can import Queens and stock. Is it possible that this list can be expanded and what protocols need to be in place to expedite this expansion, or is it necessary? A risk the industry faces is that there is too much reliance in one source. In order for a strong and vibrant industry to exist, there needs to be safe, healthy, and affordable access from as many sources as possible without creating any significant economic impacts on domestic producers.

Furthermore, because provinces have different jurisdictional and manpower resources can regional differences be adopted? What health and safety issues need to be addressed? Are there regional similarities that will allow for risk mitigation strategies or should a national strategy be paramount.

The purpose of this symposium is to discuss these issues and chart the course for the future of the bee production, honey production and pollination industries. Due to room size restrictions participants will be beekeepers, selected by invitation, and will represent various provincial and regional interests. There will also be a number of observers and technical resource people invited.

## Agenda

1. Domestic Queen Production
  - a) Access, development, enhancement and economics
  - b) Creating national marketing opportunities
  - c) Meeting national requirements in a timely fashion
2. Importation of Queens
  - a) Streamlining import permits
  - b) Time reduction methods
  - c) Small hive beetle and queen imports
  - d) Review of import protocols for:
    - i) Varroa
    - ii) Africanization
    - iii) Other
  - e) Expanding access to other countries
  - f) Improving genetic stock in countries from which we import
3. Domestic nucs/packages
  - a) Access, development, enhancement and economics
  - b) Creating national marketing opportunities
  - c) Meeting national requirements in a timely fashion
  - d) Education on replacement stock methods – ie. knowledge sharing
4. Importation of packages
  - a) Review and improvements for current import protocols
  - b) Future import protocols
  - c) Next steps
5. Other issues

## Technicality Halts Case Against Illegal Chinese Honey Importers for Now.

Alan Harman, with permission, Beeculture.com

A federal court blocks U.S. government plans to sue a German food importer's American subsidiary for allegedly avoiding \$80 million in customs duties on illegally imported Chinese honey.

A federal grand jury last year indicted Alfred L. Wolff Inc. and its subsidiaries in the U.S., Germany, China and Hong Kong, charging they dodged the customs duties on honey imported from China between 2002 and 2009.

It was alleged Wolff labeled the honey as originating in other countries to avoid paying anti-dumping duties. Wolff appointed a limited-authority corporate representative to appear in court to enter a not guilty plea and when it did so, the government served the representative with summonses for each of the foreign

defendants. Wolff moved to quash the summons, saying the method of service did not comply with federal rules of criminal procedure.

Media reports say the government countered that special circumstances necessitated an exception to this rule, but U.S. District Judge Amy St. Eve rejected this and granted the motion to quash.

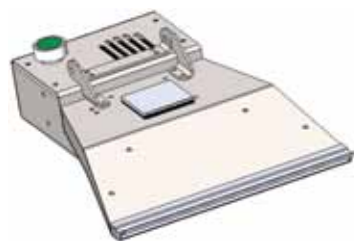
Her judgment says the federal rules require the government to serve each defendant by delivering a copy of the summons to an officer, a managing or general agent, or another agent appointed or legally authorized to receive service of process.

The judge says service on a subsidiary does not constitute service on a corporate parent where separate corporate identities are maintained, even if the subsidiary is wholly owned by the parent.

The court says the government must find another way to serve the foreign defendants in accordance with the U.S. mutual legal assistance treaties with the countries in question.



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My name is Rodrigo Mendez, I am a commercial beekeeper in Spirit River, Alberta, I have been battling this pests for many years, lately with the resistance from the mites to the easy to use strips, I have been forced to double up on treatments.

In the past I tried strips plus formic in the fall and formic again in the spring and it worked well, but the problem was finding the right weather window for the applications in the spring and the fall.

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Above, picture taken  
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Below, picture taken March  
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### Retirement Sale: Approx. 100 beehives in good equipment.

Available in June 2012, ready for production. Also a limited number of nucs, approx. 350 full depth supers with white comb, 50 frame maxant extractor, wax melter, Ford F250 4 X 4 Super Duty with hydraulic tailgate, etc. Phone 306-374-8130 or e-mail beez@sasktel.net.

## Help Wanted

### Help Wanted - 12 full-time seasonal positions available at Wendell Honey in 2012

Assistant Apiarists to: help with Spring check, hive assessment and manipulation; help with pest and disease control; help with grafting, making nucs, and raising Queens; help to harvest the honey crop; help with Fall feeding, assessment and treatments; help to wrap bees.

Positions available from April 16 to mid-October 2012.

Work is physically demanding. No experienced required.

Wages start at \$10.00 per hour.

Supervision by an experienced apiarist

email Isabel Wendell at isy@wendell.ca or fax 204 564 2568

### Help Wanted -12 full-time seasonal positions available at Wendell Honey in 2012

Apiarist to: help with Spring check, hive assessment and manipulation; help with pest and disease control; help with grafting, making nucs, and raising Queens; help to harvest the honey crop; help with Fall feeding, assessment and treatments; help to wrap bees.

Supervise assistant apiarists in some or all of these duties

Positions available from April 16 to mid-October 2012

Work is physically demanding.

Wages \$14.00-\$17.00 per hour depending on experience with Wendell Honey.

email Isabel Wendell at isy@wendell.ca or fax 204 564 2568

### Help Wanted - Seasonal Beekeepers: Kinistino (SK)

Apiary general labourers required for Kinistino, SK beekeeping operation. 3 full time seasonal beekeeping positions for up to 8 months (March through October) for the 2012 season. 3 full time seasonal beekeeping positions for up to 3 months (July - September) for the 2012 season. English and familiarity with beekeeping an asset but not required if willing to learn through on the job training by the employer. Valid drivers license also an asset. Starting wages at \$ 9.78/hr with housing options and potential for bonuses based on performance, attitude and character. Long hours, week-end and evening/night work may be required. Work is physically demanding and fast paced. E-mail resume to B's Bee Ranch Inc. at beeranch@sasktel.net

### Help Wanted - Experienced beekeeper Vanderhoof,BC

Experienced beekeeper wanted for the 2012 season, honey-hive management, including pollen traps, assist queen rearing, pollination. \$14/hr, room available. Contact Jon Aebischer in

Vanderhoof, BC by email. juanaebis@sweetnechakohoney.ca

### Help Wanted- 2 Experienced Beekeepers: Honey Bee Centre Surrey (BC)

HONEYBEE CENTRE requires two (2) beekeepers for the 2012 season February 15 - October 15, 2012. Our company is situated in the centre of the Vancouver metropolis. Wages are \$13.00 for workers with three or more years experience. A driver's license is an asset. On-site accommodations are available at \$300 per month. Contact John Gibeau. gibeau@honeybeecentre.com. Visit our website at www.honeybeecentre.com.

### For Hire - Northland Honey

Apiarist (Bee keeper with Mite and Queen breeding experience) Permanent, full time, on call, overtime, weekend, day and evening \$16 hourly for 40 hours per week

To start as soon as possible

Must have completed high school

Must have a trade diploma/certificate of a course in bee keeping

Must have a drivers license

Must have a minimum of 5 years of experience

To manage overall operation of an Apiary, establish marketing programs, maintain farm machinery, equipment and buildings, raise and breed honey bees.

This job is fast paced, working under pressure, tight deadlines, handling heavy loads and s physically demanding. Must be able to be flexible with lots of bending, crouching, kneeling and walking required.

We are looking for someone who can build up our honey production and would have experience with the Tracheal and Varoa Mites.

Email: l.northlandhoney@gmail.com

or send resume to: Box 1545, Vanderhoof, BC, V0J 3A0

### Help Wanted: Fort Macleod, Alberta

Looking for a beekeeper to manage bee operation of 2500-3000 hives. Must be knowledgeable in all aspects of beekeeping and managing a work crew. Start date is negotiable. Can start as early as October. Bee season starts March 1. Serious, knowledgeable applicants only. Please email or fax resumes to Jerry Poelman. Email to: jpoelman@explornet.com Fax: 403-687-2410

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Please forward CV with 2 work references

Contact Robbie or Nicola for more information

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bluehillshoney@hotmail.com, www.bluehillshoney.com

### Help Wanted- Apiary Technician Mission (Farm Supervisor) (BC)

Golden Ears Apiaries Inc. is looking for 1 Apiary Technician (Farm Supervisor) NOC8253 on a permanent fulltime basis starting Feb. 14th. 2012 with an hourly pay rate of \$13.96 - \$16.00. As a skilled livestock apiary position, duties will include:

- Supervise employees - Maintain field and production records and interact with external farm personnel - Spring and fall bee colony management - Handle, care, feed colonies - Monitor, report and treat colony pest and diseases - Produce queen cells, nucleus colonies, queens and replacement beehive - Collect and process honey - Move colonies - Operate/maintain large trucks and forklifts and other apiary related equipment - Maintain bee yards Applicants must have 5 seasons of beekeeping experience in a large commercial apiary operation. Apply with resume to Jean Marc at: Golden Ears Apiaries Inc. 33197 Ito Place, Mission, B.C. V2V-3W7 jeanmarcledorze@gmail.com

**Help Wanted - Seasonal Beekeepers: Rocanville (SK)**

Seasonal Beekeepers Wanted for Saskatchewan operation. March - Oct. Experience Preferred. Wage \$10-17.50/hr based on experience Contact: B.Strong Apiaries Ltd. email: bdstrong@sasktel.net, fax: (306) 645-4591

**Help Wanted - 9 Seasonal Workers: Langenburg (SK)**

Full time beekeeper required Beekeeping experience an asset. Apr 15 till Oct 31 2012, \$10.00 to \$16.00 per hour. Glory bee Honey, phone 306-743-5469 or email DennisGlennie@sasktel.net for more information

**Help Wanted-Seasonal Beekeepers: Nipawin (SK)**

5 Full-time Seasonal Beekeepers and 10 Beekeeper's Helpers (apiary workers) for April to November 2012. Work is physically demanding, and includes hive management and maintenance. Wages \$10.00 to \$17.00, depends on experience. Contact Yves Garez ph: 306-862-5979 fax 306-862-5974 or email y.garez@sasktel.net

**Help Wanted - 4 Beekeepers: Shellbrook (SK).**

Wanted 4 beekeepers for May to October 2012. Wages depending on experience. Contact Jason Rinas, Email: jasonrinas@hotmail.com or Phone: 306-747-7220 or 306-764-4303 or 306-747-3130.

**Help Wanted - Seasonal workers: Zenon Park (SK)**

Seasonal Beekeeper Wanted for April to November 2012 in Saskatchewan Honey Operation. Wages commencing \$9.80 hour. Contact Gerry Moyon phone 306-767-2757 or Fax Resume 306-767-2626 email: gemoyon@hotmail.com

**Help Wanted - Seasonal beekeepers: Kinistino, (SK)**

6 full time beekeeping positions for up to 8 months (April to Nov.) 2012. Familiar with beekeeping an asset but not required if willing to learn all aspect of beekeeping with training by employer. Starting wages will be \$ 9.78 with bonuses based on performances. Some week-end and evening work will be required during season for moving bees and bad weather during the week. Work is physically demanding and fast paced. E-mail resume to Bacon Apiaries at rbacon@sasktel.net or to dbacon13@sasktel.net or fax resume to 306-864-2451.

**Help Wanted- Seasonal Beekeepers & Unskilled labourers: Roblin (MB)**

Full-time seasonal experienced Apiarists for April-October 2012 10 Positions available at Wendell Honey in 2012. Duties include helping with spring check, hive management, and pulling honey, fall feeding and wrapping. Wages \$12.50 to \$17.00 depending on experience with Wendell Honey. Also, 6 unskilled labourers for the honey house and the bee yards (assistant apiarist) from April 20 to mid October 2012. Work is physically demanding. No experience required. \$10.00 per hour. Email Isabel at isy@wendell.ca or phone 204 564 2315 or 204 564 2315 or fax 204 564 2568 resume, or mail Wendell Honey, Box 1439, Roblin, MB. R0L 1P0.

**Help Wanted- Beekeeper Wanted: Porcupine Plain(SK)**

Experienced Beekeeper Wanted for the 2012 season April to October. \$12-15 per hour, Depending on Experience. Contact Brad Lechler 306-278-2198, Porcupine Plain SK.

**Help Wanted-25 Beekeepers Wanted: Nipawin (SK)**

Full time beekeeping help, April to October. Beekeeping experience would be preferred. Wages start at \$9.78 per hour. Contact Mark Knox, knoxapiaries@sasktel.net , 306-862-5657, Box 179 Nipawin, Sask. S0E 1E0.

**Help Wanted- 6 Apiary Technicians: Mission (BC)**

Looking for 6 apiary technicians NOC 8253 starting FEB 14, 2012 in beautiful Mission, British Columbia. Candidates must be able to: - Handle, feed and care for honey bee colonies in an appropriate manner for the season. - Coordinate the production of queen cells, nucleus colonies, queens and or replacement beehives. - Recognize, report and monitor beehive health issues and apply appropriate disease controls. - Move beehives. - Collect and extract honey. - Drive and maintain vehicles (includes large trucks

and forklifts). - Maintain bee yards. - Manufacture, assemble and maintain beehive equipment. - Operate and maintain other apiary related equipment. Apiary technicians must have a minimum of 3 years working in a Canadian style commercial apiary. 2 of the Apiary technicians must have a valid driver's license. Salary is \$13.00 to \$14.00/hour. Send resume to Jean-Marc at: jeanmarcledorze@gmail.com NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

**Help Wanted - 10 Seasonal Beekeepers positions: Aylsham (SK)**

Wages starting at \$9.78 per hours based on experience and qualifications. Employment from April to October 2012. Beekeeping experience is preferred. Send resume to Valteau Apiaries Ltd. by fax @ 306-862-3682 or email Dan@valteau.apiaries@sasktel.net.

**Help Wanted - Two experienced Apiarists: St Andrews (MB)**

Two experienced Apiarists (NOC 8253) for up to eight months, April - November 2012. Must have at least high school graduation and beekeeping courses, a valid driver's license, at least 5 years experience in beekeeping. Hourly rate \$11.00 - \$14.00 depending on experience. Email CV and references to: margshoney@gmail.com

**Help Wanted- Meskanaw, (SK)**

2 beekeepers assistants required. April to October 2012. Wages 10.00 - 13.00 / hour depending on experience. contact Calvin Parsons 306-864-2632 email parsonsfamily@sasktel.net

**Help Wanted- 4 Experienced Beekeepers and 1 Honeybee Farm Supervisor: Pitt Meadows (BC)**

4 experienced beekeepers wanted for February 15-November 15, 2012, and 1 honeybee farm supervisor on permanent full-time basis starting February 01 2012. Preference will be given to candidates with queen rearing experience. Hourly pay rate of \$13 - \$18, depending on experience. Send resumes to Manager, Honeyland Canada Inc. manager@HoneylandCanada.com

**Help Wanted- Experienced beekeeper : Porcupine Plain (SK)**

Wanted: Experienced beekeeper (4-5 years) for fulltime position April-Oct 2012 in Porcupine Plain, Saskatchewan. Wages based on experience \$13-\$15/h. Contact George Knudsen 306-278-3372

**Help Wanted - Full time seasonal apiarist : Argyle (MB)**

Full time seasonal apiarist, wages are \$12 to \$15 per hr. depending on exp. job is physically demanding, must help with wrapping, feeding, making nucs, supering, pulling honey, honey extraction, medicating hives, and winter preparation. Please call Cal Grysiuk, ph./fax 204-831-7838, email acgrysiuk@shaw.ca, or mail 83 Acheson Dr. Winnipeg, MB R2Y 2E8.

**Help Wanted - Full time Apiarist and Assistant Apiarist : Austin (MB)**

Full time Apiarist and Assistant Apiarist needed for honey farm near Austin, MB., for 2012 season. Apiarist: May1-Oct1: tending all apiary duties like, hive management, harvesting, extracting honey and clean-up. \$12.33/hour. Assistant Apiarist: July10-Sept10, duties: harvesting, extracting honey, clean-up. \$10.00/Hour. Send resume to: Chris Rempel Box 358 Austin, MB. R0H 0C0 cdrempe@mts.net

**Help Wanted - Full Time Seasonal Beekeeper: Carlisle (ON)**

We have openings for 2012. April through October. Beeyard and honey house work. Heavy lifting. No bee sting allergies please. Wages dependant on experience. Send resume to John Van Alten, Dutchman's Gold Inc., 300 Carlisle Rd., Carlisle ON L0R 1H2 or email, info@dutchmansgold.com

**Help Wanted - Someone with Beekeeping Experience - Invitation for Expressions of Interest**

GPRC Beekeeping Program Start-Up August 15-Dec 15, 2011 GPRC is working with Alberta beekeepers to initiate a Commercial Beekeeping program at the Fairview College Campus. This program will be based on the previous Fairview Beekeeping Technician program than ran successfully for almost



20 years. **INVITATION** We are looking for someone with beekeeping experience who has the time, energy, knowledge, skills and enthusiasm to take on a 4-month contract to get this program up and running for January 2012. The main tasks of this contract are: 1. Get the program ready for implementation & start up January 2012 2. Work with College to finalize program details--courses & curriculum 3. Be a spokesperson for the program 4. Recruit students **NOTE:** This 4-month contract may lead to ongoing full time employment as the beekeeping instructor/program coordinator. **DETAILS** Contract: \$20-25,000 Deadline for expression of interest: JUNE 30, 2011 Contract selection completed: July 30, 2011 Contract start date: August 15, 2011 or TBD Contract completion: December 15, 2011 For more information, an overview of the proposed program, or to discuss details of this project please contact Cheryl King by phone or email. **LETTER OF INTEREST** If you are interested, please email a letter outlining your beekeeping experience and background, your location and contact information, and a brief explanation of your interest in this project and the new program to both: Chris Laue Acting Dean, Fairview Campus, GPRC clau@[gprc.ab.ca](mailto:gprc.ab.ca) Cheryl King Program Developer, GPRC cking@[gprc.ab.ca](mailto:gprc.ab.ca) Ph: 780 539 2227

#### **Help Wanted - 12 Beekeepers : Shellbrook (SK).**

Need 12 willing beekeeping workers for Apr.-Nov. 2012. Pay starts at \$9.75 with bonuses based on performance. Training is on the job. Accommodations provided on rental basis. Contact Murray: 306-747-3299 email: [hanniganhoney@sasktel.net](mailto:hanniganhoney@sasktel.net)

#### **Help Wanted - 2 Apiary Workers: East Vancouver (BC).**

I have 2 openings for Apiary Workers NOC 8431. Candidates must have at least 1 year of beekeeping experience in a Canadian style commercial apiary.

Apiary workers must be able to:

- handle, feed and care for honey bee colonies in an appropriate manner for the season
- assist in the production of queen cells, nucs, queens and/or replacement beehives
- recognize and report beehive health issues, and apply appropriate disease cures/controls
- move beehives
- collect and package honey
- drive and maintain vehicles including large trucks and forklifts
- maintain bee yards
- manufacture, assemble and maintain beehive equipment
- operate and maintain other apiary related equipment
- keep limited field and/or production records

Salary is 11.92/hour. Send resume to: Emmanuel Bilodeau, 3672 45th Ave. East, Vancouver, BC, V5R-3G4. Or email to: [emmanuelandhoney@yahoo.ca](mailto:emmanuelandhoney@yahoo.ca)

#### **Help Wanted - Two experienced beekeepers wanted.**

Wage \$13-\$15/HOUR

March 15 till Nov 1 2012, Experienced in unwrapping, wrapping, feeding, making nucs, supering, pulling honey, honey extraction, medicating hives, and winter preparation. Job physically demanding, long hours, evenings, 6 days per week. Contact: Irwin Harlton, Email: [iharlton@mts.net](mailto:iharlton@mts.net). Phone: 204 483 2382

#### **Help Wanted - \$15 hourly for 40 hours per week. TO START AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

Must have completed high school and have taken courses in Bee Keeping, Must have a drivers license, Must have a minimum of 5 years experience as an apiarist. To manage overall operation of a

Apiary, establish marketing programs, maintain farm machinery, equipment and buildings and raise and breed honey bees.

This job is fast-paced, working under pressure, tight deadlines, handling heavy loads and is physically demanding. Must be able to be flexible with lots of bending, crouching, kneeling and walking required.

We are looking for someone who can build up our honey production and would have experience with the Tracheal and Varoa Mites most farms are dealing with now. EMAIL: [l.northlandhoney@gmail.com](mailto:l.northlandhoney@gmail.com)

### Wanted to Buy

#### **Wanted - Borage or buckwheat honey: Toronto (ON)**

Borage and buckwheat honey wanted. 100% pure honey. We are just north of Toronto. Call Henry Nauta, Penauta Products Inc. Phone 905-640-1564 or fax 905-640-7479

#### **Wanted - Round Comb Honey Equipment: Milo (AB)**

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Phone: 416-938-6698 Contact: Vicky Staite.

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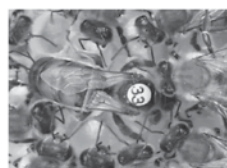
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