

# NEBRASKA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

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

August Beeline 2008



## Secretary's Corner

The Nebraska Beekeepers met July 8 at 6:00 pm at Mike bushes house for a potluck. After dinner Mike demonstrated different methods of harvesting honey. Ways of getting bees off the frames are blowing with a leaf blower - brushing them off with a bee brush - using Bee Go & similar products. One thing to know about Bee Go is it smells real bad & can get on shoes & clothes. Mike demonstrated different methods of straining honey also. Thank you Mike.

Old business) we had two bids on supplying honey for the state fair. The board members chose Valhalla honey farm. The fall conference is November. 21 - 22 - 23. A motion was made & seconded to advertise in the American Bee Journal & Bee Culture magazine. For September and October. They will be 1/8 page ads. A motion was made & seconded to charge 95.00 for the conference for the 3 days. This is not a money maker but we have to cover expenses.

New business: some members have signed up to work the state fair. If you prefer one day to work please call me at 402-895-3766. The fair dates are Friday August 22 -September. 1. First full day of the fair is Saturday August. 23 but we have to man our booth Friday August. 22 in the evening from 5 - 9 as the other buildings are open also. There are 3 shifts each day: 9AM-1PM, 1PM-5PM & 5PM-9PM. You can work one shift or as many as you'd like. For each day you work you will receive a ticket to get in free. We also need a manager to work each day. The y work from 9 am - 9 pm. When managers sign up they will receive instructions on their duties. Next meeting is August. 8 at Mike Terneus bee yard.

Joann Vasko, Secretary

## **Reprinted from CATCH THE BUZZ**

**Gas prices encourage people to stay close to home and Farmers' markets increase in popularity**  
**From Central Valley News\**

"Staycation" has become a new word in American vocabularies this summer as people cope with high gasoline prices by looking for activities close to home.

California farmers' markets appear to be benefiting from that trend, and from consumer interest in purchasing locally grown foods.

Markets across the state are seeing increased volume, say growers, as consumers try to eat local.

"They are looking for a great place to go that's local," says Randii MacNear, secretary of the California Federation of Certified Farmers Markets, based in Davis, of the growing number of customers.

"We have many, many cities that want to have farmers markets and everyday we get requests from cities that want to start farmers markets," says Ms. MacNear.

**SECRETARY SCHAFFER AWARDS \$21.8 MILLION IN GRANTS TO STATES FOR  
THE SENIOR FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM**

WASHINGTON, July 30, 2008 - Agriculture Secretary Ed Schafer today announced \$21 million in final Fiscal Year 2008 grant awards to 49 state agencies and tribal organizations for the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program. These senior's markets provide low-income seniors with coupons exchanged for fresh produce at farmers' markets, roadside stands and community-supported agriculture programs.

"The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program provides low-income seniors with improved nutrition choices while also helping local farmers gain new customers who will eat more fresh fruits and vegetables," said Schafer.

These grants will serve more than 900,000 low-income senior citizens nationwide this season. This year, coupons for fresh produce will be accepted by over 14,000 farmers at more than 5,100 markets, roadside stands and/or community-supported agriculture programs.

The new Farm Bill provides \$20.6 million to operate the seniors' market grants this year, an increase of \$5.6 million in appropriated funds. An additional \$1.2 million in FY 2007 unspent funds are also available for use. All 46 State agencies that received funding in 2007 will receive funding in 2008. In addition, 2 new State agencies - Arizona and New Mexico - and one new Indian Tribal Organization - Standing Rock Sioux in North Dakota - will receive funding.

**FY 2008 SFMNP FINAL GRANT LEVELS**

Alabama	\$1,732,673
Alaska	\$92,065
Arizona * (New State Agency)	\$161,111
Arkansas	\$119,666
California	\$809,837
Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma	\$177,985
Connecticut	\$87,688
District of Columbia	\$154,926
Five Sandoval Indian Pueblos, Inc.	\$19,240
Florida	\$104,903
Georgia	\$250,000
Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians	\$9,592
Hawaii	\$553,412
Illinois	\$852,695
Indiana	\$59,604
Iowa	\$573,087
Kansas	\$188,580
Kentucky	\$316,371
Louisiana	\$418,972
Maine	\$997,454
Maryland	\$224,622
Massachusetts	\$555,915
Michigan	\$241,701
Minnesota	\$118,536
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians	\$28,451

Mississippi	\$102,388
Montana	\$101,920
Nebraska	\$246,775
Nevada	\$164,125
New Hampshire	\$101,431
New Jersey	\$1,171,273
New Mexico * (New State Agency)	\$337,004
New York	\$1,906,553
North Carolina	\$86,083
Ohio	\$1,719,840
Oregon	\$906,879
Osage Tribal Council	\$38,140
Pennsylvania	\$1,907,481
Pueblo of San Felipe	\$17,474
Puerto Rico	\$1,000,000
Rhode Island	\$276,740
Standing Rock * (New State Agency)	\$22,200
South Carolina	\$638,737
Tennessee	\$545,887
Vermont	\$91,479
Virginia	\$474,337
Washington	\$241,576
West Virginia	\$544,630
Wisconsin	\$343,944
NATIONAL TOTAL	\$21,835,982

USDA's nutrition assistance reaches one in five Americans every year, serving as the nation's first line of defense against hunger. USDA's 15 assistance programs include the Food Stamp Program, Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, school meals programs and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, known as WIC.

**Plus, there's money to be had....**

**Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP)**

Meanwhile....take advantage of this windfall of new customers.

The Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) was created through a recent amendment of the Farmer-to-Consumer Direct Marketing Act of 1976. The grants, authorized by the FMPP, are targeted to help improve and expand domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs and other direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities. Approximately \$5 million is allocated for FMPP for Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010 and \$10 million for Fiscal Years 2011 and 2012. The maximum amount awarded for any one proposal cannot exceed \$75,000. Entities eligible to apply include agricultural cooperatives, local governments, nonprofit corporations, public health corporations, economic development corporations, regional farmers market authorities and Tribal governments.

### **State Fair Volunteers Needed**

Rudy and Joann Vasko will manage the Nebraska Beekeepers Association booth at Agricultural Hall at the Nebraska State Fair again this year. They need our help in manning the booth by dishing honey ice cream, selling the product that funds our association, playing Bee Benson, and tending the observation hives, and answering questions about beekeeping. Weekends are the busiest times but need workers for weekdays as well. Check your schedules and give them a call and book your time at the booth. Also it is time to start thinking about what you want to enter into the state fair, check out the following web address for Bee Culture classes at state fair.

[http://www.statefair.org/upld/file\\_beebookeight.pdf](http://www.statefair.org/upld/file_beebookeight.pdf)

**Reprinted from CATCH THE BUZZ**

## **Fungus Could Save Bees If Application Technique Works...**

Researchers at the University of Warwick are examining naturally occurring fungi that kill the varroa mite. They are also exploring a range of ways to deliver the killer fungus throughout the hives from bee fungal foot baths to powder sprays. It well known that bees worldwide are suffering serious declines and one of the causes of that decline is the varroa mite, Varroa destructor. Varroa mites feed on the circulatory fluid of honey bee pupae and adult bees, and in so doing they activate and transmit diseases which reduce the life expectancy of the bees and cause the colony to decline. Varroa has had a major impact in all countries where it has become established, for example it has caused losses of 30–50% of honey bee colonies when it first arrived in the UK and is now endemic. The loss of honey bees on this scale is affecting the pollination of commercial crops and wild plants. It originates in Asia, but has extended its range world-wide. At present, the management of varroa is based on the use of chemical pesticides, but the mites are developing resistance. Biological control technologies (the use of one organism to control another) could offer a way of moving pest management strategies away from a reliance on these synthetic pesticides but no natural insect or other enemies of varroa species have been identified on the varroa or on their bee hosts.

Now Defra-funded studies by researchers at the University of Warwick's plant research group Warwick HRI, and Rothamsted Research has found some new natural enemies of varroa from other hosts. University of Warwick researcher Dr Dave Chandler said: "We examined 50 different types of fungi that afflict other insects (known as entomopathogenic fungi) to see if they would kill varroa. We needed to find fungi that were effective killers of varroa, had a low impact on the bees, and worked in the warm and dry conditions typically found in bee hives. Of the original 50 fungi we are now focusing on four that best match those three requirements."

The team now hope to secure additional funding to further examine the effectiveness of these four fungi and to begin to consider the best ways of applying this weapon across the hive. A number of approaches are being considered including having fungal footbaths at the main entrances to hives. However the complex environment within bee hives means that more devious means of application may be needed.

Dr Chandler will be hosting the Society for Invertebrate Pathology international conference at the University of Warwick, starting 4th August, where a special session is being held on honey bee health. The session will bring together some the world's leading experts in bee colony collapse disorder to discuss the full range of its possible underlying causes.

### **Classified Advertisements**

**For Sale:** 55 gallon food grade barrels with lids. \$10.00 each. Contact Warren Nelson at 402-466-8173 or e-mail [wnelson193@neb.rr.com](mailto:wnelson193@neb.rr.com).

**Equipment for Sale:** Ron Cowden was a beekeeper in Lincoln, NE. He recently passed away and his family has donated all of his beekeeping equipment to the University of Nebraska - Lincoln Department of Entomology. The University does not need the equipment so they are selling everything with the money going to the Department of Entomology. The equipment list is as follows:

Dadant 25 gallon water jacketed bottling tank with electric stir system

Walter T. Kelley Stainless Steel Storage Tank

Walter T. Kelley Stainless Steel Melting Tank

Drum Band Heater

2" Metal Honey Gate

1/3 hp Honey Pump

Walter T. Kelley Wax Melter

Maxant 24"x61" Stainless Steel Clarifying Tank with two 220 heaters

Woodman style Galvanized 45 frame Radial Electric Extractor

2-55 gallon Steel Barrels with gates (could be used for mixing and dispensing syrup)

Should you have an interest in any of these please contact Warren Nelson at 402-466-8173 or e-mail [wnelson193@neb.rr.com](mailto:wnelson193@neb.rr.com). Warren has agreed to sell the items for the University with the proceeds going to the Department of Entomology.

**For Sale:** Four frame extractor, \$200. Also available bulk honey. Contact Pat Chandler @ Chandler's Sandhill Honey, Anselmo, NE Phone: 308-880-1733 or 308-749-2252

### **Wanted Colonies of Bees**

Would like to buy complete colonies of bees, Mike Toukan, Phone 308-379-9170

### **Wanted Bees**

Gerald Kudlaek, Brainard, NE, 402-641-3338, would like a beekeeper to put bees on his property.

Ken Musil, 49779 867th Road, Inman, NE 68742-4205 Phone: (402) 394-5300, Email:

[moosemeadow@kmtel.net](mailto:moosemeadow@kmtel.net). I was wondering if there were any beekeepers in the Inman/O'Neill area that would be interested in putting some "bee boxes" in our hay meadow? We have many natural wildflowers and sweet clover in the meadow. We really wouldn't want anything for it - perhaps a jar of honey!

### **Upcoming Events:**

**August 8:** 6:00PM, Varroa Monitoring, Mike Terneus bee yard, presented by Mike Bush & Joe Strecker  
It'll be a potluck dinner so everyone is encouraged to bring a main course and/or side dish if possible. Since we're in a field, please also bring your own drinks, dinnerware, and folding chairs. I plan to set up a white shade for people to get out of the sun. Don't forget your bee gear!

The beeyard is just before the Platte River, heading south on Hwy 75. Directions are as follows: From the intersection of Cornhusker Road and Kennedy Freeway (also called Hwy 75) in Bellevue, go south 6.4 miles. Soon after passing the traffic light at La Platte Rd, look for a right turn onto a gravel driveway that winds around several ponds. A good land mark is a sign for campgrounds. Follow the driveway until you see an abandoned mobile home on your right side. We'll be parking in the field just beyond the mobile home. (Attached is a map that you might be able to put into the newsletter if you feel it necessary). If anyone gets lost, please feel free to call me on my cell phone at 660-5988.

**August 17-21** Western Apicultural Society Annual Conference, Victoria, British Columbia, Info: e-mail: [mpitcher@uvic.ca](mailto:mpitcher@uvic.ca)

**August 22-September 1:** Nebraska State Fair, Agricultural Hall, State Fair Grounds, Lincoln, NE

**September 14:** 1:00PM Beginners Field Day, at Mike Bush's. at Gretna

**October 11:** Bee Basics, Gretna Library, Gretna Library, presenter Mike Bush

**November 14:** Deadline to register for Chemical Free Workshop; submit registrations to Nancy Holman Southeast Community College, Continuing Education Division, 301 South 68th Street Place, Lincoln, NE 68510, phone 402-437-2712, fax 402-437-2703

**November 21-23:** Chemical Free Beekeeping Workshop at Southeast Community College, Lincoln NE, Current speakers confirmed are: Dee Lusby, Randy Quinn, Dean Stiglitz, Laurie Herboldsheimer, Corwin Bell, Kelley Simmons, and Michael Bush. Topics Small cell beekeeping, Experiences in natural cell beekeeping, Bee

breeding, Top bar hives, Natural cell size and varroa, Small cell management, several others are in the process of deciding and making arrangements details will be updated as available.

**November 22:** 10:00 AM Bee Basics presented by Mike Bush, Gretna Library, Gretna NE.

**December 13:** 10:00 AM Equipment Basics, Gretna Library, Gretna NE.

**January 11, 2009:** 1:00 PM, Annual Meeting, Location to be determined.

**January 17, 2009:** 10:00 AM Equipment Workshop, presenters Mike Bush and others, at Hershel Staats.

**February 14, 2009:** 10:00 AM presentation by Dr. Marion Ellis, Gretna Library, Gretna NE

**March 6 & 7, 2009:** Missouri State Beekeepers Association and the Kansas Honey Producers joint meeting at the Marriott Hotel, Overland Park, KS.



Traffic light for La Platte Rd

[Directions to Mike Terrneus Bee Yard]

Bees

Park in this field

Take this driveway to the West and then North

## Recipes from the National Honey Board

### **Barbecued Pork Steaks**

A recipe provided by the National Pork Producers Council

- Makes 4 servings -

#### **Ingredients**

- 4 pork blade steaks, cut 1 to 1-1/4-inch thick
- 1/2 cup bottled barbecue sauce
- 1/3 cup honey
- 1 Tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon garlic salt
- 1/2 teaspoon prepared mustard

### **Directions**

Pound steaks with meat mallet. For sauce, in a small bowl, combine remaining ingredients; mix well. Place steaks on grill about 4 inches above medium-slow coals. Cook about 8 minutes on each side. Brush steaks with sauce and continue cooking 5 minutes more, turning and brushing with sauce.

### **Letters to the Editor**

#### **RENEWAL TIME NOTICE**

Membership is up for renewal in August: George Bunnel, Randy Hartman.

Please pay \$5.00 to continue your membership to January or \$17.00 will pay your membership to January of 2010.

Membership up for renewal in September: Earl Pate

Please pay \$4.00 to continue your membership to January or \$16.00 will pay your membership to January of 2010

## Nebraska Beekeepers Gear

<u>Items</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>Total</u>
Nebraska Beekeepers T-Shirts			
<b><u>Kids T-Shirts</u></b>	Small 6/8	\$8.00	
	Medium 10/12	\$8.00	
	Large 14/16	\$8.00	
<b><u>Adult T-Shirts</u></b>	Small	\$9.00	
	Medium	\$9.00	
	Large	\$9.00	
	X Large	\$9.00	
	XX Large	\$10.00	
	XXX Large	\$11.00	
	T-Shirt Shipping	\$3.00	
<b><u>Association Wind breakers:</u></b>			
Jackets are flannel lined and have straight pockets. There is a choice of yellow w/black lettering or black w/yellow lettering. Our logo is screen printed on the jacket			
___ Yellow w/black lettering ___ Black w/yellow lettering	Small	\$19.05	
	Medium	\$19.05	
	Large	\$19.05	
	X Large	\$19.05	
	XX Large	\$22.20	
	Name –Screen Printed	\$4.15	
	Name- Embroidered	\$7.30	
Name lettering			
<b><u>Name Tag</u></b>	Pin Backing	\$15.00	
	Magnetic Backing	\$16.50	
	Shipping	\$2.00	
Name Tag lettering			
<b><u>Bee Cards</u></b> Set of 18 Individually wrapped sets @ \$1.00 each sold in sets of 50 only	\$50.00		
<b><u>Bee Cards</u></b> Bulk wrapped sets of 100 @ \$30.00 per 100	\$30.00		
Shipping (If you need cards brought to a meeting, call or e-mail Warren Nelson. Individually wrapped sets can be purchased in lesser quantities)	\$3.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>			

**Make checks payable to the “Nebraska Beekeepers Association”. Mail to: Bill Gustafson, 615 Brookside Dr. Lincoln, NE 68506. Thank you for your purchases.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_, Shipping Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

## **Editorial**

Linda and I went to Anaheim California for the Elks Grand Lodge Convention right after the fourth of July; we loved all of the flora that was around the convention center and the hotel that we stayed. When we were out walking I had an eye out looking to spot some honey bees. I did not spot one bee of any type while we were there but did see some moths and butterflies. There was a field at the end of road several blocks from the hotel that had been plowed under. This field was probably about three city block long that had been used for strawberry production.

My other travels this last month has included three county fairs (Hamilton, Polk, & Merrick) were I meet two other beekeepers that were not members of the association. After visiting with these beekeepers one became a member and the other I believe will join. It is amazing how the Mid-West Master Beekeeping Workshop cap gains the attention of people. I wear my cap proudly and am always ready to answer people's questions about beekeeping and the association.

I noticed this week while I have been out haying and irrigating that the smartweed has just started to bloom so we are preparing for our honey harvest. Linda and I made a trip on a hot Saturday afternoon and bought some barrels from Warren Nelson that are food grade quality. So if you need good storage barrels talk to Warren he has plenty on hand and they are reasonably priced. We are in the process of putting together our uncapping tanks thanks to the advice of Charlie Simonds. Linda is just waiting patiently for me to bring all of the harvesting gear into her kitchen.

While doing association business I have visited with other beekeepers both unseasoned and seasoned in the harvesting of their crop. For the beginners some are concerned about whether they will have any honey to extract while the season beekeepers are delighted that their crop will be larger than last years. I hope that all of our members harvest some honey from their hives.

Unfortunately I have not heard from our state president this month. I hope all is well in Iraq with him and my thoughts and prayers are for him each day that he is overseas.

Keith E. Nielson  
Nebraska Beekeepers Association Editor

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