



The Buzz



April 2017





President's Message

Iowa beekeepers,

I keep telling myself that spring will happen, but as I type this we are getting several inches of SNOW. My bees are very stressed and how they will get through this is concerning to me. Not much I can do but hope, trust in what will be, will be.

I have completed the rules and forms for the 2017 Iowa State Fair. We want to make this very clear—we need lots of people to bring honey to the fair to sell. Our booth depends on participation. But we also want to be as fair as we can. (It's a fair, after all...) You will see from the coming pages the classes of product that people can bid for, so check the classes and see if you wish to bring your product next summer. By submitting a bid, you are trying to become the single person who can supply your chosen class of honey product for sale at the fair. There will only be one supplier per class at the fair. One person can provide apple flavored honey. Another can fill the class of the 24 oz. bear of honey.

Looking over the classes you can see we have a LOT of honey products we sell at the booth. If you want to participate, you have two ways to proceed: 1) you can cut out the forms on upcoming pages, copy them twice, and send them to each of three people. 2) You can go online and use the form on the website and email one response to each of these same three people. Either way, you need to make sure each of the committee gets your bid for bringing product to the fair.

Roy Kraft
(Fair bid)
Box 1
Goldfield Iowa 50542
Kroyster.rk@gmail.com

Doyle Kincy
(Fair bid)
7304 Monroe CT
Urbandale Iowa 50322
dwkincy@msn.com

Shane Bixby
(Fair bid)
5470 Kacena Ave
Marion, Iowa 52302
statefairbids@gmail.com



(Actually, I suppose there is a third choice—you can email AND snail mail to all three recipients)

Mark what classes you want or how many cases of "case lots" you wish to bring. Comb honey and Ross Rounds are independent classes and open to all. The only true bid class is the honey for lemonade. (This class is for all the honey needed for the fair lemonade, remember you are bidding on a LOT of honey).

My phone is always on and I will get back to all if you leave me a message. If you have questions, please call me--[515 293-2458](tel:515-293-2458).

On a softer side, I had a speaking engagement today. It turned out to be one of the hardest speeches I have ever had to pull off. I was asked to speak at the Home and Garden Show in Fort Dodge. My title was "What you need to get started in beekeeping". At the time I booked it, I thought, "Perfect, spring right around the corner. It will be fun." But how do you manage to tell 45 people that getting bees now is too late as they are sold out? There were a lot of people that thought getting bees could still happen this year. I tried to tell them to do research, get with a beekeeper and suit up and go through a hive. But Wow, they were very saddened by my news. They did understand after about 30 minutes telling about bees. It was hard seeing people that way. I spent two hours there and was scheduled for 45 minutes. It was quite a day. I then drove home in a snow storm!

The IHPA is very busy working on a special project. Just stay tuned, because it will, I feel, make better beekeepers in the future. I wish I could say more but cannot at this time.

I have said enough for now, so I hope we are ready for spring and making splits. I hope all our bees that have been in the west make safe travels back. Nice to have them home, I'm sure, for all that send them out. More next month! (my bed time)

Bee a blessing !!

Roy Kraft, IHPA President

Don't Procrastinate! Reserve Your Room Today!

If you have any inkling to attend the IHPA Annual Meeting and Convention, you might want to get right on the task of making your hotel reservation. The event is Nov. 10 and 11, but there are only so many rooms in our two blocks. Book EARLY!!

OPTION #1 - EVERSPrING INN & SUITES

A block of 55 rooms is on hold at **EverSpring Inn & Suites** located at 2401 A Avenue W., Oskaloosa, **tel: 641-676-6000**. This hotel is across the street (Highway 92) from the Gateway Church. Rooms available are: 4 - Business Suites (\$102.60+ tax), 19 - Single King (\$95+ tax), 26 - Double Queens (\$90+ tax), 3 - Single Queen (\$80+ tax), 1 - Handicap King with walk-in shower (\$95+ tax), and 2 - Handicap Queen (\$95+ tax). The hotel has 4 roll-away beds for \$10 per night and must be requested in advance. There is no elevator at this hotel so if you need a ground floor room, please specify when making your reservation. Each room has an in-room safe and Wi-Fi is free. On-site laundry facilities are available. This is a non-smoking hotel. A continental breakfast is provided; cookies, coffee, tea and water are available throughout the day. This hotel has a pool, hot tub and a small fitness center. Check in is at 3 p.m. and check out is at 11 a.m.

Cancellation policy: No charge if cancel by 4 p.m. of the date of arrival.

Note: The hotel is undergoing a renovation at this time, inside and outside.

The block of rooms will be held for our group until Tuesday, October 10. At this hotel only, I have a block of 10 - Single King and 5 - Double Queens held for Saturday, November 11; rates would be the same.

OPTION #2 - SUPER 8

A block of 25 rooms is being held at the **Super 8** located at 306 South 17th Street, Oskaloosa, **tel: 641-673-8481**. This hotel is conveniently located at the junction of highways 23 and 92 and a mere 2.7 miles from the Gateway Church. Rooms available include: 18 - Queens and 7 - Single Queen or King, each priced at \$95+ tax. Children 12 and under stay free. The Super 8 has two roll-away beds which must be reserved in advance; \$10 per night. There is no elevator at this hotel either so if you need a ground floor room, please specify when making your reservation. Wi-Fi is free and breakfast is included in the rate. Check in is at 2 p.m. and check out is at 11 a.m.

Cancellation policy: No charge if cancel 24 hours in advance of arrival.

Note: The hotel is installing new carpet this winter/early spring.

The block of rooms will be held for our group until Monday, October 9. If you'd like to stay Saturday evening, the hotel will honor the block room rate.



Update from the Iowa Queen Carly Raye!

Hi all!! February has come and gone, and now March is buzzing away too! I have been going around and about giving presentations when I can, and reading up on bees during my spare time! If you ever have a chance, you should look up old beekeeping articles... it's amazing how much is still the same even 100 years later. I've enjoyed reading old American Bee Journals and whatnot when I can, and they're absolutely fascinating. My travels this past month have allowed me to knock a couple more counties off of my list, but I need your help to reach all 99 counties! Schedule a presentation in your area - at your school, FFA, 4H, Rotary Club, wherever! I'd love to come talk bees! Also, if you know someone who'd like to talk bees with me... I am looking for young women who are interested in learning more about the queen program! I am planning a day where those interested can learn the requirements and responsibilities of the local, state, and national queen programs. We'll also try out a couple of honey recipes, brush up on bee facts, enjoy good conversation, and more! For more details, check out the Facebook page for the event, Queen Day, or shoot me an email

at myhoneyqueenadventure@gmail.com to learn more about how you can participate!! Thanks so much to all of you for your support, and for making it possible for me to have this Honey queen adventure!

	BID LOTS	QUANTITY SOLD FROM 2015 STATE FAIR	QUANTITY SOLD FROM 2016 STATE FAIR	PRICE	I want this class
1	24 ounce bear	366	417	\$5.15	
2	3 pound jug	0	41	\$10.00	
3	2 pound glass	163	80	\$7.60	
4	5 pound jug	49	38	\$15.30	
5	2 ounce bear	511	448	\$1.10	
6	16 ounce Antique (Muth) jar	39	49	\$6.00	
7	8 ounce Antique (Muth) jar	24	29	\$3.75	
8	4 ounce Antique (Muth) jar	0	28	\$2.50	
9	Buckwheat Honey 1 pound	101	0		
10	12 pound gallon jugs	36	39	\$32.50	
11	Honey Stix	32,339	35,694	\$0.09	
	CERTIFIED KITCHEN BID LOTS				
12	Creamed Honey - Regular 1 pound	410	435	\$4.00	
13	Creamed Honey - Cinnamon 1 pound	318	225	\$4.50	
14	Creamed Honey - Flavored 1 pound	1473	1155	\$4.50	
15	Flavored Honey	750	960	\$3.30	
	BEESWAX PRODUCTS BID LOTS				
16	Beeswax bars - 1 ounce	82	91	\$1.25	
17	Beeswax bars - 1/2 pound	26	26	\$3.00	
18	Beeswax bars - 1 pound	14	26	\$6.00	
19	Lip Balm	311	241	\$3.50	
20	Lip Shimmer	0	16	\$3.85	
21	Lotion - Lemon Mint	0	23	\$2.50	
22	Lotion - 4 ounce	0	146	\$2.50	
23	Lotion - 8 ounce	0	56	\$4.50	
24	Lotion - 8 ounce	0	40	\$9.63	
25	Lotion - 8 ounce	0	14	\$6.70	
26	Lotion Bar	0	11	\$4.90	
27	Lotion Bar	0	6	\$4.49	
28	Lotion Bar	0	128	\$2.60	
29	Lotion Bar	0	18	\$4.50	
30	Lotion Bar 1.2 ounce	0	4	\$3.00	
31	Lotion on a Stick - 1 ounce	0	30	\$3.48	
32	Lotion on a Stick - 1.5 ounce	0	21	\$4.07	
33	Lotion Pumps	0	31	\$0.56	
34	Body Butter	0	11	\$12.60	
35	Foot Bar	0	25	\$5.20	
36	Herbal Vapor Balm	0	24	\$2.65	
37	Natural Deodorant	0	23	\$8.00	

38	Organic Honey Berry Face Scrub	0	3	\$13.50	
39	Organic Honey Berry Hand Soap	0	6	\$14.50	
40	Organic Honey Berry Hand Soap refill	0	2	\$18.90	
41	Radiance Face Moisturizing Cream	0	31	\$13.00	
42	Ultra Moisture	0	50	\$2.28	
43	Wrinkle Fighter	0	36	\$5.25	
44	Royal Jelly and Honey	0	2	\$23.00	
45	Soap Bar	0	11	\$4.20	
46	Soap Bar (Various Fragrances)	0	74	\$3.25	
47	Soap Decorated	0	18	\$3.25	
48	Soap (Liquid)	0	4	\$7.00	
49	Bugz Bee Gone Lotion 4 ounce	0	8	\$3.25	
50	Buzz Off 1 ounce tube	0	8	\$4.00	
51	Honey (Wooden) Dippers	0	85	\$1.25	
52	11 piece Nativity Set	0	8	\$25.00	
53	Corn Cob Candle	0	24	\$4.50	
54	10" pair Dinner Candles	0	17	\$5.00	
55	5" pair Dinner Candles	0	21	\$4.00	
56	Small Skep with Bear Candle	0	40	\$2.00	
57	Tea lights (12 pack) candles	0	12	\$5.00	
58	Round Pillar Bee	0	12	\$4.50	
59	Pillar 6" Rolled Look Candle	0	12	\$4.50	
60	Square Bee Candle	0	13	\$3.00	
61	Votive (4 pack) Candle	0	12	\$4.00	
62	Turkey Candle	0	9	\$3.50	
63	Lighthouse Candle	0	11	\$3.00	
64	Medium Skep Candle	0	10	\$3.00	
65	Large Skep Candle	0	5	\$5.00	
66	Pillar 10" Rolled Look Candle	0	3	\$6.00	
67	Hand Dipped Pair Candles	0	0	\$6.00	
68	Fire Starter (5 pack)	0	22	\$1.00	
69	Bee Pollen (1/2 pound)	116	61	\$5.50	
70	Bee Pollen (1 pound)	46	50	\$9.50	

CASE LOTS NON-BID

How many can you provide? Limit 4 of any 1 class

71	1 pound glass liquid honey	242	148	\$4.50	
72	1 pound plastic (light honey)	48	299	\$4.20	
73	12 oz. Honey Bear (light honey)	479	441	\$3.47	

How many can you provide?

74	Comb Honey (Clamshells & Boxes)	945	585	\$5.50	
75	Ross Rounds	0	18	\$4.00	

Price per pound - you bid, low bid take all

76	Honey for Lemonade (50 pound pails)	2,154 pounds	2,890 pounds		
----	-------------------------------------	--------------	--------------	--	--

BID LOT CLEAN-UP

I WANT THIS CLASS

77	1 pound glass	
78	1 pound plastic	
79	12 ounce Honey Bear	

The IHPA Summer Field Day – An Event Not To Be Missed!

Following two weeks of temperatures in the 50s and 60s, Friday, February 24 was a cold, windy, and rainy/snowy day throughout Iowa, the day I decided to road trip east to visit the Wickiup Hill Learning Center where our Summer Field Day will take place. Despite the season and the seasonable weather, I found this piece of Iowa a true gem, one you want to both boast about yet keep a secret. First, the facility is top notch for our event; second, it's a supreme spot to become one with nature; and third, it's not far from Cedar Rapids and very easy to reach.

So what is Wickiup Hill anyway? If you have heard of the Cedar River Greenbelt this may be old news, but Wickiup Hill is part of a 2,500 acre area north of Cedar Rapids. The area near Toddville was purchased by the Linn County Conservation Board in 1992, and in 1994 and 1999 archaeological digs took place. On this site several artifacts were discovered including pottery from the Oneota people who eventually became known as the Ioway, Otto and Winnebago. The Meskwaki, from Wisconsin, arrived in the area during the late 1700s and brought with them the "Wickiup" which is the Meskwaki name for winter home. So, where we will meet in July has been a gathering place for centuries, and soon will be host to many beekeepers. History continues.

The Wickiup Hill Learning Center is a fantastic place to learn more about Native American history, maple syruping, Iowa wildlife and their unique habitats, and watersheds. There are several interactive indoor exhibits for all ages but the outdoor exhibits are the ones I am sure you will really enjoy in July, such as the interpretive trails and the prairie woodland and savanna habitats--a haven for wildlife. After you pack your bee gear, you'll want to toss in your hiking shoes so you can take advantage of the hiking trails following our event.

About our event on **Saturday, July 15** ... from what I gather, this will be the first time the IHPA has held a Summer Field Day in the central/eastern part of the state. Given there are a lot of beekeepers in this region and with the advertisement of our guest speaker, Dale Hill, Ph.D., our event may well draw attendees from Illinois and other bordering states. This brings up a critical piece of information I must share with you. **The meeting room at the Wickiup Hill Learning Center has a capacity of 125 and we WILL NOT be allowed to exceed capacity.** This means it is in your best interest to complete and return the registration early. I will keep an eye on registrations and post an update on the IHPA website should registrations reach capacity before the cut-off date of June 30.

If you haven't noticed, our membership is expanding by leaps and bounds. Remember, there were 19 youth scholarship recipients in 2016! Beekeeping class are offered throughout Iowa and attendance has remained at good levels. Therefore with so many new beekeepers joining the fold, our event will draw members and non-members alike from all corners of the state. While this is a good thing, it does mean attendance as a walk-in is no longer a guarantee. We have a great Summer Field Day planned for Saturday, July 15 and those of us involved in the planning would love nothing more than to fill the Wickiup Hill Learning Center to full capacity. **Complete the registration today and send to Rhonda without delay!** Repeat that last sentence three times and take action.

Eve Vanden Broek, IHPA Vice President

Indianola Sustainability Fair

Mark your spring calendars now for the April 8th Indianola Sustainability Fair – free admission and door prizes! See a Snowy Owl close up! The Friendly Beekeepers of Iowa (FBI) club will host a table featuring live honey bees in an observation hive. The FBI club theme is "You know your doctor. You know your dentist. Do you know your beekeeper?" Our dynamic 2017 Iowa Honey Queen, Carly Raye Vannoy, will speak on beekeeping, including the successful IHPA scholarship program. Community champions will share how businesses make sustainable practices work. Vendors of eco-friendly products will display successful sustainable products. Door prizes include a local guided fishing trip for two, homemade goodies, trees, kid's magazine subscriptions, wildlife prints and much more.

10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. at the Blake Fieldhouse, 403 South 15 street, Indianola. Drop in with the whole family for an entertaining, informative jump on spring and our unfolding green world! Judy Spence, FBI



2017 Iowa Honey Producers Association Summer Field Day

Saturday, July 15, 2017

Wickiuphill Learning Center

10260 Morris Hill Road, Toddville, Iowa (north of Cedar Rapids)



Relying on GPS may lead you to an incorrect location. More details to follow in a future edition of The Buzz and website.

Registration: 8:30

Field Day: 9:00 – 4:15

Field Day Guest Speakers include: Dale Hill, Ph.D. from Illinois who will speak on “Nutrition for Honeybees” and “Midwest Plants for Honeybees” and Andy Joseph, Iowa’s State Apiarist, will provide an update on the state of Iowa’s honeybees. Afternoon session topics will feature how to make flavored creamed honey and what it means to have a certified kitchen; how to assemble equipment; and how to test for mites and use of various treatment methods. Meet the American Honey Queen, Maia Jaycox and Iowa Honey Queen, Carly Vannoy. Following the sessions, stay for an on-site extraction demonstration. This will be a full day of knowledge exchange for beekeepers of all levels. Please mark your calendar and remember to bring your bee gear.

A delicious lunch will be provided except for the dessert. **YOU** are asked to bring one to share! Bottled water, honey lemonade, and coffee will be available throughout the day.

Cut here ----- Cut here ----- Cut here

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____ PHONE: (____) _____

CELL: (____) _____ EMAIL: _____

Registration:

Amount

Single (member): \$35 before June 30, 2017

Number attending: _____ x \$35 = _____

Single (non-member): \$40 before June 30, 2017

Number attending: _____ x \$40 = _____

Walk-in on July 15, 2017 (member)

Number attending: _____ x \$40 = _____

Walk-in on July 15, 2017 (non-member)

Number attending: _____ x \$45 = _____

(Note: Be sure to read what Eve says on page 6 about the likelihood that walk-ins will be turned away...

Return this completed form together with your check payable to IHPA, **by Friday, June 30, 2017** to:

Rhonda Heston, IHPA Treasurer 52735 187th Avenue Chariton, IA 50049

Month by Month, April 2017

As I sit and write this article, my mind is thinking spring is in the air. Wasn't it just 60 degrees? Didn't I see robins all over the place, and geese flying in big flocks everywhere? But when I look up and see the big flakes of snow, with 4+ inches on the ground with more still coming down and the 20+ MPH wind, I have to remind myself, this is typical March weather.

Our bees are normally farther ahead than we think. Bees in north central Iowa, up our way, were bringing in pollen on February 21st. (Back on one of those 60 degree days!) They were looking hard for pollen because their winter supply was almost gone. They were most likely starting to raise brood too, and needed that pollen. As of the first part of April, "depends where you are in the state", your bees should be growing exponentially or Very Fast! I hope you have taken the time on those nice days to take a look and see where they're at. Mid March is when I start feeding pollen patties to help them raise brood. Without pollen they cannot start. I don't stop feeding patties until the real stuff is coming in abundance. Check your hives--do they have stores of excess pollen or are they running short? If you don't see pollen, feed them. By this time of year there should be pollen coming in: the maples, pussy willows, willows, dandelions, and other early spring plants. This also depends on the spring weather. I don't want to repeat myself, but if the pollen is not coming in, feed them a pollen substitute pattie, give them the protein they need to raise that brood and don't hope they brought in enough last fall.

Also when you are in your hives looking for pollen, check your queen's brood pattern--is it a good solid pattern? Look for eggs and larvae. If you find these present, you know your queen is doing well.

Also test for mites, I know most of us don't even want to hear this word, but it's a reality we need to deal with. Did you know Deformed Wing Virus (DWV) is a direct result from your bees having mites? Researchers tell us that mites cause Deformed Wing Virus in your hives. If the mites don't get the bees, the viruses will!!! Deformed Wing Virus bees cannot fly to gather food, fan the hive and they don't live long. Do a check and see how many mites you have per 300 bees. Say on the first of August, you test with an ether roll and you have 5 mites per 300 bees in a hive population of 60,000 bees. That tells you you have around 1,000 mites in that hive. Those mite counts will double every 25 to 30 days. By the first of September you will have around 2,000 mites or on an ether roll of 300 bees a count of 10 mites! Yikes!! That hive is in serious trouble! These mites grow so fast so keep your eye on them. Do what you can to keep healthy bees, AND another reason to keep your mites counts down is your neighbor's hive! If you don't keep your mites down and do nothing to treat when needed, you are making a mite bomb! When your neighbors bees come and rob your infested dying hives, the mites hitch a ride back infesting their hives too, thus not only

killing your own hives because nothing was done, but also killing your neighbor's hive too. You are not an island in the bee-keeping world. What you do does affect your neighbor's hives. If you have done everything you can to control mites and are still having issues with them, check out your neighbor's hives and help each other understand the importance of this issue.

On to good news, your bees have survived the winter! In the first part of April you've done all you can to keep them healthy. They are growing fast and looking good and you want to produce a split and raise a new queen for that split from your hive. You can! This is for you who want to raise just one or a few of them, but it's not the system for someone who want to produce lots of queens.

1. Drones! Make sure the hive is raising drones and lots of them. They need to be at least 10 – 12 days old before they are mature enough to mate with the queen. So a good drone population is first before starting to produce queens.
2. Food! There must be an ample supply of natural pollen and nectar; I don't start raising queens until I see dandelions in full bloom. In my area in north Iowa, that's normally the first of May.

I use a nuc box and take one frame of eggs, or a frame with an active queen swarm cell or cells. Of the two, I think a swarm cell works best. Add one frame with honey in it, and one frame of capped brood and one frame of drawn comb, giving you four frames. If you have a 5-frame nuc box, add one frame of foundation.

If using eggs, your queens will hatch in 12 – 16 days + 10 - 14 days to start laying eggs = 22 – 30 days

If using a swarm cell, your queen will hatch in 2-8 days + 10 - 14 days to start laying eggs = 12 -22 days.

All this to say: try to give the new queen in your nuc 4 weeks before going in to check it out. Give her time to develop and do her job. By then you should see those newly laid eggs of your young new queen.

Have a great spring, till next time,
Bee Happy, Bee Kind and Bee yourself.

Pat Ennis, Past President IHPHA

APOLOGY/CORRECTION

You poor people! You have an editor who doesn't have all the history of the organization. I called Maia Jaycox the "second" American Honey Queen, when actually she is the third.

Diane Jurchen Brahms was American Queen in 2009.

Gabrielle Hemesath was American Queen in 2015.

That makes Maia the third queen—All From IOWA!!

(Sorry gals :-)

CIBA Annual Beekeeping Equipment Auction

Saturday, April 22, 2017

Accepting items starting 8:00AM
Auction starts at 10AM



Mark Your Calendars!

The Central Iowa Beekeepers Association Annual Auction will be Saturday, April 22 at Spring Valley Honey Farm's Honey House in Perry, Iowa, right along Hwy 141. Follow the signs.

WE ARE IN NEED OF CONSIGNERS AND BUYERS!!

Accepting items for sale at the auction site from 8AM until auction start at 10AM. All comb will be inspected by the State Apiarist or designees on day of auction.

Consignment fee is 15% (except current CIBA members consigning by March 18: 10%)

A concession stand offering food and hot/cold drinks will be available.

If you have excess equipment, or if you are in need of equipment, come to the CIBA auction--or just come and visit with other Beekeepers and enjoy the food and company!

To consign equipment prior to the auction or for questions please contact either:

Margaret Hala	Pat Ennis
1988 Vine Ave.	2105 110 St.
Marshalltown, IA 50158	Goodell, IA 50439
(641) 752-2981	(641) 444-4767
mhala@mchsi.com	flat-lander@lycos.com

For additional information and a consignment form required of all entries visit the CIBA web site at <http://centraliowabeekeepers.org/> or IHPA web site.

FOR SALE

Package Bees, Nucs, And Queens

***2# package 1-9 \$91.00 10-99 \$87.00 100+ \$75.00**

***3# package 1-9 \$116.00 10-99 \$112.00 100+ \$100.00**

***+Tax And \$7.00 Cage Deposit**

Queens (Carniolan or Italian) \$35.00 +tax

Five Frame Nuc \$135.00 +tax / 100+ \$110.00 +tax

We are offering a gallon of syrup and pollen patty with the purchase of package bees and Nucs for extra \$7.00

Corn Syrup .40 per pound 500#s syrup .35 #

Protein Patties \$2.00ea. case/40 \$70.00

Spring Valley Honey Farms

Perry, Iowa

Connie 515-480-6076

www.springvalleyhoneyfarms.com

We also carry a full line of beekeeping supplies!

See our boxed Ad

Linden Trees

The Trees that We Could've and Should've Planted

We've lived on our acreage over 22 years and have planted lots of trees; however, we have also lost a number of trees to include some really large old ones. We've discovered that a lot of our plantings have worked well for the bees, but I'm wishing that we would have planted some trees that would have better served the bees and us. Last fall, we simply had to feed honey bees again due to a month long early season drought followed by frequent summer rains. The rains were not heavy rains that fill ponds, but the kind of rains that come frequently and simply wash out nectar. Knowing what I know now, I'm wishing that we would have planted several varieties of Lindens many years ago as well as other trees, but that's another story.

Among American native plants none probably ranks higher for honey bees than the **American linden** or **basswood**. In fact, some people call it the "Bee Tree" because bees love the fragrant nectar. This tree's late June or July nectar flow is very timely when spring sources are finishing up. Unlike most plants the yield from the basswood is not liable to be interrupted by rains. The flowers of Linden trees are pendant or hang downward and light rains do not remove the nectar, though heavy rains might cause the flowers to fall hindering nectar collection. In addition, big trees with deep roots are not impacted as much by a drought. Planting different varieties of Lindens will extend the availability of nectar over a longer period.

Bee-Musings from Mary in District 3

April showers bring May flowers and as beekeepers, we LOVE that! This month is one of intense preparation, a chance to really get into the hives, make splits, test/treat for mites, and experience our new season of beekeeping. This month is a most exciting one for us. As the weather warms, we de-winterize the hives and begin looking forward to the new season.

Another thing just amazing about April are the dandelions! I have loved dandelions forever. I remember picking bouquets for my mom and receiving bouquets from our children. Even now, there seems to be enough for a little bouquet from the grandchildren when they visit for Grammy! For the bees, they are critical. They provide both carbohydrates and protein for our little hungry ba-bees! And, always the goal, is to provide chemical-free food. It is amazing when you share this with non-beekeepers this fact, some (not all L) will curtail their spraying. If they don't know though, spray continues.

Different sources have stated that the basswood tree has excellent honey potential with estimates in the neighborhood of 800 -1200 lbs an acre. Unfortunately, a successful harvest of basswood honey just like other plants is unpredictable due to various weather conditions. Lindens were once as common as clover, but have greatly diminished in numbers. In Iowa, Lindens have often recently been cut down in a quest to return areas to prairie, so even if you have Lindens near you, do not assume that they'll always be there.

The largest tree on our property is currently a linden; however, the top is out and we wonder how much longer it'll be around. Perhaps, this is the year for us to plant Lindens along with other plantings for the diversity that our bees need. I just want to stop feeding bees and have concluded that we must plant for honey bees just as many are planting for the butterflies.



(Editor's Note: Jerry and Sheila Weldon are an editor's dream. They read the Buzz, contribute articles like this one to the Buzz. Would that others would feel free to share as well! May their tribe increase!! Thanks, Weldons!!)

So, be a great advocate for the honeybees and so many other little critters that enjoy the lawns and spread the word about a beautiful flower and wonderful first food in the spring for our honeybees!

From Recite.com, "Like a dandelion up through the pavement, I persist." That sure describes both the dandelion and the beekeeper. Blessings to you all as this 2017 Honeybee season begins. May your stings be few and your swarms be captured as the golden liquid flows! -Me!

'Bee' grateful, 'Bee' blessed, and 'Bee' a blessing,

Mary Wiltgen, District 3 Director
tmwiltgen@gmail.com 563.920.9628

For Sale: A 36"X36"X14" Flash Heater with four 240 volt 4500 watt heaters. Stand is included. \$1800.

Marion Striegel [641-660-6869](tel:641-660-6869), Oskaloosa

Recipes of the Month by Emma Jakes

After all the warmer weather we had been having, I was feeling springy! Easter themed cupcakes, loaded with sugar sounded SO good. But with the sugar over load, I felt like making something with a little less sugar that was super tasty too. Enjoy these tasty honey-filled treats!

Honey and Lemon Green Tea Cupcakes:

½ cup boiling water	1 green tea bag
2 cups unbleached all-purpose flour	½ teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon baking soda	2 large eggs
½ teaspoon salt	zest and juice (¼ cup) of one lemon
¾ cup buttermilk	½ cup butter softened
¾ cup honey (flavored your choice)	

Cupcakes: Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Pour boiling water over tea bag and steep for three minutes. Remove tea bag and allow to cool. Sift together flour, baking powder, and salt; set aside. Combine green tea, lemon zest, and juice. In a large mixing bowl, cream the butter until fluffy. Add honey and mix well. To this mixture, add eggs separately mixing after each one. Next, add half the reserved dry ingredients to the butter/honey mixture; mix on low until just combined. On low speed, slowly add the lemon/tea mixture. Add remaining half of dry ingredients until just combined.

Fill paper-lined muffin tins 2/3 full. Bake 18-22 minutes, or until toothpick inserted into center of cupcake comes out clean. Remove and place on wire rack to cool completely. Makes 12-14 cupcakes. Frost and decorate.

Frosting: ½ cup butter softened	¼ cup lemon juice
4 cups powdered sugar	2-4 table spoons butter milk
½ teaspoons lemon zest	

In mixing bowl, cream butter until lightly fluffy. Add powdered sugar and buttermilk. Mix well. Add lemon juice and mix until combined. Depending on the consistency of frosting you desire and if you want a fancy topping, you may add more a bit more butter. Want a bit of color? Add a dash of food coloring.

The cupcakes were really good. Although the centers fell the first time I made them, when I made them a second time, I baked them a little longer and they were fine. The icing was a little runny when I put the called for amount of lemon juice; if you use a little less butter milk, the icing is thicker and tastes delicious! I took the cupcakes to my local bee club and most everyone said they were good.

Italian Stallion BBQ Beans:

2 tablespoons olive oil	2 cups chopped onions
1 can (28oz) diced tomatoes with Italian seasoning	1 can tomato sauce
1 can (15oz) each: Red kidney beans, black beans, and pinto beans, rinsed and drained	
½ cup mesquite barbecue sauce	2 tablespoons instant coffee granules
½ tablespoons hot sauce	salt and pepper to taste

In large saucepan, heat oil. Add onions and sauté until tender, about 10 minute. Add remaining ingredients. Simmer 30 minutes until mixture thickens. Stir in salt and pepper to taste. Makes 6-8 servings.

These beans were also **very** good. They reminded us of summer time, cooked over an open fire. Be sure you rinse and drain **thoroughly**, I rinsed them, however; I wasn't able to fully drain them. The beans were very wet and took longer to thicken.

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: A 36"X36"X14" Flash Heater with four 240 volt 4500 watt heaters. Stand is included. \$1800.

Marion Striegel [641-660-6869](tel:641-660-6869), Oskaloosa

For Sale: 2- or 3-lb. packages of bees with queen. Delivered to Indian Creek Nature Center or Aurora.

Douglas Child. Call [319-634-3682](tel:319-634-3682) or Childbees@gmail.com

For Sale: 2lb. and 3lb. packages with unmarked Italian or Carniolan queens. Pick-up in West Chester, IA or Sullivan, WI. Loads arriving early-April through mid-May. Price: TBD Call Tim Wilbanks 319-321-2494 or order through website: www.kalonahoney.com. Kalona Honey Co., LLC, 2104 Hemlock Ave, West Chester, IA 52359. Heritage Honeybee, LLC, PO Box 117, Sullivan, WI 53178

For Sale: Package Bees:

3lb Package—\$117 2lb Package \$97

Once again we are shipping in 3lb & 2lb package bees with mated Carniolan Queen the weekend of April 15th & 16th. Discounts pricing for larger orders!

Carniolan Mated Queens: \$32

These are for pick-up only and available the same weekend that packages will be here (April 15th & 16th).

Russian Mated Queens: \$40

Queens are marked by default and can be shipped to you, or picked-up in Des Moines. Queens are produced from mid May through August. Discounts for larger orders!

Hive Kits: \$240

These are hand crafted in our own woodshop here in Des Moines. For a fun option you can have custom engravings done to the hive boxes (more info online). Kits include 2 deeps, 2 mediums, 20 deep wax coated frames, 20 medium wax coated frames, division board feeder with plastic ladders, telescoping cover, inner cover, solid bottom board, and entrance reducer.

To order, go to www.RussianBee.com

Spring Valley Honey Farms

Perry, Iowa

Connie 515-480-6076

www.springvalleyhoneyfarms.com

We offer a full line of beekeeping supplies to meet your needs in starting and managing your hives.

Basic Hive Kit \$150.00 (Includes: 2 Deep Hive Bodies, 18 - 1 piece plastic frames, 2gallon feeder, screened bottom board, telescoping cover & inner cover) Fully assembled and painted. (To substitute wood frames, Add \$3.00)

Complete Hive Kit \$240.00 Basic Kit + Two Honey Supers with frames. (To substitute wood frames, add \$5.00)

Honey Styx

We have our good flavored light Iowa honey in Styx!

Case of 2000 \$180.00/ 500 to 1999 .12 ea./ 1 to 499 .15 ea.

50 # bucket of honey \$127.00

We do not keep regular business hours. It is best to call beforehand. We are more than willing to accommodate your needs 7 days a week and are very flexible on hours.

FOR SALE: 2 or 3 # packages W/Italian or Carniolan queens \$116.00 + tax & deposit. Pick-up in early to mid-April in Goodell, IA For more information, call Pat Ennis @ 641-444-4767 / flat_lander@lycos.com , P & P Honey & Bee Supply, Goodell IA

FOR SALE: 5 frame Nuc and Singles W/Italian or Carniolan queens. \$150.00 +tax & dept. Nucs and Singles will be ready for pick-up around mid May, weather permitting in Goodell, IA. For more information, call Pat Ennis @ 641-444-4767 / flat_lander@lycos.com, P & P Honey & Bee Supply, Goodell IA

FOR SALE: I will have California Queens available mid April, Carniolan or Italian. \$32.00 + tax. Also Iowa-raised queens w/ VSH and or Ankle biter traits – limited availability June – September - \$40.00 + tax. Pick-up in Goodell IA. For more information, call Pat Ennis @ 641-444-4767 / flat_lander@lycos.com, P & P Honey & Bee Supply, Goodell IA

FOR SALE: Corn Syrup @ .40 lb, 500 lb or more .35 lb Also offering pollen patties, feeders, beekeeping equipment & supplies, bulk honey, bees-wax, and bottling supplies. For more information, call Pat Ennis @ 641-444-4767 / flat_lander@lycos.com, P & P Honey & Bee Supply, Goodell IA.

For Sale: 5-frame medium 6 5/8 nucs with queen \$125
For Sale: light amber honey 5 gal. buckets \$2.40 per lb.
Jeremy Van Donselaar 641-670-7468
email mahaskahoney@gmail.com

Have you updated your subscription to the Buzz?

Check your mailing label to see when your time runs out, and send \$0 for one beek, add \$5 for each family beek same address. Send to Treasurer Rhonda—address on back of Buzz.

FOR SALE: Package bees 3#: \$118-\$110 2#: \$94-86 depending on quantity plus sales tax and deposit. See our prices on line at www.eberthoney.com

Also available—Older Cowen uncapper-refurbished and ready to work. Mounted on a stand with cappings tray and auger. Pix on request. \$1900

Nucs--\$145

New Woodenware—Deep boxes from Shastina--\$15, Medium boxes--\$11 Assembled frames with foundation.

Used equipment priced to sell. Honey by the bucket or by the barrel. Syrup. Protein patties. Feeders.

Most items available for pickup in either Lynnvile or Mt Vernon. Contact Adam Ebert at fiddler171@gmail.com or 319-430-3514. Contact Phil Ebert at ehoney37@netins.net or 641-527-2639.

For Sale: Nucs--4-frame \$130.00; 5-frame \$150.

Frames are 9 5/8 nuc in disposable box. 1 marked queen (Carniolan/Russian cross).

Bees are bred for honey production and Iowa winter hardiness. Queens are VSH (Varroa-Sensitive Hygienic). I also offer how to get started support.

For Sale -1 9 5/8 ten-frame new wooden box with lids and bottom board. 1 marked queen (Carniolan/Russian cross) and bees : \$235.00

For Sale-2 9 5/8 10 frame new wooden boxes, with lids and bottom board, 20 9-1/8 frames. 1 marked queen (Carniolan/Russian cross) and bees: \$315

Bees will be available mid May(depending on weather and dandelion bloom)

Deposit of \$75.00 when you place order.

Curtis Barnhart PO Box 70, Monticello IA 52310

[email:bee.cbarnhart@gmail.com](mailto:bee.cbarnhart@gmail.com)

The Buzz Newsletter Article Submissions

Please send submissions, classified ads, and photos to rrihpa@gmail.com
Or mail to The Buzz, c/o Ron Rynders, 890 13th Ave SE, Sioux Center, IA 51250

The deadline for submissions is the 10th 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.

PRECIOUSBEES FARM



**3# PACKAGE BEES
WITH ITALIAN QUEEN
18 April & 10 May Delivery**

Weather Dependent

Will Also Have Replacement Queens In May

Taking Orders for Complete Bee Hives

Manufactured in Iowa - \$250.00

We Also Manufacture Oxalic Acid Vaporizers
for Varroa Treatment - \$100.00

Phone: 319-400-4228

1828 Y Ave.

Homestead, Iowa 52236

preciousbeesfarm@aol.com



Helping Beekeepers Keep Bees

Honey Bee Ware

Packaged Bees ♦ Nucs ♦ EquipmentSupplies ♦ Education
Honey Candy ♦ Honey Mustard ♦ Honey Stixs

Your one stop shop for all your beekeeping equipment and supplies!

N1829 Municipal Dr., Greenville, WI 54942
920.779.3019

shop.honeybeeware.com

An authorized distributor for Mann Lake and Kelly Beekeeping



Foley's russian bees

Foley's Russian Bees is a Des Moines, Iowa based producer of Primorsky Russian bees and 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



P & P Honey and Bee Supply, Inc.

April Special - Unassembled Hive Kits /8 and 10 frame

2 – 9 5/8 Hive bodies w/ wood frames and rite-cell foundation

2 – 6 5/8 honey supers w/ wood frames and rite-cell foundation

Also includes 1 assembled telescoping cover w/inner cover and

1 assembled solid bottom board w/entrance reducer

10 frame kits: Unassembled is \$198.00 or assembled & painted - \$258.00

8 frame kit: unassembled is \$180.00 or assembled & painted is \$240.00

Also offering Corn Syrup @ .40 up to 499lb and .35 @ 500lb +

Pat & Peggy Ennis, 2105 110th St Goodell, IA 50439, 641-444-4767 /flat_lander@lycos.com

Promoting the beekeeping craft since 1981

Like us on facebook



THE KEY TO SUCCESSFUL BEEKEEPING

Dadant
FRESH QUALITY FOUNDATION MAKES GOOD PRODUCTIVE COMBS

Foundation



DURAGILT
DADANT RESEARCHED—
DADANT DEVELOPED



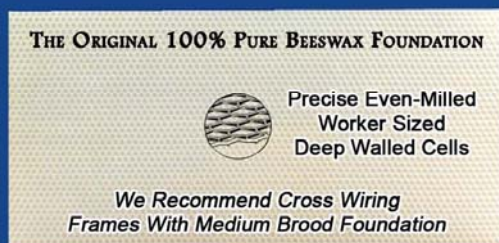
DEVELOPED BY DADANT & SONS
COPIED BUT UNEQUALLED

Steel Hook Fits Behind
Wedge In Top Bar



**CRIMP
WIRED**

MEDIUM BROOD
OUR LOWEST PRICED
FOUNDATION



Slightly heavier than thin surplus for easier handling.

Cut Comb For
Chunk Honey and
Comb Honey
Cut From The Frame

The thinnest beeswax sheet for finest comb honey.

Thin Surplus For Square and
Round Section Comb Honey

Your Customers Appreciate
Comb Honey With Dadant Foundation

**CUT COMB
& THIN SURPLUS**
FINEST COMB HONEY FOUNDATION
100% BEESWAX

PLASTICELL
THE ULTIMATE IN
PLASTIC FOUNDATION



Wax Moth
Cannot
Damage
Base



EZ FRAMES



twitter

www.dadant.com

51 S. SECOND STREET, HAMILTON IL 62341 • PHONE (217) 847-3324 • FAX (217) 847-3660 • TOLL FREE 1-888-922-1293

1318 11TH STREET, SIOUX CITY IA 51102 • PHONE (712) 255-3232 • FAX (712) 255-3233 • TOLL FREE 1-877-732-3268

The Buzz Newsletter

Iowa Honey Producers Association
52735 187th Avenue
Chariton, IA 50049



2015-2016 Officers & Directors of IHPA

Officers:

President: Roy Kraft
PO Box 1
Goldfield, IA 50542
Phone: 515.293.2458
kroyster.rk@gmail.com

Vice Pres: Eve Vanden Broek
134 Holland Dr.
Pella IA, 50219
Ph: (515) 491-6760
mrstheo@iowatelecom.net

Secretary: Heidi Love
18488 E Ave
Dawson, IA 50066
Phone: 515.729.1761
bhlove5@aol.com

Treasurer: Rhonda Heston
52735 187th Ave
Chariton, IA 50049
Phone: 515.724.2124
r.heston@yahoo.com

Historian: Butch Wetzel
8227 NE 38th Ave
Altoona, IA 50009
Phone: 515.979.6322
thetwetzclan@aol.com

Past President: Pat Ennis
2105 110th St
Goodell, IA 50439
Phone: 641.444.4767
flat_lander@lycos.com

Directors:

District 1: Jim Marshall
2923 Jones Ave
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
Phone: 641.660.9930
jim.marshall@musco.com

District 2: Shane Bixby
5470 Kacena Ave
Marion, IA 52302
shanebixby@aol.com

District 3: Mary Wiltgen
3025 270th St
Fredricksburg, IA 50630
tmwiltgen@gmail.com

District 4: Doyle Kincy
7304 Monroe Ct
Urbandale, IA 50322
Phone: 515.710.4752
dwkincy@msn.com

District 5: Eric Kenoyer
1270 Upland Lane
Van Meter, IA 50261
Phone: 515.490.2477
ekenoyer@aol.com

District 6: Dave Korver
3314 510 St
Maurice, IA 51036
Phone: 712.562.6528
dpkorver@frontier.com

Iowa Beekeeping Clubs

Back-to-Basics Beekeeping Club

Contact: Jim & Tina Marshall
Marsh Hill
2923 Jones Ave
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
(641)-660-0983
marshallit@wildblue.net

Boone River Beekeeping Club

Contact: Roy Kraft
PO Box 1
Goldfield, IA 50542
Phone: 515.293.2458
kroyster.rk@gmail.com

Central Iowa Beekeepers Association

Contact Arvin Foell
30930 530th Ave.
Kelley, IA 50134
Home phone 515/597-3060
Cell phone 515/450-9494
arfoell@huxcomm.net

Des Moines Backyard Beekeepers

Contact: Julia McGuire
desmoinesbackyardbeekeepers.org
East Central Iowa Beekeepers
Contact: Dave Irvin
2254 S. Riverside Dr.
Iowa City, IA 52246
(319) 351-6205

Friendly Beekeepers of Iowa

Contact: Judy Spence
12839 Carpenter Trail
Carlisle, IA 50047
(515) 988-8397
jesspenceir44@gmail.com
Great River Bend Beekeepers
Contact: David Hayes
1749 110th St.
Maquoketa, Iowa 52060
563-678-2862
prairiecreekfrn@netins.net

Loess Hills Beekeeping Association

22524 Hunt Avenue
Council Bluffs, IA 51503-7978
LHBA@LoessHillsBA.com
North Iowa Bee Club
Contact: Pat Ennis
1040 Union Ave.
Goodell, IA 50439
(641) 444-4767
Flat_Lander@lycos.com

Northwest Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Larry J. Boernsen
6724 200th St.
Ocheyedan, Iowa 51354
(712) 735-4205
Lm5kbees@iowatelecom.net

Red Rock Beekeepers

Contact: Gerald Murphy
1180 92nd Ave
Knoxville, IA 50138
(641) 218- 4814
weldonis@windstream.net

Southeast Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Vernie Ramsey
22781 Route J16
Birmingham, IA 52535
(319) 498-4355
Vdramsey@netins.net

Southwest Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Mike & Donna Brahms
14922 535th Street
Griswold, IA 51535
(712) 778-4256
mbrahms@netins.net

Siouxland Beekeepers

Contact: Ron Rynders
890 13th Ave SE
Sioux Center, IA 51250
(712) 449-5010
rrihpa@gmail.com

State Apiarist: Andrew Joseph

Phone: (515) 725-1481 Email: andrew.joseph@iowaagriculture.gov

IDALS website: www.agriculture.state.ia.us

Amy Toth, Assistant Professor Iowa State University
Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology
amytoth@iastate.edu
www.public.iastate.edu/~amytoth/Toth_lab/Home.html

Marry Harris
maharris@iastate.edu

National Honey Board: www.honey.com

American Honey Producers Association: www.ahpanet.com

American Beekeeping Federation: www.ABFnet.org

IHPA Programs



Iowa Honey Queen Program



Queen Chair: Connie Bronnenberg
14405 Hull Ave
Perry, IA 50220-6343
Phone: 515.480.6076
cbronnyn823@aol.com

IHPA Youth Scholarship Program:

Eric Kenoyer
1270 Upland Lane
Van Meter, IA 50261
Phone: 515.490.2477
ekenoyer@aol.com

The Buzz Newsletter:
Ron Rynders
890 13th Ave SE
Sioux Center, IA 51250
rrihpa@gmail.com
Cell- 712-449-5010

Bee Emergency Program Information:
Vern Ramsey
22781 Route J16
Birmingham, IA 52535-8162
Phone: 319.498.4355
vdramsey@netins.net

Roy Kraft
PO Box 1
Goldfield, IA 50542
Cell: 515.293.2458
kroyster.rk@gmail.com