



The Buzz

Newsletter of the Iowa Honey Producers Association

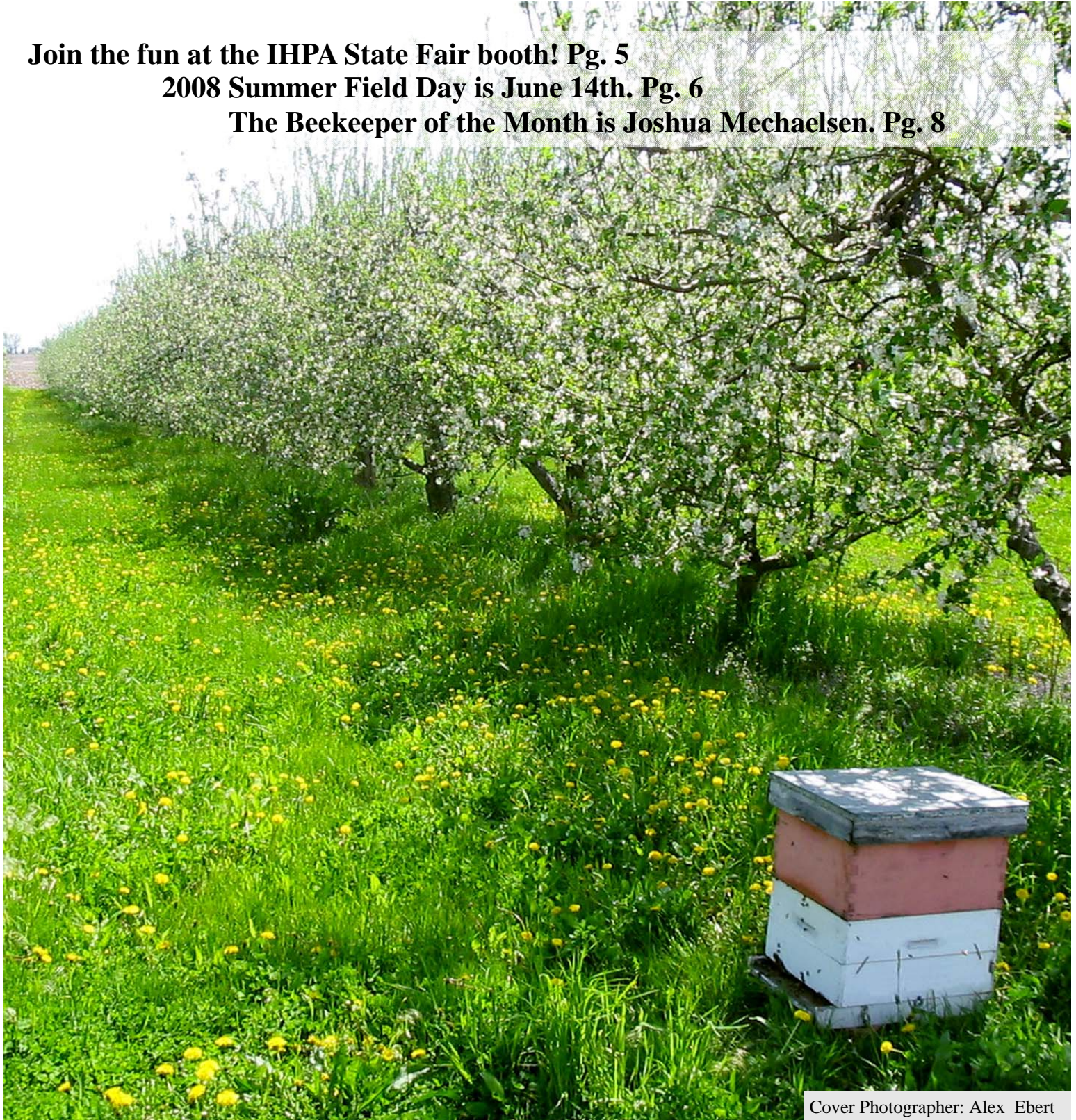


June 2008

Join the fun at the IHPA State Fair booth! Pg. 5

2008 Summer Field Day is June 14th. Pg. 6

The Beekeeper of the Month is Joshua Mechaelsen. Pg. 8



Cover Photographer: Alex Ebert



Dates To Bee Remembered

June 14th, 2008 Field Day Raising Queens in Iowa.
Spring Valley Honey Farm 14405 Hull Avenue, Perry, Iowa 50220
June 14th, 2008 **IHPA Board Meeting** Following the Field Day
July 9th, 2008 **Iowa Cubs Official Honey Night** / 7:05 p.m.
Aug. 7-17th, 2008 **Iowa State Fair IHPA Sales Booth/Fair Entries/Good Times**
Oct. 5th, 2008 **IHPA Board Meeting** Back Alley Deli/Des Moines/2:00 p.m.
Nov. 6th, 2008 **IHPA Board Meeting** Best Western Regency Inn/Marshalltown/7:00 p.m.
Nov. 7th-8th, 2008 **Annual Meeting** Best Western Regency Inn/ Marshalltown



For Sale:

Bottoms; 1.00 ea	6 5/8 drawn out combs used	10.00
Telescoping lids; \$.100 ea		
Inner covers; 1.00 ea	Black winter wraps	1.00
Queen excluders; 3.00 ea		
	Fillmaster Table top power bottle filler BY DADANT	\$1,200.00
Hive body		
9 5/8in. new with frames & foundation	30.00	Contact: Ann Garber 641-873-4119 204 No. Central Ave. Allerton, IA 50008 logchain@grm.net
9 5/8 drawnout combs used	15.00	
Supers		
6 5/8 new with frames and foundation	28.00	

Beeyard Near Alleman, IA

I had a call from Lee Tesdell, who lives north of the towers at Alleman. Lee would like to have some bees on his property. He said Stanleys used to have bees there some years ago. If you are interested in this location, you can contact Lee at 515-201-6454. Submitted by Phil Ebert

FOR SALE: 20 to 25 deep Hive bodies with square corners and painted

Arvin Foell
515/450-9494

IHPA T-Shirts (*These are membership prices. Non-member prices are available on request.*)

The t-shirts are a bright yellow shirt with brown lettering.

Youth	size (S) (M) (L) <i>circle one</i>	_____ qty. X \$ 8.50	\$ _____
Adult	size (S) (M) (L) <i>circle one</i>	_____ qty. X \$ 9.00	\$ _____
Adult	size (XL) (XXL) <i>circle one</i>	_____ qty. X \$10.00	\$ _____

Shipping is \$3.00 per shirt, or
\$5.00 for two shirts.

Shipping \$ _____
TOTAL \$ _____



*An IHPA t-shirt makes
a great gift for bee
enthusiast of all ages!*

Make checks payable to:
IOWA HONEY PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

Send form and check to:
Melanie Bower, IHPA Treasurer
207 S.E. Diehl
Des Moines, IA 50315

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., Lynnvile, 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:

What a wonderful time we had in Germany. We have had several inquiries and the weather was really nice, only sprinkled a couple of afternoons and the flowering trees and plants were just gorgeous. We walked and walked and walked to visit many different places. One in particular was the Brahms Haus in Baden-Baden. When we arrived at the museum, we were given special treatment because no other Brahms's had visited before. The beekeepers over there are having trouble just as we are with keeping honey bees alive. Another problem is that the beekeepers are getting older and the children or other family members don't wish to continue with the beekeeping. They are experiencing fewer beekeepers. The amount of fruit trees and garden plots were just amazing to us. Everywhere we looked we could see flowering trees and gardens.

We did find several markets with honey and products for sale. We talked to them about honey, but sometimes the language barrier got in the way. We even found one complete store filled with honey, beeswax products, mead and candles. We also found another store that supplied beeswax candles for churches. Boy, were there some wonderful looking candles. One person we talked to thought that President Bush should really be concerned that the beekeeping industry was experiencing trouble. When we went through customs in Atlanta, we declared that we had honey and mead, so we were routed to the area where our suitcases could be scanned and looked through. The inspector didn't even bother to look at the honey or the mead, he was concerned with the candles that we had purchased. He said with colony collapse disorder that honeycomb couldn't be brought into the country. I tried to explain that it was no longer honeycomb, but refined beeswax now and the honey bees wouldn't even get close to it. He had been a beekeeper assistant for a couple of years and didn't quite grasp the nature of what we were trying to tell him. I finally said that they were candles now, not raw beeswax. I guess they are trying to protect our industry, but they weren't quite sure how to do it. We did make it home with all of the honey, mead, candy and candles. We toured a glass-blowing factory in the Black Forest that had bees on their dishes. Needless to say, we brought several pieces home with us.

We need to thank everyone that made the package delivery for the youth program possible. Thanks to Louise Johnson and John Johnson for taking over the responsibility for distributing the packages. We have heard from several of the youth participants and their bees are doing well. Thanks for your help with this very important aspect of our organization, without youth our growth is limited.

By now several of you are aware that the Libraries in Iowa are doing a summer program, Catch the Reading Bug. I don't know if you have been contacted by your local library, but I sure have been asked to speak at lots of them. I have been referring names to them. I hope if you are contacted that you will make every effort to give a presentation. It is great exposure for our Iowa beekeepers.

I have been contacted by some members about the apiary registration process. I do realize that in the past we have had some issues with the registration. We now have a state apiarist to assist in the process and will handle complaints of spraying or anything else that arises. We didn't have that luxury in the past 6 years. The overworked staff at the IDALS department were not always able to respond. Please give the registration another try. It is the only recourse you have if your hives are affected by spraying. Remember if you don't register your hives, how is anyone to know where they are located and who they need to contact when they are in the area to spray. The street goes both ways--we need to work with the chemical companies and they need to have the information to contact us and work with us. If you have any suggestions, please contact me or let Andy know your concerns. I will talk to Andy concerning your suggestions and about the letters that I have received.

Don't forget about the Queen Rearing Field Day coming soon. [Page 6] It will be held on June 14th in Perry at Curt and Connie Bronnenberg's. Don't forget to send in your registration and plan to attend a fun, educational day learning about queens. You will also get to spend some time with fellow beekeepers. I will be available for part of the day to sign people up for working at the state fair. IHPA t-shirts will also be available for purchase that day.

Check for the article concerning the need

for workers at the Iowa State Fair in the IHPA sales booth. [Page 5] We are hoping for record sales again this year, so we need lots of volunteers to help in the booth. A new aspect of the state fair for the IHPA membership will be the informative talks given each day at 2:00 p.m. in the new Paul R Knapp Animal Learning Center and Christensen Farms Hall. There is a committee working on the outline and the material for the presentations. We will have a standard presentation that can be given by several presenters throughout the fair. If you are interested in helping with this, please let us know.

Don't forget about the National Honey Board promotion with the Iowa Cubs on July 9th. The game time will be 7:05 and the NHB representatives will be on hand with honey sticks. If an IHPA member wishes to attend they would be very welcome to help hand out information. There is another article with the details in this issue. [Page 8] This is another great opportunity to spread the word about honey, beekeeping and the necessity of the honey bee to the public.

We are putting on supers like crazy right now. I hope this continues. Our fruit trees and strawberry patch are just loaded with blossoms. They appear to come alive when we pass by them. The buzzing sound has intrigued our grandchildren. Jack, JoAnn and Zane have been looking for honey bees on the flowers. Jack even walked over to the strawberry patch, squatted down, looked at the flowers and "called" to the honey bees, "come over here honey bees, I want to see you." He was just thrilled when he found a bee on a flower. JoAnn and Jack also witnessed a hummingbird displace a honey bee on a dandelion flower. They were excited about that also. Hope your honey bees are doing well and are bringing in the pollen and nectar. Keep an eye on your hives and make sure there is enough room for the growth of the bee population and enough storage room for nectar at all times throughout the nectar flow. This should help keep down the swarming.

Enjoy this busy time of year, but don't forget to smell the flowers also.

Sincerely,

Donna Brahms, IHPA President

THE BEEYARD REPORT

I can't remember such a bad winter followed by such a rotten spring. You could count the flying days in April on the fingers of one hand. Many of our "good" colonies went down hill. Strangely, some of the poor ones seen to be reviving. We had a yard last fall that was loaded with mites. I considered it as good as dead. They were still alive in the spring but the clusters were small and over in the corners of the boxes. That's where they go to die. Somehow, they have revived and now have about 4 frames of bees.

Last fall we thought we had a chance at 800 colonies. After we looked in the spring, I thought 700. The reality will be a little over 500--about where we were last year. We have only made about 100 splits. May 4 was the first day we saw any dandelions in quantity. It was also the first day that the sun felt like it had any heat in it.

Adam and Alex took the first bees into the apples on the 8th. That proved to be a bit of an adventure. Our flatbed broke down on the 7th. The engine has a real nasty knock. They loaded 20 colonies on a pickup--something I would never have done. It was well after dark when they arrived at the orchard. A downpour was in progress. It was fortunate they had 4-wheel drive or they would never have gotten out of there. Everything was soaked. It took the cab of the pickup two days to dry out.

The hygienic queens haven't worked out too

well. We sold off about half of them since our bees were so poor. Of the ones we have used ourselves, 20% of them only laid a few eggs or else didn't lay any at all. I hope the people who bought them fared better than we did.

I've commented before about the age of some of our equipment. Some of the lids have newspaper under the metal for insulation. A couple of years ago Adam came across a 1953 newspaper in one of the lids. This spring he found one that had a 1941 newspaper. There were only pieces of the paper left but you could still read the articles. We still have some boxes that say Old Taylor Bee Co. They have been gone a

out in two or three days. This spring I put some on at 60 degree temps. The result was the same. It was gone in a few days. It needs to be in there longer to get the mites that are coming out with the emerging bees. They recommend two applications but I still thought it would be in the hive longer. I'm hoping that the late start to brood rearing will mean fewer mites in the fall.

Our neighbors on both sides have done a lot to help us out. We have used their buildings and pretty much have had the run of the neighborhood. It has made some things possible that would have been really difficult to accomplish otherwise. There is a shed across the road where we have stored our supers the last few years. The tornado took most of the tin and the south wall. It was still useable--sort of. I came home one evening a couple of weeks ago and discovered the wall had been fixed and there was new tin on the building. There were even new sliding doors. I know insurance money fixed that building but they didn't have to do it. Ernie will never use it for anything.

Let's hope for some improved weather and a productive season. It's going to be different. That's for sure.

Submitted by Phil Ebert

WEAVER'S famous QUEENS and Package Bees

★ Buckfast ★ All-American

The R Weaver Apiaries, Inc.
16495 CR 319, Navasota, TX 77868

Phone: 936-825-2333 Fax: 936-825-3642

Email: rweaver@tca.net www.rweaver.com

long, long time. Francis Henkleman got his start with them back in the 30's.

Anthony, the youngest son, graduated from Northwestern on the 10th. He is moving to Colorado Springs and then getting married in June. It feels strange to have the youngest son passing these milestones. Eric is still in school at Iowa City but he spent nine years in the Marine Corps. It's not the same feeling.

Alex still fools around with the discus and shot put. He was working out on the same field as the Grinnell College track team. They asked him if he would like to be a coach. I hope there is some compensation that goes with this.

I've been experimenting with Apiguard on a few colonies I have near the house. Last fall I noticed the bees cleared it

Pink Rhubarb Punch

8 cups chopped fresh or frozen rhubarb
8 cups water
2 ½ cups honey
2 Tbs. strawberry gelatin
2 cups boiling water
2 cups pineapple juice
¼ cup lemon juice
6 cups ginger ale, chilled

In a large saucepan, bring rhubarb and water to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer for 10 minutes. Drain, reserving liquid (save rhubarb for another use).

In a large bowl, combine honey, gelatin and boiling water until dissolved. Add pineapple and lemon juices; Mix well. Stir in rhubarb liquid; refrigerate.

Just before serving, pour into a punch bowl and add Ginger ale. Yields: about 5 quarts.

Submitted by Donna Brahms



Adam Ebert with a load of 20 hives bound for the Hinegardner Orchard north of Hwy 30 & Montour, IA.

Be Part Of The Fun At The Iowa State Fair!

Dear Honey Producers:

We hope you will be able to help the Iowa Honey Producers Association with honey and lemonade sales at the 2008 Iowa State Fair. Dates of this year's fair are August 7th through the 17th. Please bring any other helpers with you who may be interested in working. Children who are ten years of age and older enjoy assisting and are welcome. We will send passes which provide free entry to the State Fair to all who assist with honey and lemonade sales.

Days, dates and times for which help is needed are listed at the bottom of this letter. Please return the work schedule, call or e-mail, if you prefer, indicating the dates and times you will help. Also, if possible, please list a first or second choice of dates and times you can be available to help with sales. Please state the names of all those coming with you who will be helping with State Fair sales.

Hope to see you at the Iowa State Fair!

Donna Brahms, IHPA Booth Manager
65071 720th Street
Cumberland, IA 50843-8125
(712) 774-5878-H or (402) 677-2460-C
E-mail: mbrahms@netins.net

I already have dates filling up. Thanks to those who have asked for a specific date at this early time. Remember that we need approximately 21 people per day to fill the necessary shifts. The building is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. for each of the 11 days that the Iowa State Fair runs. This is the main money making project of the Iowa Honey Producers Association. Please help us maintain adequate money to provide the necessary programs of the association.

We had a fantastic year last year and hope to continue the large amount of sales this year. Please consider helping your association.

**We always have a
"Honey Of A Time"
working at the Iowa
State Fair!**



Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Date(s): _____ Date(s): _____

9:00-1:30 _____ 9:00-1:30 _____

1:30-6:00 _____ 1:30-6:00 _____

6:00-9:00 _____ 6:00-9:00 _____

Honey Rhubarb Pie

Ingredients:

Crust: 3 cups all-purpose flour	5 tablespoons water
1-½ teaspoons salt	1 egg
1 cup shortening (Crisco)	1 teaspoon vinegar

Filling: 3 cups cut fresh or frozen rhubarb (½ inch pieces)	
2 cups sliced peeled tart apples	1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 can (8 oz.) crushed pineapple, drained	4 tablespoons flour
1-¼ cup honey	1 tablespoon butter

Instructions:

1. In a bowl, combine flour and salt; cut in shortening until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Combine the water, egg and vinegar; stir into flour mixture until a ball forms. Divide dough in half. Roll out one portion on a lightly floured surface; transfer to a 9-inch pie plate. Trim pastry even with edge.
2. In a bowl, combine the rhubarb, apples, pineapple, honey, lemon juice and flour. Pour into crust. Dot with butter. Roll out remaining pastry to fit top of pie. Place over filling; trim, seal and flute edges. Cut slits in pastry. Using pastry brush apply milk to top and sprinkle with a little sugar.
3. Bake at 350 degrees for 1-¼ hours or until the pastry is golden brown and the apples are tender.

Submitted by Donna Brahms



IOWA HONEY PRODUCERS SUMMER 2008 FIELD DAY

JUNE 14

Spring Valley Honey Farm

14405 Hull Avenue

Perry, Iowa 50220

(515)-465 5939

www.springvalleyhoneyfarms.com



Morning Schedule:

- 8:30- Registration**
9:00- Welcome, Announcements, Introduction
9:15- Meet the new state apiaristAndy Joseph
9:30- IOWA BEE INSPECTIONS..... Delmar Nelson
9:45- Small Scale Queen rearing.....Arvin Foell & Pat Ennis
10:15- Break
10:30- Discussion of the following equipment:
Nuc box, Cell cups, Grafting tool, Cell bar and frame, and optic glasses.

LUNCH:

- 12:00- BBQ CHICKEN, HOMEMADE ICE CREAM with POT LUCK**
1:15- BREAK OUT INTO FOUR GROUPS:
ONE.....Arvin Foell
TWO.....
THREE..... Pat Ennis
FOUR.....

Each group will build a cell builder hive and do some grafting

- 3:15- QUESTIONS:**

Registration information:

Registration cost for the field day will be \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members.
Pre-registration to: Melanie Bower, IHPA Treasure, 207 S. E. Diehl, Des Moines, Ia 50315. Phone (515) 287-6542. You can also register at the field day. (The book "Successful Queen Rearing" by Marla Spivak is included in the registration cost.)

**HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME, AND HOPE
TO SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!**

Please bring a dish to pass for the pot luck. Tableware will be provided.

2008 BID SHEET FOR HONEY AND PRODUCTS TO BE SOLD AT THE IOWA STATE FAIR SALES BOOTH

Bid on any or all items (state quantity you **will** supply and bid price)

1 lb. Jars--light honey.....

12 oz. Bears--light honey.....

2 lb. Jars--light honey.....

24 oz. Bears--light honey.....

5 lb. Jugs--light honey.....

1 lb. Skep--light honey.....

Gallons--light honey.....

50 or 60 lb. Pails (for lemonade).....

4 oz. Antique Jars.....

Comb Honey.....

8 oz. Antique Jars.....

Honey Stix.....

Hard Honey Candy(assorted).....

Creamed Honey-regular.....

Creamed Honey-flavors.....

Beeswax Candles.....

Other Beeswax Products.....

Beeswax Bars(1 oz., ½ lb., 1 lb.).....

NOTE: We need a substantial supply of comb honey in plastic boxes and section comb honey. This item is usually in short supply and thus bidding doesn't make sense. We will accept cut comb in plastic boxes and wooden and round section comb containers. Quality standards for all comb honey are: clean cappings and all cells capped. Cut comb in plastic boxes must be well drained with little or no liquid honey. We will pay **\$4.00** per unit for cut comb in plastic boxes or section comb honey which weighs at least 14 ounces. We will pay **\$3.25** for comb honey in round containers that meet quality standards. Honey from all suppliers must be 2008 crop, Iowa honey with 18.5% of less moisture content and excellent overall quality. All of the containers need to be at a uniform fill line and free from foam. The IHPA booth manager has the right to refuse any containers not meeting this standard. Winning bids will be based on price, quality and ability to provide required quantity of product for the entire fair. All winning bids will remain in effect for the duration of the Iowa State Fair.

Bids must be received by June 30, 2008. Please sign the bid sheet and provide address and phone numbers. Suppliers of State Fair Honey will use their own business label on products supplied for State Fair Sales. Labels must be attractive with preprinted wording, which includes name and address of the supplier and net weight of item supplied. Include one sample of your label with the bid sheet. The IHPA booth manager may limit the number of flavored creamed honey for sale due to lack of adequate sales space.

NOTE: Arrangements need to be made to pick up any unused product between **9 p.m. & 10 p.m. Sunday, August 17** or **8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Monday, August 18, 2007.**

Your signature_____ Name (printed)_____

Address, City, Zip_____ Phone &/or Cell _____

Return to: W. John Johnson
2426 Hamilton Dr.
Ames, IA 50014-8202
(515) 232-6094



Remember: This is the major money making event for the Iowa Honey Producers!!

Featured Beekeeper of the Month

This month our featured beekeeper is Joshua Mechaelsen. He is another of the 2007 group of sponsored beginning beekeepers. Joshua lives with his family in Kamrar, Iowa. His operation consists of 2 standard hives and 1 observation hive. He hopes to double his numbers this year. He says his future plans are to raise around 10 Russian and feral colonies. He wants to raise them naturally because it is cost effective and smart, not because he is a tree-hugger. His plans are to major in agriculture at Dordt College and after that he plans to naturally raise bees, heritage poultry, and livestock. Pat Ennis mentored Joshua. Here is the story Joshua wrote:

My name is Joshua Mechaelsen, and as you know, I started beekeeping this past year. I did not always think I would be a beekeeper, and I am not sure that I always wanted to be a beekeeper.

For a long time I have wanted to make my existence from the land as my ancestors did before me; I have dreamed of owning lush pastures, plump cattle, and powerful draft horses. But did bees fit into my plan? To tell the truth, I didn't think so.

I knew that bees made honey and that honey kept for thousands of years in the tombs of pharaohs, and that as a food straight from God's creatures honey must be healthier than white sugar found in today's mega-market. But did I want to care for thousands of little bugs that weren't known for their butterfly kisses? I did not know until my family and I went to the Iowa State Fair and I saw the card in the nearly empty wire rack that asked if I would be interested in keeping bees. That little card changed my life (in a not so dramatic way). I showed the card to my mom, and she said to ask my dad. He said if I would take care of them I could fill out the form from the IHPA website. So I did, and I waited until October to get a reply. After that I went to the annual meeting in Marshalltown, Iowa. From then on the whole family (except mom) has been hooked on the little bugs that are so integral to life on this wonderful planet. Now I know that bees do fit into my plan.

There are many people that I need to thank for making my first year in beekeeping possible. First of all I need to thank my family for teaching me all that they

learned in beekeeping. I especially need to thank my brother for absorbing all the information he heard and read and then repeating it to me until I got it right. I also want to thank the IHPA and Lee Heine for donating the package bees and woodenware to all of us scholarship recipients. In addition I need to thank Pat and Peggy Ennis for being such great teachers and mentors. (Though Pat might not think so, I don't think anyone could know any more about bees than he does). In addition to them I would like to thank my friends Ryan Fisher and Felix Knutson for their help and for taking up apiculture as well.

I started out my first year of beekeeping in Mason City attending beginning beekeeper classes taught mainly by Pat Ennis. (I can't remember the names of the others.) It was at these meetings that my dad, brother, and I were introduced to IPM (Integrated Pest Management). Actually I had heard of it when I took my Master Gardener training years back.

A huge part of IPM is based on a small cell size to fight the dreaded Varroa mite. So since we were just starting in keeping bees we decided to use the small cell to limit the levels of mites. So off to our ever growing stack of catalogs we went, and we found what we were looking for. Next we spent a small fortune and received our first order of supplies which included frames and foundation that needed to be assembled. Well that looked easy enough (ha). Evidently my brother, Joe, thought that I couldn't do it well enough because he took over that operation, much to my relief. Then my handy dad decided that it would be easy to build our own hive bodies and supers (he's a carpenter by trade), and we were off on another adventure.

Some while later Pat brought the package of bees to our house. Mom immediately banished them from the house, and they spent the night in our greenhouse. The next day Ryan Fisher helped us install them in our waiting hive, and we became full-fledged hobbyists.

A few weeks passed and Pat hosted a bee get together at his home by Goodell. Ryan, Felix, Joe, and I went to learn all that we could learn. After that we spent the next weeks checking on our winged friends weekly and feeding them to build up their numbers. Pat also brought a hive of eight frames of bees to us so that we could have two colonies. Then, one June day a mes-

sage was left on our answering machine by a lady in Webster City who informed us (in a slightly terrified voice) of a swarm in a bush in front of her house. This was something Dad and Joe could not resist so they caught the swarm, and we then had three colonies.

During this time Joe built an observation hive to enter as a wood-working project at the county fair. When it got back from the fair we put the swarm colony in it and placed the hive in our greenhouse.

The hive that Pat brought us produced two gallons of honey that Joe and Dad extracted. However, my colony completely filled every spare cell in their hive bodies with honey, and would not touch the super above them. I have not been stung yet and am now dreading the first time. Joe has been stung six times, and Dad has been stung four times.

Thanks for your story Joshua!

Submitted by Ron Wehr



NHB Launches Its First Baseball Honey Promotion

Take Me Out to the Ball Game – with Honey! This year, in a first-time promotion NHB is sharing America's passion for baseball by sponsoring several Minor League Baseball™ teams for the 2008 season. The teams are: the Durham Bulls, Raleigh/Durham Area, N.C., (affiliate of the Tampa Bay Rays); the Iowa Cubs, Des Moines, Iowa, (affiliate of the Chicago Cubs); and the Stockton Ports, Stockton, Calif., (affiliate of the Oakland A's).

The promotion will involve a myriad of activities, including official "Honey Nights," "Honey Sampling Nights," survey nights, team samplings, ballpark signage and a "Sweeet Play of the Game" at home games. When announcers call out the "Sweeet Play of the Game," NHB will donate \$100 to the Ronald McDonald

House in Des Moines, Raleigh Durham or Sacramento (near Stockton). Honey also will be the official natural energy booster for the three teams and will have a position of honor on all training tables!

Turk Wendell, former Major League Baseball relief pitcher, will serve as **NHB's program spokesperson**. During his baseball career, Wendell played for a number of Major League teams, including the New York Mets. Wendell was extremely well liked by Mets fans, due to his friendly personality, sense of humor, outspoken nature and baseball-related eccentricities. Wendell appeared in the playoffs twice with the Mets, in 1999 and 2000, including an appearance in the 2000 World Series. Wendell also is well renowned for his charity work, particularly working with children through various organizations. In 2000, Wendell was given the "Good Guy Award" by the New York Press Photographers Association in honor of his considerable charitable contributions.

Honey Industry Members Invited to Attend Baseball Honey Nights

The promotion "Honey Nights" will be held at all three ballparks, with a barbecue for 50 people. Area Ronald McDonald House patients will be invited as guests. Honey industry members are also invited to attend at their own expense.

The Official Honey Nights Are:

- 7/09: Iowa Cubs [7:05 pm]
- 7/17: Stockton Ports
- 7/29: Durham Bulls

NHB's honey baseball promotion also includes an NHB Minor League Micro-site at www.honey.com/milb. Check out the web-site each week for baseball club news, team standings, exclusive interviews with team mascots, great summertime honey recipes and more!

German food company executives arrested in plot to import honey illegally from China

The Associated Press
Published: May 28, 2008

Two executives of a German-based company have been arrested on federal charges of conspiring to import honey contaminated with an illegal antibiotic from China,

WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Coming to the Holiday Inn, Victoria, BC

August 17 - 21, 2008

Agenda Highlights

Sunday August 17: "Bee Buzz" Social – Meet and Greet

Monday August 18: HISTORY OF BEEKEEPING

Tuesday August 19: THE MEDICINAL USES OF BEE PRODUCTS (Speakers TBA)

Wednesday August 20: TOURISM AND AGRICULTURE

Thursday August 21: Special Guest Speaker

Full details are available at the WAS website:

http://groups.ucanr.org/WAS/Conference_Information/

authorities announced Tuesday.

Prosecutors issued a statement saying the honey was falsely labeled as coming from such countries as Russia and Ukraine to avoid paying antidumping duties and contained an antibiotic that was not approved for use in food-producing animals, including bees.

A search of the Chicago offices of Hamburg-based Alfred L. Wolff GmbH showed that a shipment of honey was sold to a company in Texas even though it was found to have contained the antibiotic, authorities said.

Stefanie Giesselbach, 30, the national sales manager for the Chicago office, was arrested at O'Hare International Airport on Friday night as she prepared to board a flight to Germany, prosecutors said. Magnus von Buddenbrock, 32, the general manager of the Chicago office, was arrested after dropping off Giesselbach at the airport.

"We have reviewed the complaint," defense attorney James Montana said. "Mr. von Buddenbrock is completely innocent of the charges and we intend to defend this case vigorously."

Giesselbach's attorney James Marcus said he had not yet seen the complaint and would not be able to comment on it immediately.

The conspiracy charges carry a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$250,000 (€158,630) fine. A bond hearing has been scheduled for Thursday before U.S. Magistrate Judge Martin Ashman.

Antidumping duties are applied to offset allegedly unfair trade practices by the country where the products originated. The

Commerce Department applied such duties to Chinese honey effective last July.

Prosecutors said that in February federal agents took samples from nine containers of honey with a total value of \$300,000 (€190,355) that were marked as having come from Russia — to which antidumping duties do not apply.

Tests showed three of the nine containers were from China, prosecutors said.

Tests also showed 57 metric tons marked "Light Amber Polish Honey" that the company had arranged to sell may have come from China.

The two defendants also claimed that another honey shipment which came from China was produced in Ukraine, prosecutors said.

A confidential informant told prosecutors that it was well known among some company executives, including one of the defendants, that shipments of honey contaminated by the antibiotic were being imported.



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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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