



The Buzz

Newsletter of the Iowa Honey Producers Association



April 2009



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Dates To Bee Remembered

4/18/2009 CIBA Annual Beekeeping Equipment Auction.
6/13/2009 Summer Field Day at Spring Valley Honey Farm in Perry, IA
8/13-23/2009 The Iowa State Fair, Des Moines, IA
10/30&31/2009 Annual Meeting in Marshalltown, IA



FOR SALE: 4 Frame Nucs--We will have a limited number for sale. They will be available sometime in May. Call Phil Ebert for price and availability.

641-527-2639 or e-mail
ehoney37@netins.net

FOR SALE: Corn syrup for spring feeding.

Contact Phil Ebert at 641-527-2639 or e-mail ehoney37@netins.net

CIBA Annual Beekeeping Equipment Auction

The Central Iowa Beekeeping Association will once again have their Annual Beekeeping Equipment Auction on April 18th starting at 10am. Lunch will also be available. The auction will be held at Curt Bronnenberg's property in Perry, Iowa. The location is not at Curt and Connie's home itself, but there will be "auction" signs posted on highway 141 that runs through Perry. There will be someone available starting at 8:30am to help get equipment unloaded and signed in. Consignments will also be allowed the day of the sale. Consignments will be inspected. There are many buyers that are looking for good clean equipment. Spring is here and the bees are waking up, so come and pickup that extra equipment you need for the new season!

Please contact Arvin Foell if you have any questions.
Home phone: 515/597-3060
Cell phone: 515/450-9494
Email: ajfoell@huxcomm.net



BLUEBERRY HONEY SAUCE

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2 c. fresh blueberries, picked over
1 tsp. cinnamon
1/3 tsp. grated nutmeg
1/2 c. honey
1/2 stick (1/4 c.) butter

In saucepan combine blueberries, cinnamon, nutmeg, honey, butter and a pinch of salt. Bring the mixture to a boil. Reduce heat, then simmer it, stirring occasionally, for 5 minutes. Serve the sauce warm over ice cream. Makes about 1 1/2 cups.



The Buzz Newsletter Article Submissions and IHPA Memberships

Please send submissions, classified ads, and photos to Alex W. Ebert by email to TheBuzz@ABuzzAboutBees.com or by mail to The Buzz, c/o Phil Ebert, 14808 S. 102nd Ave. E., Lynnville, IA 50153. **The deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month to be included in the following month's newsletter.** The Buzz is a monthly newsletter published by the Iowa Honey Producers Association which is an affiliate of the Iowa State Horticultural Society. IHPA Membership is only \$10 annually. To join IHPA and receive your complimentary member subscription to The Buzz Newsletter, please contact Melanie Bower, IHPA Treasurer, 207 S.E. Diehl, Des Moines, IA 50315, Phone: (515) 287-6542

Greetings from the President of the IHPA

Dear Honey Producers,

The calendar says it is spring! What a hectic but wonderful time of year. New life is springing up all over, bees are buzzing, flowers are blooming and green grass just makes everyone have a better outlook. I am beginning to think that spring is one of my favorite times of year.

It is critical that we keep a careful eye on colonies. There are lots of products out there to supplement pollen to speed up the building up of spring colonies. Remember to check the amount of food left in the colony. If the colony is light when picked it up, it needs to be fed. Several options are available, honey, sugar or corn syrup (not the kind you purchase in a grocery store) to feed the light colonies. Packages and splits are being done now, keep them fed also.

Thanks to all of the IHPA members that helped with the Iowa Horticulture Society Expo held in Ottumwa April 3rd and 4th. There is always a lot of work involved in this type of activity. Andy was one of the speakers over the week-end and also helped with the IHPA booth. It is always fun to get information to consumers concerning honey bees, pollination and honey.

I know that the calendar says April, but it is not too early to start thinking about the Iowa State Fair. The 2009 Iowa State Fair is scheduled for August 13th-23rd. To make the Iowa Honey Producers sales booth successful, over 100 volunteer workers are needed. Please consider helping. I realize several of you need to schedule time off from work, so I wanted to give you dates to consider early. I have already started the scheduling of workers, so if you would prefer to work a certain day or shift, please contact me. The tickets have been ordered for the 2009 workers. We really need you to volunteer to help. The Iowa State Fair sales booth provides most of the money used by our organization to continue the programs that we sponsor.

Speaking of the Iowa State Fair, consider attending the 2009 IHPA Summer Field Day. It will guide beekeepers in the preparation of entries for the state fair. Keeping the display area full and attractive is necessary to continue the classes that are offered for exhibit. If we don't have many entries in certain classes, they may be dropped and then we would not be able to replace them. Keep Saturday, June 13, 2009 open to attend the summer field day to be held at Curt and Connie Bronnenberg's near Perry.

It is time to start coming up with ideas to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Iowa Honey Producers Association.

The Iowa Beekeepers Association was started in 1912 with a change in the name to the Iowa Honey Producers Association taking place in February of 1966. If anyone has any ideas to share with the officers, please use the contact information located on the back of the newsletter.

Enjoy the spring weather, Easter celebrations, gardening and springtime beekeeping chores. Farmers' Markets and other outdoor activities will be starting before we know it. Stop to smell the flowers as they appear. We might be too busy to have time to later!

Sincerely,
Donna Brahms, IHPA President

Honeybee Emergencies

Vern Ramsey has been busy as a bee teaching firefighters in southeast Iowa how to handle a Honeybee Emergency. He says firefighters always have a plan; they assess the problem, and then implement the plan in the fastest, safest way possible. With Vern's information firefighters are able to construct a smart plan when dealing with honeybees. Pictured here, Vern instructs a class of Ottumwa firefighters. He gave three classes from March 25th through the 27th to around 40 people. During one class an alarm sounded and about half the class rushed right out the door. Vern notes, "That's the way it is when your way of life is dealing with someone's emergencies." Vern has classes lined up in Burlington for next month, and maybe a few more places too. "I hope that what I taught them can be useful to them if that need arises."





Iowa Honey Queen February

Happy Spring! The Month of February has been very busy on the farm, We started lambing and kidding the first week of February, Some nights the hours were a little short, but that's ok as long as the babies are alright. My goat Piper gave us quads, however number two and three were backwards and died. It was a big disappointment, because we have never had quads kids. We have had several sheep sets of quads but never goats. There is nothing better than new babies frolicking around to get us excited about spring!!

I decided to purchase my 4-H show birds this year instead of incubating them. I found some White and Splash Silkies that I really liked, I will probably incubate the duck and geese eggs in the spring. The raccoons seem to destroy the nest when they are about three days from hatching, Its pretty cool to incubate because the first thing the ducks and geese see they consider their mother so they follow me all around the farm when I am doing chores!!!

We had a nice week of 40's and the bees were pretty active, We lost one hive at Ponca, but the rest look really good, I can taste the new honey already!!

I was confirmed at St Mary's in Danbury on Feb 22, 2009 for my confirmation name, I choose Saint Ambrose. He was a great soldier, but also he is the Patron of saints Beekeepers. the Bishop was curious why I choose him, so I told him I had hives and I am the 2009 Iowa Honey Queen!!

The Battle Creek-Ida Grove Basketball for the boys and girls ended in the last game before state. It was terrible disappointment as the boys lost by 4 and then we lost by seven. For us girls it was

extra disappointment as the same team that beat us last year beat us this year. I still have to look forward to 2010!!!

I ended this month with a trip to Pat and Peggy Ennis's at Mason City to attend a Beekeeping workshop. We had a great time and I even got to help do chores!

I will be in Early on Friday, March 13, to talk to School kids. On Friday, March 20, I am doing a 4-H workshop at 7pm at the Ida County Extension office and I will be in Spencer on Saturday, March 21st, to help the Larry Boernsen family with a Beekeeping workshop.

Remember to spring forward on Sunday March 8th at 12:01 for Daylight Savings time. **SPRING IS ALMOST HERE!!!**

Iowa Honey Queen March

Spring has finally arrived and I love the sweet smell of the rain and wet dirt! My Dad is ready to plant his tomatoes; he started from seed, so he can have a tomato and peanut butter sandwich!!

Our weather has been very nice and we were able to turn all the moms and babies outside. The lambs and kids had never been out, so they ran and frolicked till their Mom's were exhausted from chasing them! Of course, I had my camera ready, because I always get great pictures for my 4-H Record Book and also to enter them in photography at the fair.

The bees have also enjoyed the nice weather. We are feeding three of our hives and the rest seem to be doing well. Cecelia, my mentor, said we will probably be splitting quite a few hives the end of April first of May, if the weather cooperates.

I started out the month when I traveled with my mentor, Cecelia, to the Kansas-Missouri Beekeeping Convention in Overland Park, Kansas. On Friday, we went to three different schools and four classrooms with the Missouri Honey Queen Tara and our American Honey Queen Diane. I really enjoyed visiting with the teachers and children about bees. On Friday night, we went to the Banquet and afterwards hung out with Diane. On Saturday, I helped sell raffle tickets and met many beekeepers. We

enjoyed the speakers and learned about new ideas and products.

Cecelia and I were invited to go to a Bee yard, to help with the Bees returning from the Almond fields of California. We thought it would be fun and interesting, but it would not fit into our schedules. Maybe next year!!

On Friday, March 13, I went in early to talk to a group of 42 Homeschoolers and their parents. We really had a good time and they had some very good questions. I even have two young ladies that are interested in applying for the Youth Beekeeping Program. I told them I would be glad to help them get started. Afterwards, we enjoyed lunch and served Honey sandwiches and then played Basketball!!

My 4-H activities kept me busy also this month. I helped with the Ida County Kid Fest, when I helped officer's Vince and Chris show parents how to put their children in car seats properly. We were able to give away several new car seats to parents that had outdated ones. They really appreciated knowing their kids were safe.

My 4-H club, the Maple Huskies, won a swim party, through our Ida County 4-H Foundation, to King's Point in Storm Lake. We made it a family day with lunch at Pizza Hut and then on to the Water Park. It was Awesome! It is a great place for family and friends to get together for a day or weekend. We would all love a return trip!

I will end the month with a 4-H Beekeeping workshop on Friday, March 20, at the Ida County Extension office at 7pm. then on Saturday, March 21, Mom and I will travel to Spencer to help with a Beekeeping class with the Larry Boernsen Family. On Thursday, April 2, I will be at a "Friends of the Library" luncheon at the Holstein Library. On Tuesday, April 7, I will be at the Ida County Farm Bureau Farm Safety Days.

I wish you all a Happy Easter and I hope the Easter Bunny brings you lots of candy!!!

2009 Iowa Honey Queen
Shiliah Spaulding

THE BEEYARD REPORT

I seem to have a brain cramp. I've having trouble getting the words to come. Nothing out of the ordinary has happened. We have been through all of our yards and are starting back on the second trip. We were lucky twice. We were better organized in the fall. We got our mite treatments in early. This gave the bees a chance to raise a lot of bees after mite treatments. We had a good fall which meant we had brood into November. Now, we have had a good March. The bees are starting to brood up. Losses are holding at 20%. When we get a poor March, the bees don't raise much brood. The colonies continue to go downhill.

I found that I had miscounted one of the yards. I recorded it as only having fifteen left alive. The reality was 25. We lost about 30% of the new colonies I started last fall. Most of the ones that died didn't have enough bees. I should have united some of them but I got greedy.

I commented last month that some of the bees had clustered too high. I have found there was a reason for this. There was a wad of dead bees on the bottom board. They had been dead a long time. That was the bulk of the original cluster. The remaining bees moved to the top as bees like to do. I go through all the dead ones in the yards to check for foulbrood scale before I load them on the truck. It takes a long time. The yards that are alive don't require nearly as much time.

I have made some progress on my winter jobs. I've patched a lot of boxes and culled a lot of combs. Boxes are made up for splits. I have sorted the lids and bottoms that were stacked up outside the building. Half of that stuff went onto the burn pile. The Swinger is ready to go. I finally got some rock into the new parking area next to the new addition. I don't have the headlights fixed on the flatbed yet. The plug on the light switch was burned up but replacing it didn't fix the problem. I've got to get a new dimmer switch now. I

need to knock some pallets together, also. I enjoyed teaching the bee class in Marshalltown but I was glad when it was over. It was starting to jam me up. I gave the class a test this year. Some of the answers to the questions were surprising.

I was coming home from my delivery route a couple of weeks ago. The pickup engine began to rattle as I was leaving Des Moines. It was obviously a pulley noise. I decided to keep going. I was pulling out of the Hy Vee parking lot in Grinnell when it shucked the belt. It was 15 miles to home. Should I make a run for home or drive down to the Ford Garage, which was only 2 miles away? I overcame my urge to go home and took it to the garage. It proved to be a good move. They fixed it the next day. It only took them an hour and a half. I would have spent longer than that running for parts.

Adam is writing the conclusion to his PhD paper. He will defend in April. Assuming this will go well, he has accepted a position as history professor at Mt Mercy College in Cedar Rapids. He is planning to do something with bees but I see downsizing in my future. The fall is really hard. It's difficult to make it all happen on time. If I'm late with mite treatments, the bees are as good as dead. Eric, my number two son, will graduate from the University of Iowa this spring. I don't know where he is at in his quest for grad school. Anthony isn't positive he is going to have a job next fall. He is teaching in Colorado Springs----budget woes.

Honey prices fell around the first of the year but are on the rise again. Our store sales have been really good even with the depressed economy. It's hard to tell where things are headed. Let's hope for the best. All we can do is take care of our own little nitch.

Submitted by Phil Ebert

The Buzz Newsletter

I would just like to comment on your online newsletter. I try to go over it every month, and would like to at-

tend one of the meeting/classes on the bees sometime when I have the time. I have learned so much about bees, the help they do for the production of produce, also the great need for them.

I have a farm located NE of Des Moines with a small personal orchard of about 60 fruit trees and lots of flowers, thanks to my wife and mother for the latter part. Last year I contacted one of your members about maybe starting a small hive to help with the pollination of the fruit trees, I wasn't getting as much produce as I thought I should be or wanted. They gave me some numbers for some local beekeepers, who if I wasn't inclined to get a hive started; they might be interested in bringing hives out. I contacted a gentleman who was interested and came out and was very helpful and was not only interested but said it was a prime spot.

This gentleman placed 13 hives here on the farm, let's just say that I definitely saw a difference in the production of produce of the fruit trees, in fact it was branch breaking difference. I have learned a lot about pruning trees now and limiting the production.

In short I would just like to say thank you to all the beekeepers out there. I know it's a money making business, but it does a whole lot of good for others also. It takes a lot of time to take care of them critters; the honey the keeper shared with us was really quite good also.

The newsletter has been very informative, gives a whole new out look to the bees as a whole, still don't like wasp/hornets though. I think if other farmers would get interested in having bees in would be a good thing as a whole. In fact I have gotten a friend of mine interested in starting a family orchard also and he is planning on either getting bees or locating a beekeeper also.

Gene Beals
Collins, IA



Connecticut Researchers Study Pesticides in Pollen

By Matt Milkovich
Managing Editor,
www.vegetablegrowersnews.com

Pollen is the major source of nutrition for most wild bees and honeybees, making them particularly vulnerable to pollen contaminated with pesticides.

Researchers from The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven have studied the pesticide content in pollen collected from trees, shrubs, native plants, weeds and crops in their state. Kimberly Stoner and Brian Eitzer, from the station's entomology and analytical chemistry departments, wrote a report summarizing the 2007 findings (2008 samples haven't been analyzed yet).

The study sought to answer this question: What pesticides are found, and in what quantities, in pollen collected from honeybee colonies in a few representative locations in Connecticut?

"We started this project because of concern about imidacloprid and other insecticides in the same class (neonicotinoids)," according to the report. "These insecticides are systemic – they travel in the vascular system through the plant. Thus, they can be applied as a seed treatment, a soil drench or a foliar spray or in many other ways, and they will control insect pests all over the plant. This movement through the plant also means that they will move to some extent into pollen and nectar and thus may affect any insect feeding on pollen and nectar – including pollinators and many other beneficial and pest in-

sects."

France, Germany, Italy and Slovenia have banned imidacloprid as a seed treatment because it is suspected of having a role in bee die offs – a conclusion that has caused some controversy, according to the report.

Honeybees also are exposed to pesticides by beekeepers seeking to control varroa mites. That's why the insecticide/acaricides coumaphos and fluvalinate are included in the researchers' pesticide screen, according to the report.

"We studied pollen collected by honeybee colonies under normal circumstances, and thus collected baseline data," according to the report. "We did not study collapsing colonies, and none of the colonies in the study died, so we cannot say anything about Colony Collapse Disorder or other bee die-offs."

The researchers described their methods: "Honeybees collect pollen into structures called pollen baskets on their hind legs," according to the report. "Normally, they pack the pellets of pollen they collect into cells in the hive, mixed with a little honey, microbes and enzymes, and the pollen ferments into a food called bee bread. Newly emerged worker bees eat the bee bread and produce the high protein food need by the larvae to keep the colony going."

According to the report, the researchers collected pollen pellets from the honeybees using a pollen trap mounted at the bottom of the hive. A pollen trap is a series of screens that the returning forager bees must pass in order to get back into the hive. The trap knocks the pollen pellets off the hind legs of the bee and collects the pellets in a drawer.

The researchers collected the pollen twice a week from four locations in Connecticut. Pollen samples were analyzed by a multi-residue technique developed by Steven J. Lehotay at USDA. The samples were treated with a series of solvents to separate the pesticides from the rest of the pollen, and the ex-

tracts were analyzed by high-performance liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry, according to the report.

They concluded with their results: In the 102 samples analyzed, 37 pesticides were detected: 15 insecticide/acaricides, 11 fungicides, 10 herbicides and one plant growth regulator. All samples had at least one pesticide detected. The most commonly detected pesticide was coumaphos. Carbaryl and phosmet, both considered highly toxic to bees, were the most commonly detected field pesticides. Imidacloprid was detected 30 times, mostly at low levels. The pesticides found at the highest levels were both fungicides: myclobutanil and boscalid.

"we are in the process of separating this sample into components based on the color and texture of the pollen pellets, analyzing the components and identifying the pollen in the different pellet types to determine the plant sources," according to the report.

Drawing Winner

John Humke of Ackley was the winner of the drawing from the Annual Meeting participants that filled out an evaluation of the meeting. John will receive free registration for the 2009 Annual Meeting of the IHPA to be held in Marshalltown on October 30th and 31st. John is a former district director for the IHPA. Congratulations John and thanks for filling out an evaluation form! The evaluation forms are very helpful to the committee planning the program.



Featured Beekeeper of the Month

This month our featured beekeeper is Kaylie Strauss. She lives with her parents, Eric and Amie and brother Jonathan in rural Dunkerton, Iowa, where they raise bees, chickens and Hereford cattle. Kaylie is one of the participants in the mentor program that is part of the Iowa Honey Producers project to get more people interested in beekeeping. Kaylie is in the 8th grade at Dunkerton Community School and is involved in TAG, Jr. High Volleyball and beekeeping. Reading, listening to music and hanging out with friends are hobbies and she plans to go to college in Iowa. She is thinking about writing and science.



Eric and Kaylie Strauss check on the progress the hives have made.

Kaylie took some classes from Pat and Peggy Ennis. She learned how important bees are to our lives. Kaylie says, “We started with 4 hives. In August, we looked out our back door and saw a cloud of bees, thousands of them. We went and checked our 4 hives to make sure ours didn’t swarm and they were fine. We came back and the swarm landed on our garage and eventually moved inside the garage in a box. We scrambled to assemble a hive body to place the bees in. We did get them in successfully and now enjoy our 5th hive.

In the future Kaylie plans to expand her number of colonies. She’s getting a good start.

Good luck with your bees this spring Kaylie.

Submitted by Ron Wehr



“In August, we looked out our back door and saw a cloud of bees, thousands of them..”



Changes to Iowa's Bee Rule Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Can I register my hives at any time – what is the significance of the first day of each month?

A. The proposed rule changes the requirements here for both applicators and beekeepers. Under the new Bee Rule, beekeepers can add their apiary locations to the IDALS Sensitive Crops Directory at any time. The Bee Rule then applies to all apiaries which are listed on the Sensitive Crops Directory on the first day of each month.

Q. Where can I find Sensitive Crops Registry?

A.
http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/Horticulture_and_FarmersMarkets/sensitiveCropDirectory.asp

Q. Why do I have to re-register each year?

A. In order to keep the information located within the Sensitive Crops Directory as accurate as possible, the directory will be purged on December 31st of each year. Registry entries must be renewed annually to remain active.

Q. Why is the rule change needed?

A. The Administrative Rules Review formally objected to the current rule on the grounds the Department lacked the statutory authority. This action rendered enforcement impossible and invalidated the rule.

The proposed rule is the direct result of meetings held between state government, university, Iowa Honey Producers Association board members, ag chemical applicators, and beekeepers. The proposed rule is a compromise which has been built out of communication between groups (beekeepers & applicators) which typically do not communicate - and often communicate poorly when they do.

Certainly no one intends to kill bees, but a special layer of protection is needed in Iowa due to the scale of agri-

culture. The Iowa Bee Rule has been in place since 1979, but it has become outdated. It, obviously, was written before common use of phone answering machines, let alone cell phones and the internet. Methods of contact, phone numbers for emergency situations, and even public offices originally written into the language of the rule have changed, and some even disappeared entirely. There has been much apathy towards the apiary registry and the method of beekeeper notification prior to application of insecticides labeled as toxic to bees. Those involved often felt that it wasn't effective, didn't work, and wasn't worth bothering with. Additionally, beekeepers commonly don't know what exactly to do once notified of pending application of insecticides labeled as toxic to bees in their area. Beekeepers often have felt it better to do nothing at all rather than move the bees to an unprotected area or confine them inside the hives in the heat of the summer. There is no completely "correct" action to take in light of a nearby application of insecticides labeled as toxic to bees. Applicators have often felt that they were subject to added responsibility for no benefit to bees or beekeepers. Accidental bee kills over the years have made the communication situation worse between parties. The apiary registry contains only a fraction of the bee yards in the state. Change is necessary.

Q. Why do away with notification?

A. The Bee Rule proposal eliminates notification prior to application of insecticides labeled as toxic to bees in close proximity of registered apiaries. Instead, it provides a system of direct protection of foraging honeybees by prohibiting application of insecticides labeled as toxic to bees within one mile of registered apiaries during peak honeybee foraging hours.

Q. Who was involved in process of considering the rule change?

A. The proposed rule is the direct result of meetings held between state government, university, Iowa Honey Producers Association board members, ag chemical applicators, and beekeepers.

In addition, we have encouraged input from Iowa beekeepers of all scales as well as ag applicators, growers, and other concerned citizens. The proposed rule has been presented at the Iowa Honey Producers Association Annual Meeting. It has been discussed on radio programs, it has been published online through ISU Extension, and background information has been published in the Buzz (Iowa's beekeeping newsletter).

Q. Why do we think this will work – what is the logic?

A. The application of insecticides labeled as toxic to bees in areas near registered apiaries is to be scheduled around the active foraging hours of honeybees. The applications must occur prior to 8:00 AM and after 6:00 PM. The application times prevent application directly to the foraging bees themselves. It also allows the chemicals to settle and dry onto plant surfaces outside the hours of active bee foraging.

Q. I've heard people say that the new rule is not focused on pollinators other than honeybees. Is this true?

A. Obviously, this proposal is focused on the protection of beekeeper-managed colonies of honeybees in locations listed in the Iowa Apiary Registry. It does not address issues of protection / conservation of other pollinators and beneficial insects.

Q. Why impact insecticide applications within 1 mile of registered hives?

A. Bees can fly up to about 5 miles. Many beekeepers prefer the more conservative 2 mile radius in the existing version of the Bee Rule, but the proposal is a compromise. When there is good forage for bees (April through August), studies have shown the average foraging distance of adult bees is between 1/2 and 3/4 of a mile. This average expands to 1 1/3 miles in times of dearth. In order to halt application of insecticides labeled as toxic to bees between 8AM and 6PM, a compromise was made to the 1 mile radius in the proposal.

Q. Are my hives protected if I don't register?

A. Both the current bee rule and the proposal are aimed at the protection of hives in registered locations only. Federal (FIFRA) label laws still apply.

Q. Why is the Bee Rule focused only on blooming crops?

A. Bees collect pollen and nectar from flowering plants. The insecticide label statements required by EPA prohibit application to blooming crops when bees are foraging or visiting the crop.

The primary benefit of the new Bee Rule is that it provides protection to foraging bees and prohibits application near registered bee hives during the time of day bees are most active. Under the existing rule insecticides could be applied at any time during the day if registered bee keepers were notified.

Q. Why is the Bee Rule focused only on commercial applicators?

A. The existing rule does not specifically identify who needs to comply. One could interpret it to mean all applicators, private, commercial, home owners, etc. The rule needs to be enforceable with reasonable expectations. The pesticide bureau does not have the capacity to monitor applications by private applicators or homeowners. Commercial applicators cover more ground than a private individual and are not always familiar with the surrounding areas near the application site. Most private applicators have more communication with their neighbors and already take steps to work with beekeepers.

Q. How do I know if insecticides labeled as toxic to bees are being applied in my area?

A. Contact the person who farms the land in question or the local ag dealer who provides services to the grower. You can also check with the local ISU Extension office on current pest problems in the area that may require insecticide applications.

Q. Who should I call if I suspect violation of the Bee Rule?

A. Pesticide-related investigations are handled through the IDALS Pesticide Bureau.

Contact the pesticide bureau at 515-281-8591 with information about non-compliance with the rule.

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Robin Pruisner, State Entomologist
Andrew Joseph, State Apiarist

BRAZILIAN HONEY- SPICE BREAD

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1/3 c. milk
2/3 c. packed brown sugar
2 c. all-purpose flour
1 1/2 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/2 tsp. ground nutmeg
1/8 tsp. ground cloves
1/2 c. honey
2 eggs, beaten
1/3 c. cooking oil

FROSTING: (optional):

1/3 c. sifted powdered sugar
1-2 tsp. milk
Candied fruit

In medium saucepan combine milk and brown sugar. Cook and stir over low heat until sugar is dissolved. In bowl, stir together flour, baking powder, cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves. Gradually blend in the milk mixture, the honey, eggs and cooking oil. Turn batter into greased 8"x4"x2" loaf pan.

Bake at 350 degrees for 55 to 60 minutes or until done, covering with foil the last 15 minutes. Cool in pan 10 minutes. Remove, cool thoroughly. If desired, combine powdered sugar and enough milk to make of spreading consistency; frost cooled loaf. Decorate with fruit. Makes 1 loaf.



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The Buzz Newsletter

Iowa Honey Producers Association
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ISSUE 4 – April 2009



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Kelley, IA 50134
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ajfoell@huxcomm.net

Des Moines Backyard Beekeepers

Contact: Frank Pering
210 E. Kirkwood Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50315

Additional Links and Emails

IDALS website
www.agriculture.state.ia.us

National Honey Board
www.honey.com

American Beekeeping Federation website
www.ABFnet.org

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