

# The Bee Cause



Volume 8, Issue 8

November 2011

- Next general meeting is 7:30 Tuesday, November 8th at the **River Heights Community Centre, 1370 Grosvenor Ave., Winnipeg.**
- (in room right of main-door)
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**Speaker:** Phil Veldhuis on the Tower System, part 2 and its effect on controlling varroa mite populations & producing large quantities of honey. A special gadget you bring and executive search committee for 2012.

### Inside this issue:

-GMO food stuffs	Pg 1
-RRAA Presidents report	Pg 2
-RRAA minutes of Nov 9 meeting	Pg 3
- MBA Report	
--The Classifieds	Pg 5
- Editor's Notes:	
- Canadian Beekeeping Convention in Winnipeg	Pg 6
-	
- Small Hive Beetle	Pg 7
-	
- Commercial Beekeeping Course	Pg 8
-	
Business Mentoring RRAA Registration	Pg 9

## Honey and food supplements containing pollen derived from a GMO are food-stuffs produced from GMOs which cannot be marketed without prior authorisation

That pollen is itself no longer a GMO when it has lost its ability to reproduce and is totally incapable of transferring genetic material

The directive on genetically modified organisms (GMOs) provides that such organisms may be released deliberately into the environment or placed on the market only when

prior authorisation has been given.

Moreover, the regulation on genetically modified food provides that GMOs for food use, foodstuffs containing or consisting of GMOs, or foodstuffs produced from ingredients produced using or containing GMOs must be authorised before being placed on the market.

In 1998 Monsanto obtained marketing for the genetically modified MON 810 maize. This contains the gene of a bacterium producing toxins which destroy the larvae of a parasitic butterfly, infestation with which constitutes a danger for the development of the maize plant.

A dispute has arisen between Mr Bablok, an amateur beekeeper, and Freistaat Bayern (State of Bavaria, Germany), which owns a number of plots of land on which MON 810 maize has been cultivated for research purposes in recent years. In the vicinity of those plots of land, Mr Bablok produces honey both

for sale and for his own personal consumption. Up to 2005, he also produced pollen for sale as a foodstuff in the form of a food supplement. In 2005, MON 810 maize DNA and genetically modified proteins were detected in the maize pollen harvested by Mr Bablok in beehives situated 500 metres from the plots of land belonging to Freistaat Bayern. Very small amounts of MON 810 maize DNA were also detected in a number of samples of Mr Bablok's honey.

As he took the view that the presence of residues of genetically modified maize made his products unsuitable for marketing and for consumption, Mr Bablok brought legal proceedings against Freistaat Bayern before the German courts, in which four other amateur beekeepers joined.

The Bayerischer Verwaltungsgerichtshof (Bavarian Higher Administrative Court, Germany) observed that, once the disputed pollen is incorporated into the honey or pollen-based food supplements, it loses its capability

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**Presidents Comments – November 2011**

Another honey production season is over except for the wrapping of the double outdoor hives, or putting the single hives indoors in their heated quarters. Has it been a good year for honey production???? That depends upon who you ask and where their hives were located. Some beekeepers had above average production, others had almost the provincial average, while some call it a lost summer for honey production.

The common thread from all the beekeepers I met was that the flow started later than ever, late July and then continued into September. However many of the nectar bearing crops finished early, so despite warm days and good flying weather for the bees, there was a lot less available for the bees to bring back. The heavy spring runoff in Western Manitoba caused no amount of re-locating of hives to higher ground. And sometimes the hives had to be moved again as the water continued to rise and run in many different directions.

Grocery store prices on almost all foods have moved higher over the summer. Honey store prices are also higher, so I hope that the beekeeper is also receiving more for their production. It is time for us to increase the farm-gate/door price of our honey to at least \$2.75/ lb or more in the customer's container. We have been keeping the floor price at \$2.50/lb for at least 5 years, and all of our own costs have gone up during that time. We need to respect our work and efforts to produce some of the highest quality of honey in the world. The bees work hard and so do we, so compensation should be improved.

The final meeting of the year is on November 8<sup>th</sup> at the River Heights Community Club. The program consists of the normal business meeting and a re-visit by Mr. Phil Veldhuis on Part 2 of the Tower Method for honey production with the adjacent green frames for Varroa Control. He has some interesting results to share. There will be an end of year light lunch organized by your Executive, followed by Gadget Night with presentations from you, the members, on the creative ideas or better ways of beekeeping you have developed.

And also we need to establish the 2011-2012 Executive Search Committee. This requires two volunteers from the group, and two members from the Executive. Their task is to canvass the membership for becoming a member of the RRAA Executive for next year. There will likely be some turnover of the existing Executive as several have been Executive Members for many years and may wish to not continue in that role.

I will not be at the meeting, as I depart for a 3 week CESO program in Colombia on November 1<sup>st</sup>. The project is focused on increased honey production and Value Added Products from the hive. I will be working in Cucuta (not a tourist spot) with 3 groups of beekeepers. This city is located in the NE section of the country, with temperatures in the high 20's at this time of the year. I am quite happy to work in shorts and sandals.

My own bees were moved into their indoor wintering room on October 27<sup>th</sup>, so their rest time has finally been forced upon them. The bees were very willing to take down syrup in mid-September and early October. Their last treatment was with an Oxalic Acid drench before going indoors. My production this year was above average per hive, and total production would have been good, but bears totally destroyed 9 hives at the farm location. The electric fence seemed to be always working, but the dry ground seemed to decrease the shocking power of the fence. Once the bears got in, they kept coming back at night with their relatives. An additional low level ground wire encircling the entire yard made a difference for my nocturnal visitors.

My best wishes to all for a stress free Holiday Season. Keep warm and safe.

Yours in Beekeeping--- Charles Polcyn RRAA President.

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## Minutes of the RRAA General Meeting

River Heights Community Club – October 11, 2011

7:30 PM: Charles Polcyn opened the October meeting.

**Announcements:** - Charles passed around an obituary item for Steve Rhotanski, one of our long time members.

- The MBA and Canadian Honey Council will host the 2012 Canadian Beekeeping Conference at the Fort Gary Hotel in January. The dates are January 26 to January 28. Keynote speakers will be Marion Ellis of Nebraska, Jerry Hayes from Florida and Ms. Danielle Downey, apiculture specialist in Hilo Hawaii.
- Charles brought back a large variety of small containers of honey from the Czech Republic which he placed on display.

**Minutes:** Moved by Margaret Smith and seconded by Ken Rowes to approve the minutes as circulated in the Bee Cause. No changes were required.

**Treasurer's Report:** No report at this time.

**MBA Report:** - Jim Campbell reported that a lawsuit has developed in Germany regarding GM (genetically modified) pollen found in honey. They do not want to risk environmental contamination from pollen that has been genetically altered.

- Phil Veldhuis will be talking about the "tower system" he uses for his colonies which has several advantages including low varroa mite counts.
- MASC has made beekeeping insurance available for wintering to commercial beekeepers (50 or over registered colonies)
- The request for a Canada wide EUR for Quick Strips was denied by PMRA.

**Coffee Break:** Coffee and chocolate 'n icing cookies.

**Program:** An open discussion to develop a list of meeting topics for 2012.

- Bee Predation by birds, wasps, dragon flies and skunks.
- AFB control by chemicals, natural controls, natural remedies and burning of hive equipment and destruction of diseased bee colonies
- The variety of ways and systems to control varroa mites
- Beekeeping health hazards. e.g. beekeeping and agricultural chemicals, working alone, Lyme disease, Hanta virus, exposure to the sun (ultraviolet rays), noise, heavy lifting and moving of heavy objects (possibly Ron Rudiak)
- (continued on pg 4)

## MBA Report November 2011

Jim Campbell, MBA Secretary

The MBA are getting ready for a couple of major events.

The first event is the Annual Meeting on November 16, where 5 directors are to be elected to the board. Also at this meeting a mini workshop will be held, using the Canadian Honey Council booklet on Integrated Pest Management.

The next major event will be the 2012 Convention slated for 27-28 January 2012. In preparation for Canadian Honey Council meetings slated for earlier in the week, the industry has been requested to prepare its leaders for participation in a **Bee Stock Risk Management Symposium** at the Winnipeg Fort Garry Hotel, Tuesday and Wednesday, January 24 and 25, 2012. This very import symposium will help set the course for the bee, pollination and honey industries now and into the future. Sustainability of the industry is at a critical juncture. Have a look at the following agenda, and if you have some information helpful to the discussion, please forward it to your MBA contacts. This issue will be on the agenda at the November AGM as well.

The Canadian bee, pollination and honey industries have undergone significant changes in the past decade. Of particular concern are the high winter loss mortality rates that have encumbered the industry in recent years. Whether these losses are localized, regionalized and occur national has a tremendous impact on stock availability which in turn impacts production. Considerable research has, is, and will continue to be conducted in order to identify causes for the losses and certainly the Canadian Honey Council will continue to work hard in ensuring beekeepers have sufficient tools to address health and environmental concerns. Aside from these issues it is also very important that beekeepers have access to stock in a timely fashion. Work on domestic breeding and supply continues and discussion how it can be expanded to address industry needs is instrumental in ensuring a risk management strategy.

The proposed agenda for the Risk Management meeting is as follows:

1. Domestic Queen Production
  - a) Access, development, enhancement and economics
  - b) Creating national marketing opportunities
  - c) Meeting national requirements in a timely fashion
2. Importation of Queens
  - a) Streamlining import permits
  - b) Time reduction methods
  - c) Small hive beetle and queen imports
  - d) Review of import protocols for:
    - i) Varroa
    - ii) Africanization
    - iii) Other (continued on pg 4)

(from pg 3)

- Rules and regulations for the urban beekeeper (possibly Taz Stewart and Rob Currie)
- Proper disposal of used material e.g. chemical containers, packages and strips or other.
- Preparing for a Manitoba winter by fall bee management, sufficient feed, mite and disease management, quality of equipment (possibly Ted Scheuneman)
- Preparing hives and wrapping in 4's for winter. (possibly Marg Smith or Chris Argiriou)
- Controlling wax moths in stored equipment and uncapping the honey crop by using a commercial heat gun.

**Loonie Draw:** Prizes were awarded to: Chris Argiriou won a 150 gram jar of raspberry honey and Stan Huzey's name was drawn for a 500 gram jar of buckwheat honey. Thanks to Polcyn Apiary who donated the two beautiful jars of honey.

**Ron Rudiak, recorder – RRAA**

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to fertilise. That court seeks (cont'd on pg 4) (from pg 1) clarification as to the consequences of that loss. It has asked the Court of Justice, primarily, whether the mere presence, in the apicultural products in question, of genetically modified maize pollen which has lost its ability to reproduce has the consequence that those products may not be placed on the market without authorisation.

In its judgment delivered today, the Court observes, first, that the pollen in question may be classified as a GMO only if it is an 'organism' within the meaning of the directive and the regulation, that is to say, if it is a 'biological entity capable' either of 'replication' or of 'transferring genetic material'. It holds in that regard that, since it is common ground that the pollen in question has lost all specific and individual ability to reproduce, it is for the referring court to determine whether that pollen is otherwise capable of 'transferring genetic material', taking due account of the scientific data available and considering all forms of scientifically-established transfer of genetic material.

The Court concludes that a substance such as pollen derived from a variety of genetically modified maize,

(MBA from pg 3)

- e) Expanding access to other countries
  - f) Improving genetic stock in countries from which we import
3. Domestic nucs/packages
- a) Access, development, enhancement and economics
  - b) Creating national marketing opportunities
  - c) Meeting national requirements in a timely fashion
  - d) Education on replacement stock methods – ie. knowledge sharing
4. Importation of packages
- a) Review and improvements for current import protocols
  - b) Future import protocols
  - c) Next steps
5. Other issues??

Producers are encouraged to look over the topics to ensure all critical elements are going to be covered.

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which has lost its ability to reproduce and is totally incapable of transferring the genetic material which it contains, no longer comes within the scope of that concept.

The Court goes on to hold that, nevertheless, products such as honey and food supplements containing such pollen constitute foodstuffs which contain ingredients produced from GMOs within the meaning of the regulation. In that regard, it finds that the pollen in issue is 'produced from GMOs' and that it constitutes an 'ingredient' of the honey and pollen-based food supplements. As regards the honey, the Court observes that pollen is not a foreign substance or an impurity, but rather a normal component of honey, with the result that it must indeed be classified as an 'ingredient'. The pollen in question consequently comes within the scope of the regulation and must be subject to the authorisation scheme provided for thereunder before being placed on the market.

The Court observes that that authorisation scheme for foodstuffs containing ingredients produced from GMOs applies irrespective of whether the pollen is



### Editor's Note by Ken Rowes

Wow a mild October but cool enough for bees to ball up and get in a oxalic acid treatment.

This will be the last article and meeting of 2011 so if anyone has an item to post or topic of interest please forward an e-mail.

Spent a week in Mid October in Alberta and had a chance to visit Corey de Witt who runs 2000 and some. Will have an article covering some of the interesting equipment and techniques he uses.

I suppose many are still packing honey and most of the outdoor colonies are wrapped or should be. Indoor wintering will be underway soon. I have had the odd colony still feeding this week but all are ready for taking indoors.

Your Beefriend Ken

*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.

*We are on the web!*  
[www.beekeepingmanitoba.com](http://www.beekeepingmanitoba.com)

## CLASSIFIED

1. **For sale:** 1 complete D.E. Hive. Includes, brood chamber, super, queen excluder, bottom board, inner cover and ventilated top covers. Perfect for the back yard beekeeper. \$100 OBO. Contact, **Lance W. Phone # 712-6783, Email; lancewld@gmail.com**
2. **Wanted:** honey sump or clarifier. Contact information is: **Jonathan Hofer (204) 981-6562 jonhofer1984@gmail.com**
3. **For sale:** Stainless Steel storage tank. Cylinder, 45" diameter and 55" high. Tank holds over 300 Canadian Gallons or about 4500 pounds. Tank stands 65" high. Located near Starbuck.  
**Phone: Jacob Hofer (204) 799-2433.**
4. **For Sale:** Maxant 600-5 Double Wall S.S.

Botling/Storage Tank with two 1800 Watt Immersion heating elements. Elements powered by 120v/110v. Tank previously used as wax melter, hence the two elements. Tank in very good condition, with thermometer and a sightglass. Tank holds 42 gallons or about 500 pounds of honey. Ph (204) 981-6562 or e-mail jonhofer1984@gmail.com

"Have the courage to follow your heart and intuition—they somehow already know what you truly want to be"

— Steve Jobs

It is estimated the intuition is correct over 90% of the time. Some call it a "gut reaction" but it's probably more like the programming instilled while growing up "how you've been brought up."

— Jack Schmidt

(cont'd on pg 6)

(from pg 4) introduced intentionally or adventitiously into the honey.

Lastly, the Court holds that the authorisation obligation exists irrespective of the proportion of genetically modified material contained in the product in question.

1 Directive 2001/18 /EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 March 2001 on the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms and repealing Council Directive 90/220 /EEC (OJ 2001 L 106, p. 1), as amended by Regulation No 1829/2003 and by Regulation (EC) No 1830/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2003 (OJ 2003 L 268, p. 24).

2 Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2003 on genetically modified food and feed (OJ 2003 L 268, p. 1).

**NOTE:** A reference for a preliminary ruling allows the courts and tribunals of the Member States, in disputes which have been brought before them, to refer questions to the Court of Justice about the interpretation of European Union law or the validity of a European Union act. The Court of Justice does not decide the dispute itself. It is for the national court or tribunal to dispose of the case in accordance with the Court's decision, which is similarly binding on other national courts or tribunals before which a similar issue is raised.

Dr. Medhat Nasr  
Alberta Provincial Apiculturist  
Pest Surveillance Branch  
Agriculture Research Division  
Agriculture and Rural Development

Confusing issue which could have significant consequences to the honey market (see below).

If I have interpreted this issue correctly, it would appear that although the pollen in honey does not meet the definition of a **GMO** per say, the fact that it was produced by a **GMO** makes it a foodstuff derived from a **GMO** and would carry the same reporting responsibilities associated with **GMO** products. In short, in the EU, honey that contains pollen from **GMO** crops will be required to declare that it has ingredients that make it a **GMO** foodstuff. How this will eventually affect the world honey market is yet to be determined.

**Rhéal Lafrenière M.Sc. P. Ag.**  
**Business Development Specialist - Provincial Apiarist**  
**Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives**

In conjunction with CHC and CAPA Annual Meetings, the MBA will be celebrating its 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention at the **2012 CANADIAN BEEKEEPING ANNUAL CONVENTION** at the historic Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, January 26-28, 2012.

### Convention Theme:

Healthy Environment - Healthy Bees - Healthy Honey

### Keynote Speakers:

- *Marion Ellis – Professor and Extension Apiculture Specialist, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, USA*
- *Jerry Hayes – Apiary Inspection Assistant Chief, Florida Department of Agriculture Services, Gainesville, Florida, USA*
- *Danielle Downey – Apiculture Specialist, Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Hilo, Hawaii, USA*

Convention begins **Thursday 26 January 2012 at 7:30 pm** with reports from CHC, CAPA and Government officials and a Research Symposium and Tradeshow on Friday and Saturday. Agenda details and updates to be posted on the MBA Website. See registration form for details on convention costs and hotel information.

**Hope to See You in Winnipeg!**  
Get agenda updates and registration information under  
“Convention”  
<http://www.manitobabee.org>

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### **Small Hive Beetle in Honeybee Queen Shipments from Hawaii: 2011 Summary of Imported Shipments**

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) was informed by provincial apiculturists that an adult small hive beetle (SHB), as well as first and second instar larvae, were found on the packing material of queens imported from Hawaii on April 7, 2011, with destinations in Manitoba and Alberta. This represented the first shipments from Hawaii for 2011.

Further inspections were performed and the findings of live small hive beetle stages were confirmed. Subsequently, producers were instructed to move all queens into new queen cages before introduction into colonies. Producers were also instructed to incinerate all original packing and shipping material. In some cases, federal or provincial inspectors were present to oversee the transferring of queens and/or the incineration of packing material. Additional inspections were also performed to ensure that no SHB larvae had already been introduced to Canadian hives.

The CFIA shared importer information with each of the provincial apiculturists under a legal agreement (Memorandum of Understanding) held with each of the provinces. This allowed the provincial apiculturists to follow-up on imported shipments of honeybees to investigate potential risks associated with the introduction of the SHB pest. Ongoing communication between the CFIA, the provincial apiculturists, and importers continued throughout the import season.

The CFIA contacted officials at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to report the findings of live small hive beetle stages in imported queens from Hawaii. Consequently, import conditions were modified to help further mitigate the risk of introducing SHB into Canada. Exporters in Hawaii made immediate changes to their procedures to meet the revised protocols and to help ensure a safe supply of queens to Canada.

Inspections by the CFIA at the port of entry and by provincial apiculturists at the initial destination in Canada were ongoing throughout the import season. The CFIA worked with provincial apiculturists to determine a minimum level of inspection that was scientifically justified to reduce the risk of SHB introduction through shipments of queens from Hawaii. However, each individual province could decide independently that levels of inspection beyond the minimum were necessary, and in reality, close to 100% of the shipments from Hawaii were inspected this year. There was minimal interruption to the delivery of queens throughout this process.

On two (2) occasions, live adult SHB were detected at the first point-of-entry by CFIA inspectors. Protocols were

developed to arrange for quarantine, licensing the products to destination for further provincial inspection, and identification confirmation of the specimens in the Ottawa Entomology lab. In all other cases, the SHB was detected by provincial apiculturists when inspected at destination.

In each case in which SHB was detected, shipments were handled in a co-ordinated fashion to help prevent inadvertent introduction of SHB into Canadian colonies. As before, it was recommended that queens in any high risk shipments (i.e. those in which SHB has been detected) be placed into new queens cages prior to introduction to the hives, and all potentially contaminated materials incinerated.

In total, it was reported to the CFIA that over 100,000 queens from Hawaii were inspected across the country (in all provinces except New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Ontario and Quebec to where no queens from Hawaii were imported) during the 2011 import season. During those inspections, seven (7) live adult beetles, 14 dead beetles, and 15 larval stages were reportedly detected. The SHB were found in the early period of the import season, with the situation dramatically improving as the season progressed and exporters improved their procedures for shipping queens to Canada. Most importantly, there were no reports of SHB being introduced into Canadian colonies via imported shipments.

In addition to the inspections performed on shipments of Hawaiian queens, an additional 15,000 queens from California were also inspected. There were no reports of SHB being identified in shipments imported from California.

Overall, the CFIA received tremendous support and cooperation from the Provincial Apiculturists, the Canadian Honey Council, Canadian beekeepers, honeybee queen exporters, the Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists, and other government organizations (including the USDA and the state authorities in Hawaii). We wish to thank everyone for their co-operation and their contribution to a safe and successful honeybee import season.

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— Steve Jobs

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—Jack Schmidt

**COMMERCIAL BEEKEEPING**  
**A Unique One-Year Certificate Program**

**PROGRAM DETAILS**

Start Date: January 9, 2012

Location: Fairview College Campus, Fairview, Alberta 1-888-999-7882

Student Numbers: maximum 12

**PROGRAM COSTS**

Tuition \$4500 International (\$9000)

Application fee: \$60 International (\$120)

Tuition deposit \$250

Books & Supplies \$500

Auxiliary Fees \$800 (course fees, field trips, student health, etc)

Living Expenses approximately \$5000 (5 months at Fairview College: student residence-500/month + food estimated at \$1000/month) Note: it is expected that accommodation will be provided during the summer work experience.

Anticipated Work Experience Income, students are placed with commercial beekeeping operations for work experience from March through September and paid a salary for their work with an industry salary range of \$13.50 to \$15.50 per hour.

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

The Theory of Apiculture (January/February)

BK 101 Basic Apiary & Field Skills 2(0-0-4) 8 weeks; 32 hours

This course addresses the practical skills needed for day-to-day commercial beekeeping operations. These include safety, truck & forklift driving and maintenance, loading and tying a truck, preparing brood chambers and assembling supers.

BK 110 Technical Woodworking 3(1-0-4.5) 8 weeks; 44 hours

This hands-on course is designed to give students basic skills with saws and woodworking equipment used to manufacture beehives and related equipment.

BK 122 Introductory Botany 1.5(2-0-1)8 weeks; 24 hours

This course is an introduction to the structures and functions of flowering plants, physiology of nectar and pollen, and crops that can be used in honey production.

BK 132 Honey Bee Biology 4(4-0-3) 8 weeks; 56 hours

This course provides an in-depth study of honey bees, their behavior and anatomy. Honey bee genetics, bee breeding and selection, and the colony will also be covered.

BK 133 Introduction to Bee Diseases & Management 1.5 (2-0-1) 8 weeks; 24 hours

This is an introduction to microbiology, honey bee diseases and the integrated pest management approach to disease management.

BK 134 Hive Management for Honey Production 5(2-0-7.5) 8 weeks; 76 hours

This 'nuts & bolts' course is a practical introduction to all phases of beekeeping and honey production through the yearly beekeeping cycle.

March/September Courses:

BK 135 Queen Rearing 5(16-0-16) 3 weeks; 96 hours

This course examines the theory behind queen rearing, management practices involved in producing queens on a commercial scale, and a substantial field experience component.

Course structure: classroom learning (1 week, 32 hours) + field trips/practicum experience (2 weeks of 32 hours each)  
BK 200 Beekeeping Work Experience 5(0-0-40) 26 weeks; 1,040 hours

This is a 26-week paid practical work experience; students are placed with a commercial beekeeping operation.

The Business of Beekeeping (October/November)

BK 310 Food Safety & Regulations for Beekeepers 1.5(3.5-0-0) 7 weeks; 24.5 hours

Course is a study of government regulations, policies, guidelines, standards and certifications that impact honey production, processing, marketing. Includes honey house requirements and hygiene, current issues/trends for food safety and tractability.

BK 320 Business of Bees 5(5.5-3-2) 7 weeks; 73.5 hours

This course provides an overview of sound business practices in the management of an apiary.

Topics include principles and practices for business start-up, budgeting, financial record keeping, computer fundamentals, information management, and resources for honey operations.

BK331 Advanced Management Options for Beekeepers 3 (2.5-2-2) 7 weeks; 45.5 hours

This course is an in-depth study of various contemporary options to increase production, manage bees, or increase value.

BK 332 Product Processing, Packaging, and Marketing 4 (2-3-1) 7 weeks; 42 hours

A look at honey house design, processing methods, value-adding options, packaging, market trends for honey, options for selling honey and honey-related products.

BK 333 Processing & Packaging Field Trip 1 (0-0-33) 1 week; 33 hours

This course is a week-long field trip to major honey processing and packaging facilities in Alberta.

Students will visit various commercial processors; see many packaging and value-adding options, and have the opportunity to discuss processing and packaging with industry leaders.

BK 361 Integrated Pest Management 2.5(3-0-2) 7 weeks; 35 hours

Focus on the integrated approach to manage pests, diseases, parasites and other threats to bees/colonies and an in-depth study of monitoring, control strategies, and the safe use and handling of chemicals used to maintain hive health.

BK 365 Bees and the Environment 1(2-0-0) 7 weeks; 14 hours

This course provides a larger context for the practice of beekeeping. Topics include an overview of the industry in Canada, North America and globally, the evolution of beekeeping, the role of bees in the human food link, global issues and trends in beekeeping and the role of beekeepers in advocacy for bees and the environment

**Business Mentoring Application Deadline: October 28th, 2011**

Sign up for Manitoba Marketing Network's Business Mentoring Program today!

We've all been there: faced with difficult business decisions, wishing we had someone with experience to turn to for advice. Well, now you can do just that, by signing up for the **Manitoba Marketing Network Business Mentoring Program!**

The Network's Business Mentoring Program (BMP) is great way to help your business achieve success. Our volunteer mentors can help you overcome some of the challenges currently faced by your business...or even better, capitalize on that once in a lifetime opportunity. And best of all, as with all of our services...**the MMN BMP is completely FREE!**

**How does the BMP work?**

It's simple. Once enrolled in the program, a mentor will be assigned to work with you towards achieving established goals and objectives. Maybe you're looking to hire new employees, or looking to export. Perhaps your business is facing issues with cash flow management, or low sales.

By working with our volunteer business mentors you will set objectives, create a plan to get there, and have their ongoing support and guidance in achieving those

goals. However, be advised that we are not here to run your business for you, but we are there to help when we can.

**How do I sign up?**

- **Visit** [www.manitobamarketingnetwork.ca/mentoring](http://www.manitobamarketingnetwork.ca/mentoring) to download the application form, or call us at 945-1230.
- **Submit** your applicant by the next **application intake deadline:** October 28, 2011.
- Details regarding submission are included in the application. Continued on p

Once received, our Business Mentoring Committee will be in contact with you to further assess your needs. If your business is deemed ineligible for mentoring, we will provide you with one-on-one counselling sessions with one of our MMN Members.

For complete information on the program, including upcoming application dates,

visit [www.manitobamarketingnetwork.ca](http://www.manitobamarketingnetwork.ca)

We looking forward to working with you,

Sincerely, MMN Mentoring Committee

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**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.**