

# The Bee Cause



Volume 12, Issue 6

September 2015

Next general meeting is 7:30 Tuesday, 8 September 2015 at the **The Elmwood Legion 920 Narin avenue , Winnipeg**. west of the Crossroads on the south side: Parking in the rear.

**Speaker:** **September** will concern the honey show, bee feeding & treatments, wintering and a chance for open discussion about your concerns [questions & answers].

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**Pesticides and Human Health -- For Your Information -**

compiled by **K. D. Rowes**

**Doctors and nurses urge ban on neonic pesticides Eric Atkins The Globe and Mail Nov. 17, 2014**

The Canadian Association of Physicians and the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario urge a ban of agricultural neonic pesticides. Gideon Forman, executive director of the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment said that the neonicotinoid insecticides used to grow corn, canola and other crops are a "major threat to both nature and humans. Neonics make crops toxic to field pests such as worms and grubs, but also bees and butterflies and other beneficial pollinators.

The Ontario's Environmental Commissioner Gord Miller also states that neonics are a serious threat to pollinators and likens the chemicals to DDT, a pesticide that was phased out in the 1970s for its devastating environmental impact.

The European Food Safety Authority said last year two neonics, acetamiprid and imidacloprid, may adversely affect the development of the human brain, and acceptable levels should be reduced. "Neonics are neurotoxins" and Forman states "its not surprising there could be adverse effects on human brain development.

The Task Force on Systemic Pesticides looked at 800 peer-reviewed studies over 20 years and concluded the negative effects of neonics are in ground water, worms, birds and all pollinators that we are witnessing a threat to the productivity of our natural and farmed environment equivalent to organophosphates and DDT," states Dr. Jean-Marc Bonmatin a lead author of the report. Far from protecting food production, the use of neonics is threatening

the very infrastructure which enables it, imperilling the pollinators, habitat engineers and natural pest controllers at the heart of a functioning ecosystem.

Now interestingly in 1988 William Legro researched the hazards of pesticides to human health which was published in Organic Gardening April 1988 "Pesticides: Assault on Your Immune System," "Under Siege," page 58. He states that the question no longer was whether pesticides can damage the human immune systems there was no doubt about it. The question asked was how much does it take to damage your immunity?" San Francisco immunologist Alan Levin, M.D. dubbed the wrecking of the nervous system as "CAIDS –

Chemical Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome frighteningly similar to Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome – AIDS."

The most common symptom observed is a gradual intolerance to environmental chemicals of all types including vehicle exhaust, gas fumes, perfumes, some foods, detergents and the feeling of having the flu all the time. Doctors were comparing these symptoms to acute infectious hepatitis.

Legro explains the theory of environmental medicine – once called clinical ecology-, the accumulation of low-level exposure to pollutants over time which can ultimately cause illness in people who work with the stuff or who are exposed to it through (cont'd on pg 5)

**2015 Executive****President: Waldemar Damert**

Ph 204-755-2340  
 Box 15 Grp. 150  
 Beausejour, MB R0E 0C0  
 Email: wdamert@yahoo.ca

**1st Vice President: John Badiuk**

Ph .204-943-0166  
 128 Victoria Ave W  
 Winnipeg, MB R2C 1S5  
 Email:honeyb@mymts.net

**2nd Vice President: Armand St**

Hilaire  
 Ph 204-427-2757  
 P0 Box 93  
 Roseau River, MB. R0A 1P0  
 Email: asthil@mymts.net

**Secretary: Art Quanbury**

Ph 204-489-6994  
 35 Cordova St.  
 Winnipeg, MB R3N 0Z9  
 Email: quanbury@shaw.ca

**Treasurer: John Speer**

Ph 204-222-3007  
 Box 16, Group 555, RR 5  
 Winnipeg, MB R2C 2Z2  
 Email: jurnss@outlook.com

**MBA Delegate: Jim Campbell \***

Ph 204-467-5246  
 Box 234  
 Stonewall, MB R0C 2Z0  
 Email: jaycam@mts.net

**RRAA web site administrator:**

**Duane Versluis**  
 Ph 204-268-4223  
 Box 12  
 Tyndall, MB R0E 2B0  
 Email: rraaweb@gmail.com

**Newsletter Editor:**

**Ken Rowes**  
 Ph 204-755-3427  
 Cloverleaf Box 758  
 RRI Anola, MB R0E 0A0  
 Email: Roweskd@mymts.net

\* in position till replacement

**Presidents Comments for September, 2015**

Greetings to all the Beekeepers!

September is here and fall is around the corner.

Hope you had a good summer and a good honey flow. The season started out good and then came the May snow storm. The vegetation growth had fallen back. Some farmers had to reseed canola crops. Canola became staggered and did bloom for a longer period. Nectar flow was good but with a higher moisture content on top of the high humidity in the air. Bees were not capable to dry the honey below 19 %.

So beekeepers were pulling green honey, drying it in the hot-rooms and then extracting it. Lots of extra work. The beekeepers I communicated with on the commercial side average between 50-150 lb, not a great honey year. There are always pockets that do a bit better. With my forecast for a swarm year I was right-on-the-money, 50% + hives swarmed even after splitting.

It is time to finish the season. September is the time to get the bees ready for winter.

Here is the 3 point approach!

1. Make sure your hives are Queen-right (need to be done in July and August) and are worth to be wintered, if not combine. Combine only healthy hives eliminate sick once.
2. Check for Varroa-mite, do a wash and count them to determine if treatment is needed. (Treat)
3. Start feeding. Single hive colonies need 20-24 litre of syrup to have plenty stores to survive the winter.

Feeding should be finished by the end of September. Once you finish feeding open the entrance reducers to discourage the hive from brooding. The hives that winter outside can be wrapped-up by the end of October beginning of November. At that time you put the reducers back in.

September topics will be. The honey show, Bee hive prep for winter, Queen rearing in hopefully the club's bee yard, open question and answer time.

Remember volunteers will be needed to help at the honey show, please make time to help!

Looking forward to see you all!

Waldemar

**PREPARING HONEY FOR SHOW****During the Honey Flow**

1. Select combs approximately 2/3 capped...the more capped the better.
2. Uncap cells with an uncapping fork, or low-heat Knife.
3. Extract at slow speed, or let honey drip out of cells.
4. Store at room temperature in a container with a gate at the bottom. After honey settles, use thicker honey from bottom of container.

**Preparing Entries**

1. Purchase correct jars for your entries...buy extras. Select jars with fewest imperfections in glass.
2. Sterilize jars and dry in the oven...no cloths - no lint.
3. Overfill your selected containers...2 to 5 mm from the top of the jar.
4. Set all jars in the sun for 1 or 2 days...let air bubbles rise.
5. If liquid honey starts to granulate, heat until clear.

**Before Submitting Entry**

1. Remove lid, skim any foreign material and foam off (with small spoon or paper clip), adjust level of fill. No air bubbles should be visible on the jar rim.
2. Select three best jars to enter in show.
3. Install clean or new lids...no scratches.
4. Clean and polish outside (including rims of jars) no honey or fingerprints.
5. Wrap jars in tissue paper or lint free material.

Jim Campbell

**Red River Apiarist's Association**  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
May 12, 2015

Chairman: Waldemar Damert

Recording Secretary: Art Quanbury

Moved by Albert Anderson and seconded by Ron Rudiak that the minutes of the May 12, 2015 meeting be accepted. **CARRIED.**

Reports None

Comments by President

Queens appear to be in short supply this year. It is perhaps because commercial beekeepers are doing a lot of hive splitting. Waldemar commented on how long a queen could be kept before being introduced to a hive. If in a small cage it will take 5 -7 days to open up. At 22 degrees a queen should be good for a week in a small cage. It might be a problem if there are other bees in the cage. It would be better to add young "fuzzy" bees that are 4 -5 days old.

**Banking queens:** A banking box can hold several queen cages – up to 10. Remove all other bees and add honey and water three times a week. If there are more than 10 queens use a bigger box with a board with holes to hold the queen cages. Fifty queens with one pound of bees. Banked queens can last up to 6 weeks this way but the bees were changed a few times. However, it is preferable not to bank queens although they should be good for 2 weeks.

Bees can polish off the paint dot on a queen, or the numbers on a plaque.

When putting queen cage in the hive, don't push it too far down between adjacent frames or the pheromones will not circulate well. Put the tube on the cage facing up. When making a nuc wait one hour before introducing the queen so they will know they are queenless.

Queens are not too fragile. They can be picked up between your fingers.

If you are raising your own queen you do not need to wait before introducing her to a hive.

You can use a utility hive to grow a queen. It is like a nuc but has no queen until they make one.

It is not good to re-queen in bad weather because the field bees will all be inside the hive and might not accept her. July is best time to re-queen.

It is best to get a hive to re-queen on its own. There are different amounts of royal jelly in the queen case; most when re-queening on own and least when superseding.

When raising queens you should try to have some alfalfa nearby with no neonics.

Local queens are tougher and more tolerant to the cold weather but will take longer to build up in the spring.

Presentation:

**How to Breed Local Queens**

Conditions

Daytime temperatures need to be 22 degrees for mating flights  
You need to have sufficient sexually mature drones (40 days old)  
Timing is best when bees are going into a slight swarming mode.  
There will be cell cups on the bottoms of the frames. Cups on the side of the frames are a signal cup for the queen to lay eggs there.

You need to decide on your goal. How many queens do you want to raise? (5 or 10 frames)

First batch of queens will be smaller than successive batches.

You need to set up a starter and finisher hive vs. removing a queen from a strong hive.

You need to decide on the system you will use. A Jenter kit you can buy a Bee Maid for \$100.00) vs. transferring larva. Transferring larva can be tricky and it is easier to use a system where the queen lays eggs in an egg cup.

Transfer the queen cell on day 13-14. Handle gently and do not chill it. Larva can stand 10 -12 degree Celsius. Biggest risk with larva is drying out.

You can start a mating box which uses less bees but is more work or you can let the queen hatch in a 4 or 5 frame nuc with 2 frames of brood.

Examine queen for proper body proportions. If head is small she will not be a strong queen after one year. Make sure all legs are present and functioning.

The nurse Bees (newly hatched) can be shaken in to a 5 gallon pail and smoked (drugged) with tobacco smoke and easily put in a mating box.

Ted Scheuneman presented details of his queen rearing. He puts a drop of honey in the cage when the queen hatches. Queens will be accepted better if she is put on the frame immediately.

He discards brood frames when they turn black, usually after 5 years.

In the fall he takes out the side frames and puts in empty frames for sugar syrup feeding. The honey in these frames will crystallize and the Bees will shred out crystallized honey. It is work for them and they get no energy from it.

The queen cell is caged a day or so before she is expected to hatch say day 13. If from grafting Ted uses a screw to keep the cell from falling down in the vertical. If using a Jenter cell you will assemble the larvae cup into a Yellow plug then the day of caging the yellow plug fits into the top opening and plugs the cage.

Ted noted that the queen and worker bees are half sisters to the drone so they are not directly related to the queen so there is no in-breeding.

Bee Day

May 30 is Bee Day at the Forks and volunteers are needed. Armand will be bringing all the display equipment and setting up on the Friday evening (May 29). Volunteers are needed for Saturday (9 am until 6 pm). Sign up on the sheet.

Bees for Sale

Margaret and Christos have been for sale.

Loonie Draw winners

Dahlia Winners: Jim Uttley, Armand St. Hilaire, Mary Louise Chown, Victor Dyck, Adelle Kennedy, Nelson Szwaluk, Keith Bamford, Monica Wiebe, Duane Versluis, Dini Borst, Murray Smith, Hans Borst, Ron Rudiak.

Laura Dyck – Lip balm

Barry Briscoe – Lip balm

Christos Argiriou – Book by O Henry

Keith Bamford – wax foundation made by Waldemar

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm. The September meeting will be held at the Elmwood Legion on 920 Nairn Avenue west of the perimeter.

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**MBA Report September 2015**  
**Jim Campbell, MBA Representative**

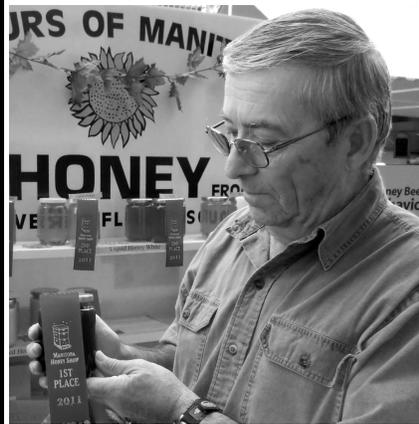
Manitoba Beekeepers' Association (MBA) and the Manitoba Aerial Applicators Association (MAAA) joined forces in applying for grant funding from Growing Forward 2 (GF2) program. Funds are being sought to assist with the introduction and roll out the **BeeConnected** app developed by CropLife Australia last year. Although no word is available yet from GF2, CropLife indicated there may be delays in the app introduction as more work is needed to complete translation from Australian to Canadian languages in addition to the operational upgrades deemed necessary by Canadian users. They want to ensure the system is fully operational in the French/English Canadian environment so acceptance and data base population is as convenient as possible. In addition, the security and protection measures will ensure applicators spot beehives in a timely fashion to avoid damage. In the meantime however, the USA DriftWatch system is being modified to include similar hive site security measures already in **BeeConnected**. The Organic industry is also promoting Drift-Watch as their preferred approach for avoiding chemical treatments.

MBA were unable to secure a site for the summer Field Day this past June. Since several members of RRAA enjoy the learning activities the field day provides, additional effort will be made in 2016 to find a volunteer host for this from their own membership.

The Blacklegged Tick research project has been approved with a grant of \$78,000 to be provided over the two year project. MBA received confirmation of funding from the Growing Forward 2 Growing Innovation – Agri-Food Research & Development Initiative (ARDI). The project is called " **First Steps in Risk Assessment: Blacklegged Tick Seasonality and Development in Southern Manitoba**", and began during June by University of Manitoba students collecting samples of ticks. Several beekeeping operations will be contacted to volunteer apiary site samples.

The Secretary and Treasurer functions of MBA remain in limbo as of August, even though formal interviews were completed back in May. It seems success at finding a replacement person has eluded the board of directors. With one person removing their name from the competition and awaiting formal communication from another, no conclusion to the replacement search is available. The current staff may have to continue their roles until directors convey their plans going forward. Meanwhile the current treasurer moved to Alberta in mid August.

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**BRIAN GORDON SMITH (1942 - 2015)**

Brian Gordon Smith passed away July 15, 2015 at the Boundary Trails Health Centre. He is survived by his loving wife Sandra, son David and daughter Diane Baete (Blair). He also leaves two brothers Lyall (Linda) of Brandon and Barry (Shirley) of Winnipeg and their children.

Brian was born in Altona on August 26, 1942. Grew up on the family farm, He went to school in Emerson and later took Diploma in Agriculture at the University of Manitoba

Brian was always a farmer at heart. He loved the land, and could not wait to get to the field in the spring, or get the combine ready in the fall for harvest.

After Brian retired from grain farming he worked for Parent Seeds at St. Joseph, the Emerson Golf Course and later RM of Franklin and Cargill. Brian liked to keep busy and over the years developed an interest in beekeeping. He always said that one of the best side benefits of beekeeping was meeting great people who shared their knowledge and became friends.

Brian and Sandra Smith, joined Red River Apiarists' Association in 1998 and held continuous membership since then. After a little encouragement from others, Brian began entering the annual September Honey Show Competition in 2008. He participated in both the Honey and Photo categories, taking several First Place awards. Ribbons such as First in Bee photo, Amber, Dark, Bees Wax, Honey Frame, and culminating in a First for Liquid Honey in 2012 demonstrated his success in the industry. Brian crafted an attractive Honey Frame Holder made out of Oak wood to brighten up the competition display area and attract visitors. In addition, Brian could often be found talking about his favourite "bees" to guests at the Observation Hive. To help with the bee club, Brian held the 2nd Vice President position from 2009 to 2012. He loved meeting people and sharing his passion with them, and members of the executive will miss his presence as several met him for lunch last year.

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**(from pg 1)** contamination of the (environment, or who use it in their homes and gardens. Furthermore, because of variations in when and how much a person is exposed, environmental illness can be hidden from medical diagnosis.

Levin and 400 or so members of the American Academy of Environmental Medicine were a distinct minority. Ephraim Kahn, M.D., a specialist in environmental epidemiology and toxic hazard consultant for the California Department of Health, states “while the evidence that pesticides alter and damage human immunity, the damage just “doesn’t produce the symptoms clinical ecologists talk about”. Our immune systems are responsible for keeping us alive in the world full of viruses, bacteria, fungi, parasites and all sorts of molecules and particles of natural and manmade pollution. People can respond differently to the same poison, but the clinical reports and lab studies show the problems run the gamut from allergies to the inability to fight off infections. To Levin the issue of whether pesticides harm the humane immune system is not controversial. “It’s a well known syndrome. The major resistance to it is political and economic, **not scientific.**”

L. John Olson, Ph. D. toxicologist with the Wisconsin Health Department states, “Abnormal blood counts, even without disease, should be enough to **alert pesticide makers and users.** We don’t want chemicals banned, **just made safer and USED safely.**”

Legro pulls a comment from a letter to the New England Journal of Medicine from Nicholas Ashford, Ph. D., professor of technology and policy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, “I cannot think of a single regulated substance for which the evidence [for regulation] has not grown more convincingly with time,” and “Sooner or later, the tip of the iceberg reveals the iceberg.” So here we are 2015 – we see the iceberg and there are still the political and economic denials!

**Here are some warning signs:** Pesticides damage and tax your immune system. The damage can both be acute and cumulative. Since many toxic chemicals are stored in your fat cells and lymph glands, they can remain in the body for decades. Thus health problems can build up over a long period in ways that science doesn’t yet fully understand. One of the most dangerous effects of pesticides is that they weaken your immune system so you are less able to combat ordinary infections. Symptoms of a weakened immune system might include: skin rashes, nausea, fatigue, depression, leukemia, frequent infections, and fever.

**So how do you protect your immune system?**

From pesticides, the best way, of course, is not to use them. But that may not be realistic in all circumstances. “We don’t need to abolish the use of toxic chemicals,” a theme of many today and immunologist Alan Levin, M.D. who says the solution is common sense.” That means:

**X** When the directions say one teaspoonful per gallon of water, two teaspoons is not better, it’s worse.

**X** Wear gloves and a respirator.

**X** Ventilate, ventilate, ventilate!

**X** Dispose of the waste properly.

**X** Keep your immune system in top shape. Almost every nutrient is important for proper immune function but a few are key :

- vitamin C, vitamin A, and Zinc.

Good sources of C are peppers, broccoli, cantaloupe, cabbage, spinach, tomatoes, and strawberries.

Sources for A include sweet potatoes, carrots, spinach, cantaloupe, kale, broccoli, asparagus, green beans, corn, and parsley.

You can get Zinc from soybeans, lentils, pinto beans and sunflower seeds.

**X** Reduce stress. Research shows that the immune system is weakened in people who suffer from anxiety and depression. Start gardening. Not only is it relaxing and enjoyable but it gives you some control over the food you eat.

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## BEE DAY May 30th 2015

**Thanks** to the many volunteers we reached our educational objectives for the day. With all the information on the media about bee health and decline, people are always happy to speak with real live beekeepers. Honey quality is also a big concern for the public. The opportunity to speak with local beekeepers is extremely important.

People young and older were pleased with our displays and live bees.

The RRAA extends a sincere THANK-YOU to all the dedicated volunteers who made this day a success:

Waldemar Damert----John Speer----Ken Rows----  
John Badiuk----Veronica Larmour----Alex Remkes----  
Duane Versluis----Victor Dyck----  
Hans and Dini Borst.

We all benefit;  
Submitted by: Armand ST Hilaire  
Coordinator

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## Editor's Note

by Ken Rows

I hope you all have had some success this summer. The word is average or slightly below average honey crop.

Leaves are changing and the evenings are dipping to single digits. The last week of August is usually time for bringing in the last honey crop unless you want that fall amber honey from the first week of September. This goes for this region.

You will want to be feeding and treating at least before the middle of September while the warm weather permits.

The word is out that 6 more cases of Small Hive Beetle have been found in Ontario [OBA website]

The RRAA has had an executive meeting this past week and have looked into some neat topics for this fall. **September** will concern the honey show, bee feeding & treatments, wintering and a chance for open discussion about your concerns [questions & answers]. **October** establish a nomination committee followed by a review of the honey show, a discussion on queen rearing, and a possible RRAA beeyard for demos and field days followed by a social time with eats and drink. A good time to speak to avid beekeepers for their take on any issues. **November** will be the usual gadget night

The Honey show is 25 –27 September and volunteers are need to care for the displays answering public enquiries including explaining the beekeepers equipment and activities, honey and have the privilege to explain your apiculture activities. The Honey competition information is on pages 8-10. Please consider helping with the show even beginners can relay their enjoyment from the Bee and for all beekeepers to bring their beekeeping up a notch and enter the competition sections.

An interest of mine is a RRAA calendar showcasing our seasonal apiculture events and any volunteer photos will be considered. Bee Well

## CLASSIFIEDS

**1 Wanted:** Automatic uncapper; honey tank. Phone 204-712-6783, Email; lancewld@gmail.com

**2 For Sale:** Plastic queen excluders \$3.50 each. Contact, Lance W. Phone # 712-6783, Email; lancewld@gmail.com

**3 For Sale:** One 525 gallon water tank, in very good condition, excellent for mixing and transporting sugar syrup. \$390.00 OBO

One upright scale, like you would find in a Doctor's office, in good condition. Good for weighing larger containers of honey. \$150.00 OBO

One 4-drawer metal filing cabinet. \$30.00 OBO

*The Bee Cause* is the official publication of the Red River Apiarists' Association for distribution to its members and their colleagues in the beekeeping industry. It is published eight times a year on a monthly basis except December and the summer months of June, July, and August when membership meetings do not occur.

Articles can be best submitted in word documents as email attachments. Though they may be edited for spelling and basic grammar, no changes will be made to their contents, message and opinions. They are those of their originator and not of the Red River Apiarist Association.

Deadline for any submission to this newsletter is the second Saturday preceding the membership meeting to allow for publishing and mailing delays. Regular membership meetings are normally scheduled 7:30 PM on the second Tuesday of every month at the **Corydon Community Centre River Heights** located at 1370 Grosvenor Avenue in Winnipeg except the months as noted above.

The Red River Apiarists' Association, formed in 1963, represents the beekeepers of the Red River Valley and environs in southern Manitoba. The association provides a forum for the promotion of sound beekeeping practices through education, networking opportunities, meetings, field days, workshops, presentations by local apicultural experts, as well as the dissemination of this monthly newsletter.

*We are on the web!*

[www.beekeepingmanitoba.com](http://www.beekeepingmanitoba.com)

Contact Ted Scheuneman: 204-338-6066

**4. For Sale:** Downsizing 150 hive operation — items to go; Full size hive boxes (plain or insulated), brood boxes with bees, honey supers, 4 frame nuc boxes, a variety of feeders and queen excluders, hive tops metal covered, bottom boards—plain or screened, inner covers and feeder covers. Frame parts, frame assembly and wiring jigs, pure beeswax foundation, wax melter, barrel cart, electric barrel honey melter, electric fencer, poles, wire and insulators, bee blowers, beekeeping clothing and tools, electric uncapping knife and plane, electric stainless steel bottling tank—300 lb capacity, plus an assortment of plastic and metal honey pails.

Reasonable prices most equipment will be sold in groups. Contact **Charles\_polcyn@ymail.com** or **Charles 204-284-7064 Wpg.** Or farm 204-348-2506.

**5. Wanted:** Honey contact: John at 204-943-0166 Email:honeyb@mymts.net

**6. Rental** 4 frame SS extractor for small beekeeper contact Ken at 204 755-3427 Email: rowskd@mymts.net

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## Honey Bee Larvae Thrive by Kim Kaplan

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) scientists have identified a bacterium that appears to give honey bee larvae a better chance of surviving to become pupae. Molecular biologist Vanessa Corby-Harris and microbial ecologist Kirk E. Anderson at the Carl Hayden Bee Research Center in Tucson, Arizona, have named the new species *Parasaccharibacter apium*. The bee research center is part of the Agricultural Research Service, USDA's chief intramural scientific research agency.

Honey bees have been under nearly constant and growing pressures from a whole host of stressors—diseases, poor nutrition, sublethal effects of pesticides and many others, especially for the last 30 years. It has been known that a number of different bacteria live within adult bees and in the hive, and scientists have been studying if and how these bacteria help deal with some of these stresses. This is the first bacteria found to offer a benefit to bee larvae. In laboratory experiments, bee larvae fed *P. apium* had about an average of 30 percent better survival compared to those fed a sterile control. How *P. apium* confers this survival advantage to the larvae is not yet known, according to Corby-Harris. So far, the researchers have found *P. apium* only in honey bees and their hives. While *P. apium* found in honey bee hives is a distinct and new species from any previously identified, it has very close, naturally occurring relatives found in the nectar of many flowers, including cactus flowers, daisies, thistles and apple blossom. The genome of *P. apium* has been sequenced and they are beginning to dissect the functional properties that distinguish flower-living Acetobacteraceae from those that have coevolved with the honey bee hive. Pinpointing these ecological differences will be key to understanding the function of *P. apium* in honey bee hives, Anderson explained. With minimal sampling effort, *P. apium* was found in nearly every one of the healthy managed bee colonies examined by the researchers. A future study will explore the abundance of *P. apium* in weak or struggling managed bee colonies. While the mechanism by which the bacteria benefit the larvae remains to be studied, the importance is clear enough that Corby-Harris and Anderson are already field testing its use along with a number of other bacteria that may benefit the pollination and honey-production industry as potential management tools.

Read more about this research in the May 2015 issue of *AgResearch* magazine.

**Forwarded by Rheal Laframbois**  
**Paul Kozak**  
**Provincial Apiarist**  
**Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs**  
Animal Health and Welfare Branch Guelph Ontario —/\/—

## Social bees mark dangerous flowers with chemical signals

**Date:** March 14, 2013 **Source:** Plataforma SINC  
**Summary:**

Scientists already knew that some social bee species warn their conspecifics when detecting the presence of a predator near their hive, which in turn causes an attack response to the possible predator. Researchers at the University of Tours (France) in collaboration with the Experimental Station of Arid Zones of Almeria (Spain) have now demonstrated that they also use chemical signals to mark those flowers where they have previously been attacked.

Researchers at the University of Tours (France) and the Experimental Station of Arid Zones of Almeria (EEZA-CSIC) conducted an experiment to study whether bees are capable of using evasive chemical signals to mark those flowers where they have previously been attacked. For this purpose, they simulated a predator attack and observed whether the bees advised the rest of their conspecifics of the danger of gathering nectar at a certain plant.

"Evasive alarm pheromones provoke an escape response in insects that visit a particular flower and until now, we were not sure of the role that these pheromones played in social bees. Our results indicate that, unlike solitary bees, social bees use this type of alert system on flowers to warn their conspecifics of the presence of a nearby predator," as explained by Ana L. Llandres from the University of Tours and lead author of the study published in the 'Animal Behaviour' journal.

In order to determine whether social and solitary bees responded to these olfactory alarm signals, an experiment was performed using individuals from both types and from different countries: Australia, China, Spain and Singapore.

In some plants the predator attack was simulated by trapping the bees with pincers whereas in other cases control plants were used in which no attack took place.

"Solitary bees responded similarly in the case of flowers that had been attacked by control predators and control flowers. However, social bees responded very differently," explains L. Llandres. "Despite approaching both types of flower, the probability of landing on control flowers was much higher." The scientists also detected that the probability of social bees rejecting flowers was much greater if a predator attack had been previously simulated.

This study supports the idea that the sociability of bees is linked to the evolution of warning signals.

**Story Source:** The above story is based on materials provided by **Plataforma SINC**. **Journal Reference:**

1. Ana L. Llandres, Francisco G. González, Miguel A. Rodríguez-Gironés. **Social but not solitary bees reject dangerous flowers where a conspecific has recently been attacked.** *Animal Behaviour*, 2013; 85 (1): 97 DOI: 10.1016/j.anbehav.2012.10.012 —/\/—

# MANITOBA HONEY SHOW

SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2015  
THE FORKS MARKET  
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

## GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS:

1. Honey Exhibitors shall be bona fide beekeepers with entries of pure honey from the current year production from their own personal apiaries.
2. An exhibitor may submit one entry in each section of each class. Advance registration via phone call by 4:00p.m. Tuesday, September 15, 2015, by calling Rheel Lafreniere at 945-4825.
3. Exhibitors must accurately complete the entry form, and clearly mark each entry parcel with their name and address. An Entry form is to accompany entry parcel. Judges will ensure entries are placed in the appropriate classes. Entries must be free of any labels, with only initials or id on underside.
4. Entry deadline (NOTE: Class 3 section 3 allows Photography option) is 4:00 P.M., Tuesday September 22, 2015. There is no entry fee. Honey entries should be sent to: **MANITOBA HONEY SHOW**, c/o 625 Roseberry Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3H 0T4. **ENTRIES SHOULD NOT ARRIVE BEFORE MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015.**
5. Show judges shall consider any contestant ineligible if the entry fails to comply with the exhibit criteria or is unattractively displayed. Honey jars should **NOT** have a Label. Awards will be made by a scale of points and, in case of a tie; the highest score for flavour will be awarded the extra point.
6. All entries must be picked up by their owner at the end of the show, as items remaining at 4:00 P. M., Sunday, will become the property of the Red River Apiarists' Association and may be donated to a charity such as Winnipeg Harvest food bank.
7. The Honey Show is a consumer oriented educational and promotional event, sponsored by the Manitoba Beekeepers' Association, and organized and staffed by members of the Red River Apiarists Association.
8. A copy of these General Rules and Regulations, and a competition Entry Form are on-line at [www.manitobabee.org](http://www.manitobabee.org) (refer "Activities and Events" section of web site) and at [www.BeekeepingManitoba.com](http://www.BeekeepingManitoba.com) (refer "Events" then "Honey Show").

**MANITOBA HONEY SHOW****COMPETITION CLASSES****CLASS 1**

1. Liquid Honey, White, totaling not less than 3 - 500 g (375 ml) glass or clear plastic jars.
2. Liquid Honey, Amber, totaling not less than 3 - 500 g (375 ml) glass or clear plastic jars.
3. Liquid Honey, Dark, totaling not less than 3 - 500 g (375 ml) glass or clear plastic jars.
4. Liquid Honey, BEE-GINNER, any colour, totaling not less than 3 - 500 g (375 ml) glass or clear plastic jars. (NOTE: ONLY OPEN TO FIRST-TIME HONEY SHOW ENTRANT).
5. Granulated Honey, White, totaling not less than 3 - 500 g (375 ml) glass or clear plastic jars.

**CLASS 2**

1. Chunk Honey - totaling not less than 3 - 500 g (375 ml) glass or clear plastic jars, each containing one or more pieces of comb honey and the jars filled with liquid white honey.
2. Comb Honey - totaling not less than 3 pieces of either comb honey in plastic rounds or cut comb honey in individual containers.
3. Frame of Honey - one completely capped frame of white honey.
4. Beeswax - 2 kg in one cake or not more than 5 cakes.

**CLASS 3**

1. Best Taste - any color - totaling not less than 3 - 500 g (375 ml) glass or clear plastic containers. (Entries will be judged primarily for flavour and taste using simplified judging standards)
2. Honey Beverage – any type, colour or flavour – single container not larger than 1 litre.
3. Photography – one unframed 8” x 10” photograph depicting a) Honey Bee Pollination, b) Beekeeping in Manitoba, c) Other Bees and Insects, and/or d) Honey - In Many Forms. (If not previously submitted, Photos to arrive at Honey Show Display area by noon on Friday, the first day of show.)

**CHAMPION EXHIBITOR:** The exhibitor winning the greatest number of points in the Honey Division (Classes 1 and 2) will be declared the **CHAMPION EXHIBITOR** of the Manitoba Honey Show. Points are awarded, only if category has more than one entry, as follows:

<b>PRIZE POINTS</b>	
<b>FIRST</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SECOND</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>THIRD</b>	<b>1</b>

MANITOBA HONEY SHOW  
JUDGING STANDARDS (page 1 of 2)

<u>LIQUID HONEY</u>	<u>POINTS</u>	<u>CHUNK HONEY</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
Appearance and uniformity of containers	5	Appearance and uniformity of containers	5
Uniform level of fill	5	Uniform level of fill	5
Colour	5	Uniformity of honey - both liquid and comb	5
Freedom from crystals	15	Freedom from crystals in both comb and liquid portions	15
Freedom from foreign material	15	Freedom from foreign material	15
Freedom from air bubbles either in suspension or as froth	15	Freedom from air bubbles either in suspension or as a froth	15
Uniformity of honey	5	Flavour and aroma	10
Brightness	10	Neatness of cut edges of comb honey pieces	15
Flavour and aroma	10	Completeness of fill and completeness of cappings on comb honey pieces	15
Density (moisture content)	15	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>100</u></b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>100</u></b>	*****	
*****		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>100</u></b>
<b>GRANULATED HONEY</b>		*****	
Appearance and uniformity of containers	5	<b>COMB HONEY</b>	
Uniform level of fill	5	Quality and uniformity of container sections	5
Colour	5	Cleanliness of containers	20
Firmness of set	15	Completeness of fill in container	20
Freedom from foreign material	15	Completeness of capping	10
Freedom from froth and frosting	15	Cleanliness and appearance of cappings	20
Uniformity of honey entry including texture	10	Quality and flavour	10
Flavour and aroma	10	Uniformity of comb sections including honey	15
Texture of granulation (smooth and fine)	20	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>100</u></b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>100</u></b>		

# MANITOBA HONEY SHOW

## 2014 COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

ENTRY CLOSING DATE: 4:00 P.M., Tuesday, September 22, 2015.

I hereby enter for competition, the exhibits herein described, and agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the Honey Show as posted on [www.manitobabee.org](http://www.manitobabee.org) or [www.beekeepingmanitoba.com](http://www.beekeepingmanitoba.com) and be governed by them. I understand there is no entry fee, and that my name may be displayed on my entry during the public showing and in a competition report.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ PROV. \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

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Class Number	Class Name	Mark "Beginner" if first time Entrant
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Honey Exhibits must reach Honey Judge Coordinator, C/O MANITOBA HONEY SHOW, 625 Roseberry Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3G 0T4 by entry closing date. All exhibits not picked up by 4:00 P.M., on the last day of the show (Sunday), will become the property of the Red River Apiarists' Association and may be donated to a charity.

Signature of Exhibitor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Red River Apiarists Association  
New Location  
September 8, 2015**

New location is **The Elmwood Legion 920 Narin avenue** west of the Crossroads on the south side:

- Regent Avenue west of Lagemodier (59 HWY).

**Volunteer sought for RRAA  
MBA Representative**

**A volunteer from the RRAA membership is needed to fill a position on the Executive for 2015. The job description for MBA Representative is fairly simple and outlined in the RRAA By-Laws (published on [beekeeping-manitoba.com](http://beekeeping-manitoba.com) under "Resources") as follows:**

**The MBA Representative shall represent the Association views, recommendations, questions, requests and opinions at the Manitoba Beekeepers' Association director's meetings. The representative may provide verbal or written reports of director's discussions during regular or executive Association meetings. Outside of the by-laws, specifics of the role include attending semi monthly meetings of the MBA Board, typically held in Neepawa on the second or third Thursday of a month. The exact dates will vary according to the busy schedule of commercial operators thus April, July, August and September are usually avoided. The representative may participate in discussions of the board, yet are excluded from voting. The role is to act as a liaison between the concerns of the hobbyists and the directions of the commercial operators. In addition the rep typically provides a monthly report for publication in the RRAA newsletter BeeCause with supplemental information at regular club meetings.**

**Volunteers should contact Waldemar, RRAA President, if you are interested.**

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**Red River Apiarists' Association  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
2015 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

I apply for membership in the Red River Apiarists' Association. Membership includes one-year subscription to the newsletter "The Bee Cause" (8 issues)

RRAA membership fee (cheque payable to RRAA or Red River Apiarists' Association. @ \$25.00/year  
**NEW:** Optional Beekeeper Liability Insurance (details on RRAA web, Links, Insurance) @ \$45.00/year

TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED.....\$\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

New Member [  ] Renewal [  ] Student U of M Beekeeping course [  ] [free 1st year]

Other. Please specify. \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter Delivered in electronic pdf via e-mail [  ] or on paper via Canada Post [  ]

This completed form may be brought to the meeting or mailed with your cheque to :

**John Speer, RRAA Treasurer  
Box 16, Group 555. Winnipeg, Manitoba R2C 2Z2.**

Please do not send cash in the mail