



# *The Buzz*

*Newsletter of the Iowa Honey Producers Association*



January 2010



**Package Bee Ads Pg.2**

**2010 Iowa Honey Queen—Amber Connett Pg.5**

**Beekeeper of the Month—Andy Hemken Pg.8**



## Dates To Bee Remembered

**April 17, 2010** CIBA Annual Beekeeping Equipment auction at Spring Valley Honey Farm, Perry, IA.



**For Sale:** Taking orders for 3 LB. packages of Italian bees and Queens from Olivarez Honey Bees Inc. to be picked up in the middle of April. Prices will be available late Jan. Call Curt Bronnenberg (515)465-5939 or Pat Ennis (515)293-2601

**For Sale:** new crop honey \$1.75 lb. in five gal. bucket plus new bucket exchange. Don't let your customers run out of honey, or they will get it from someone else.

Curt Bronnenberg (515) 465-5939 or [www.springvalleyhoneyfarms.com](http://www.springvalleyhoneyfarms.com)

**FOR SALE:** Package Bees-2# and 3# pkgs with Italian or Carniolan queens from CF Koehnen in California. Arriving early to mid April. Contact Phil Ebert at [ehoney37@netins.net](mailto:ehoney37@netins.net) or phone 641-527-2639

**WANTED:** good used bee equipment for the spring bee auction. If you no longer need it or have too much stuff this is a good time to make it go away and make some money. If you no longer keep bees and would like to see it get some good use, take it to the auction.. IF YOU GOT A LIST, SEND IT TO PAT ENNIS  
1040 Union Ave.  
Goodell, IA 50439 or  
e-mail it to [flat\\_lander@lycos.com](mailto:flat_lander@lycos.com)  
515-293-2601

THANK YOU AND BEE HAPPY  
PAT

**For Sale:**  
4 frame nuc boxes  
Boxes of frame parts  
Wired frames  
4 deep supers with frames (Have foundation for supers)  
Heavy duty Barrel Cart  
Floor scale  
Other miscellaneous from 50 years of beekeeping.

Contact: Marvel (Albert) Andriano  
5737 Cumming Ave.  
Cumming, IA 50061  
(515) 981-0360

**For Sale:** 2 or 3 lb. packages of Italian bees with queen. Picked up in Cedar Rapids or Aurora, Iowa the first part of April. Bees from Hill-Ward Apiary in California. All orders must be received by February 28.  
Contact Douglas Child 319-634-3682

**For Sale:** 2# & 3# packages of bees. Will be available in April. Please call for prices.  
Gordon Powell  
4012 54th Street  
Des Moines, IA 50310  
Ph: 515-278-1762

**For Sale:** 9 5/8" Hive Bodies and Nuc Boxes made out of Cedar lumber. Homemade with simple butt joints. Glued with Titebond II and screwed or unassembled. \$12 & \$9. No large quantities. Call for availability.  
641-658-2213 Josh Sommers

**FOR SALE:** Carniolan queens from Koehnens. Available in mid April. The price will be close to last year. Queens from our own production won't be available until sometime in June.

Contact Phil Ebert at  
[ehoney37@netins.net](mailto:ehoney37@netins.net) or  
phone 641-527-2639

### The North Iowa Beginning Beekeeping Class

The North Iowa Beginning Beekeeping Class will be held at NIACC in Mason City on the following 4 Saturdays:

February 20 & 27 and March 6 & 13.  
Time is 9:00 am to noon.

To register, call NIACC @ 641-422-4358, or Barb Eisenmenger, Community Education Coordinator @ 641-923-2252 [eisenbar@niacc.edu](mailto:eisenbar@niacc.edu), or Pat Ennis @ 641-444-4767(home) 515-293-2601(cell)

For a complete list of upcoming beekeeping classes see page 4.



### 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](mailto:TheBuzz@ABuzzAboutBees.com) or by mail to The Buzz, c/o Phil Ebert, 14808 S. 102<sup>nd</sup> Ave. E., Lynnville, IA 50153. **The deadline for submissions is the 15<sup>th</sup> 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, 2010, another year is upon us. With the start of a new year, many people make resolutions. We as an organization can make some resolutions. Vernie Ramsey has been giving presentations to fire departments concerning bee emergencies. We could use volunteers to present programs to fire departments in each of Iowa's 99 counties. Vernie is willing to do training for the volunteers. We could use volunteers to be placed on a list of beekeepers willing to help the fire department with an actual bee emergency. These suggestions have been relayed to the IHPA from fire department personnel and training officers. Please consider helping the IHPA create a viable list of beekeepers willing to help in emergencies. Please get your information to your district board representative or to an officer so that we can complete these volunteer lists and distribute them to fire departments, emergency personnel and police departments. It is vital to the IHPA that we compile these lists to back up our training.

The board is always looking for members to serve on committees within the IHPA. Please consider serving on one of the many committees that present the programs that the IHPA oversees. The committees are: Education, Awards, Youth, Queen Program, Newsletter, State Fair, Promotions, Membership, Legislative, Bee Emergency, Field Day, Annual Meeting, and Historian. Another resolution could be to help the IHPA board and officers by becoming more active in "our" organization run by volunteer members.

2009 American Honey Queen, Diane Jurchen, is relinquishing her crown in January during the American Beekeeping Federation Meeting being held in Orlando, FL. Thanks, Diane, for representing Iowa during your reign. Several members of the IHPA are attending the ABF meeting.

Competing in the American Honey

Queen contest is 2009 Iowa Honey Queen, Shiliah Spaulding. Good luck, Shiliah and thanks for representing Iowa in the competition.

Several IHPA members are also attending the American Honey Producers meeting being held in Sacramento. We look forward to hearing about both of these national meetings. We especially are anxious to hear about new research, continued research and suggestions to help us accomplish our goals as Iowa beekeepers.

The equipment for the youth program has been ordered. We will be able to pick up the equipment sometime in January. Some of the equipment is going to be produced on-site and warmer weather is required to get it finished. The equipment will be distributed to the youth scholarship winners as soon as we can. We will keep you posted on dates.

Please get your bee yards registered when you have determined where they will be located. Contact Andy Joseph, Iowa State Apiarist for information and if you need help. Remember each yard needs to be registered each year. It is for the protection of your honey bees to register the location early so that the information will be available to all that will need it to prevent chemical spraying near each bee yard. This could also be a new resolution.

Let 2010 Iowa Honey Queen, Amber Connett, know when you will be having events so that she can help you promote honey in your area. If you get the information to Amber quickly, there will be no disappointments when she is booked somewhere else. Having the Iowa Honey Queen at events draws people to your display and prompts many questions. If you haven't had a queen help you with a promotion maybe 2010 should be the year to start.

Now is also the time to take inventory of your equipment. Do you need to

make repairs? Do you need to place an order? Do you need to order queens or packages? Do you need ideas on how to keep better records? Do you want to book the Iowa Honey Queen for an event? Don't delay. Get busy working inside when the weather is not so nice to be out and about.

Enjoy your "down time" and bee warm.

Sincerely,  
Donna Brahms, IHPA President



### Iowa State Horticultural Society Expo

The Iowa Horticultural Society is sponsoring an All Iowa Horticulture Exposition on March 19 and 20, 2010 in Ottumwa at the Bridge View Conference Center. The ISHS is supplying the IHPA with a booth. The board would like members to submit bids for honey to be sold for a fundraiser for the IHPA during this event. We will be selling t-shirts, tank tops, aprons and cookbooks that the IHPA has for sale, along with information about the organization, etc. We felt that we should have some honey and beeswax products also. If you would like to submit a bid for honey or hive products, please send it to

Pat Randol  
2505 Carriage Trail  
Winterset, IA 50273

Her phone number at home is (515) 462-4768 or her cell phone number is (515) 210-7445. E-mail bids may be sent to: [Pat.Randol@Randolhoney.com](mailto:Pat.Randol@Randolhoney.com)

The deadline for bids is March 1st.

**SOLD!**



## CENTRAL IOWA BEEKEEPER'S ANNUAL AUCTION

The central Iowa Beekeeper's auction is being held on April 17th, 2010 in Perry, Iowa.

Curt and Connie Bronnenberg have graciously offered the use of their "in town honey house". There will be a food booth and restrooms available. We are looking for consigners and buyers!!

If you are like us, we have accumulated a variety of bee stuff over the years, and some of it we have never used, so now is the perfect time to clean, sort, repair, and make a few bucks to buy more bee stuff!!

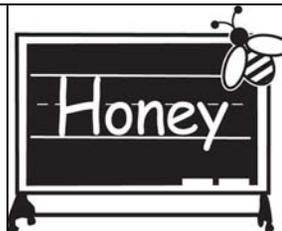
In the past we have had a hard time getting consigners, and we would like to keep this auction going, so we need those consignments!

Cleaning the "bee shed" we personally have some 8 frame equipment, smokers, wooden frames, spur embedders, wood bound queen excluders, foundation installing device, frame grips, feeders, migratory covers, screen bottom boards, and the list is growing.

Take a look around and please email me your list of items to consign. If you would like to have a list of items consigned, please send me your email and I will email the list to you in late March.

10% if consigned before the date of March 20th, and 15% thereafter. All drawn comb will be inspected. There will be signs posted on Highway 141.

Pat Ennis  
515-293-2601  
Flat\_lander@lycos.com  
**HOPE TO SEE YOU AT  
THE AUCTION!!**



## Beekeeping Classes

**The North Iowa Beginning Beekeeping Class** will be held at NIACC in **Mason City** on the following 4 Saturdays: February 20 & 27 and March 6 & 13. Time is 9:00 am to noon.

To register, call NIACC @ 641-422-4358, or Barb Eisenmenger, Community Education Coordinator @ 641-923-2252 eisenbar@niacc.edu, or Pat Ennis @ 641-444-4767(home) 515-293-2601(cell)

The following classes are 2 hrs/night except for Spencer, which is a weekend class. The overall length of other classes varies from 4 to 9 weeks depending on location. Fees vary from \$30 to \$60.

**ANKENY** begins Jan 28. Contact Lois Keister (515-964-6685) at DMACC to register or call Andy Joseph (515-725-1481) for information.

**WINTERSET** begins in January. The exact date is not set. Contact Pat Randol (515-210-7445) for information and registration.

**INDIANOLA** begins Jan 12. Class will be located at 202 W 2nd St. Contact Mike Wyatt (515-961-0357) for information and registration.

**KNOXVILLE** begins Jan 12. Class will be located at the Marion County Extension Office. Contact Craig Greene (641-842-2112) for information and registration.

**OSKALOOSA** will begin Jan 14. Class will be located at the Mahaska County Extension Office. Contact Craig Greene (641-842-2112) for information and registration.

The Indianola, Knoxville and Oskaloosa classes are supported by a grant from IDALS and USDA Specialty Crps Grant Funds. Scholarships will be offered to ten individuals for training, equipment and bees for one colony. Youth will be favored when awarding the scholarships. Contact Mike Wyatt or Craig Greene to apply for the scholarships.

**MARSHALLTOWN** begins Feb 3. Contact Jean Brownlie (800-284-4823 Ex-5607) at Iowa Valley to register. Call Phil Ebert (641-527-2639) or Margaret Hala (641-752-2981) for information.

**WASHINGTON** begins in February. Contact Ron Wehr (319-698-7542) for information and the Kirkwood Washington Campus (800-332-8833) to register.

**SPENCER** will be sometime in March. Contact Larry or Marlene Boernsen (712-735-4205) for information and registration.





## 2010 Iowa Honey Queen

Greetings honey producers! My name is Amber Connett and I am honored to be your Iowa Honey Queen for 2010. My parents are Donnie and Jennie Connett and I have an older sister, Jessica. We are from Reasnor which is about 30 minutes east of Des Moines.

I got my start in beekeeping when I was selected in the IHPA's first group of youth scholarship recipients. I instantly fell in love with beekeeping and the people of the IHPA are some of the best people around! Besides beekeeping I enjoy fishing, hunting, gardening, FFA, and anything agriculture.

I am currently a sophomore at Iowa State University with a major in Agriculture and Life Sciences Education; in short I want to teach high school agriculture classes when I graduate. At ISU I am involved in many activities like Agriculture Education Club, The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Ambassadors, Keep Iowa State Beautiful, and ISU Fishing Club, just to name a few.

I served as the North Central Regional Queen for just a few short months this past year and got a few public appearances under my belt during that time. So now that I am your Iowa Honey Queen I would like to get a lot more done for you and the organization! So don't hesitate to contact me about your events!

Amber Connett  
aconnett@iastate.edu  
(515) 460-9199

Stay warm and happy holidays!

Amber Connett  
2010 Iowa Honey Queen

## THE BEEYARD REPORT

December was the month of yard rent. I got that out and pattered around with little projects. Some afternoons, I take a nap. I don't think much about bees. They were winterized long ago but as I tried to finish up all the other little jobs, I never got my drafty old house winterized.

I put up an electric fence in the winter time so the horses can patrol the fields. The deer have to run through it 3 or 4 times before they figure out where it is. The horses come into the barn lot once a day to get water and a flake of hay. I like to see them around. I don't have much time for them in the summer time.

We are still working on the new addition. I'm insulating the walls and putting a ceiling in the back room. I was going to save it for storage but the desire to have somewhere warm to work in the wintertime trumped storage. Vehicle repair in the snow leaves a lot to be desired.

At some point this fall, I realized I was the only one who knew the way around the delivery route. I go every Monday but the routes are not the same. Alex has started to ride with me. I am going to have him do part of the delivery work over the winter. It's hard to get him in the truck.

The passenger side is usually filled with honey. Sales of both honey and wax have been good.

I decided to go to Sacramento but I'm not too excited about it. We were just there two years ago. It wasn't that great the first time. I was hoping for somewhere a little warmer--like San Diego.

We have quite a lineup of beekeeping classes sent up for early 2010. If any of you encounter people interested in beekeeping, steer them toward one of the classes.

I'm going to kick back and enjoy winter.

Submitted by Phil Ebert

## Beekeeper's Record & Journal by Richard Taylor

The following is reprinted with the permission granted by the estate of Richard Taylor.

The material was taken from the book, "Beekeeper's Record & Journal", Text by Richard Taylor, and Designed and Illustrated by Cynthia Diamond.

This book (among other items) was generously donated to the youth during the 2009 IHPA annual meeting in October at the Best Western Regency Inn in Marshalltown. After the meeting, this book was not taken, and is now the property of the Iowa Honey Producers Association, Historian.

We have enjoyed reading it, and thought the membership would enjoy it too.

As stated by Kim Flottum, Editor of the Bee Culture, "We have a Gem!"

Enjoy!!

Peggy Ennis, IHPA Historian

## Introduction

*A journal, in the form of a diary that allows instant comparison of one year with others, is one of the most valuable and least appreciated tools of apiculture. I have sometimes thought that I would rather be deprived of a smoker than to have to keep bees without the help of a day-today journal. A journal not only adds immensely to the satisfactions and joys of beekeeping, it also enables one to make decisions, time his steps and procedures in such a way as to take maximum advantage of nature, to get the best honey crops when the honey plants*

offer them, to harvest his crop at the right times, and in general, to harmonize his whole beekeeping activity with the phases and cycles of the year.

When I resumed my beekeeping several decades ago, after an interruption of a few years which was made necessary by a war and my own educational aspirations, I decided that I needed to keep journals. I didn't know what made me decide that, but it was certainly one of the luckiest ideas I ever had. At first I just used cheap notebooks from the drug store and I jotted down in them, with dates, every good, or seemingly good, idea that I had. Thus my ideas were preserved from one month and year to another. Many were brainstormed, born of early enthusiasm, and of course these proved to be folly. Still, I learned very great deal from my failures, and that is what mattered. But I also did something else with my journals. I wrote down all my mistakes and blunders. We don't like to remember these. If stored away in memory, with no written record, our mistakes and stupidities soon pass into the limbo of forgetting, their places taken by our brilliant successes. But I wrote these mistakes all down, so of course my journals got filled fairly fast, as my mistakes multiplied. But because I wrote them down, I became wiser in the ways of beekeeping. And not only was I able to avoid those and similar mistakes later on, but just as important, I was able to teach others how to avoid them.

Eventually these crude journals were replaced by five-year diaries of the sort that can be picked up in any variety store. Although they were too small and quite inadequate as beekeeping records, they nevertheless fill, after a fashion, an en-

tirely new function. My record keeping entered a new phase, whose enormous value I had not anticipated. For now I could see at one glance just when the dandelions had bloomed last year and the year before, as far back as my diaries went, just when the first swarms were seen, and the last swarms, when the basswoods bloomed, and so with all the flows typical of my area. There is much uniformity from one year to another, and this enabled me to plan my beekeeping operations with a wisdom and foresight that I had never before known.

At about the time I began thus recording my activities in five-year diaries; I had also the good luck to pick up, at a farm auction, a set of platform scales. I had always been aware that beekeepers liked to set a hive of bees on a set of platform scales, but I had always thought of this as a sort of pleasant pastime, have no purpose beyond the day-to-day satisfaction of seeing the hive get heavier. I soon learned how wrong that was. A platform scale, or any simple method of indicating the day-to-day changes of weight of a hive, is a perfect barometer for the most important single aspect of apiculture; namely, the ebb and flow of nectar. It is not enough to note what flowers are blooming, or active the bees appear to be on the blossoms. Those observations must be correlated with what is actually happening to the hive, which means, with its daily change of weight. And with a hive on a set of scales near the house this is effortless and accurate. Some days the hive will gain incredibly, often when you least expect it, and others will show little change, or even loss, just when your hopes were highest. To record these changes, and have before you an instant comparison with other years,

is to have available a source of instructions that cannot be duplicated by any teacher or text.

There are lots of books on bees. Most of them can teach you something. But none of them can teach you what your own book can, in the form of a journal written by you and preserved for reference over the years. It is in the hope that you will find it as valuable as I have that this beekeeper's journal has been put together.

Richard Taylor

## January

January is a time for musing. The days come and go the same, snow and ice refuse to melt, and beneath the cold the hives resemble gravestones, silent and dead. Yet the beekeeper knows that the same life pulsates there as in July. Only the tempo has slowed. The queen stirs, warmed by her multitude of daughters, but she lays no eggs. Time has ceased for the bees. Each hour, each day, is like the others. They wait for the first signal for the life of the hive to resume, a glow of sunshine that casts a hint of spring's warmth, to supplement the dull grey bleakness of winter's relentless cold. It will come! The earth turns, the cycles follow upon each other, the bees wait in the darkness of their hives, as the beekeepers waits, and thinks, and plans, by the warmth of his woodstove.

It takes a lot of thinking to tend bees with art and skill. The beekeeper who acts from habit, repeating the same procedures year after year, doing everything much the same way as before, has really come to a standstill. Good as his methods may be, he has arrived at a dead end if he does not strive to

*make them better. And now is the time for it. You can solve some problems, with pencil and paper – an improved way of controlling swarming, a better system for harvesting the honey, or for getting it spun out, and so on, without end. That way you can live, in thought and anticipation, the joys of the bee yard that spring will bring forth in reality. Woolgathering is what it is called, except that it is orderly and purposeful – you figure things out, make notes on how you are going to do things this year, and plan ahead. Much better to do that now, when winter forbids you to do much else in the way of beekeeping, than to try to figure things out under the pressure of the active season. Perhaps now is the time to prevent wars, by getting things all figured out in your head, rather than four months hence, when a swarm is hanging overhead. January has its place in the life of a beekeeper. A life of eternal spring would have its fulfillments, but it would be hectic, too, and the application of our skills would be hurried and unreflective.*

*Richard Taylor*

**Richard Taylor was born 1919 and passed away October 30, 2003 in New York.**

**He earned his PhD at Brown University and taught principally at Brown University, Columbia, and University of Rochester.**

**He was an American Philosopher, renowned for his dry wit and his contributions to Metaphysics. Although it is well known he was a philosopher – he was far better known as a beekeeper. It is often said – I have never**

**met a beekeeper who has not heard of Richard Taylor.**

**He owned 300 hives and from 1970 produced mostly comb honey.**

**His significant contributions to beekeeping are the authoring many books on beekeeping - among these are the two; *“The Comb Honey Book”* and *“The Joys of Beekeeping”*, and regularly writing articles for bee journals.**

**His near legendary honey stand at the roadside in front of his country home operated on the honor system, secured only by gentle solicitations to honesty posted on its walls.**

**to “bee” continued next month:**

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**Protecting bees from the cold**

By Lynda Figueredo  
[www.wtoctv.com](http://www.wtoctv.com)

SAVANNAH, GA (WTOC) – When it gets cold, we often think about protecting our animals, plants and pipes, but have you ever wondered about the bees?

The cold is also taking a toll on the bee population and now Coastal Empire beekeepers are keeping a close eye on their hives.

"Bees are pretty tenacious," said beekeeper John Findeis. "They can make it in adverse conditions, but they can't fend for themselves."

As the temperatures drop, there is a greater risk their hives may not make it

through the winter.  
 "As we approach winter time, honey bees go into their hibernation in order for them to survive and raise more bees they have to have temperatures above 90 degrees," said beekeeper Greg Stewart. "In the winter time they form a cluster to generate heat."

The bees also rely on honey to keep them warm. If the bees run out of honey during the winter months, they could starve and die. That is why the beekeepers have to come and check on their hives.

If temperatures fall below 50 degrees, the bees will not leave their hives and go out to look for food.

"We will actually monitor these hives week to week to be sure they have enough weight," said Stewart. "If there is not enough weight in the hive, means there is not enough honey and that is when we bring in the sugar feed."

The beekeepers use different methods to keep the bees fed. "This has a little door for them to come in and drink the sugar water," said Stewart.

Others use top feeders. "It makes it easy to feed them during the winter time," said Stewart.

But why all the buzz to keep these bees alive?

"Bees are the most important aspect of our agriculture in terms of pollination," said Findeis. "If we didn't have those bees to pollinate our crops, we would be eating a lot less good food like strawberries and blueberries."

And Llet's not forget about all of that sweet honey.

That's why the beekeepers are busy bees themselves during these chilly winter months, doing all they can to protect their bees.

The beekeepers will continue feeding the bees sugar water until the start of the spring season.

## Beekeeper of the Month

This month our featured beekeeper is Andy Hemken. Andy judged our mead making contest at the annual meeting in Marshalltown this last fall. His address is W229 57120 Guthrie School Rd., Big Bend, WI 53103. Andy says his wife's real name is Cheryl, but he might refer to her as "the saint". They operate Hemken Honey Company. According to Andy they market honey, comb honey, beeswax, beeswax candles, propolis, used equipment, pollen, pollination information and monkeyshines. They sell out of their home, at farmers markets, flea markets and specialty fairs.

Andy's beekeeping career started because a couple of Rotary Club buddies wanted to put a couple of hives at his place. He thought it would be fun for the kids. Then one of the buddies moved to Michigan and sold Andy three hives. Several years later he met an old man who provided access to 50 more hives. Now Andy is running approximately 100 hives and managing 10 more for a local veggie grower.

Beekeeping provides Andy the satisfaction of mentoring new beekeepers, watching honeybees at work, promoting beekeeping, and doing school and other presentations. He likes extracting

honey at the end of the season, promoting the use of honey, keeping his understanding wife on her toes, writing about beekeeping and drinking good mead. In the future Andy plans to keep enjoying the art of beekeeping and start raising his own queens next summer.

Since sometime in the late 90's, Andy has been president of the Milwaukee Waukesha Beekeepers Association. He organizes programs and speakers and works to keep the interest up. Andy ;actually has a paying job to support his hobby and due to his travel schedule is able to take and deliver orders from Lapp's, Mann Lake, B&B Honey and Walter Kelley Company. The Beekeeper Association has grown from around 10 to over 60 members. They usually meet the first Monday of the month. To fund their activities, the club operates a 10-hive backyard. They also maintain hives at the Milwaukee County Zoo and several



**Andy Hemken, president of the Milwaukee Waukesha Beekeepers Association, paid a visit to Iowa in October and judged the mead contest at the 2009 IHPA Annual Meeting.**

nature centers. They sponsor a mead workshop in January, beginner beekeeper workshop in February and an equipment workshop in March.

Andy says, "I learned a lot of my beekeeping knowledge from a near 100 year old beekeeper who spent his life helping others. I did a two-year term as president of the Wisconsin Honey Producers and learned a lot about politics. I have enjoyed creating articles for the American Bee Journal and putting on various bee related workshops. I very much enjoy crafting and drinking mead. I also like being around other bee people, who I find are very unique, fascinating and the best people on earth." One final piece of wisdom Andy shared was, "In running any beekeeping meeting or organization large or small, there needs to be something in it for the beekeeper, some benefit. There also needs to be an effort to recruit and develop people into volunteers and leaders. Too long as a leader and people get tired and burned out. We all need to figure out where we fit, and to contribute."

Thank you, Andy, for your story and words of advice.

Submitted by Ron Wehr



**Andy at the ready to capture a nice swarm of honeybees.**

# Your ONE and ONLY “in hive” Small Hive Beetle Treatment!

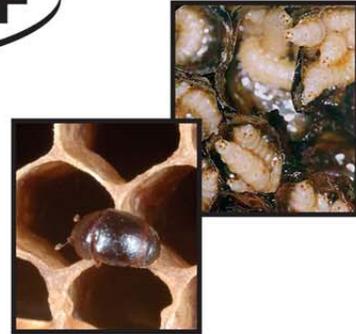


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DC-800 CheckMite+™ 100 pack.....**\$150.00**

DC-810 CheckMite+™ 10 pack.....**\$ 19.95**



### Small Hive Beetle Treatment

- Use a ground drench in addition to CheckMite+™
- Use 1 strip cut in 1/2 then attached to a 5” x 5” corrugated square. Place square strip side down on bottom board.
- Remove strips after 42-45 days

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500+.....\$.29

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DC-830 GardStar® quart bottle.....\$114.95

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or call  
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Prices are subject to change without notice and do not include shipping charges.

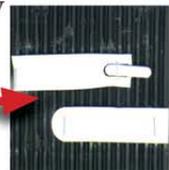
### SHB Life Cycle

Eggs → Larvae → Pupae → Adult

### Avoiding SHB Infestations

- Keep strong healthy hives by treating for disease and mites when appropriate.
- Feed syrup and pollen substitute to keep your hives strong when natural sources are not available.
- Use CheckMite+™ and GardStar® at the first sign of infestation.

**TIP:** To attract the beetles, spread a small amount of Bee-Pro® patty down the center of the square then attach the strip on either side of the patty



### Varroa Treatment



- Treatment is most effective when brood rearing is lowest
- Treat all infested colonies within the yard
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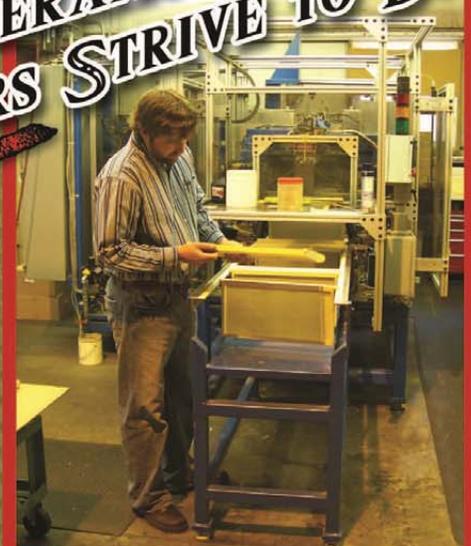
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# The Buzz Newsletter

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**IDALS website**  
[www.agriculture.state.ia.us](http://www.agriculture.state.ia.us)



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## Additional Links and Emails

**National Honey Board**  
[www.honey.com](http://www.honey.com)

**American Beekeeping Federation website**  
[www.ABFnet.org](http://www.ABFnet.org)

**Robert Haxton**  
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