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June 11, 2022
Summer Field Day
Smitty Bee Honey: Defiance Iowa
Meeting location: Therkildsen Activity Center - Harlan, Iowa

November 11-12
Annual Fall Conference

The Iowa State Fair is right around the corner!
Find out details about volunteering at the IHPA Booth on Page 13
Hello and welcome to another addition of my ramblings! Boy, it has been a crazy month for me filled with chilly cold days and then sweltering hot ones. I mean, where in the heck is spring?? One day feels like winter and the next feels like mid-summer around here!?! It’s driving me nuts. Starting off April you heard that I was out in California working bees and picking up my Carniolan package orders to bring back to Iowa and all the fun of that trip. Fortunately everything worked out exactly perfect. I had been a little worried about temps and storms as I had noted, but I did slip right between all the mess and actually had the best year ever for keeping the girls the perfect temp and avoiding problems. Later that month I headed down to Mississippi where I grabbed my order of Russian packages from Richard Coy and brought them back home here to Iowa. That trip too went very smoothly. About the only thing I needed to worry about was the effects of the crawfish boil the Coy family invited me to before it was time to load me up and hit the road! For those of you not in the loop, once you have bees loaded up, the best way to keep them the perfect temp (keep them from overheating) is just to keep driving and letting the right amounts of air push through the stacks. My trailer is built with temperature probes and various venting options to allow me to do this just right. Well, a spicy crawfish boil that this Iowa boy belly is not used to was something for me to worry about. That too was just fine. I got home and was met by Tyler Holton who had buzzed down to my place and helped me unload all the girls into the holding room with fans blowing over them. Distribution went pretty.

From there it was a mad rush with making splits into nucs and singles across our operation. The one day it was cool, cloudy, and misting off and on. The next day it would be sunny and sticky... Come on Mother Nature, figure your season out! The splits and nucs have been looking great and have accepted their queens really well. I love seeing all those fresh eggs being put down. Speaking of nucs, a few days ago I was able to return the good deed to Holtons by helping to unload their shipment of nucs they brought in as well. It was one of those 90⁰+ days and boy did the yard turn into a cloud of bees when we got all the doors open. The girls were super happy to come out and stretch their wings a bit.

Andy and I are still working out the details of Bee Camp for the end of this month of May. For this year we have it open to just the current year scholarship students. For those of you who haven’t heard about this program, it is the brain child of myself and Andrew Joseph. Andy is always talking about the scout trips he takes his son on, and it gave me the idea of doing a weekend camp retreat for our scholarship students. Yes, they have had the beginner classes, but really a LOT of what you really learn as a beekeeper is through seeing and doing. So for one weekend here we are taking the students to a camp retreat that has bee hives on the property. We’ll take them through a series of classes we have prepared, feed them, give them relax time, and have heated/cooled cabins they can stay the night in. The whole point is to give them the strongest foundation we can for being successful with beekeeping. No giant classes where students can get lost in the shuffle. Just good individual attention. Your IHPA board has it as an independent program while we are in the beginning stages here, but it might get absorbed into the regular Youth Scholarship program as a requirement in future years. I’m sure we’ll take a bunch of photos and some video to share on the IHPA Facebook page as it happens.

Well, I better say my goodbyes here, I need to head back to a bee yard today where a construction crew decided to back a skid loader over an entire pallet of colonies yesterday. I got it all put back together as best as possible, but I’m worried some queens might have been squashed or lost in the mix. About the only positive to the whole thing is the look of misery and pain on the face of the loader operator. Those girls lit that guy up!!! He claimed he didn’t know what the white boxes were in his defense of how/why he backed over them. So we commented, “So you are in the habit of running over pallets of stacked materials on job sites?” He just stared blankly at us with no response. Oh-boy!
Hello everyone,

We are on a countdown for our 2022 Field Day. I'm excited about all the new topics and events that we’ll be having this year. Here are more of the educational happenings that will occur on June 11th.

When IHPA has a variety of programs you may wonder if the programs are going to be successful? Am I really going to learn something from the program? You will see how successful the Youth Scholarship program is at Field Day. Madison Stewart will be leading “the inspection of a hive” for youth and all registrants attending. What a wonderful feeling our IHPA members will have when they see our youth becoming involved when we have a major event.

Beekeepers must have a knowledge of not only how to care for their bees, but what is happening around the world with their “liquid gold” honey. Our field day happenings will start off with education about not only Iowa honey, but honey from other countries. You may never have an opportunity to view a honey production and processing operation like Smitty Bee Honey.

Be sure to attend our 110th year of IHPA events. Send your registration in for the 2022 Field Day.

-Cheri

About the Field Day Presenters

Julia McGuire
Julia inherited her honey bees when her daughter, a youth scholarship winner, left for college. Since then, she has captured swarms, removed bees from trees, taught beekeeping classes, and coordinated her local club meetings. Being involved in the Women, Food, and Agriculture Network and the Iowa Farmers Union put her in touch with civic engagement, research, and outreach, leading her to create BeeLaws.org and author the Phenology Planner for Beekeepers.

Madison Stewart
Madison is an 11th grade student at Adel DeSoto Minburn High School. She is involved in band, speech, rugby, and FFA. In her spare time, she works as a kennel attendant at Summit Vet Clinic. Madison has been a beekeeper since she received an IHPA Youth Scholarship in 2019. Her favorite part of being a beekeeper is the experience in learning all about bees. This year, she hopes to add more hives to her apiary, have a successful overwintering experience, and learn how to split one of her hives. Madison is excited to guide and teach other students in beekeeping.
Iowa Honey Producers Association

2022 Summer Field Day
Saturday, June 11, 2022
“110 years old....And Still Going Strong”

8:00 AM - Tour of Smitty Bee Honey, Defiance, Iowa
9:30 AM - C. G. Therkildsen Activity Center, Harlan, Iowa

This will be a full day of knowledge exchange for beekeepers of all levels. A delicious lunch is included in the registration cost.

NAME:_________________________________________
ADDRESS:_________________________________________
CITY:__________________ ZIP:_____________________
PHONE: (___)_________ EMAIL:_____________________

Registration Amount
Single (member): $40.00 before June 4, 2022
Number attending: ______ x $40.00 = ______
After June 5, 2022
Number attending: ______ x $50.00 = ______

Single (non-member): $50.00 before June 4, 2022
Number attending: ______ x $50.00 = ______
After June 5, 2022
Number attending: ______ x $60.00 = ______
Walk-ins (members and non-members): x $70.00= ______

***Walk-ins on June 11, 2022 are welcome, however lunch may be unavailable.***

Meal Choices: (Please check your choice)

___ Lasagna, Salad, Bread Stick
___ Chicken Salad on Croissant Roll, Fresh Fruit, Chips

Please send your registration forms by June 4, 2022 to;
Lisa Montgomery,
2543 170th Street,
Livermore, Iowa 50558

Hotel: If you need hotel arrangements, a block of rooms have been assigned to IHPA at the Baymont Hotel, 5015 Ridgeway Drive, Harlan, Iowa. 712-560-4955. Please mention IHPA when you register.

Camping: Prairie Rose State Park is also an excellent option for any camping enthusiasts wanting to make it into a whole weekend adventure.
680 Road M47, Harlan, IA 51537
Ph. 712-773-2701 www.Prairie_Rose@dnr.iowa.gov

Got questions? E-mail Cheri VanSickle, Event Coordinator at: vansicklemm@hotmail.com or call 712-242-7807.

[ ] IHPA Membership Dues (Primary Member) $20.00 ______
IHPA Membership Dues (Secondary Member) $5.00 ______
Printed and mailed copy of “The Buzz” Newsletter $10.00 ______
Asbestos in Imported Bee Smokers

**Purpose**
This safety alert provides information about asbestos in components of imported Bee Smokers (also known as smokepots). The risk is not limited to a single manufacturer or brand.

**Background**
Two types of bee smokers are advertised to the Australian market: battery-powered electric and manual smokers. The manual model requires manual force by squeezing a bellows. The electric model has a small motor and fan contained within an attached handle.

![Figure 1: Manual bee smoker – bellows indicated](image1)
![Figure 2: Battery-powered electric bee smoker](image2)

The Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities previously issued a national safety alert for asbestos detected in the insulation component of imported battery-powered electric bee smokers. Chrysotile asbestos has also been detected in the bellows of some manual bee smokers at the border, imported from China.

**Product description**
**Affected parts: Manual bee smokers.** The bellows of some may be constructed with a woven cloth-like material which includes a high concentration of asbestos.

![Figure 3: Bellows material cut for analysis](image3)
![Figure 4: Material with visible fibres](image4)

**Note:** Not all models of manual smokers contain asbestos in the bellows. Some are constructed with leather, plastic or other material. Buyers, however, should exercise caution and check with the retailer or supplier as to exactly what the material is.
Affected parts: Electric bee smokers. An insulation board situated between the handle and the canister, made with bonded asbestos.

![Image of insulation board indicated](image)

Figure 5: Insulation board indicated

Various makes and models, all of a similar nature, are advertised in online shopping websites by sellers based outside Australia and are cheaply obtained. Consumers and commercial importers are advised to avoid suppliers of these products.

![Images of similar products from online shopping sites, all with identical suspect components](image)

Figure 6: Images of similar products from online shopping sites, all with identical suspect components

Identical models to these may also be available from countries with asbestos bans in place. The smokers, however, may have been constructed from components imported to those countries. The country the goods are imported from may not necessarily be the origin for all components. If the bellows material looks the same, it probably is.

Asbestos in imported products

In Australia, the importation, manufacture, supply, sale and use or reuse of asbestos and asbestos-containing products is not permitted, except under very limited circumstances. However, some countries around the world continue to manufacture and supply asbestos-containing products and materials. In addition, some supplier countries may classify goods with low levels of asbestos as ‘asbestos-free’ or ‘non-asbestos’. Sourcing apparent non-asbestos products from manufacturers that also make asbestos products is a risk for importers because under Australian law any level of asbestos is prohibited for import or use.

Risk control

Consult an asbestos professional. Do not deconstruct the suspect component without professional advice. Damaging the structure of the components may release asbestos fibres into the air.
**Action Required**

- Importers must ensure they do not import asbestos into Australia. Varying definitions and standards may apply in the country of origin and/or supply. Importers should ensure they receive adequate evidence of non-asbestos materials used by the manufacturer. A declaration of no asbestos from the overseas supplier, on its own, is not evidence.

- When a risk is identified at the border, the ABF will require assurance from the importer, in the form of documentary evidence, that the goods do not contain asbestos. A test report from a NATA accredited laboratory (or equivalent international laboratory) showing no detectable asbestos is the best form of assurance. If adequate assurance is not provided, importers will face delays and be responsible for costs incurred when the goods are held at the border for the purposes of sampling and testing. See the [ABF website](https://www.abf.gov.au) for further information about importing goods of risk for asbestos.

- If a consumer wishes to dispose of equipment they believe may contain asbestos, they should take it to a licensed facility that handles asbestos waste. Further information on the disposal of asbestos waste may be obtained from local government authorities, the relevant environmental protection authority or waste disposal authority in your state or territory.

**Where do I get advice?**

If unsure what to do, contact your State/Territory/Commonwealth WHS regulator:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Regulator</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>Asbestos – WorkSafe ACT</td>
<td>13 22 81</td>
<td><a href="https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/">Asbestos - WorkSafe ACT</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NT</td>
<td>Worksafe NT</td>
<td>1800 019 115</td>
<td><a href="https://www.worksafe.nt.gov.au/">www.worksafe.nt.gov.au/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NZ</td>
<td>WorkSafe NZ</td>
<td>+64 0800 030 040</td>
<td><a href="https://www.worksafe.govt.nz">www.worksafe.govt.nz</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hi everyone,

I am continuing to become busy with all my events coming up. I have greatly enjoyed the events I have recently done, and am excited for the ones to come!

In April I attended Ag Day in Mahaska County at the Southern Iowa Fairgrounds. Besides the rainy weather, I had a great time teaching over 200 3rd grade students and their teachers briefly about honeybees. I gave a general overview about the various jobs that worker bees do throughout their lifetime, talked about the queen’s role, and discussed the life cycle of honeybees. Lots of students had many questions that were fun to answer. So many were interested in learning about honey bees and many learned that honey bees are helpful and not “scary”.

I was also supposed to attend Arbor Day in Boone County in late April, but that was canceled due to rain. I was greatly looking forward to this great event. Be sure to look for it next year if interested in attending!

Don’t forget to check out the Iowa Honey Queen Program page on Facebook to see my journey so far and to stay involved in my weekly segment of “Un-bee-lievable Tip Tuesday.” Thank you to everyone who takes the time to read and comment on these posts!

As always, if you are wanting me to attend an event or to give a presentation to reach out. Please contact Connie Bronnenburg, the IHPA Queen Chair, at (515)-480-6076 or cbronny823@aol.com or reach out to me through the Iowa Honey Queen Program page on Facebook.

Thank you,
Allison Hager
2022 Iowa Honey Queen
Greetings from Eastern Iowa:
The Great River Bend Beekeepers held our monthly meeting on May 18, 2022 at the Jackson County Prairie Creek Center. Our speaker for the evening was Allison Hager from Bellevue; the 2022 Iowa Honey Queen. She told of her year as a junior at Iowa State University, and some of the past and forthcoming activities she has been involved with as Iowa Honey Queen. Interested area beekeepers are always welcome at our meetings.
for more information, contact: David Hayes
prairiecreekfrm@netins.net

Check out the IHPA Store for your "Life is Better with Bees" merchandise
https://shopihp.com/shop/sale/
results show that those areas involved in this project have a fivefold increase in the number of pollinators and a threefold increase in pollinator species diversity.

This program is not without controversy though. Perception of unkept lawns, potential for more “weeds”, and economic implications certainly are intertwined with objections.

Mayor Green’s promotion of No Mow May is the first of its kind from a city mayor in Iowa. His leadership and involvement in this project along with his Council and the project researchers and coordinators from UNI (University of Northern Iowa) will be setting an example for the rest of the state. Mayor Green actively supported Honeybee Day, he produced a video stream for it and published it on his City’s website. So, although he doesn’t get his hands in a hive, he has had a powerful impact on the maintenance of all the bee hives in his region providing an environment where honeybees can thrive earlier in the season.

Mayor Green said this: “I fully support the effort to restore natural prairie in Iowa’s communities, particularly in public areas where people rarely walk or recreate. It’s exciting to be the ‘first in Iowa’ in this initiative to help extremely vulnerable pollinators, including bees. I’m grateful for the adoption and success of No Mow May in many Wisconsin cities, which made our own adoption a simple task. I’m looking forward to working with our residents, educators, and other stakeholders to gauge the success of this important effort, and I thank you all very much for this very kind and meaningful recognition.”

For those interested in reading more and considering implementing this next May, an informative article from Iowa State University, which has publicly supported “No Mow May” on MSNBC, is available from the Iowa State University Horticulture and Home Pest News:

hortnews.extension.iastate.edu/2022/05/tips-participating-no-mow-may

IHPA will be monitoring this first of its kind in Iowa, NO MOW MAY project and will report results in the future.
HELP WANTED
The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, (NASDA) working with USDA is hiring FIELD STAFF.
Work is part time collecting data for the USDA/NASS. A farm background is preferred. Qualifications- a good work ethic, a self starter, and good communication skills. Starting wage is $15/hr. Mileage allowance is 58.5 cents. Find more info at Nasda.org. Call Cindy at 515-450-8573.

FOR SALE: Expanding or just starting out? Save yourself some money with good used equipment. If you are really tight, we also have some that is not so good.
Here is what we have: 6 5/8 supers with 8 drawn combs--$25, 5 11/16 supers with 8 drawn combs--$20, deep boxes--$6-$10 depending on quality, also telescoping and migratory lids, bottom boards and inner covers. Some 4-way pallets are also available--$15-$40 depending on quality. Pickup in either Mt Vernon or Lynnville. Contact Phil Ebert 641-521-6361 or e-mail ehoney37@netins.net Let’s make a deal!

P&P Honey and Bee Supply, Inc.
Pat & Peggy Ennis
2105 110th St / Goodell, IA 50439
641-444-4767

Packages, nucs, singles and equipment for 2022:
Packages - 3 lbs w/ Italian queen.
1-10= $150.00 / 11+ $145.00 / over 100, call for pricing (plus tax)
Nucs - 5-frame w/laying Italian queen.
1-49 = $180.00 50-up = $170.00 plus $30 nuc box deposit & tax.
Singles - w/laying Italian queen. $225.00 (plus tax)
Includes: 8 frames w/feeder, cover, inner cover & solid bb.
Also offering: syrup, pollen patties, mite treatments, beekeeping equipment, honey and beeswax.
pphoneyandbeesupply@gmail.com
like us on facebook!

Foley’s Russian Bees
Foley’s Russian Bees is an Indianola, Iowa based producer of Primorsky Russian bees & beekeeping equipment. We specialize in Russian mated queens and Russian nucleus hives. We also are a provider of Carniolan packages. When you are in need of bees, we can help!

To place an order, check us out on the web www.RussianBee.com
Hello fellow beekeepers!

I tell you what...I am never bored with beekeeping that is for sure. They always keep me on my toes, and keep me second guessing things I have learned previously, but they also keep me wanting to learn more. I think we are born to learn things all throughout our life. This is how we have evolved as a human beings, and how new technology and better practices come about.

On the bee side of things at Gilmore City-Bradgate Elementary we have been working hard at setting up our first trial of grafting queens. This has been so exciting, full of decision making, and critical thinking. While we have a small number of hives (7), we are still making this work, and I am excited to graft tomorrow!! So, northwest Iowa, if this works out in our favor, we'll have queens ready to sell to by June 21st! I keep saying, I never knew this and this and that about bees, especially with this queen rearing process. To those of you who raise queens for a living, kudos to you...it takes a lot of work, preparation and diligence to even think about completing this task! I am hopeful that this will work out, but we'll keep you posted!

Bees have been helpful in the pollination of plants in our school garden, orchard, pumpkin patch and sunflower/popcorn field. All of these things certainly keep me busy! I know I can tell a difference in the productiveness of our plants so I see the benefit of having the bees, but I also often wonder, what the heck am I getting myself into?! Then a kid will have an "aha!" moment where everything that I teach the students during their gardening class starts to make sense. All of it aligns perfectly, and the student makes a connection to how this all fits in with what they are learning at school, and how it can impact their future life. I have to say, and I am biased, but I think we have the BEST school around.

The students in fourth thru sixth grade completed their Ag Innovation Showcase Projects on May 19th with an in person pitch competition, where your IHPA President, Jason Foley, served as one of the judges. Students worked on perfecting their pitches, logo, and prototypes to present at this event. I was so proud of the students for speaking in front of a large crowd.

The winners of the showcase, and as the "People's Choice" winners had a working prototype of their design that could actually be beneficial to the beekeeping industry. These fourth grade students showed us how it worked, answered questions thoughtfully, and overall did a superb job!

Here are the winners! I have to keep their inventions a secret for now (until May 19, 2023) because they plan on pursuing a patent for their design! It’s so cool to see these moments come full circle, all thanks to these little insects we all love so much!

- Kelsey Wigans

Left to right. Front: Kinley E (Honorable Mention); Jethro T., Bryce C., Axel N (Grand Champions); Erica J, Olivia B, and Olivia D (Reserve Champions)

Back: Judges: Jill Soenen, owner of the Caribbean Coffeehouse-Humboldt, Jason Foley, IHPA President, Foley's Russian Bees and Honey Hollow Apiary, Calli McClintock, owner of Feather your Nest and Lil Peeps Boutique-Humboldt; Kelsey Wigans, Seed to Table Manager
WE NEED YOUR HELP AT THE IOWA STATE FAIR BOOTH!

Dear Beekeepers,
I know it may be hard to start thinking about the State Fair, however Spring is here and the Iowa State Fair is fast approaching; August 11-21. For those members new to the Iowa Honey Producers Association (IHPA), we have a booth at the State Fair annually in the Ag building 2nd floor; selling honey products, honey lemonade, lotions, soaps, beeswax items, promotional merchandise, etc. This is our main fund raising event, which is needed to help support our various educational programs. We ask our members to help make this event a success, by volunteering their time assisting with cash register sales, bagging product, pricing, mixing and serving honey lemonade, offering honey samples, etc.

Each volunteer will be provided with free honey lemonade if you get thirsty while working at the booth, also a FREE pass to get into the fair, plus you get to enjoy the great entertainment at the fair before/after your shift at the booth.

We had a successful 2021 thanks to all those who participated! Over the years we have had some wonderful people volunteer their time and would love to see you again. We encourage new members, friends, families and bee clubs to participate in this event too, because we need everyone’s support to make this event a success.

We have three shifts daily, 8:30 am-12:30pm, 12:30pm-4:30pm and 4:30pm-8:30pm (11-14 people are needed per shift). If you are able to volunteer for one or more shifts during August 11-21, we would like to hear from you. All you need to do is mail the completed tear off slip below, or email the same details to ihpasecretary@gmail.com, or call my number below. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Heidi Love (IHPA Secretary) 18115 F Ave, Perry, IA 50220. Cell: 515-729-1761

First and Last Name: ______________________________________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________________City: _______________________State: _____ Zip ______________
Phone no.: ___________________________Email address:_____________________________________

Please write below the date(s) you would like to work and circle shift that works best for you.(Fair dates August 11-21.)
Date or Dates: 8:30am-12:30pm 12.30pm-4:30pm 4:30pm-8:30pm

We appreciate any help you can provide!
Ebert Honey offers competitive pricing on a full lineup of professional honey packaging supplies, featuring over 20 container and bottle styles. We welcome orders of any size! We proudly offer high quality products paired with friendly, local customer service.

Choose local pick up or convenient shipping. Our streamlined website makes ordering and shipping fast and easy! Pick up is arranged ahead of time and is available at both of our locations. We ship via USPS, FedEx, or SpeeDee Delivery.

EBERTHONEY.COM

319.259.9377 info@eberthoney.com
f @eberthoney

14808 South 102nd Ave. East
Lynnville, Iowa 50153

1090 Highway 1 North
Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314
Deadline for submissions to The Buzz is always the 10th of the month at 11:59 p.m. the month prior to when you would like to see information published.

If writing an article for The Buzz, submissions must be 800 words or less. Pictures are encouraged!

**July Buzz topics of interest:**

- Is the Flow Hive good, bad, or ugly?
- Top feeder or in hive feeder?
- What is a vivid memory you have from beekeeping?
- Where do you order honey bottles, cut comb containers, labels and honey product containers?
- What mite treatment for the fall, and why?
- How much do you charge for your honey?

Deadline to submit information for the May Edition of The Buzz

**Friday, June 10th at 11:59 p.m.**

_If you need assistance designing your advertisement, information is due to Kelsey Wigans one week prior, on Friday, June 3rd at 11:59 p.m._