



The Buzz

Newsletter of the Iowa Honey Producers Association



March 2009



The Beeyard Report Pg.4
Iowa State Horticultural Society Expo Pg.5
2009 ABF Reports Pgs.6 & 7
Beekeeper of the Month Patrick Stephenson Pg.8



Dates To Bee Remembered

- 3/8/2009** The next IHPA board meeting will be at 2:00 pm in Des Moines at the Heartland Inn, 11414 Forest Ave.
- 4/3&4/2009** Iowa State Horticultural Society Expo, Ottumwa, IA
- 4/18/2009** Think ahead! CIBA will have their annual beekeeping equipment auction Saturday, April 18th 2009. Location to be announced.
- 6/13/2009** Summer Field Day at Spring Valley Honey Farm in Perry, IA
- 8/13-23/2009** The Iowa State Fair, Des Moines, IA
- 10/30&31/2009** Annual Meeting in Marshalltown, IA



For Sale: Package bees delivered S.E. Iowa 5 miles N. of Drakesville. Pickup early April, \$30 deposit required. Italian or Carniolan Queens. Call (641) 799-9266 or (641) 682-8333 evenings are best.

Charles Newton
11245 Jewel Ave.
Bloomfield, IA 52537

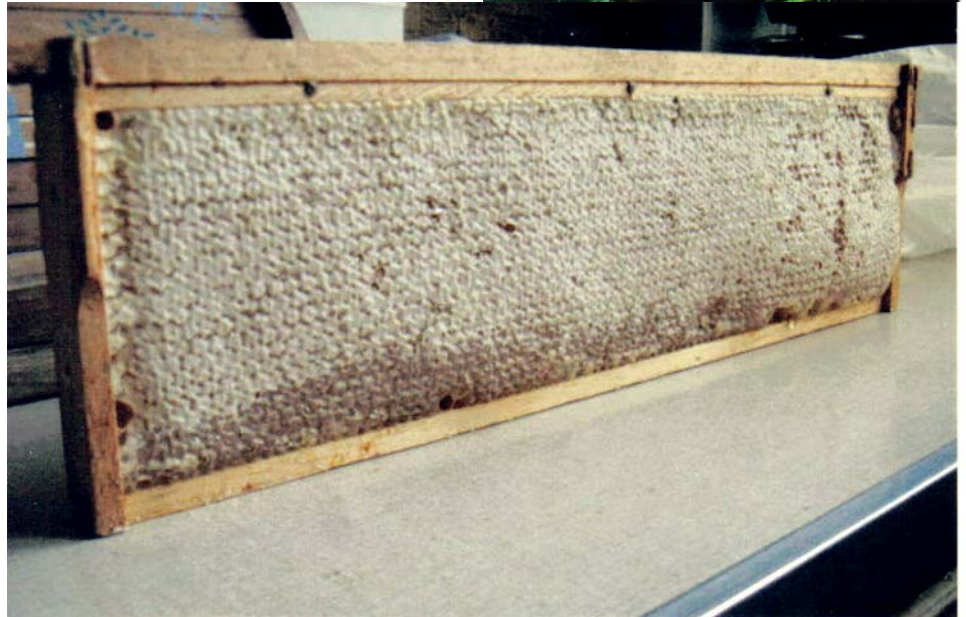
For Sale: Package bees. We will have 2# and 3# packages. Again this year we will also have the 4# packages that come with two queens. Delivery will be in early April. You have 48 hours to get the bees after they arrive. We will sell until the truck is full. That should include the month of March. You have your choice of Carniolan or Italian queens.

Contact Phil Ebert for price and availability. 641-527-2639 or e-mail ehoney37@netins.net

what kind is it, I say, well I am not within 2 miles of a farm, so it must be wildflower honey, they say, that makes sense..



Thanks for the photos Ron! These photos and many others can be found online at the new IHPA Photo Gallery. Simply visit www.abuzzaboutbees.com and click on the Photo Gallery button. There you will find out how you can add your very own photos to the gallery to share with your fellow beekeepers.



IHPA Photo Gallery

Photographer: Ron Kollman

The hive is in my back yard in the center of Newton, Iowa a couple years ago, I harvested approximately 240 pounds of honey that year. I only have one hive. The other is just a frame of honey. Some say it is the best tasting honey they have ever tasted. They ask

The Buzz Newsletter Article Submissions and IHPA Memberships

Please send submissions, classified ads, and photos to Alex W. Ebert by email to TheBuzz@ABuzzAboutBees.com or by mail to The Buzz, c/o Phil Ebert, 14808 S. 102nd Ave. E., Lynnville, IA 50153. **The deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month to be included in the following month's newsletter.** The Buzz is a monthly newsletter published by the Iowa Honey Producers Association which is an affiliate of the Iowa State Horticultural Society. IHPA Membership is only \$10 annually. To join IHPA and receive your complimentary member subscription to The Buzz Newsletter, please contact Melanie Bower, IHPA Treasurer, 207 S.E. Diehl, Des Moines, IA 50315, Phone: (515) 287-6542

Greetings from the President of the IHPA

Dear Honey Producers,

I knew that I used my computer a lot, but when it broke a few weeks ago, I was almost helpless! I know I was very impatient with the repair people. They told me it would be two days and it would be ready to go, but a couple weeks passed and I was getting very upset. We had personal business deals on hold, IHPA work waiting to be completed, and over 500 emails when we borrowed our son's tower to retrieve messages. I didn't lose anything but time, so I guess I shouldn't complain too much.

Make sure that you check your hives when the weather is nice to do so. If they are light, make sure that you feed the honey bees. Lots of hives are lost in the early weeks of the year due to cold and lack of food. Many beekeepers suggest different foods for them. The jury is out as far as I am concerned. There is research to suggest that honey is the best for them to eat and others suggest that it is not. Others want beekeepers to feed sugar water, yet others suggest corn syrup. I guess use your judgment, but do keep an eye on them. Pollen substitutes are also an idea for good buildup. Read your beekeeping journals and books and decide what will fit your operation best.

I have received several phone calls, emails and letters about the new bee rule. To set the record straight, the IHPA officers and board had nothing to do with this. Don't send me hate mail concerning it. I am not real pleased with it in some parts. I agree with some of the changes, but I feel the limit of two miles should have remained the same. I like the fact that we can register hives in different locations all year long. I hope that you have registered or are going to register your hives. Work is being done so that sometime in the future maybe we can all be pleased with the outcome of this rule and there are consequences in place for violators. Let's work together, not fighting

among ourselves. Here is the rule as it stands now. [See page 4, AGRICULTURE AND LAND STEWARDSHIP DEPARTMENT [21]]

Plan to attend the Iowa State Horticulture Society's Horticulture Expo in Ottumwa on April 3rd and 4th, please stop by the IHPA table to visit. If you would be able to help with manning the booth, please let Louise Johnson, Pat Randol or myself know. We would love to have some members working in the booth. We will be selling t-shirts, aprons, cookbooks and honey products along with new membership directories.

The honey bee packages for the youth will arrive sometime in middle to late April. We will contact everyone when we have a date. Don't worry, they will arrive. We know everyone is excited and anxious to receive honey bees, but we want it to be a pleasant experience. All of the knowledge that was learned in classes will still be there when they do arrive.

Mike and I attended another farewell ceremony for our youngest son, Mitch, as he returns to Iraq. This will be his third time. His wife, Abbie and two year old son, Zane were there also. There are 299 Army Reserves from the 443rd Transportation Company spending at least one year in Kuwait, driving into Iraq each day making deliveries and transporting equipment.

Bee optimistic about an early spring and a great new beekeeping season.

Sincerely,
Donna Brahm, IHPA President



HONEY BUTTER BRUNCH RING

Printed from COOKS.COM

2 tbsp. sugar
2 tbsp. butter, softened
2 c. Bisquick
2/3 c. milk
Date-Nut Mixture (below)
2 tbsp. butter, melted
1/3 c. honey

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Mix sugar, softened butter and Bisquick. Add milk, all at once and beat to a soft dough. Drop 1/2 dough into 10 separate mounds and roll into balls. Place around bottom of 9 inch ring mold. Cover with Date-Nut Mixture. Make rest of dough into 10 more balls and place in mold. Mix melted butter and honey. Pour over top. Bake 25 minutes until golden brown. Remove from mold immediately after baking.

DATE-NUT MIXTURE:

1/2 c. packed light brown sugar
1/4 c. dates
1/4 c. chopped nuts
1 tsp. cinnamon
1/4 c. melted butter

Mix. 8 servings.

2009 Beekeeping Classes

Spencer--This will be a weekend course sometime in March. Contact Larry or Marlene Boernsen for information. 712-735-4205

We have experienced record enrollments in all of our beekeeping classes. The biggest class was at DMACC in Ankeny with a total of 34 students.

Overall, we have had a total of 130 students so far with the Spencer class yet to start.

Submitted by Phil Ebert

AGRICULTURE AND LAND STEWARDSHIP DEPARTMENT [21]

Adopted and Filed Emergency after Notice

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 206.19, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 45, "Pesticides," Iowa Administrative Code.

This amendment rewrites the existing rule related to the application of pesticides near bees. Commercial pesticide applicators spraying within one mile of a registered apiary shall not spray between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Commercial pesticide applicators will need to keep records of the time pesticide application began and ended.

Notice of Intended Action was published in the December 12, 2008, Iowa Administrative Bulletin as **ARC 7432B**. A public hearing was held on January 7, 2009. A full spectrum of comments was received. Applicators objected to restrictions on spraying and beekeepers wanted additional restrictions. Since publication of the Notice, the Department has provided that the apiary registration forms will be available from the Department instead of the State Apiarist.

The Department adopted these amendments on January 22, 2009.

The Department finds, pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.5(2)"b"(2), that the normal effective date of the amendment should be waived and the amendment should be made effective on January 22, 2009, so as to provide applicators and beekeepers that must comply with the provisions with clarification, guidance or appropriate training.

No waiver provision is included in these proposed amendments. However, the Department's general waiver provisions, found at 21—Chapter 8, would apply.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 206.6 and 206.19.

The following amendments are adopted.

ITEM 1. Adopt the following **new** paragraph **45.26(3)"i"**:

i. Time pesticide application begins and ends.

ITEM 2. Rescind rule 21—45.31(206) and adopt the following **new** rule in lieu thereof:

21—45.31(206) Application of pesticides toxic to bees.

45.31(1) Owners of apiaries, in order to protect their bees from pesticide applications, shall register the location of their apiaries with the state apiarist. Registration shall be on forms provided by the department. The registration expires December 31 each year and may be renewed the following year.

45.31(2) Between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., a commercial applicator shall not apply to blooming crops pesticides labeled as toxic to bees when the commercial applicator is located within one mile of a registered apiary. A commercial applicator shall be responsible for maintaining the one-mile distance from apiaries that are registered and listed on the sensitive crop registry on the first day of each month.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 206.6(5)"a"(3) and 206.19(2).

THE BEEYARD REPORT

Vern Ramsey had some books I needed to pick up for the beekeeping classes. He could have mailed them to me but I thought it would be fun to go for a visit. Doris said I should come for lunch. I must have connected with Doris on the physic hotline. She had all of my favorite things. I thought we had beef and noodles but it turned out it was deer meat. I brought home leftovers so I got to enjoy it all over again. It was too good!!!

Here are a few things gleaned from the state apiarist report of 1949---30,000 colonies were inspected by 6 inspectors. That's close to the total number of present day colonies in Iowa. In 1949 there were around 150,000 colonies in Iowa. F.B. Paddock was in his 31st year as state apiarist. The problems were the same. Youth was needed in beekeeping. The cost of \$20/hive for start up was considered prohibitive. They needed better queens, better bee pasture and spraying was a problem. Sound familiar? Prices for honey were down, also, having dipped from 20 cents down to 8 cents/lb.

Jan 22 was a flying day. There were bees and poop everywhere. I was only in a couple of yards that day. No lids were removed. I just thumped the boxes to see if there was a buzz. Following that, we had a week of pretty nice temps. By February 10, I had gotten a look at about half of our bees. Most were still heavy but if they had a box full of bees, I fed them anyway and gave them a protein patty. Our death loss at that point was between 15% and 20%. That's not the end of it. More will die but I don't think it's going to be a disaster. At a minimum we will probably lose another 10%. It could easily go higher if March is a nasty month. My rule of thumb is that the losses of February will be doubled by the end of March. The yards that have suffered losses had a lot of spotting in the hives. They were alive when the first warm days came. It looked like they flew out and never came back. This wasn't a CCD thing.

It was just weak bees. The other thing I have been seeing more and more of is dead bees that clustered near the top of the box. Lots of feed was left below them. I don't know if this is a genetic problem or the result of something else.

The way things look can be deceptive. When the bees are spread out across the top bars, they look populous. Sometimes, that's all the bees there are. They don't go down on the frames. If you pick up the inner cover and bees are clinging to it and they are all across the top bars, the colony is okay. Other times they are on the top bars but you can't tell how deep they go. The initial appearance is good. Then you go back three weeks later and all that's left is a tiny cluster that is dead, or nearly so.

I was surprised there has been some vocal opposition from beekeepers to the new bee rule. I think it's a big improvement. With the old rule, they could spray any time they wanted once they notified you--that's if they went to the trouble to call you. Notification didn't do much good anyway. The areas surrounding beeyards will have multiple spray applications over the span of several weeks. Moving the bees out of harms way is not practical. Timing of the application is the only practical tool we have to work with. This is how we have worked with the sprayers in our area for the last several years.

Spring is almost here. I hope everyone has good-looking bees.

Submitted by Phil Ebert



Iowa State Horticultural Society Expo

The Iowa Horticultural Society is sponsoring an All Iowa Horticulture Exposition on **April 3-4, 2009** in Ottumwa at the Bride View Conference Center. The ISHS is supplying the IHPA with a booth. We will be selling t-shirts, tank tops, aprons and cookbooks that the IHPA has for sale, along with information about the organization, etc. We felt that we should have some honey also.

Friday, April 3

10:00-11:00 **Keynote Session:** "Why I Love to Garden" *Elvin McDonald*

11:00-12:00

Room 1: Butterfly Habitat *Kathleen Ziemer*

Room 2: What Makes a Picture-Perfect Garden? *Susan Appleget-Hurst*

Room 3: Aronia Berries *Dr. Eldon Everhart*

12:30-1:30

Room 1: Current Tree Issues *Dr. Jeff Iles, Mark Vitosh*

Room 2: Children's Gardening *Lisa Wasko*

Room 3: Viticulture and Wine Panel *Dennis Portz, Steve Richardson, Randall Vos*

2:00-3:00

Room 1: Edible landscaping *Dr. Patrick O'Malley*

Room 2: Organic Lawn Care *Dr. Nick Christians*

Room 3: Sustainability in the Home Garden *Andy Larson*

3:30-4:30

Room 1: Rain gardens *Bob Quinn*

Room 2: Forty in a Flash *Susan Appleget-Hurst*

Room 3: Gardening is Good for You *Dr. Cindy Haynes*

Saturday, April 4

11:00-12:00

Room 1: Beekeeping and Apiary Issues *Andy Joseph*

Room 2: Trough Gardening *Gary Whittenbaugh*

Room 3: Small-scale Farming *Andy Larson*

12:30-1:30

Room 1: To be announced soon

Room 2: Passion between Two Rivers *Kelly D. Norris*

Room 3: Slow Food Movement *Treva Reimer*

2:00-3:00

Room 1: Seasonal Favorites from BH&G *Sandra Gerdes*

Room 2: Gardening with Conifers *Gary Whittenbaugh*

Room 3: Organic Gardening *Dr. Kathleen Delate*

3:30-4:30

Room 1: Too be announced soon

Room 2: Growing Bearded Irises *Kelly D. Norris*

Room 3: Too be announced soon

The Iowa State Horticultural Society was founded in 1866 to promote education and interests of the Iowa horticulture/agriculture industry. Today, this non profit organization promotes and supports the interests of 23 state horticulture associations/organizations, Iowa State University Horticulture/Agriculture and ISU Extension system, the Iowa agriculture college and community colleges, and the horticulture and diversified agriculture industry of our state. All funds of the ISHS go to producing The Iowa Horticulturist magazine, scholarships to university, college, & community college students, awards to deserving individuals of the industry, and promoting the Iowa and Regional Horticulture industry.

American Beekeeping Federation Convention Report 2009

Attending the ABF Convention Jan. 13-17, 2009 in Reno, Nevada was interesting, educational, and helpful. This was our first national convention, so we were interested to meet other beekeepers and to learn about new ways to make our honey operation more successful.

Program topics such as "The New Nosema" and "Reducing Pesticide Damage" were interesting to David while I enjoyed such topics as "From Cappings to Candles" and "Discussions with the EPA and Bayer Crop Science."

A great deal of research is being done with bees, worldwide. Topics such as "Mite Resistance" and the "Bee Genome Study" illustrate the importance of continued education concerning bees and their future.

Because we are a small operation, the "Serious Sideliner Symposium," a separate program for semi-professional beekeepers held concurrently during the convention, was especially helpful for us. Topics included: "Setting up a Honey House" and "Queen Rearing Essentials".

We wish to thank the IHPA for the scholarship which helped with expenses. It was very a very worthwhile conference. There was a wide range to topics for all levels of beekeeping. We encourage others to attend the next convention which will be held in January 2010 in Orlando, Florida.

Darlene Hayes

American Beekeeping Federation Convention 2009 Report

By David Hayes, IHPA member

I was fortunate to attend the 66th Convention of the American Beekeeping

Federation and Trade Show in Reno, Nevada, 13-17 January, 2009. Due to weather conditions in Eastern Iowa on 13 January, our travel was delayed so we missed the "Welcome to Reno" reception the first evening.

Previously, I was not a member of the ABF. At the convention, we met other beekeepers from across the US and Canada, as well as vendors. I intend to maintain a membership in this association in the future as it truly serves the needs of all beekeepers, no matter the size of the operation. I recommend a visit to their website: www.ABFnet.org.

There was no shortage of topics and agendas: CCD, varroa, stock and queen selection, EPA, research topics, nutrition, pesticides, uses of bees wax, viruses, hive management, nosema, genetics, apitherapy, American Honey Queen competition, etc.

A variety of sessions were available for "Shared Interest Groups:" Commercial Beekeepers, Package Bee & Queen Breeders, Honey Producers-Packers, and Hobbyist/Sideliner Beekeepers.

This article will focus on one very important topic: "**A Standard of Identity for Honey.**" Nancy Gentry, public relations coordinator for the Florida State Beekeepers Association, gave details of how to start the process of having all states adopt the Standard of Identity for Honey within our state's regulations.

Nancy began by noting that the FDA, the federal agency which regulates honey as a "commodity" on the national level, does not have a "standard of identification" for honey. She, as well as 19 other states presently, is attempting to promote the FDA Revised Codex Standards for Honey.

She noted that there are many products on the market that claim to include "honey" as an ingredient, but have very little, if any honey content in the product. Such products might say: "honey-roasted, honey flavored, honey-like, honey substitute, etc. Honey that is

"adulterated or cut" can not be acceptable. Our foods in the US are threatened by such claims.

Consumers are very aware of the plight of honey bees because of all the CCD publicity. They are also much more aware of the benefit of natural, healthy foods, such as honey. Consumers are sympathetic towards the honey industry. The public will respond to false advertising and non-healthy food additives. If honey is to continue as a commodity/product which the public believes to be wholesome and pure, then a standard of identity needs to be developed. Honey is a commodity, just like corn, soybeans, oranges, etc.

The best process to create this standard is on the state level; state by state. The state agency which is established to do this is the Iowa Department of Agriculture (ADALS), with assistance from the IHPA, Farm Bureau, and the state apiarist, among others. The time to implement this standard is now!

ABF Convention 2009 "Welcome to Reno"

An address by Zac Browning, Idaho Falls, Idaho; ABF president

The new Farm Bill has passed Congress, and waits adequate funding. Provisions relating to beekeeping and honey bee research were significantly enhanced.

Today, feral or wild honey bee colonies in the US are virtually non-existent, and we have 50% less managed honey bee colonies. Even so, the need for honey bee pollination continues to grow, which is requiring beekeepers to become more mobile to fill the gaps for pollination.

The average beekeeping operation in the US lost 35% of their hives last winter (2008). There has been a general decline in the strength and quality of bee hives. Unhealthy bees are poor pollinators and honey producers.

The cost of maintaining a healthy hive

has increased, which results in an overall decline in profitability. There is a myriad of problems and challenges that have added stress to the bees: varroa and tracheal mites, foreign honey bee diseases/viruses, habitat destruction, stress from migratory demands and disruption, and continued exposure to toxic agrochemicals.

Some 90 different crops in the US depend heavily on honey bees for pollination. A shortage of bee pollinators ultimately will affect the supply and price of food.

The beekeeping horizon is gray. It takes bees from both coasts of the US just to fill the pollination contracts in California in early spring.

We need a broad and comprehensive strategy aimed at reducing stress on the hive and mortality due to many known and unknown factors. Research programs should not be limited by results and findings of profit motivated agrochemical industry scientists.

As research progress is made in the lab it needs to be transferred via extension programs to the field to better enable the beekeeper faced with so many situations.

The beekeepers of America are aging, so it is imperative that we encourage and support younger beekeepers in the future; (IHPA mentor programs are an excellent example!)

We need the support of our Iowa Senators (202-224-3121) and Representatives (202-225-3121) in Congress. Please contact and encourage them to support the beekeepers across the nation. Our industry and food chain are dependent on support at all levels.

David Hayes



“Why are Colonies Dying”— Status of Honey Bee Health & Update

(Dr. Jeff Pettis, Beltsville Bee Lab,
Maryland—ABF Convention)

Colony Collapse Disorder is a situation wherein the bee hive colony suddenly and mysteriously disappears. The beekeeper often has no explanation. People all around the world are asking questions about the situation, and it has caused much concern for the welfare of honeybees and the consequences it has on our food supply, worldwide.

This topic was discussed a lot at the ABF convention in Reno, NV in January 2009. Researchers all across the US are searching for answers. Many beekeepers have personal opinions as to what causes CCD.

My personal concern has been answered by what was evident at the convention. And that is that many factors contribute to CCD: poor nutrition, parasitic mites, diseases such as Nosema Apis and Ceranae, agrochemicals (pesticides, herbicides), bacteria, fungi, insects (beetles), poor management techniques, viruses (IAPV). The goal is to have “healthy” bees.

One research project set up a colony of bees inside a greenhouse, subjected the colony to many of the conditions listed above, and over a period of time the colony began to “dwindle.” Dead bees were found all around the greenhouse and especially at the edges/walls of the greenhouse.

Much more research is being requested in an effort to finalize the answers to this devastating condition.

By David Hayes



Honey of a Dish

Four or five years ago I read an article about cut comb honey dishes. I do not remember who wrote it or why they were talking about cut comb honey dishes. Since that time I have been looking for one of these dishes even though I did not know what one looked like. I talked to a lot of people and checked at every antique store. Everyone looked at me like “what is he talking about”.

One day I stopped at the local post office in Kellogg and I saw a lady I have known for over 35 years. I have not talked to Joyce since Fern and I moved to the lake. We started talking and Joyce said she was working part time at the post office. Joyce asked what I was doing and of course beekeeping came up. Joyce said her Grandpa had some hives and her Grandma always had cut comb honey in a dish on the table. After Joyce's Grandma passed the only keepsake Joyce got was the cut comb honey dish. I asked if I could see it and Joyce said she bought one when she married and I could have that one. The next time I stopped at the post office the dish was waiting for me. Check out the picture. The dish is about 12 inches high and 6 inches wide and the inside is concave so the liquid honey goes to the center when the comb is cut. I now give Joyce comb honey when ever she needs some. When I got home in less than 30 seconds Fern took the dish from me and has it setting in the middle of the dining room table. Now that I know what these dishes might look like, I will start looking for others.
Submitted by Delmar Nelson

Featured Beekeeper of the Month

This month our featured beekeeper is Patrick Stephenson of Nevada, Iowa. He has one younger sister and his parents are Bernie and Lori Stephenson. Patrick is 13 and in the 7th grade at Nevada Middle School. He is a science guy, plays trumpet in concert and jazz band, and enjoys athletics and playing sports, fishing and the outdoors.

John Johnson is mentoring Patrick. Patrick says, "I started beekeeping in April of 08 because I have always liked bees. I can't really explain why though. I mean an average kid would say, "well they sting you, so I don't like em!" Bees have always been my favorite insect. I only have one hive. But it has been a blast. I love keeping those bees!" Patrick enjoys his bees and thinks maybe opening a full hive of bees could be the 8th wonder of the world. He says it's amazing to see what your bees accomplish.

This year Patrick worked at the Iowa Honey Producers booth at the State Fair and liked answering bee questions. He worked with Greg and Renae Beard who are also in the 2008 youth beekeeper program sponsored by the Iowa Honey Producers. Patrick is looking forward to starting a small business with Greg in the future.

Patrick told me one memorable experience of beekeeping was when one day he was checking his hive and little green bug tried to go into the hive. It was in there for a few seconds and then two or three bees came out and were beating the day lights out of this bug. He had heard of this happening but had never seen it and it was cool. Then he dropped an ant in front of the entrance and it went inside and as expected, it was killed. Being a beginner, Patrick thought this was awesome.



Patrick enjoys his bees and thinks maybe opening a full hive of bees could be the 8th wonder of the world.



John Johnson is mentoring Patrick Stephenson in the IHPA Youth Beekeeping Partnership Program. The program provides a great opportunity for youth to experience the exciting world of beekeeping.

Good luck with your bees, hope you have a good winter.

Submitted by Ron Wehr



Another Look at Colony Collapse

Glen L. Stanley,
Iowa State Apiarist, Emeritus
2615 Aspen Road Unit #1
Ames, Iowa 50014

As we hear more in the news and read everything possible about these terrible losses of bees a number of things enters the mind as to the cause. Our scientists and research first believed it must be some kind of virus, which may be true to some extent. Three things come to mind that I believe might have contributed BUT other factors may be involved. Certainly Stress, Chemicals and Diet all play a part.

STRESS: These days colonies owned and operated by beekeepers owning thousands are moved to a few to several times each year to various pollination jobs. Why? Because that is where the money is while the production of honey is meager and profit is not in the honey production. The bees are moved from the South where they are placed for early Spring Build-up northward up the east coast and westward to California for almond pollination, then North to Oregon and Washington for fruit and vegetable crops. Then many are moved again into alfalfa pollination and further to the upper Midwest for honey production.

All this is stress on colonies of bees no matter how it is done. My experience on moving colonies into pollination jobs was on a small scale where we carefully loaded them by man power on to a light truck which rode easy loaded with the colonies. At best by the time they were returned to their original location we would find some had lost their queens so that was stress with only the two moves. At that time the fees for pollination hardly paid for the loss and trouble.

CHEMICALS: All sorts of chemicals are being used today by the growers. Most have been tested individually for what is meant for it to control. Most manufacturers will claim that their product will not harm honey bees. Maybe we can take

their word for it BUT how about a combination of a few chemicals combined? As far as can be determined the combination has never been tested. This is what we are up against within colonies of bees. Bees often gather contaminated pollen and it will be carried inside the hive and stored in the cell for further use in feeding the larvae. It will kill the larvae and the adult bees who also consume some pollen, so this is the result. One chemical that is manufactured today as I find out is designed purposely to cause colonies of insects such as termites and ants to become disoriented and isn't that just what we are witnessing among thousands of colonies today?

DIET: Modern beekeeping has changed

days from that, that is approximately one fourth of their life. So with the best of food which is honey, the bees life is not long. Taking all this into consideration can a beekeeper under normal conditions afford to rob the bees of honey then try to rebuild their stores with sugar syrup or Isomerase or whatever?

Throughout the past 62 years while I was involved with managing a few hundred colonies of bees we never bought or fed a single pound of sugar. Enough honey was left to provide the colony with food until some plants blossomed in the Spring. So there was five months we had no work with the colonies and no worries about the bees having adequate stores.

It seems to me that it was back in the 1970's that Rachel Carlson wrote a book entitled *Silent Spring*. It was during the time when all living plants and animal life was being killed by the use of DDT. That was on the way of coming to pass soon but fortunately the product was banned. To say the least it did have some effect. NOW a book is available entitled *Fruitless Fall: The Collapse of the Honey Bee and the Coming Agricultural Crisis* written by Rowna Jacobsen. He has compiled a considerable amount

of information from the bee research labs as well as from major beekeepers with the colony collapse problem. He names the more than 100 crops that will no longer be without the honey bee. Be sure to get the book and read it. It is quite enlightening.

All this may damage the beekeeping industry beyond return or repair. Agriculture will be disrupted because of the inability to produce. We are slowly killing ourselves with chemicals.

Submitted by Glen L. Stanley



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things and in to many cases not for the better. I started working with bees in 1927 at the age of ten. I worked with my Father in the production of queens using the best method of the time. We produced hundreds of queens each Spring and Summer and sold most of them through the A.I. Root Co. branch at Council Bluffs, Iowa. Queen production was done by selecting the best of colonies for grafting with open mating, there was no such thing as artificial insemination then.

Today nearly ALL beekeepers rob their colonies of honey as close as possible then feed them some supplemental food. Sixty five years ago we were told that corn syrup would kill brood and that other sugars, beet and cane as a regular diet would shorten the life of the honey bee by 10 days. Let us think about that. A worker bees life during the working period is only 42 days and if we take 10-

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Dadant Quality Suits & Coveralls



*A Great Value
for Your Money!*

Dadant Clothing "The Ultimate in Protection"

Zipper Veil-Suit Combination was designed by Dadants. We added all the features our beekeepers wanted for total protection and comfort for a full day's work in the bee yard. This Zipper Veil-Suit Combination offers the fine features of the Dadant Folding Veil and the Dadant Coveralls to provide total protection for the beekeeper. Zippered side openings allow full protection and easy access to trouser pockets. Easy slip on over boots or shoes with generous zippered bottom pant legs. The location of the veil zipper holds the veil in place, assuring perfect vision while allowing total freedom of movement. Easy on and off. We recommend using with the Dadant Plastic Sun Helmet. When ordering, state catalog number and size range. Because of numerous sizes, branch points may be temporarily out-of-stock of some sizes. Note sizes are based upon chest sizes. Ship wt. 4 lbs.

Dadant Zipper Veil Suit The Ultimate In Protection

M01103 Small (36-38).....	\$61.95
M01105 Medium (40-42).....	\$61.95
M01107 Large (44-46).....	\$61.95
M01203 X-Large (48-50).....	\$61.95
M01203X XX-Large (52-54).....	\$65.95



Snow-White Coveralls

**The Best
for Beework**

*Polyester-Cotton
Blend*

Six Roomy Pockets

Full Front Zipper

*Wide Variety of Sizes
Available*

Dadant coveralls are snow-white, polyester-cotton blend. Snow-white because white is less annoying to bees than darker colors and they are less apt to sting. Full front zipper for easy on and off. Sturdy construction - all points of stress are bartacked for extra reinforcement. Six roomy pockets hold the tools you need. Side openings allow easy access to trouser pockets. When ordering, state chest size by item number. Wt. 4 lbs. per pair.

M01063 Small (36-38).....	\$38.50
M01065 Medium (40-42).....	per pair
M01067 Large (44-46).....	\$40.70
M01121 X-Large (48-50).....	per pair
M01122 XX-Large(52-54).....	\$42.95
	per pair

Dadant Zipper Veil Hooded Suit



*All the features and
more that you are
looking for in a
Hooded Suit!*

Classic Hooded Design...

but with a difference! Our cotton polyester blend is double lined, 2 full layers, to protect the back of the head. Give yourself confidence, full vision and rugged Dadant quality with our newest Protective Bee Suit.

Zipper Veil Hooded Suit Note sizes are based upon chest sizes.
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V01180S Small (36-38).....	\$67.50
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*Heavy Duty-Zippers
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Relaxed Fit

Elastic Waist

Two Large Chest Pockets

Rugged Quality

Zippered Leg Cuffs

Easy on & off

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Toll-Free
1-877-732-3268
www.dadant.com

The Buzz Newsletter

Iowa Honey Producers Association
207 S.E. Diehl
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IDALS website
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Additional Links and Emails

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www.honey.com

American Beekeeping Federation website
www.ABFnet.org

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