

NEBRASKA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

www.nebraskabeekeepers.org



June Beeline 2010

2009 Board of Directors

President:

Mike Slater,
118 Robinhood Ave.
Plattsmouth, NE 68048,
Ph.402-212-7190

Vice President:

Bill Lillie
1013 N 9th ST
Beatrice, Ne 68310
Ph. 402-228-3851

Treasurer:

Warren Nelson,
2839 N 46th,
Lincoln, NE. 68504,
Ph. 402-466-8173

Secretary:

Walter Schwarz
4021 Ten Lane
Lincoln, NE 68502
Ph. 402-613-8958
<mailto:walter.h.scharz@gmail.com>

Program Director:

Todd Fiala
5800 W Raymond RD
Raymond, NE 68428
Ph. 402-783-0324
tf92300@windstream.net

Newsletter Editor:

Keith Nielson,
865 Leonard Ave,
Polk, NE 68654, Ph. 402-765-2391,
klnielson@windstream.net

Business Advertising Rates

Full page:

Yearly-\$1200
Six months-\$720
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Quarter page

Yearly-\$300
Six months-\$180
Monthly-\$30

Business card

Yearly-\$150
Six months-\$90
Monthly-\$15

Classified ads by members free.

All ad material needed print ready by 20th of each month. If purchasing ad for full year ad layout can be changed each issue before the 20th of the month. Acceptable formats PDF, Microsoft Office Word, JPEG, TIFF. All ads must be paid for before they are run. Issues of the newsletter are posted on our association web site @ www.nebraskabeekeepers.org For more information contact the editor.

Presidents Message

Greetings everyone. Had a phone call from a reporter from the Wall Street Journal regarding the City of Hastings, NE attempting to amend their City Code on the keeping of bees which says the following: 10-120. Keeping of bees. No person shall keep or harbor bees within the City limits.

(Ord. No. 2580)

10-121. Beehives -- Nuisance.

Any beehive used or occupied by bees is hereby declared to be a public nuisance; and it shall be unlawful to keep or maintain any such hive within the City limits.

(Ord. No. 2580)

The WSJ reporter and I discussed how the ordinance originated which was probably directly due to somebody raising a fuss about another keeping bees. Some conflict generated the policy. Its anyone's guess as to why and when without further digging. There has been mention of amending the code in the agendas for 26 April 2010 and 10 May 2010 but that's all the details there are. The agenda just refers to amending the code but it doesn't say to what.

I also fielded a call from one Sen. Tom Carlson's aids. They are apparently doing a study on honey standards so I referred him Warren Nelson for some further discussing. The aid said that they are very interested in holding a forum to discuss this matter around 27 Aug 10 with Nebraska beekeepers during the State Fair. More to come on that subject. Hope everyone is doing well. -Mike Slater

Secretary's Corner:

The Nebraska Beekeepers met on May 15 in Chapman, NE. Although some of the regular attendees were not able to make the trip out West there were quite a few people from the local area who we had not met before.

There was a lengthy business meeting in which there was lengthy discussion as to when and how the association holds its meetings. The proposed amendments will be brought up for vote at the next meeting.

The scholarship committee presented the status of current and past scholarship recipients, nearly all of them are doing quite well and of the twelve that were detailed in the report only one was no longer keeping bees. Joanne Vasko has agreed to resume the duties of Fair Coordinator as the office was vacant. Welcome back!

The meeting's program consisted of comb honey production using basswood boxes and starting new hives using queen excluders and double screen boards.

May Meeting Minutes:

Changes to the bylaws were proposed, these proposals are detailed in this newsletter.

Joann Vasko was appointed to the position of Fair Coordinator as the position was vacant.

The Scholarship Committee presented the status of current and former scholarship recipients.

Walter Schwarz

Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc.
P.O. Box 1445 – Jesup, GA 31598 – Ph. 912-427-4018

Essayists Ask: ‘Is My Community Bee-Friendly?’

Beekeepers go about their business, making allowances for a farmer who favors frequent insecticide sprays, or the county road department that mows roadsides, or neighbors who know little or nothing about bees. But, how do all these factors add up? Is your community bee-friendly?

That was the question for the 2010 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest, sponsored by the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees. Essayists were to survey their communities to see what is being done, or could be done to help honey bees. Are there classes to attract new beekeepers – or laws that prohibit beekeeping? Entries were received from 22 states.

The top essayist, Shelby Kilpatrick, 16, of Copper Canyon, Texas, did just as suggested: she created a survey form and circulated it around her community, drawing 135 responses. She concluded her essay, entitled, “For Bee or Not For Bee,” saying, “There is no doubt that my community is ‘For Bee’ and wants to be even more bee!” She plans to “reward survey responders with educational tips enabling them to become more honey bee friendly.”

Shelby is a beekeeper herself and a member of the local and state beekeeper groups. Her first place prize is a cash award of \$750.00.

The second place essay came from Sean Huss, 15, of Spencer, Ind., who receives \$500.00 for his efforts. Sean is also a beekeeper and was named “Young beekeeper of the Year” for 2009 by the Indiana Beekeepers Association. He developed a definition for a bee-friendly community and decided that his fits the bill. His definition is a community “that (1) does not discourage beekeeping and has no legal restrictions to keeping bees; (2) contains good bee habitat – a diverse range of native plants and wildflowers and cultivated crops, fruits and vegetables that can be used by bees as sources of nectar and pollen; (3) has people who care about the environment and limit their uses of pesticides; and (4) has good sources of help and education for farmers and beekeepers.”

There was a tie for third place. Abby Lyons, 11, of Dwight, Neb., and Ann Barlow, 14, of Milford, N.H., each receive \$250.00. Abby decided that her community is bee-friendly; while Ann resolved to help her community improve. Abby is a beekeeper and Ann’s 4-H club has bee, giving all four national winners first-hand exposure to honey bees.

Each state winner, including the national winners, will receive a copy of a book about beekeeping.

The essay topic for 2011 is “U.S. Honey: A Taste for Every Preference.” The 4-H’ers are encouraged to investigate the local/regional honeys of the United States and see how they differ in taste and color.

Students interested in writing should contact their local 4-H offices for contest details. The state selection must be done through the 4-H system.

*****Special Note*****

Abby Lyons won the 3rd place prize in the national beekeeping essay contest sponsored by the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees. She has been awarded a check for \$250 and a book about beekeeping. She is the first Nebraska contestant to win one of the top 3 prizes in the contest since its inception. Her essay, "Is my Community Honey Bee Friendly," was printed in the April 2010 Nebraska Beekeepers Association newsletter. This is an outstanding achievement for a young beekeeper, and the encouragement and support given her by the NBA have helped her greatly. Be sure to let her know how proud of her we are and to congratulate her on her achievement.

Marion Ellis

Classified Advertisements

For Sale:

Screened bottom boards complete with board to calculate mite populations, total clear screened opening below brood chambers and 3/8 inch opening to prevent mice getting into your hive. Also available deep and medium hive bodies with hand hold cleats, inner covers, and telescoping covers. Contact Keith Nielson, phone 402-765-2391 cell after 4PM 308-940-0987 or email kn Nielson@windstream.net. More information will become available at www.povertyridgeapiary.com.

Custom made four frame observation hive made out of quality oak mounted on a swivel turntable. Two Deep and two shallow or medium supers your choice for \$300. \$150 down when you order, \$150 upon delivery. FOB Greenwood, NE. Contact- Tim Fleck Greenwood, Nebraska. 402-789-3785.



Dieter Honey Co. Equipment list

1965 Ford Flat Bed Truck, Contact: Michelle Brown, email: michelleannbrown@charter.net or (308)440-5690 OR Christie Petri, email: catpetri@cox.net or (402)889-3372

"BBE-Tech Honey bee Conservation in Omaha is now a local, authorized re-seller for Brushy Mountain Bee Farm products. We will keep a selection of beekeeping equipment, products and supplies on hand at our Omaha based location. It is our goal to provide good beekeeping related products at a fair price while reducing long distance shipping costs.

Please visit our internet showcase at <http://bbe-tech.com/shop/> in the future to see what we will be keeping on hand for local beekeepers needs. You can call (402) 740-1454 to find out when we might be in your area and to place an order." T Sandoval, BBE-Tech Honey Bee Conservation

Upcoming Events:

June 10-12, 2010: Master Beekeeping Workshop, Agricultural Research and Development Center, 1071 County Road B, Ithaca, NE. Presenter Dr. Marion Ellis and others

July 10, 2010: 10:00 AM. Monthly Meeting. Honey Be Conservation Program at Fontenelle Forest, presented by Anthony Sandoval a.k.a Big Bear. Directions: From the West, North and East, take I80 to highway 75, go south, follow 75 south to the Chandler Rd exit; From the South, take 75, North to the Chandler Rd exit head east on Chandler Rd W toward Nebraska Dr 0.3 mi slight right toward Fort Crook Rd N 0.2 mi continue straight onto Fort Crook Rd N 0.2 mi turn left at Camp Brewster Rd 0.4 mi turn left at Bellevue Blvd N Destination will be on the right 410 ft, 1349 Bellevue Blvd N Bellevue, NE 68005, Long driveway on the east side of the street, follow drive to large cabin. Park on north side of the cabin.

July 8-10, 2010: Heartland Apiculture Society Annual Conference, location Campus of Tennessee Tech, Cookeville, Tennessee, for more information check out their website at: www.heartlandbees.com/

August 2-6, 2010: Eastern Apiculture Society Annual Conference, location Boone, North Carolina. For more information check out their website at: www.easternapiculture.org/

August 26, 2010: Bee Culture Entries due for Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island, NE

August 27-September 6, 2010: Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island, NE

August 30 –September 2, 2010: Western Apiculture Society Annual Conference, location Red Lion Hotel, Salem, Oregon

September 12, 2010: So You Want to Know About Honey Bees, location near Chapman, NE, presenter Keith Nielson

October:

November 20 2010: Monthly Meeting at Agricultural Research and Development Center, 1071 County Road B, Ithaca,, Presenters Kirk Webster, Dr. Marion Ellis and UNL graduate students

For the good of the association

Please welcome the following new members to the association: Karen Murch-Shafer, Blair and Blake Schoenhals of Grand Island.

Proposed Constitutional Change to NBA Constitution

The following changes to the constitution and bylaws were proposed at our May meeting. They should be voted on at our next regular meeting on July 10th requiring a 2/3 majority of a quorum.

BYLAWS ARTICLE II

Current: Section 3. "Lifetime" - If a member donates a sum of \$250 he/she shall become a "Lifetime" member of the Association and has all the rights of a "Regular" member for as long as he/she lives.

Proposed Change: Section 3. "Lifetime" - A lifetime membership may be purchased for \$300. A "Lifetime" member has all the rights of a "Regular" member for as long as he/she lives.

CONSTITUTION ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS and BYLAWS ARTICLE III Section 5 Subsection IV

Current: ARTICLE IV: The elected officers of the Association shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and the Program, Information, Fair, and Membership Coordinators. Together these elected Officers form the Executive Committee. The holders of these offices must be Regular members throughout their term of office.

Subsection IV: Membership Director - She/he shall act as coordinator in seeking new members and scheduling volunteers for association activities.

Proposed Change: The elected officers of the Association shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and the Program, Information, and Fair Coordinators. Together these elected Officers form the Executive Committee. The holders of these offices must be Regular members throughout their term of office.

Delete Subsection IV: Membership Director - She/he shall act as coordinator in seeking new members and scheduling volunteers for association activities

Justification: This is a duplication of the office of the Treasurer and the Information Coordinator. This position has often been appointed by the President because members have not accepted the responsibility of the position once it has been appointed. Officers of the association attend Beginning Beekeeper Workshops set up by UNL Extension and man the Nebraska State Fair Booth

CONSTITUTION ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

Current: A minimum of eight meetings shall be scheduled on the second Saturday of the month.

Proposed change 1: A minimum of eight meetings will be held per year. The time and location of the meetings will be publicized in the association newsletter with at least two months notice.

This proposed change would allow us to be flexible in scheduling our meetings to meet the religious needs of our members by not scheduling all meetings on a Saturday or Sunday.

Proposed change 2: Add the following: The meetings held in January and July will be focused on the business of the Association.

This proposed change would allow us to focus on informational programs at six of the eight scheduled meetings. July meeting is used to organize for the Nebraska State Fair and January is to recognize our members and scholarship participants.

Proposed change 3: Add the following: Meetings will be held in Eastern Nebraska.

This proposed change is not fair to members who live in areas outside of eastern Nebraska and requires them to drive extreme distances to attend an informational program or meeting.

Proposed change 4: Change "A minimum of eight meetings" to "A minimum of twelve meetings"
This change would contradict Proposed Change 1

Proposed change 5: Add the following: An effort will be made to hold meetings near the second weekend of the month.

This proposed change would not allow for flexibility of dates, such as holding meetings on a week night as we have done in the past and making allowances for holidays and community events that are held i.e. graduations, Mothers Day, Easter,

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sirs,

Our church is having bible school June 7 - June 11. Our theme for this year is Planet Zoom. The entire curriculum is about bees. We think it would be amazing to have some information about bees to teach the children while also teaching them about how to be a bee-liever in Christ. It would be really amazing to have a hive or exhibit for a day or so. I have always enjoyed your exhibit at the state fair. Any help you could give would be great.

Our church is in Ruskin, Nebraska. I don't know if you have any members that live close to here, but any contact would be appreciated. Please let me know if you can help in any way. Thank you,
Carol Wulf, (402)621-0162, 1255 N Kansas Street, Superior, Ne 68978

Nebraska Bee Trading Cards

The Nebraska Beekeepers have honey bee trading cards that can be sent to a school classroom if the instructor sends a letter to Warren Nelson on school stationery with the number of students in the class and the beekeeper who is a member of the Nebraska Beekeepers Association that is presenting to the class. Bee trading cards that are sent out will require a \$5.00 shipping charge. For more information on the trading cards you can find it on the World Wide Web at <http://entomology.unl.edu/beekeeping/beecards/beecards.htm> .

RENEWAL TIME NOTICE

Members that needed to pay dues in June: Dan Hotovy

Memberships that are up for renewal in July are: None

Delinquent in May are: Kent Rasmussen

If you have paid your dues thank you, if you have not please use the membership form in this newsletter and please send them to Warren Nelson. If you have paid your dues and listed here please call Warren Nelson and he will send me a correction to your newsletter subscription. Note there is a dues increase to \$15.00 per year for single membership and a family rate of \$20.00 per year.

CATCH THE BUZZ

Very Different Microbes Acting In Concert May Be The Answer To CCD From the General Meeting Of Microbiology, San Diego, CA, May 25, 2010

New research from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) identifies a new potential cause for "Colony Collapse Disorder" in honeybees. A group of pathogens including a fungus and family of viruses may be working together to cause the decline. Scientists report their results today at the 110th General Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology in San Diego.

"There might be a synergism between two very different pathogens," says Jay Evans of the USDA Agricultural Research Service, a researcher on the study. "When they show up together there is a significant correlation with colony decline."

Beginning in October 2006, some beekeepers began reporting losses of 30-90 percent of their hives. Although colony losses are not unexpected during winter weather, the magnitude of loss suffered by some beekeepers was highly unusual.

“Domesticated honey bees face numerous pests and pathogens, tempting hypotheses that colony collapses arise from exposure to new or resurgent pathogens,” says Evans.

To better understand the cause of these collapses, in early 2007 Evans and his colleagues collected bees from both healthy and declining colonies across the country but primarily from California and Florida where most of the commercial pollination activity takes place. They have screened these samples and similar samples from each year since then for both known and novel pathogens.

They found a slightly higher incidence of a fungal pathogen known as *Nosema ceranae* in sick colonies, but it was not statistically significant until they began pairing it with other pathogens.

“Levels of the fungus were slightly higher in sick colonies, but the presence of that fungus and 2 or 3 RNA viruses from the family Dicistroviridae is a pretty strong predictor of collapse,” says Evans.

Nosema are transferred between bees via the fecal-oral route. When a bee initially ingests the microbes and they get to the mid-gut, they harpoon themselves into the gut wall and live inside the epithelial cells there. Evans believes that the slightly higher numbers of the fungus somehow compromise the gut wall and allow the viruses to overwhelm the bees. In colonies with higher Nosema numbers they found virus levels to be 2-3 times greater than healthy colonies.

While this is a working theory and they are still in the discovery phase looking for new pathogens, Evans and his colleagues are also actively looking for a way to boost bee defenses against Nosema.

“A way to protect against Nosema might be the key for now,” says Evans

‘Honest Honey’ Launched

Duty circumvention a threat to U.S. honey industry, honey supply quality

WASHINGTON, May 6, 2010 – Four North American honey marketing companies and importers – Golden Heritage Foods, LLC, Burlson’s Inc., Odem International, and Dutch Gold Honey – today launched the Honest Honey Initiative and pledged to help protect the quality and reputation of the U.S. honey supply, as well as the sustainability of U.S. beekeepers and honey businesses. The initiative seeks to call attention to illegal sales of honey in circumvention of U.S. trade laws, a practice that the organizers estimate cost the United States up to \$200 million in uncollected duties in 2008 and 2009 combined and threatens a vital segment of U.S. agriculture.

The group unveiled a website, HonestHoney.com, an educational resource providing information about where honey comes from and ways consumers, honey companies, food manufacturers and retailers can take action to eliminate illegally imported honey.

“When honey is imported illegally, no-one can be confident of its true source and quality. Some products are not 100% honey and have other quality issues,” said Jill Clark of Dutch Gold Honey, Lancaster, Penn. “We’re asking people who buy and love honey to find out more about how the honey they enjoy is sourced. By raising awareness of unfair trade practices and taking the Honest Honey pledge, we hope to protect consumers and manufacturers who use honey, and to preserve the fair honey trade.”

While many Americans purchase packaged honey, an even broader population enjoys honey in such products as cereals, breads, cookies, crackers, breakfast bars, meats, salad dressings, barbeque sauces, mustards, beverages, ice creams, yogurts and candies.

“Pick an aisle at the grocery store and you’ll probably find at least one honey product there,” said Clark. “It’s a product that is added because of its wholesome, pure quality and taste, which is all the more reason why this issue is important.”

“I’m glad that efforts like Honest Honey are educating people, because the quality of honey does matter – it matters to consumers and it matters to our nation’s bee industry,” said Dennis vanEngelsdorp, a honey bee researcher at Pennsylvania State University. “Illegally imported adulterated honey simply adds yet another problem to an already hurting bee industry.”

“We estimate that millions of pounds of Chinese honey continue to enter the U.S. from countries that do not have commercial honey businesses,” said Clark. “For example, countries such as Indonesia, Malaysia, Taiwan, Thailand, the Philippines and Mongolia raise few bees and have no history of producing honey in commercial quantities, yet have recently exported large amounts of honey to the United States.

“Honey has earned a special place in people’s hearts and minds as a wholesome, natural food. We want to protect that reputation and quality,” said Clark. **The Honest Honey Initiative** is an effort by a number of honey companies and importers to call attention to the problem of illegally sourced honey; to encourage action to protect consumers and customers from these practices; and to highlight and support legal, transparent and ethical sourcing. The initiative seeks to help maintain the reputation of honey as a high-quality, highly valued food and further sustain the U.S. honey sector. Learn more at www.HonestHoney.com.

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Nebraska Honey Standard Update

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE SECOND SESSION LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 426

Introduced by Dubas, 34.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the honeybee industry in the State of Nebraska. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An examination of the rules and regulations administered by the Department of Agriculture relating to the honeybee industry; and
- (2) An examination of state and federal definitions of honey.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

UNL Entomology Department

There are some new faces in the apiculture lab. Bethany Teeters from Wisconsin has begun working on sub-lethal responses to pesticides. Kayode Akinwande from Lagos, Nigeria has also begun a year of study.

Apis mellifera andersonii is the native bee in Nigeria and Akinwande is investigating ways to select and improve them for beekeeping. Both of them are talented researchers that you can look forward to meeting at a future association meeting.

The Master Beekeeping Workshop is full and has a waiting list. All of our beekeeping workshops have had record attendance this year.

Marion Ellis

Membership and Membership Renewal Form

Please fill out the following information completely and legibly by printing the information

NEW MEMBER [] RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP [] 1 YR @ \$15 [] 2YR @ \$30[]

[] 1 YR Family Membership @ \$20.00 [] 2 YR Family Membership \$35 (Newsletter will be sent to one member of the household, members of the immediate family will have voting privileges.)

DATE: _____

NAME: _____ . Spouse _____

Children _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

County: _____

Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Please send my newsletters by e-mail. Please send my newsletter by the postal service.

Make checks payable to the "*Nebraska Beekeepers Association*"

Mail to: Warren Nelson, 2839 N46th, Lincoln, NE 68504

* Dues are payable by January 31 for the current year running from January 1- December 31. *

** Dues are prorated for new members only at the rate of \$1.25 per month through December 31. **

*** Special rates on "Bee Culture" and "American Bee Journal" with membership to the state association.***

Treasurers Reports

May 2010

\$18,999.22 **Beginning Balance 4/26/10**

\$30.00 Pierson - Dues

\$8.00 Schoenhals - Dues

\$30.00 Slater - Dues

\$40.00 Murch-Shafer - Dues

\$108.00 **Total Income**

\$20.00 InformationAnalytics - Domain Registration

\$20.00 **Total Expenses**

\$19,087.22 **Ending Balance 5/27/10**

Nebraska State Fair Honey Bids

Bottled honey, beeswax, comb honey, creamed honey, and other bee culture items sold at the Nebraska Beekeepers Association State Fair booth are now being taken. Bottled and processed honey requires that it be processed in a processing facility that has a State of Nebraska health inspection and can only come from members who are in good standing in the Nebraska Beekeepers Association. The NBA Board of Directors reserves the right to accept or reject all or part of a bid. Items and quantity of products used at the 2007 State Fair were: 6500 honey sticks of various flavors, 65 of the 1 oz wax, 10 of the 6 oz wax, Liquid honey, 107 of

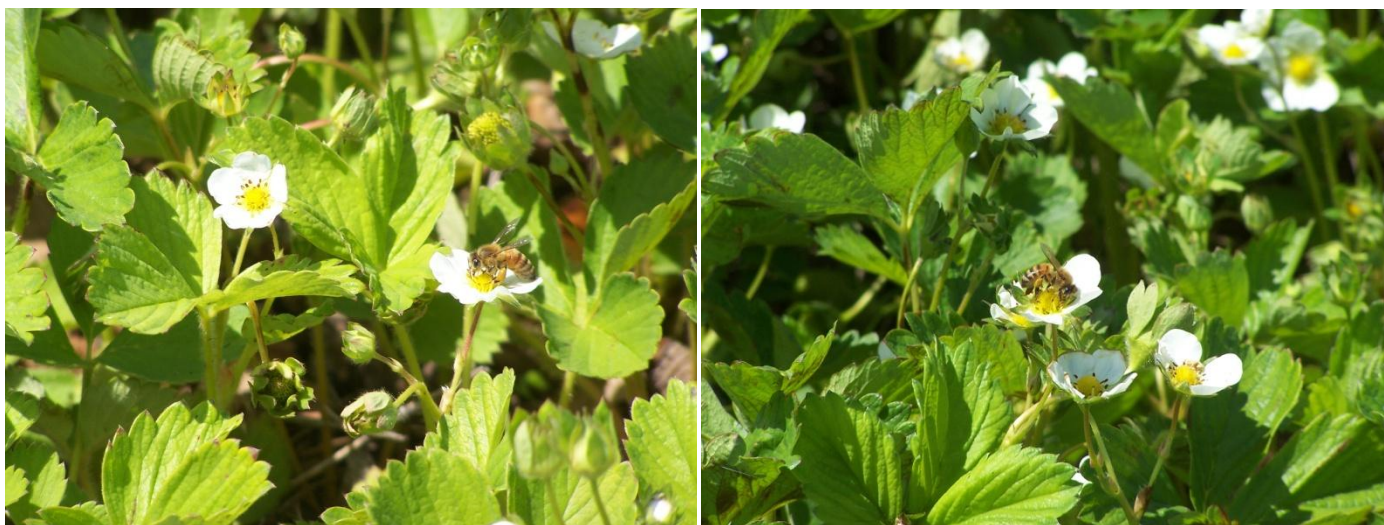
the 8 oz bears, 126 of the 12 oz bears, 54 of the 1 lb glass jars, 138 of the 24 oz bears, 36 of the 2 lb glass jars, 30 of the 3 lb plastic jugs, 23 of the 5 lb plastic jugs, 13 of the 12 lb plastic jugs, 169 comb honey blocks, 36 frames of comb honey for cut square bites, 12 of the 8 oz pollen, 200 jars of 8 oz cream honey mixed flavors, 300 lbs of honey in pail for ice cream 125 honey suckers. Bids need to go to Mike Slater. 118 Robinhood Ave., Plattsmouth, NE 68048. There should be a due date of June 10, 2010 and that have a health department inspected and approved kitchen.

Honey Pots Bid

Bids for the honey pots for 2010 Best of Show at the Nebraska State Fair are being taken. Pot should be able to hold one pound of honey and have a food grade glaze on the inside of the pot. Also need to include a honey dipper. The words "Nebraska Beekeepers Association 2010" is to be included on the honey pot. Samples of work can be sent to Warren Nelson, 2839 N 46th, Lincoln, NE 68504.

Pollination by Bees at Work

Robert C. Davis of Eagle, Nebraska sent me the two photos below of honeybees pollinating his strawberry patch. Can you find the busy bee? Most people do not realize that honeybees pollinate a third of the food we eat. Thanks Robert for sending in the photos. With a little cropping of the photos they would make great entries into the Nebraska State Fair.



Nebraska State Fair

The Bee Culture Premium book for the Nebraska State Fair can be found online at <http://www.statefair.org/fair/competitions/documents/BeeCulture-2010.pdf>.

Bee Culture Exhibits are located at the Grand Stand Concourse Bee Culture Exhibit Area.

Entries accepted until 7:00 pm, Thursday, August 26, 2010.

Judging will begin at 9:00 am, Friday, August 27, 2009, in the Grand Stand Concourse Bee Culture Exhibit Area.

Exhibitors wishing to ship entries should address packages to: Nebraska State Fair Office, Bee Culture, PO 1387, Grand Island NE 68802. Entries must be received no later than Thursday, August 26, in order to be ready Friday, August 27 for judging at 9:00 am. Entries delivered to the Bee Culture exhibits on Thursday, August 26 will be accepted until 7:00 pm. **Entries received later than Thursday, will be considered "For Display Only".**

Please pack exhibits for shipping with care so glass jars will not be broken or damaged during transit.

Association Exhibits only, must be in place by 8:00 am, August 27, 2010. Associations wishing to place exhibits in the Educational Area should contact the Superintendent to make arrangements.

Please note that a separate Youth Division is available for entrants who are 18 or under. While only Youth can enter the Youth Division, the Open Class Division is open to all ages, including Youth

Nebraska Beekeepers Assn
C/O Keith Nielson
865 Leonard Ave
Polk, NE 68654

Editorial- It was good to see a mix of members at the meeting at Chapman that included new and old, scholarship winners, local and from a distance. I hope that I provided the membership with some useful information on increasing colonies. After this last winters losses I felt that increasing colonies would benefit my operation and there are several ways to go about the process. Since I a using stock that wintered through harsh conditions they should make excellent colonies to meet our weather conditions.

Two of last year's scholarship winners have captured a swarm and are increasing their colonies. This leads into the next topic SWARM SEASON, starting the last week on May I have had several calls about swarms and removing them. If you are a beekeeper and want swarms, contact your local UNL Cooperative Extension Service, local police and sheriff's departments to let them know that you will catch swarms. Also let me know as well since I field e-mails and phone calls on swarms. If you get a picture of a swarm please send it to me and I will give you credit for the photo on the associations web site.

In the letters to the editor is a letter that I received about a program for vacation bible school. Seems like this year's theme for bible schools across the state are Bee-liver and I have had several calls on materials for these programs or beekeepers that can assist their programs. If you get a call for one of these programs it is because you were the closest beekeeper to where the bible school is being held.

On June 8, Paul Timm, and Steve Schmit and I will be presenting a workshop for Nebraska Agricultural Educators on beekeeping and how it relates to education and value added products. Miranda Kegley one of last years scholarship winners will do presentations to groups of students that will be participants of SOAR on June 14 & 21 near Kearney.

Finally, the Queen Bee is on the mend and has her flying privileges back.

Keith Nielson, Editor
Nebraska Beekeepers Assn.