

The Bee Cause



Volume 7, Issue 6

September 2010

- Next general meeting is **7:30 Tuesday, September 14th** at the **River Heights Community Centre, 1370 Grosvenor Ave., Winnipeg.**
- (in room right of main-door)
- **Speaker: David Ostermann will be speaking on Fall Management & Winter preparation**

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The Canadian Honey Council 'What Do We Do'

Heather Clay
Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Honey Council, Calgary AB

A New Beginning

The need for a national honey bee organization has long been recognized by the beekeeping industry. It was formally acknowledged by a diverse group of stakeholders at a summit meeting in Quebec in 2006 that the CHC is "the voice of the Canadian honey bee industry". The problem was how to leverage support in principle into a working organization that is effective and sustainable. After two years of consultation, industry leaders voted unanimously to endorse twenty founding principles for the new CHC. At the Annual General Meeting held in Calgary January 2008, the directors of the CHC voted for new bylaws that support the changes to membership, participation, and structure of the organization.

The resulting new Canadian Honey Council is an organization of organizations mandated to deal with many national issues relevant to the Canadian honey bee industry. The CHC is no longer in competi-

tion with provincial associations for members. Provincial associations are now the voting members of the national organization and the members of each provincial organization, mostly beekeepers, receive benefits from the CHC in terms of better support for industry concerns. Benefits also include a subscription to the quarterly Hivelights magazine. As well, CHC communicates its activities via the website and our monthly b-TALK-newsletter. For archived copies of the magazine and b-TALK visit www.hivelights.ca

The change in organization:

- positions CHC as the unified voice of the Canadian honey bee industry,
- allows it to act as the instrument for achieving a sustainable Canadian honey bee industry
- brings it nearer to effectively promoting a dynamic and prosperous Canadian honey bee industry.

Strategic Priorities

The CHC has four strategic priorities and all the projects we undertake are guided by these priorities.

1. Hive Health – thriving productive livestock
2. Market Access/Share – increased demand that supports better prices
3. Food Safety – top quality products that instil consumer confidence
4. Labour and Succession – people to work in the industry now and in the future

Some of our many projects and issues that we

are currently dealing with are summarized below.

I. HIVE HEALTH IPM Poster

Colony losses have averaged 30-35% over the past three years and some regions lost 60%. The CHC held an ad hoc meeting on hive health in Winnipeg in June 2007 and January 2009 to address the situation. A hive health committee has been formed to advance the recommendations that emerged from these meetings. The committee is working on a comprehensive field manual for hive health, ways to develop a national bee breeding program.

In 2007 CHC, with advice from CAPA members, put together an Integrated Pest Management poster for beekeepers. It graphically shows cultural controls, monitoring techniques and treatments across the seasons. This poster is currently being updated and expanded into a booklet called IPM for Healthy Bees that will soon be available for distribution.

Oxalic Acid Registration

The benefit of using oxalic acid for treatment of varroa mites in honey bee colonies has been well documented. It has high efficacy if used once in the fall season after brood rearing has ceased. The product is widely available over the counter, has low risk when used as a trickle treatment in syrup and leaves no residue in honey. As well, it is environmentally friendly because it breaks down into carbon dioxide and water.

The Canadian Honey Council took the lead in registering oxalic acid with the Pest Management (continued on page 4)

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President's Comments – August/September 2010

The Day of the Honey Bee on May 29th, 2010 was celebrated in many parts of Canada. The Forks Market in Winnipeg was the focal spot for the RRAA and MBA groups for that day. There were a variety of honeybee related charts on display, some pollination information along with a frame of bees, beekeeping equipment from Bee Maid and two vendors marketing honey to the public. The Provincial Proclamation was on display from the Minister of Agriculture- Mr. Stan Struthers. A variety of RRAA members spent the day answering questions from visitors to the Day of the Honey Bee corner. The general impression from the public was that honeybees need protection, honey is a great food and that Manitoba honey has the best taste. The Day of the Honey Bee was a first time event for us as well as the rest of Canada. Next years program is still in the planning stage, so be alert for the plans for 2011.

It is only half way thru the month of August, and despite the high record setting temperatures of last week, the nights have begun to cool off. My question then ??? "Is summer soon coming to an end, and do we, the beekeepers, need to start preparing for a cool fall and winter, or is this just another example of climate variability at the local level?" If the nights do become cool, it is a sign for the bees to go below and help keep the brood warm. And yet at the same time the late seeded crops may begin to flower, and a heavy honey flow will invite the bees to continue to gather nectar and store honey in the supers or the brood box. And this may not be the type of food/honey that you want to have available for winter stores. The research indicates that sugar syrup is easier for the bees to digest once field foraging is over, so consider getting those feeding pails ready to go on all your hives soon.

Thus we have the threefold dilemma in mid-August of: a) hive preparation plans for winter, b) gathering more honey for sales, and c) deciding which varroa mite treatment to use. I would imagine that a) and c) are most important, as that will determine what hives will be alive next spring. I am mentioning this as last years experience with mite control went well with those beekeepers who had monitored mite levels in August, treated appropriately and read the labels on whichever miticide was chosen to be used. But cool weather plays a major part of the effectiveness of any miticide, as the bees have to be in **contact** with the miticide for the mite numbers to be controlled. Also a word of caution with the use of Apistan or Checkmite, as in many areas of the province the surviving mites have become resistant to both of them.

We are still lacking the mandatory regulation countrywide of which miticide will be sold/available for the beekeeping year. This is now a common practice in some European countries and it is time to consider this for Canada, particularly for Western Canada. It is called the Miticide Selection Cycle, and some countries legislate/regulate which type of miticide will only be marketed. When is Western Canada or all of Canada going to make this rational decision.????

Honey market prices seem to be becoming stronger, so keep selling your honey at the recommended price of \$2.50/ lb in the customers container. Or ask for more if you have a separate unique nectar flow. You have done some extra work, so the value added should be reflected in your price. The public is not happy with honey bought in the major stores and are eager to have quality honey that is produced in Manitoba.

You may wonder why this issue of the BEECAUSE is arriving early, but it is because our September meeting is on the 14th, the latest day possible for our regular meeting. The Executive felt that our membership would benefit with an early reminder of necessary preparations for the fall, as well as a heads up on what we might be/should be doing the next four weeks.

I hope you all had a productive honey season, and I am looking forward to seeing many of you at our meeting in September.

Yours in Bee Keeping: Charles Polcyn RRAA President

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Minutes of the RRAA General Meeting River Heights Community Club – May 11, 2010

7:30 PM: Charles Polcyn welcomed the members and guests to our last meeting of the spring season. Charles also noted that we have had good pollen early in the season for spring build-up.

Minutes of the April general meeting: No errors or omissions were noted.

Announcements: We are awaiting the signing of the Provincial Government Proclamation for the Day of the Honeybee by Agriculture Minister Struthers. This Day of the Honeybee will take place at The Forks, on May 29, with live bees and several interactive displays that Jim Campbell and Rheel Lafrenière are arranging. Pollination of different food products will be featured.

Membership: John Speer reported that we presently have over 60 paid up members.

MBA Report: The Canadian beekeeping industry has applied for emergency use of Apivar.

NOD has not received permission from PMRA to sell their Quick Strip formic acid product and they have discontinued the manufacture of Mite Away II pads.

Disease Inspection Program: Inspection of apiaries will be scheduled according to AFB occurrences. Operations without ongoing disease problems will be inspected only every second or third season.

Because the honey plant, buckwheat, has changed (hybridized etc.) the MBA plans to meet with the Buckwheat Growers Association to discuss increase in production by pollination and increasing honey yields. Buckwheat as a neutraceutical will also be discussed.

June 26th Field Day and Picnic: This fun event will take place at the Paul Gregory location in Fisher Branch. A lunch by Denny's Whole Hog is planned with a tour of Gregory's new honey house and several presentations to follow. The outdoor lunch is for 1:00 PM and the cost to individuals is \$10.00

Loonie Draw: The loonie draw had eight prizes for May and a lot of participation. Brian Little and John Speer each won a set of four wine glasses. Chris Argeriou won a rain gauge (very useful in Manitoba) and Sandra Smith got a set of beeswax candles. Howard Alexander had his name drawn for a honey pot, and Don Kitson won the organic honey from Brazil. Nelson Szwaluk won the honey candy from Bogota and Walter Wright the organic honey from Apis Dorsata. Thanks again to those who donated draw items and everyone who purchased tickets.

Program: Bev Clark on queen rearing and the future of beekeeping.

Ron Rudiak, recorder – RRAA

Controlling Varroa

Rhéal Lafrenière
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

Fall is quickly coming and it is time to be thinking about getting bees ready for winter. On the top of the list of things to do will be to monitor varroa levels in the colonies and choosing which control option to use this Fall. Although many of the colonies many have come through the winter with low varroa mite levels, the early spring not only helped to generate multiple generations of bees but also helped to replenish the varroa population. A small number of mites in the spring reproducing through all those brood cycles could eventually add up for fairly hefty mite population by the fall.

In addition to monitoring varroa mite levels to determine whether control is warranted monitoring varroa levels before and after the treatment helps to ensure that previous control procedure was effective. MAFRI's "2010 Recommendations for Administering Antibiotics and Acaricides to Honey Bees" provides all the details of how to monitor for varroa mites as well as how to use the various varroa control options, so I am not going to cover that in detail (http://manitobabee.org/bulletin/archives/2010_recommendations__Mar24.2.doc).

What I would like to communicate in this article is the importance of following label instructions. For example, in the case of Apivar® the label indicates specifically to use 2 Apivar® strips per brood chamber. Last year's experience with these strips proved to us that if you do not use enough product you run the risk of not getting optimal control. A single brood chamber hive should have no less than two strips and a strong double should have four strips.

To ensure optimal control, it is also important to have the product in the hive for the recommended amount of time. In the case Apivar®, the strips should remain in the hive for 42 days, and then be removed. If the bees in the hive do not appear to be coming into contact with the strips, it is important to reposition the strips so that they are located within the bee cluster at all times.

If you suspect that the bees were not in contact with the strips for an extended amount of time, the strips may be left in the hive for 14 more days before removal. All strips must be removed from the hives after a maximum of 56 days of treatment. DO NOT reuse the strips after they have been used.

If you are considering using Apistan® or CheckMite+™, it is imperative that you conduct some tests to determine if the mites are susceptible to the treatment. Varroa-wash or screen-bottomboard mite sampling is far less expensive than replacing hives next spring that did not survive the winter because of ineffective varroa control. Again a full description of how to monitor varroa mite levels in the field is outlined in the "2010 Recommendations for Administering Antibiotics and Acaricides to Honey Bees" (continued on page 4)

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To discuss specific recommendations regarding combinations of varroa mite, honey bee tracheal mite and possibly other honey bee diseases, please contact the Apiculture office Rhéal 204-945-4825 or David 204-945-3861.

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(from page 1)

Regulatory Agency (PMRA). The PMRA reviewed our application and gave ministerial permission for use, in October 2005, but this was not the same as official registration. For international trade it is important to have all chemicals used in the hive registered with the PMRA. Normally the company that manufactures a chemical is the registrant and the fee for registration is typically in the vicinity of two hundred thousand dollars. The CHC is a not for profit organization and we are not selling oxalic acid. This made the process more difficult as we do not fit the usual criteria for a registrant. It has taken three years to negotiate a working arrangement whereby the CHC can be the registrant for a reduced fee. We are pleased to announce that the documentation has been resubmitted to PMRA and we look forward to receiving full registration after a period of public consultation in spring 2010.

Formic Acid

A proposal was announced 4th June, 2009 to remove the status of CAPCO 94-05 for formic acid by December 31, 2010. The note to CAPCO 94-05 document was issued in 1994 based on the best knowledge at that time. Since then, there have been refinements to the methods of application of formic acid. Many beekeepers rely on 65% formic acid for suppression of varroa mites and are keen to have it available as a legal product. The CHC has requested that the PMRA maintains the status quo and if possible extends the deadline for withdrawal of formic acid.

Emergency Registration Amitraz

CHC and provincial apiculturists worked together on a national submission for Emergency Registration of Apivar (amitraz). This product is used in Europe and New Zealand for varroa mite treatment and has a good track record. The Pest Management Regulatory Agency reviewed the information that was submitted and granted temporary Emergency Use Registration for beekeepers in Canada until June 30 2010.

Replacement Bees

High losses of honey bees have spurred the CHC Board of Directors to investigate the possibility of alternative sources of honey bees. Our issues committee will develop an approach to determine what action can be taken, from improving the availability of Canadian queen bees to exploring opportunities for healthy package bees from the USA. Currently the CFIA only allows package bees from New Zealand and south western Australia. Queen bees are available from New Zealand, Australia, Hawaii, USA and Chile. The potential for Hawaiian packages is under consideration. A CHC stakeholder meeting is in the planning stages to consider recommendations to the CFIA for protocols for healthy packages of honey bees from the USA.

Canadian Bee Research Fund

The Canadian Bee Research Fund is administered by the CHC. It offers grants to researchers on an annual basis. One of the requirements of funding is that the researcher must present a report to beekeepers at the research symposium held during the annual

Note:

Emergency registration approval for Apivar Pest Control Strips as of June 18th 2010

***** Apivar has been granted an Emergency Registration from July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011. *****

More information on specific directions of use and any other conditions of registration will be circulated when it becomes available.

Salute!

Rhéal Lafrenière M.Sc. P. Ag.

Government of Canada Creates Opportunities for Honey Producers

OTTAWA, ONTARIO--(Marketwire - June 17, 2010) - **Agriculture** Minister Gerry Ritz will be in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, on Friday, June 18 to announce an investment in a local manufacturing facility creating opportunities for Canadian honey producers.

EVENT: Announcement

DATE: Friday, June 18

TIME: 3:00 p.m. (local time)

LOCATION: Island Abbey Foods Ltd. Plant

87 Watts Avenue

Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

29 May 2010 'The Day of the Honeybee'

The Day is over and What a good Day it was.

Visitors to the display were very impressed with the variety of foods that require pollination, as well as the chance to see a Honey Bee Frame and find the Blue Dot Queen. Even more impressive were the variety of questions and comments, coming from people from all over the world. We had visitors from Florida and Delaware in the USA as well from Europe and Australia.

My special thanks to Jim Campbell for putting together a marvelous display of foods requiring pollination. Jim is still the Master of Display in any situation.

My thanks to the wives of the Executive - Barbara Campbell., Sandra Smith., Shirley Rudiak. and Verna Polcyn. who all helped out in a variety of ways.

And also recognition of the time spent at the Day of the Honey Bee by Exec. Members Brian Smith, Ken Rowes, Ron Rudiak, and Jim Campbell, as well as the time spent by RRAA member Chris Agiriou. It all combined to make for a day to remember.

Will this be an annual event ?? The hope is Yes, but it depends upon the MBA and ourselves, as well as what Shane Ekhdahl has planned for next year.

The frame of bees finally got put back in the nuc box this morning, and seemed happy to return to a normal life.

Cheers and Thanks,
Charles Polcyn

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Let us begin to consider the fall honey show!

The MBA with the RRAA are scheduled to once again publicize beekeeping a Manitoba at the Winnipeg Forks October 1st to the 3rd 2010 with a **Fall Honey Show**. As honey producers please consider entering with honey entries, photos and various honey beverages and mead.

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**Red River Apiarists' Association - Executive Meeting
Salisbury Restaurant on Pembina Hwy. - August 10, 2010**

In Attendance: Charles Polcyn, John Speer, John Russell, Jim Campbell, Brian and Sandra Smith and Ron Rudiak. Charles opened the meeting at 5:00 PM.

Honey Show:

1) For 2010 will be held at The Forks the first weekend in October (Oct. 1 to Oct. 3rd).

2) The committee discussed many of the honey show themes used in the past, all of them unique and successful. For 2010 we recognized the need to promote the nutritional value of honey in our diet and will use the theme "Honey – More than just food, naturally".

3) For this we will have to develop new informational posters and a large poster announcing the theme of the show. All of them will, again, be professionally done.

4) John Russell and John Speer will do some cooking demos and hand out samples.

5) John Russell wanted to test out making a batch of hand cream using beeswax to see if it could become part of his demonstration. RRAA to supply the small sample jars.

6) The honey show will again include an action display of extracting honey and a static display of beekeeping equipment and honey vendors. We will need to discuss the purchase of ribbons for the various competitions.

7) Charles Polcyn and John Russell will discuss and arrange news releases in the papers, radio and TV (CBC & CITI TV spots).

Topics for the September 14 Meeting:

1) Fall Management & Wintering Preparation – David Ostermann with some emphasis placed on the proper use of Apivar for maximum effectiveness. Perhaps the new DVD (under development) will be completed in time for this meeting. At the meeting, discuss the Manitoba Beekeepers' Honey Show which will take place on October 1, 2 and 3 at The Forks. The theme this year is "Honey – More than a Food, Naturally".

2) Circulate the Honey Show Regulations in the newsletter and on the RRAA web site and discuss at our September meeting. A sign-up sheet will be on hand to keep track of honey show volunteers.

3) Solicit volunteers for the RRAA executive.

Bee Cause: We need a one or two page note to go out to our members during the third week of August. This mid-August newsletter would contain important information for preparing colonies for winter. We thought that future surveys on wintering success might want to include a question about what the beekeeper did to contribute to his success. Jim, Charles and John Speer to coordinate.

October Meeting: Program not developed.

November Meeting: Phil Veldhuis has volunteered to give a presentation on "Beekeeping, in the past, in the present and its' future".

Ron Rudiak – RRAA Secretary

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**A new study was initiated this summer .
A Manitoba Pollen Evaluation.**

The Growing Forward Food Safety Steering committee for Bees has approved a baseline study to look at some contaminants in pollen. The goal of the project is to analyse pollen samples collected from producers selling pollen, preferable for human consumption. The samples will be screened for possible chemical contaminants. Canada's beekeeping industry has long had a strong reputation for high production and quality standards. In light of recent findings in the U.S. of pollen contaminated with agricultural and in-hive chemicals, it is necessary to determine if similar circumstances could be occurring in Manitoba. The proposed study will attempt to demonstrate that pollen collected by Manitoba beekeepers does not contain high levels of pesticide contaminants. All information collected will be for experimental purposes (i.e. personal information will be protected). This topic will be within the speakers talk at the September meeting.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Max Young
June 9, 2010 (202) 224-7433

SCHUMER: NY'S HONEY INDUSTRY UNDER ASSAULT BY CHINESE 'HONEY LAUNDERING' – SENATOR SAYS CHINESE UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES COULD DEVASTATE MULTIMILLION DOLLAR NY HONEY INDUSTRY, HURT FARMERS, AND PUT CONSUMERS AT RISK

Schumer Demands Feds Take Immediate Steps to Crack Down on Shady Practices Allowing Illegal Chinese Honey into United States – Shipping Through Other Countries, Mislabelling Shipments, and Setting Up Shell Corporations

In 2001 United States Levied Duties On Chinese Honey After Chinese Exporters Found To Be Engaging In Predatory Trade Practices – Chinese Companies Now Illegally Avoiding Duties

Honey Is Big Business In New York, Producing Millions of Dollars in Economic Activity Each Year – China Is Undermining Industry and Sending Potentially Tainted Honey Into the Country; Schumer Calls for Immediate Crack Down

In 2001, the United States began levying duties on Chinese honey to balance China's unfair trade practices. Since then China has developed a complicated scheme to circumvent international trade laws and sell cheap honey in the U.S. at the expense of domestic producers. China does this in several ways:

<>**China mislabels honey as malt sweetener or blended syrup to avoid paying the antidumping duty.** Schumer said that such a method could be thwarted simply by the FDA instituting a "pure honey standard," essentially a definition of what honey is - something he today urged the FDA to implement. Schumer said the FDA and USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Services (FSIS) share responsibility for ensuring that food labels are truthful and not misleading. FSIS has the authority to regulate the labelling of meat and poultry products, and FDA has the authority to regulate the labelling of all other foods. Food standards are used to ensure that products sold under particular names have the characteristics expected by consumers.

While the FDA is not responsible for enforcing trade law, the agency is responsible for ensuring the safety of much of the U.S. food supply. Standards of identity are referenced throughout FDA regulations and the existence of a standard of identity can trigger application of laws not otherwise applicable to non-standardized foods. Establishing a honey standard would provide FDA and other federal agency enforcement officials with a tool to ensure the purity of imported honey and to detect the existence of potentially hazardous additives. In addition to safeguarding the food supply, this tool would make it easier for U.S. officials to prosecute those who seek to exploit loopholes in our food safety system. -/-



Editor's Note by Ken Rowes

With the temperatures dipping to 5 C in the evenings bees are tightening up! Finally have the last summer honey off as you all do. Well this is an early issue due to the fact that winter preparation begins the first of September as last year. There is only one month without frost, that's July. So we could expect it soon.

As other notes in this issue encourage you to think of treating colonies with aromatic treatments you need the hot sun and it may be in short supply as Mother Nature changes. Last year the last good week was the First week of September so You Need To Think NOW about what your plans are for treating your bees. I have also been sugar dusting.

I suppose we all have a good story to tell. Mine is always keep your hive tool on you. I forgot about keeping your truck full of fuel! Only a little over a mile from home with no bees or honey load thankfully. So needed to walk home drive back with gas— drive truck home— jog back for van. Yup, and the great neighbours stopped to ask if I needed help. I just mentioned its my cross training for next years marathon!

I haven't herd from many beekeepers but this has been a good year—not exception but good. The wet days had given the fruit trees a fuller bloom early for my bees hope your bees did well too. The ticks came an went quickly and the frost stayed away so the wild fruit around my place was plentiful—saskatoons, wild plumb, high bush cranberries and even wild strawberries, Can't say the same for my garden!

CLASSIFIED

1. Wanted: S.S Bottling Tanks Single wall or double wall with water jacket, good condition or repairable. Also needed—Belt Barrel Heater for drums: **call Brian Rich 204 739-5481**

2. FOR SALE: Clearance of a variety of Beekeeping Equipment- Honey Supers, Brood Boxes, Wax Dipped Feeder Boxes, Queen Excluders, Bottom Boards, Lids, Empty Shells, Bare Frames, etc. Reasonable Prices on all items. Call Charles Polcyn at 284-7064 or email at: charles_polcyn@yahoo.com

3. For Sale: Downsizing
100 hives and contract with Bee Maid available. Also selling 3,4 and 5 frame nucs available May 15th. Will sell 10 frame honey supers all white frames, June 1- many in new boxes, equipment in excellent condition; and excluders, wintering inner covers, bottom boards etc.
Contact Dennis Ross 878-2924 or Rosskr@mts.net

4. For Sale: Equipment for sale, 10 double brood chambered colonies. a 10 frame Maxant extractor, commercial

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 River Heights Community Centre 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.

To me We are on the web!
www.beekeepingmanitoba.com

winter wraps, supers and frames, tools, covers, stands, bottom boards, feeder pails, sump pump, refractometer, much more contact Leo Demers 204-379-2518.

5. For Sale: For 2010 well established Strong—Healthy 4-frame nucs with queens bred from my own gentle hardy local stock. No foulbrood, chalkbrood, nosema, tracheal mites, varroa count very very low in my apiary. Also new inner covers made of 3/8" plywood with outer rim 7/8" x 7/8" pine \$7.50. Ph Ted Scheuneman 338-6066, West St Paul

6. Wanted granulated white honey and/or wildflower honey contact **Tom Dixon 475-5059**

7. Wanted - radial extractor, decapper and bottling tank contact Clayton or Diana Brinkman at 807-548-5044

8. Wanted - extractor please contact Marty McIlwain 226-3437

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P.S. PLEASE CHECK YOUR CLASSIFIED AD AND GIVE editor AN UPDATE OR IT WILL BE REMOVED after November for the January new Vol, 8 Issue I

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honey bee industry convention. Research topics can be seen on the website www.honeycouncil.ca.

Steve Pernal, Rob Currie, Leonard Foster, and Albert Robertson presented the results of their research at the CHC AGM in Orlando.

Save Our Bees

The CHC has launched a campaign, "Save Our Bees", to raise funds

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in support of honey bee awareness. We anticipate, in the future, an online bee resource centre with interactive real time information where researchers and beekeepers and the public will be able to get the most recent hive health data and information about the importance of pollinators. There are many levels to show support for honey bees and we invite sponsors and donors to help us through our website www.saveourbees.ca.

1. MARKET ACCESS/SHARE

Agri-Marketing

The CHC has joined Brand Canada and is pursuing the development of a Long Term International Strategy for marketing honey. We have begun the process of promoting Pure Honey 100% Canadian to overseas markets through participation in a trade show in Orlando. Future steps in this direction will depend, in large part, on the success of our funding applications to the federal AgriMarketing program and others.

Pierre the Bear

Our mascot Pierre the Bear continues to promote Pure Honey 100% Canadian. He is featured on our honey information brochures that provide facts, tips and recipes. Pierre now has two brothers, one in Ontario and one in Saskatchewan to help promote Canadian honey.

Honey for Health Brochure

The CHC has produced a new honey for health brochure that provides information on the healing properties of honey. It is a popular brochure for consumers who are concerned about healthy choices of food and can be obtained by contacting Geoff at the CHC office.

2. FOOD SAFETY

Drum Standards

The CHC's drum standards committee produced a set of guidelines for the CFIA to implement. For more information on the standards visit the CHC website at www.honeycouncil.ca.

C-BISQT

The Canadian Bee Industry Safety Quality Traceability (C-BISQT) project continues. The C-BISQT committee has completed a Good Production Practices Manual that is in process of a final Technical Review by the CFIA. This is expected to be a lengthy process as many people are involved in the review. As soon as the manual passes this final review it will be made available to beekeepers for use in their operation. For more information visit www.cbisqt.ca.

3. LABOUR/SUCCESSION

Foreign Workers

Recruitment of labour is often a problem for beekeepers, especially in rural areas where workers are in short supply. An alter-

native that has become increasingly popular is to seek seasonal workers from overseas. There are many issues with off shore workers. It takes weeks to complete the process of recruiting employees, satisfying immigration requirements, organizing air travel and arranging housing. On top of problems with finding workers, beekeepers are forced to pay higher wages for unskilled workers than other commodities. One size does not fit all and the CHC foreign worker committee is working with the federal Department of Human Resources and Skills Development to rectify the situation.

Education

A School kit for teachers of grades K1-3 was produced with input from qualified teachers. It is based on Alberta curriculum and is readily transferable to the requirements of other provinces. We believe education of children in the knowledge of pollinators and pollination is key to understanding the role of humans in protecting the environment, as well as promoting bee keeping as a viable future occupation. Visit our website at www.canadianhoney.ca.

CHC – a bold new future

The CHC is truly the national voice for the Canadian honey bee industry, dedicated to supporting and promoting a dynamic and prosperous Canadian honey bee industry that promotes "100% Canadian" and acting as the instrument for achieving a sustainable Canadian honey bee industry in the global economy. Our link to the provincial association is through the CHC director. For more information or to let him know your concerns please contact Dan Walker, phone 519-245-5361 or email walkerb655@hotmail.com.

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THE MANITOBA HONEY SHOW

The Annual Honey Show is a consumer focused educational and promotional event of the Manitoba Beekeepers' Association (MBA), and is organized and staffed by members of the Red River Apiarists' Association (RRAA). The event highlights several areas of interest.

- a) **The focal point of the show is a display of judged entries in the Honey Competition.**
- b) **Another area features a sample of tools and equipment used in our Beekeeping Industry.**
- c) **A favourite spot for all ages is the traditional "Live Bee" display, where visitors can "hear the buzz".**
- d) **There is also a variety of Floral Specific Honey, Bees Wax, and other hive related products for purchase.**

To volunteer at any one of these display stations, or enter the competition, contact one of the RRAA executive, or fill out the application form (see download information above).

Our Manitoba Competition Standards for the Honey and Wax sections are similar to those used at the National Competitions held yearly at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, as well as the Canadian Western Agribition, in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.

MANITOBA HONEY SHOW-OCTOBER 1-3, 2010
Theme for 2010---"Pollination for the Foods We Eat"

**Will be held at The Forks Market, WINNIPEG,
MANITOBA, CANADA**

**GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS : (for 2010
show)**

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 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 21, 2010 by calling Rhéal Lafrenière at 945-4825.

3. Exhibitors must complete and include an entry form inside each entry parcel, PLUS clearly mark each entry parcel with their name and address. Entries must be free of any labels with only initials or id on underside. Competition Judge will ensure entries are placed in the appropriate classes.

4. Honey entry deadline (for all sections except Photography) is 4:00 P.M., Tuesday September 28, 2010. 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 27, 2010.**

5. The 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.** Judging will be done using a scale of points and, in case of a tie, the highest score for flavour will be awarded the prize.

6. All entries must be picked up by the entrant. Entries not picked up by 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 are available on-line at www.manitobabee.org or www.beekeepingmanitoba.com and as a download indicated at the top of this web page.

MANITOBA HONEY SHOW
Competition CLASSES

CLASS 1

1. Liquid Honey, White, totalling not less than 3 - 500 g (375 ml) glass or clear plastic jars.

2. Liquid Honey, Amber, totalling not less than 3 - 500 g (375 ml) glass or clear plastic jars.

3. Liquid Honey, Dark, totalling not less than 3 - 500 g (375 ml) glass or clear plastic jars.

4. Liquid Honey, BEE-GINNER, any colour, totalling 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, totalling not less than 3 - 500 g (375 ml) glass or clear plastic jars.

CLASS 2

1. Chunk Honey - totalling 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 - totalling 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 colour - totalling not less than 3 - 500g (375 ml) glass or clear plastic containers. (Entries will be judged primarily for flavour and taste using simplified judging standards)

2. Honey Beverage – any 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, or c) Other Bees and Insects.

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 as follows

PRIZE POINTS

FIRST 3
SECOND 2
THIRD 1

MANITOBA HONEY SHOW

2010 ENTRY FORM

ENTRY CLOSING DATE: 4:00 P.M., Tuesday, September 28, 2010.

I hereby enter for competition, the exhibits herein described, and agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the Honey Show as posted at <http://www.manitobabee.org/> and 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 _____

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

Honey Exhibits must reach Rhéal Lafrenière , 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
Winnipeg, Manitoba
2010 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)- \$25.00.

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

New Member [] Renewal [] Student [] [free 1st year]

Other. Please specify. _____

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.**

Make cheques payable to Red River Apiarists' Association.
Please do not send cash in the mail.