



Hive Rights

February 2014 | Vol 27 # 1

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The Official Magazine of the Canadian Honey Council, The Canadian Beekeeper and The Canadian Honey Packer

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Certificate
Program**

**Evaluation of
Canadian Bee
Mortalities
in 2013
Related to
Neonicotinoid
Pesticides**



**Statistical
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the Canadian
Honey
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High overwinter losses

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Hivelights is published quarterly (Feb, May, Aug, Nov). Deadline for submissions and adverts are 6 weeks prior to publication (i.e. Dec 15th for Feb issue). The opinions expressed in the articles printed in Hivelights are those of the authors and do not imply endorsement of the Canadian Honey Council for the promotion of any product, goods or services mentioned unless specifically stated.

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Publication Mail Agreement number

40031644

ISSN 1489-730X

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Hiveights

February 2014 Vol 27 #1

Canada We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Cover photos: (top) Overwintered colonies at Chinook Honey Alberta. Photo: Cherie Andrews (bottom) Steve Olnick, Stonewall area beekeeper, checking for bee activity in his overwintered colonies located in a sheltered area in central Manitoba Photo: Jim Campbell, Stonewall Manitoba



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Canadian Honey Council Report



Rod Scarlett, Executive Director, CHC

Another year has come and gone and expectations for the upcoming year are high in many regions. Strong honey prices offset some of the problems from over wintering losses, and seasonal losses from pests, pesticides and pathogens. The dynamics of the industry are changing and in the eyes of many, polarizing. There are large beekeeping operations whose perceived desires do not necessarily correspond to the wishes of hobbyists or smaller operators. Is it more important to recognize the number of beekeepers or the number of hives controlled by an individual beekeeper? Does one voice have more “importance” or “influence”. We have a growing segment who rely on pollination services for income and those demands may not line up directly with honey production.

There are regional concerns that many believe should be national concerns and we have national concerns that many believe to be regional. We have issues with labour which impacts larger operators while having no impact on smaller operators. There are environmental concerns, ecological diversity issues, bee health issues, issues with CFIA, PMRA, provincial issues, national issues and so on and so on...

The CHC is not immune to the pressures. Board members express concerns at each and every Board meeting. Although our bylaws will be changing in the upcoming year, I am not sure there will be clarity of the role Board members play, or need to play, as it has never been clearly defined in the past.

The intrinsic value of the CHC is that it represents a national perspective encouraging the industry as a whole and, at the same time, respecting regional differences. This is a diffi-

cult task because each province has its own set of legislative rules and regulations and they do not line up from border to border. Furthermore, provincial associations have different expectations for their representatives but at some point I believe there needs to be a common understanding on the role CHC needs to, and must, play. Being a national body means that quite often regional or provincial concerns are superseded. That is not to say ignored, but a greater value is placed on the national picture. It is in everyone's best interest to recognize the health of the industry as a whole. And really this is no different than the duties and responsibilities of any elected official; they may be accountable to their electorate but often have to forego those interests in order to look at the bigger picture. Such is the fine line that Board members play and I will be the first to praise the current Board in recognizing their key roles nationally.

There is a lot to look forward to this year – the adoption of the long awaited CBISQT (after over a decade of work and revision), the implementation of new pesticide policies and a federal round table, new by-laws, new honey legislative initiatives and regulations, Apimondia bid preparations... the list goes on. I know that when I attended a number of provincial AGMs this fall, there was always a question there of what have you done for me lately. In my estimation, and I know it is biased, your Board accomplished a lot last year and the expectations for this upcoming year are just as high.

As always if you have concerns, questions, or just want to express an opinion, please do not hesitate to contact me or your CHC Board representative. ■

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Online Beekeeping, Really?

YES! While traditional beekeeping methods were sufficient in our grandfather's era, current pressures on honey bees call for approaches that are more consistent with today's challenges and a teaching method that makes up-to-date information more widely available. Former students from North and South America, Australia, New Zealand and Great Britain tout UM's Online Beekeeping program as an unparalleled opportunity to study with one of the most widely renowned honey bee research teams in the United States. Course information is founded upon current research, and online courses are an effective way to learn beekeeping for pleasure or for business. The University of Montana Online Beekeeping Certificate program consists of academic courses with practical application in Apprentice, Journeyman and Master-level beekeeping. The program, endorsed by the Montana State Beekeepers As-

sociation is taught by UM faculty members and owners of Bee Alert Technology, Dr. Jerry Bromenshenk, Scott Debnam & Phillip Welch.

The courses meet online with instructors guiding the lessons, participating in discussions and being available to answer questions. Each course culminates with one hands-on session in a local apiary, under the supervision of an approved proctor.

Although each of the courses is only a few weeks in length, the full program takes three years to complete. It is structured to give participants a full year of experience between courses. Students who complete all three courses will earn the title of "UM Master Beekeeper," and receive a certificate acknowledging them as such.

The program begins with the basics of handling honey bees, takes students through diagnosing pests and diseases, managing hives for optimal honey bee health as well as honey production and marketing and concludes with the business aspects of beekeeping.

Is it right for me?

Both hobbyist and commercial beekeepers have participated in these courses. To gain the most benefit from the program, students should have prior experience in handling bees, an appreciation of the contribution of bees to our food crops, an awareness of current honey bee health issues that impact bee populations, and they should be committed to learning what they can in an effort to be a part of the solution.

If you are concerned about the health of honey bees and want to be a more successful beekeeper, take the UM Master Beekeeper certificate program and join the ranks of those that are in the know about honey bee health and are capable of doing something about it.

Information can be found at umt.edu/bee.

The advertisement features a yellow header with the University of Montana logo and the text "UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA SCHOOL OF EXTENDED & LIFELONG LEARNING". Below this is a green background with a honeycomb pattern. The text "ONLINE BEEKEEPING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM" is prominently displayed in yellow and black. A small bee icon is next to the word "ONLINE". In the bottom left, there is a circular seal that reads "ENDORSED BY THE MONTANA STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION" with a bee icon. The URL "UMT.EDU/BEE" is written in large black letters at the bottom left. On the right side, there is a close-up photograph of a honey bee on a white flower.

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Evaluation of Canadian Bee Mortalities in 2013 Related to Neonicotinoid Pesticides

Interim Report as of September 26, 2013

Submitted by Doug McRory (Field Editor) with permission Health Canada, Santé Canada

Overview of 2012 Honey Bee Mortalities

In the spring and summer of 2012, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) received an unusually high number of reports of honey bee mortalities from beekeepers in corn growing regions of Ontario and Quebec. The reports involved over 42 beekeepers and more than 242 different bee yard locations. The timing and location of these incidents coincided with the planting of corn seed treated with insecticides.

An evaluation of the information from the 2012 incidents lead to the conclusion that planting of corn seeds treated with neonicotinoids contributed to the majority of the bee mortalities that occurred in corn growing regions of Ontario and Quebec in Spring 2012, with the likely route of exposure being insecticide contaminated dust generated during the planting of treated corn seed. The unusual weather conditions in the spring of 2012 were also thought to be a contributing factor.

As a result of the investigation, in collaboration with stakeholders, Best Management Practices were developed and communicated to growers and beekeepers to reduce honey bee exposure to dust generated during planting of treated corn seed before the 2013 planting season. Other measures were initiated that would be put into effect as soon as possible, including labelling of treated seed, a treated seed dust standard, and development of technical solutions to reduce dust (developments in the areas of seed coating quality, seed flow lubricants, planting equipment, and disposal of treated seed bags).

Overview of 2013 Honey Bee Mortalities

In contrast to the unusual weather conditions experienced in 2012, the weather in 2013 was more typical of normal spring and summer conditions. Corn and soybean planting occurred during the typical planting season (late April to mid-May).

In the spring and summer of 2013, even with the more typical weather patterns, the PMRA continued to receive reports of honey bee mortality from beekeepers in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba. As of August 29, 2013, the PMRA has received reports from 79 beekeepers in these three provinces, involving more than 322 different bee yard locations (Table 1). The timing and location of the initial 2013 reports coincided with the planting of corn and soybean seed treated with insecticides, however, beekeepers have continued to report effects on their honey bees throughout the summer outside of the planting season (Table 2).

According to the Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists (CAPA), the Ontario overwintering losses for 2012-2013 (37.9%) were higher as compared to 2011-2012 overwintering losses (12%). The 2012-2013 level was within the range of overwintering mortality experienced over the past five years in Ontario (12 – 43%). CAPA considers 15% to be an acceptable level of winter loss with the national level of 28.6% for 2012-2013 exceeding this.

The PMRA has been working with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) to evaluate the role pesticides may have played in these bee losses. Initial analysis of the circumstances surrounding the bee losses indicates that there was no pesticide misuse.

In both 2012 and 2013, beekeepers reported varying levels of mortality and other symptoms consistent with pesticide exposure (twitching, unable to fly, extended proboscis). At the time of the honey bee losses the bees were said to be foraging and the foraging bees found dead in the bee yard were often observed to have pollen on their legs, indicating bees were behaving normally prior to the mortalities. In 2013, some beekeepers also reported a notable unexplained absence of foraging bees from hives as opposed to large numbers of dead bees. Along with the absence of bees, there was evidence that the hives were healthy and bees had been recently present. The colonies had fresh pollen and honey along with brood, however, there was a lack of adult bees required to maintain the hive and account for the fresh brood, pollen and nectar present in the hive. Some beekeepers have monitored their affected yards over the season and have reported additional mortalities, lack of recovery and effects on queens. Monitoring of affected hives is ongoing.

Samples of dead bees were collected for pesticide residue analysis along with live bees, comb with pollen and honey stores, vegetation, water, and soil (Table 3). Preliminary residue results show that

► pag. 8

approximately 75% of the dead bee samples had detectable residues of neonicotinoid insecticides used to treat corn and soybean seed. Residues of neonicotinoid insecticides were detected in samples from approximately 80% of the beekeepers for which samples have been analyzed. Clothianidin and/or thiamethoxam were detected in > 90% of the comb pollen samples from affected yards and were also detected in some water, soil, and comb honey samples (Table 3). Additional collected samples are in the process of being analyzed.

Some beekeepers have reported that they have noticed mortalities in their hives for years, but they had not made the link to pesticides being the cause until the acute kills that were observed in 2012. Additional data continues to be collected by Health Canada and provincial partners which includes on-going investigation of new and continued effects and surveys with growers near affected bee yards.

Interim Conclusions Based on Two Years of Honey Bee Mortalities (2012 and 2013)

Following the evaluation of the 2012 honey bee mortalities it was concluded that the planting of corn seeds treated with the nitro-guanidine insecticides clothianidin and/or thiamethoxam contributed to the majority of the bee mortalities that occurred in the corn growing regions of Ontario and Quebec. The likely route of exposure was insecticide contaminated dust generated during the planting of treated corn seed. The unusual weather conditions were thought to have been a contributing factor.

Based on the detailed analysis that has been completed for the 2012 honey bee mortalities and the information available (as of September 26, 2013) for the 2013 mortalities there are similarities in the information reported. The mortalities occurred in the same areas and most coincided with the start of corn planting. Levels of residues detected in samples collected in 2013 were similar to levels found in 2012.

There was an increase in the number of reports received by Health Canada in 2013, however, it is not clear if this was due to an increase in incidents or an increase in reporting since Health Canada actively promoted the channels to report honey bee mortality after the experience of 2012.

Preliminary information indicates that there may be differences in the information reported for the 2013 incidents which included losses of field force; steady decline in population; and more reports of lack of recovery and chronic or on-going effects such as queen and brood effects.

The information evaluated to date, suggest that clothianidin and/or thiamethoxam contributed to many of the 2013 bee losses. However, there is sufficient information to indicate that at least four of the bee mortality incidents that were reported to the PMRA are not related to neonicotinoids. Evidence exists that some of the four were related to pests and diseases, while others were related to spray events. Additional information continues to be collected for consideration in the PMRA's evaluation.

Conclusions from the 2012 honey bee mortalities suggested that the unusual weather patterns during that spring were a contributing factor; however, in 2013 with more typical weather patterns the PMRA continued to receive a significant number of pollinator mortality reports. Consequently, the PMRA has concluded that current agricultural practices related to the use of neonicotinoid treated corn and soybean seed are not sustainable. The PMRA intends to implement additional protective measures for corn and soybean production, and issued a Notice of Intent on September 13, 2013 outlining action to protect bees from exposure to neonicotinoid pesticides with a closing date for public comment of December 12, 2013. ■

Table 1: Summary of number of beekeepers reporting for 2012 and 2013

| | 2012 | | 2013 (as of Sept. 26, 2013) | | |
|----------------|---|--------|--|--------|----------|
| | Ontario | Quebec | Ontario | Quebec | Manitoba |
| Beekeepers | 42 | 1 | 74 | 4 | 4 |
| Bee yards | 242 | 8 | 319 | 5 | 9 |
| Affected Hives | >4550* to 5890 | 788 | >3789 to 6639** | 201 | 275 |
| Crop link | corn, soy | corn | corn, soy | corn | corn |
| Sites | Corn growing regions | | Same general location as 2012 | | |
| Notes: | *unknown for 34 bee yards from 5 beekeepers estimate if all hives in yards were affected | | **unknown for 114 bee yards from 35 beekeepers, 3789 is the # of hives known to be affected as of Sept. 26, 2013; the upper estimate calculated based on 25 hives per bee yard (3789 + 114 yard x 25) = 6639 | | |

Table 2: Number of calls received early in the season versus late in the season (as of Sept 26, 2013)

| Province | early or late ¹ | # of affected yards reported | # of Beekeepers |
|-------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| MB | early | 9 | 4 |
| | late | 213 | 56 |
| ON | early | 106 | 18 |
| | late | 319 | 74 |
| QC | early | 3 | 2 |
| | late | 2 | 2 |
| Grand Total | | 333 | 82 |

¹early = May and June (corn and soy planting occurred during this period); late = July - September

Table 3: Summary of residue analysis to date

| Sample type | Affected/unaffected | Ontario 2012 | | Ontario 2013 (as of Sept. 26, 2013) | |
|-------------|---------------------|---|--|---|--|
| | | Clothianidin and/or thiamethoxam detections (%) | Range of levels (ppm) | Clothianidin and/or thiamethoxam detections (%) | Range of levels (ppm) |
| Dead bees | Affected | 92/127 (70%) | COQ = < LOQ - 0.024 THE (2 samples QC only) = < LOQ | 77/102 (75%) | COQ = 0.001 - 0.071 THE = < LOQ - 0.198 |
| | Unaffected | ND/127 | ND | ND/102 | ND |
| Live bees | Affected | No samples taken | NO | 5/26 (19.2%) | COQ = < LOQ - 0.0088 THE = < LOQ |
| | Unaffected | 1/20 (5%) | COQ = 0.031 | 3/19 (5.2%) | COQ = 0.049 |
| Comb pollen | Affected | 12/14 (75%) | COQ = < LOQ - 0.0041 THE = < LOQ | 37/53 (69.8%) IMI (1/38) (3%) | COQ = < LOQ - 0.032 # < LOQ 1 # > LOQ 28 THE = < LOQ - 0.0395 # < LOQ 6 # > LOQ 25 IMI = < LOQ |
| | Unaffected | ND/14 | NO | 20/22 (90.4%) | COQ = < LOQ - 0.0077 # < LOQ 1 # > LOQ 17 THE = < LOQ - 0.0182 # < LOQ 4 # > LOQ 10 THE = < LOQ - 0.0012 # < LOQ 1 # > LOQ 1 |
| Comb Honey | Affected | 8/9 (89%) | COQ = < LOQ - 0.0028 | 70/87 (54%) | COQ = < LOQ - 0.004 # < LOQ 8 # > LOQ 7 THE = < LOQ - 0.0047 # < LOQ 7 # > LOQ 5 |
| | Unaffected | ND/9 | NO | 1/5 (20%) | THE = < LOQ |
| Water | Affected | No samples taken | NO | 2/6 (33%) | THE = < LOQ - 0.001 |
| | Unaffected | No samples taken | NO | 11/38 (28.9%) | COQ = < LOQ - 0.0038 THE = < LOQ |
| Soil | Affected | No samples taken | NO | 6/14 (42.0%) IMI 1/6 (17%) | COQ = 0.0055 IMI = < LOQ |
| | Unaffected | No samples taken | NO | 20/28 (72%) | COQ = < LOQ - 0.0287 THE = < LOQ - 0.0734 |

COQ = Clothianidin; THE = Thiamethoxam; IMI = imidacloprid
 NA = not applicable
 ND = not detected
 LOQ = 0.005 ppm (soil); 0.001 ppm (all other matrices)
 QC = Quebec

"ACTION TO PROTECT BEES FROM EXPOSURE TO NEONICOTINOID PESTICIDES"

Submitted by Rod Scarlett, December 12, 2013

Canadian Honey Council's Submission to Health Canada's call for comments on notice of intent NO12013-01

The Canadian Honey Council represents over 8000 beekeepers managing over 700,000 colonies from across Canada. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada has estimated that pollinators contribute over \$2.3 billion to the Canadian economy. Honey bees and the protection of pollinators in general have taken a centre stage as a result of pesticide incidents and exposure and the CHC would like to express its appreciation for the work that the PMRA has, and continues to do. However, in certain regions of Canada, our beekeepers are suffering from the prophylactic use of seed treatments and Canada's pesticide regulatory agency must take rapid action to reduce/eliminate the ongoing impacts of pesticide use on bees.

The Canadian Honey Council recognizes that growers, regulators, and beekeepers need to work together to mitigate risks and believes it is imperative that the use of neonicotinoid seed treatments must be reduced, and where problems exist, they must be addressed as quickly and efficiently as possible. With support from growers and their organizations, the CHC would like to see implementation of integrated pest management procedures and a significant use reduction of neonicotinoids in those corn and soy growing areas where current problems have been identified. This reduction should happen in the immediate future as the current situation has jeopardized

many beekeeping operations. Co-operative efforts for this to occur need to be undertaken immediately.

Comments concerning requiring the use of safer dust-reducing seed flow lubricants

The introduction of a new seed flow lubricant with lower dust emission is a positive point but may not be a definitive solution. Although we are not privy to the testing results, we certainly hope that it lowers neonicotinoid levels in the environment, however, there could still be the possibility of the distribution for neonicotinoids through its systemic nature that warrants more investigation and study by PMRA.

The impacts of neonicotinoids on bees results from their overexposure to this new substance in numerous specific conditions. This overexposure results from both the extensive use of the products as protection on specific crops and it would appear, from the extended exposure period for the pollinators through the season.

Furthermore, while the new lubricant may theoretically reduce the number of acute toxicity incidents by lowering the amount of dust in the air, it may not be the case if the neonicotinoids are used in higher concentrations (Poncho 500 instead of Poncho 250). Bees will still be exposed though various routes like run off water, pollen or nectar at levels that may be problematic. Again, more research is required to determine the extent but the time required to obtain the research must not interfere with the short term need to reduce the use of these pesticides.

There is a growing body of evidence that

the neonicotinoid charge in the environment is building up with the years of continuous use and both the level of exposure and the impacts for the pollinators seem to be increasing particularly in corn and soy growing areas. For instance, there is an indication that bee intoxications caused by the water puddles, is an emergent problem.

Comments on requiring adherence to safer seed planting practices

While recognizing that beekeepers are not necessarily crop producers it is apparent that certain measures are vague: good practices are not specified. Promoting vague good practice measures is not an adequate answer when the problem results from overuse and not misuse. No misuse has been documented so far. The actual proposal focuses for good practices strictly on planting. While planting is indeed important, the focus must be enlarged and cover, upstream, the necessity or not to use neonicotinoid treated seeds. The first and most important good practice is to use neonicotinoid treated seeds (or other phytosanitary treatments) only after verifying for the presence of soil damaging pests at levels exceeding economical thresholds.

With the assistance and active involvement of farm organizations whose members are growers of crops that use treated seed, supported as well by the companies that developed and apply the product, crop producers must be convinced that accurate agronomic information pertaining to pests can be obtained in the fall. That information can result in the planting of seed with or without pesticides and that their bottom line will not be adversely affected. In conjunction with the options available to producers, seed companies should then be able to make available an array of products that are appropriate for the risk. The CHC strongly suggests that Integrated Pest Management procedures should actively be promoted by PMRA.

Comments on requiring new pesticide and seed package labels with enhanced warnings

Labeling is an important point, but here again the measure is too vague. The nature of the information on the label is of paramount importance. It should, at the very least, cover the following aspects:

- a) danger for the pollinators and routes of exposure (mentioning dust, foraging for water, nectar and pollen).
- b) mitigation measures to reduce dust

► pag. 11

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emission (approved lubricant, other good practices refer to external document and/or website)

The Canadian Honey Council also feels that it would be very beneficial if there was strong and prescriptive wording that recommended crop producers have agronomic testing done each fall to determine the need for purchase of treated seed. This reinforces and educates producers while at the same time helps promote an integrated pest management system.

Comment on requiring updated value information be provided to support the continued need for neonicotinoid treatment on up to 100% of the corn seed and 50% of the soybean seed.

Data requested from the registrants on the need for continuous use of neonicotinoids must be obtained expeditiously and if it is not delivered in a timely manner, other peer reviewed science based research sources should be considered. As PMRA states in the Notice of intent: the use of neonicotinoids is unsustainable. The Canadian Honey Council recognizes that seed treatments used in an Integrated Pest Management strategy are an important tool for growers across Canada. We strongly encourage PMRA to evaluate the need for massive prophylactic seed treatment particularly given the fact that in all likelihood systemic seed treatment will be the wave of the future.

Working cooperatively with all players in the industry, and where economics and agronomics dictate, the Canadian Honey Council would like to see implementation of integrated pest management procedures and a rapid and important reduction in the use of treated seed in corn and soy. Equally important is that we examine ways to reduce the risk of exposure to honey bees when use is required (according to specific technical standard). ■



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Farmer Awarded for Pollinator Protection Efforts

OTTAWA, NOVEMBER 21, 2013 - The Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) is proud to join the Pollinator Partnership in congratulating Bryan and Cathy Gilvesy - this year's winner of the Canadian Farmer-Rancher Pollinator Advocate Award. The award collects nominations from across Canada and is given annually to recognize the farmer who has made significant contributions to cultivating natural ecosystems and protecting pollinators.

The Gilvesy's, of Y U Ranch in Ontario have been raising Texas Longhorns for over fifteen years. Commitment to a sustainable land ethic has always been an important part of their business. Recognizing the importance of pollinators to the local ecology, the Gilvesy's installed a 2000 ft pollinator hedgerow

and bee nesting structures in an effort to provide an adequate food supply and habitat for the pollinators.

"Pollinators are essential to the food system," said CFA President Ron Bonnett. "Without them, we would lose one-third of our diet and most terrestrial ecosystems would collapse. It's commendable the Gilvesy's looked beyond their farm at the larger picture and responsibility we all have as stewards of the land."

In Canada, there are over 1000 pollinating species - including bees, butterflies, moths, and beetles - that are essential to the production of over a billion dollars of apples, pears, cucumbers, melons, berries and many other kinds of Canadian produce. These insects and the crucial daily work they do are under threat from loss of habitat and food sources, disease and pesticides. Clearly, agriculture has a role

to play. Farmers like the Gilvesy's are a big part of the solution in sustaining Canadian ecosystems and food supply.

The CFA is proud to be a part of the Pollinator Partnership project, helping create awareness and showcase positive advances. ■

**Pollinators are
essential to the food
system**



Discover the European Honeyland

The greatest event of the beekeeping history was held last autumn in Ukraine

The XXXXIII International Apicultural Congress of Apimondia was held in the premises of the International Exhibition Center in Kyiv on 29 September – 3 October 2013. The IFBA Apimondia Congresses are the key events in beekeeping sector worldwide. These are the oldest sectorial fora, which have been conducted in different countries of the world once per 2 years since 1895. Back in September 2009 at the XXXXI International Apicultural Congress in Montpellier, France, the activists of the Ukrainian beekeeping nongovernmental organizations “Brotherhood of Ukrainian Beekeepers” and “Union of Ukrainian Beekeepers” won the right to conduct the XXXXIII International Apicultural Congress of Apimondia in Ukraine in autumn 2013.

Over 8000 delegates of over 100 countries visited the International Exhibition Center during the conduction of the Congress. The most numerous delegations came from South Korea, Poland, Slovak Republic, Italy, China, Brazil and Turkey.

For the first time in Apimondia history over 200 delegates from Africa had a possibility to participate in the Congress. Due to the successful cooperation of the Organizing Committee of the Congress, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and the Embassies of Ukraine in different countries of the world, a record quantity of visas has been issued for the foreign citizens wishing to visit the Congress with over 700 participants joining the global beekeeping forum.

The Scientific Program of the Congress “Beyond the beehive: beekeeping and global challenges” impressed with its scales, over 1000 scientists of 85 countries participating in it. Due to a substantial interest to the Scientific Program of the XXXXIII International Apicultural Congress, it was decided to increase the quantity of symposia of 7 Scientific Commissions. Thus the Scientific Program included 7 plenary sessions,

20 scientific symposia and 6 round tables dedicated to both topical beekeeping issues and the main challenges facing humanity nowadays. The Organizing Committee received over 1200 scientific abstracts with 340 abstracts chosen by the Presidents of the Scientific Commissions of Apimondia and Ukraine chosen for the reporting. Ukrainian scientists submitted over 100 abstracts. 32 abstracts passed the review and were subsequently included to the Scientific Program and the Congress Abstracts Book.

The scientists known worldwide, authors of the prominent books on social behavior and ecology of the bee families and bee ecology Mr. Robert E. Page and Mr. Thomas D. Seeley participated in the scientific meetings in the capacity of the invited speakers. The Organizing Committee of the Congress initiated the preparation of the special Resolution of the XXXXIII International Apicultural Congress basing on the results of the Scientific Conference. The Resolution will be sent to the UN and to the governments of the Apimondia member-countries. The work on Resolution is conducted under the guidance of the President of Apimondia Mr. Gilles Ratia and the President of the Congress Mrs. Tetiana Vasylykivska.

The International Exhibition ApiExpo 2013 located in the First IEC Hall and covering 10 000 square meters was the most visited event of the Congress. Over 200 companies of all around the world presented their production, including beekeeping products, beekeeping equipment and tools, and veterinary medications.

The International Honey Contest “World Beekeeping Awards 2013” gained much attention of all the participants. The winners of the Contest came from 34 countries of the world. 100 medals in 50 classes were handed with 41 golden medal, 31 silver medal and 28 bronze medals. The Grand-Prix of the Contest – Carl & Virginia Webb Silver Bowl and “The Best Honey of the World” title was awarded to Tziverti Company, Cyprus (presented by Mr. Dimitris Papakostas). Apimondia Silver Cup and “The

Best Mead in the World” title was awarded to Vcelco s.r.o., Slovakia (presented Mr. Radoslav Opalek). The Display Grand Prix – Sodruchestvo Shield for the Display Excellency was awarded to Ms. Aida Iskenova, Kyrgyz Union of Beekeepers, Kyrgyzstan.

Over 15 satellite events, organized by the foreign delegations and international beekeeping organizations, were conducted.

The Organizing Committee of the Congress made a range of social projects. The Project “Innovative technologies in beekeeping”



Congress President Tetiana Vasylykivska near the fragment of thematic exhibition devoted to the frame hive inventor P.I. Prokopovych



Delegates of the Congress and specially invited guests. People's Artist, the Golden Voice of Ukraine Ms. Nina Matvienko sang for the guests. Pavlo Virsky Ukrainian National Folk Dance Ensemble impressed the viewers with its passionate Ukrainian dancing and became the star of the Congress Opening Ceremony. The creative ensembles of the Luhansk National Agrarian University provided an extensive program for the Congress Closing Ceremony.

The tourist routes including the beekeeping facilities and historical monuments of Ukraine were very popular among the foreign guests of the Congress. The tourist partner of the Congress "Terra Incognita" provided over 100 buses for the tourist groups of the Congress. 33 specialized tours were organized within the framework of the Tourist Program of the XXXXIII International Apicultural Congress including 3 pre-tours, 10 one-day and two-day technical tours, 4 post-tours and individual tours for the delegations of South Korea, the USA, the UK, Mexico, Iran, Turkey, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, groups from Hungary, Poland, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, China, San Marino, Norway, Chili. Daily excursions around Kyiv were arranged for the delegates of the Congress. Generally around two thousand Congress delegates and guests participated in the Tourist Program.

Tourist and apicultural facilities of Crimea, apiary "Medovi Polia" ("Honey Fields"), V.I. Nahorniuk's apiary in village Halepia (Kyiv region), "Pchelandia" in Chudodievo, O.I. Ilkiv apiary in Busk and beekeeping facilities of Zakarpattia were very popular. Gum beekeeping master-class in Rudnia-Ivankivska (Zhytomyr Region) was very memorable for the participants.

The Organizing Committee of the XXXXIII International Apicultural Congress expresses its gratitude to the official sponsors of the Congress for their support of the Congress preparation and conduction. These are: Platinum Sponsor Group of Companies "Sodruzhestvo" (Ukraine), Golden Sponsors company "Vita (Europe) Ltd" (the UK) and company "Tentorium" (Russia).

Two General Assemblies of Apimondia were conducted during the Congress in Kyiv. The Heads of the Apimondia member associations of beekeepers elected the country to welcome Apimondia Congress 2017. The Turkish Beekeepers' Association won the right to conduct the XXXXV International Apicultural Congress.

The President of the XXXXIII International Apicultural Congress Mrs. Tetiana Vasylykivska solemnly handed the 100 years old collar to the Head of the Organizing Committee of the XXXXIV International Apicultural Congress of Apimondia Mr. Kyoong-hwan Cho. The next Apimondia Congress will take place in Daejeon (South Korea) in 2015. ■

welcomed 40 specialists representing their developments and achievements and included 48 reports made by both Ukrainian and foreign experts. The Honey Fair "Apimondia open to public" provided opportunity to Kyiv citizens and visitors to buy the best beekeeping products. The presentation of the documentary film "More than Honey" by Markus Imhoof supported by the Embassy of Switzerland in Ukraine became a genuine artistic peculiarity of the Congress. Modern Art Gallery gathered together Ukrainian artists and artisans to represent their masterpieces. Prominent German photographers Heidi & Hans-Jürgen Koch made an exhibition "Bees – world's pollinators".

The Project "Apimondia for kids" included the contest exhibition of children's drawings and the series of master classes for the youngest Congress visitors. Separate thematic exposition was devoted to the inventor of the frame beehive Petro Ivanovych Prokopovych and other outstanding figures of Ukrainian beekeeping. Honey Bar provided opportunity to taste honeys from all around the world.

A special show "Beekeeping Fashion" provided opportunity to the producers of beekeeping garments to present their new products.

Several press-briefings for the accredited national and foreign mass media representatives and media partners were conducted at the Press Centre of the Organizing Committee during the Congress. The Press events were devoted to the topical themes of the Congress, including the current situation in global beekeeping sector and the directions of development of beekeeping science. Journalists heard the ideas and the comments of the world's most authoritative beekeeping scientists and experts.

The three tours Contest "Honey Queen 2013 Show" determined the one and the worthiest lady. The representative of Turkish Beekeepers' Association Ms. Burcu Daser became a new Honey Queen.

Official Ukrainian Reception "Ukrainian Night" welcomed 400

Apimondia Kiev

Submitted by Pierre Giovenazzo

I had the privilege of attending the 43rd International Apiculture Congress in Kiev, Ukraine from September 29th until Friday October 4th. There was an estimated registration of over 8000 participants: mainly beekeepers, many scientists and also traders/vendors and <bee fans>. As usual, Apimondia meetings are fabulous events that offer great opportunities to learn about all the aspects of the beekeeping world. During five days, from morning until late evening participants



could explore the spacious ApiExpo (200 exhibitors and an interesting <Honey bar>) or sit in one of the symposium rooms and listen selected honey bee scientists present their research (over 320 talks).

ApiExpo

The meeting held symposiums on all topics covered by the seven Apimondia commissions: Beekeeping Economy, Bee Health, Bee Biology, Pollination and Bee Flora, Beekeeping Technology/Quality and



Apimondia Kiev 2013 President, Tetyana Vasylykivska, and Turkey beekeepers association president, Bahri Yilmaz, celebrating Apimondia Istanbul 2017

Apitherapy. There was also Roundtable sessions that addressed Beekeeping Science in Ukraine, Organic Beekeeping, GMO and Global Market, Pesticides and Honey Adulteration. Very interesting talks were held during these sessions, and some topics such as pesticides, attracted many people showing growing concern to beekeepers. It is always a revelation for me to learn that beekeepers around the world have similar problems.

The main conference room

Apimondia meetings are also the occasion for delegates from each Apimondia country to meet (approx 200 delegates), discuss and attend the general assembly. As the Canadian Honey Council proxy delegate, I had numerous meetings and invitations during the week. The Monday evening general assembly was very interesting. It started off with one delegate exposing severe critics to the Apimondia Kiev organization in regards to this year's registration disaster (preregistered participants waited in line for up to 6 hours on Sunday). Apimondia president, Gilles Ratia, and general secretary, Riccardo Jannoni-Sebastianini, showed major concerns towards the organization of Apimondia meetings and are now exploring at the possibility of having an Apimondia Professional conference organizer for the future. Delegates voted the Apimondia budget and work plan for the next two years and also voted for some of the presidents of the standing commissions and the secretary chair. To summarize, there was no major change in Apimondia executives.

Apimondia President Gilles Ratia, general assembly speech.

The conference concluded Thursday evening (22h30) with a vote to decide the host for the 2017 Congress. Bulgaria, Sweden, Italy and Turkey gave strictly regulated two-minute presentations promoting their countries during the closing ceremony. Delegates had already seen 15 minute presentations from the candidates Monday night. With a cam-

paign starting four years ago and a superb presence at this year's event, Turkey won more than half of the delegates' 236 votes and Apimondia 2017 will take place in Istanbul. Sweden and Italy had excellent candidatures and will surely be competing the next time around. As Canadian delegate, I gave our 5 votes to Istanbul, Turkey. I am very confident that Apimondia Istanbul 2017 will be fantastic and I strongly advise Canadians who plan attending to also visit this beautiful beekeeping country.

As you know we were also exploring the possibility of hosting Apimondia 2019 in Montréal. The Montréal Palais des Congrès (PCM) team are proactive and very enthusiastic about submitting a Canadian candidature for 2019. Montréal is amongst the top convention destinations in the world and PCM has won numerous excellence awards. The week before leaving for Kiev, Quebec beekeeping federation president and secretary, Leo Buteau and Christine Jean, and myself had an interesting meeting at the PCM with Danielle M. Roy, Manager – International Business Development, and Jocelyne Perron, commercial delegate. After the meeting, I was impressed by the quality of installations and professionalism of PCM team. I am convinced that Montréal would be the perfect city for hosting a future Apimondia. The PCM team has decided to build an Apimondia Montréal 2019 candidature if CCM is still willing to go forward. They will officially contact CCM and give details of their proposal. My discussions with them indicate they will assume all costs associated with the Montréal candidature. Apimondia 2019 candidatures will be presented and voted at the Apimondia 2015 South Korea. It will be a great experience and also an interesting competition because we will probably be competing against USA American Beekeeping Federation! ■

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Regional Reports



Maritimes



Paul Vautour

Recapping the 2013 year, it ended rather tragically in Nova Scotia (N.S.) with the accidental death of Dr. Alexander Shalin – a dedicated civil servant and a passionate advocate for the bee industry. He frequently attended bee keeper meetings, was highly respected by those who knew him, and will be sorely missed by N.S. beekeepers. New Brunswick (N.B.) was also shocked by the sudden death (as he was leaving a bee yard) of Ralph Lockhart – a continuous, long-time Director on the Maritime and N.B.

Beekeepers Association Boards, and former Director on the CHC Board.

N.S. saw an increase of eighty new beekeepers - half of whom have colonies and the remaining will begin in the New Year; and also an increase of two thousand colonies. An estimated 21,000 colonies are over-wintered. This was the second of a three-year “Pollination Expansion Program” for commercial beekeepers which was fully utilized both years. A new 4-module beekeeping course (“The Modern Beekeeper: Basics to Business”) was developed and offered for the first time. It enjoyed full enrollment and very positive feedback. The honey crop fell short of the provincial average with wide variances reported within the commercial sector throughout the province. Varroa levels tested in the autumn were reported to be low and colony vigor strong going into the winter.

Favorable Prince Edward Island (P.E.I.) spring weather gave beekeepers an early jump-start on “splits” and colonies did very well, on average. What appeared to be a very promising honey season did not materialize and production was disappointingly down by approximately 30%. A short autumn honey flow helped get the bees fed somewhat earlier than normal and prepared them for over-wintering. Most beekeepers report being very pleased with colony strength and are confident of success during the winter. The demand for wild blueberry pollination is steadily increasing and again there was a shortage of PEI colonies. There were a total of 7821 colonies used for pollinating approximately 6050 acres of wild blueberries: 5911 local and 1910 imported from other provinces; so it was not surprising that PEI had an estimated 15 million lbs. of blueberries – the best crop ever! A total of 106 packages, 222 nucleus colonies, and 4110 queens entered PEI under permit. The “Queen Subsidy Program” provided up to 50% funding for tracheal mite resistant queens. Unfortunately, tracheal mites were detected in samples that had been collected in the spring from over-wintered colonies. The timing of this discovery indicates the infestation existed prior to the 2013 decision to open the PEI border to other provinces.

The N.B. Provincial inspector reports the summer weather was mainly favorable for bees and resulted in healthy colonies where there was a good honey flow. The number of colonies in the province appears to have become stabilized at 6350, and the number of beekeepers is also the

same at 244. Honey production was at an average of 48 pounds from a reported 4300 honey-producing colonies. Except for a few treatment anomalies, varroa levels were under control and American foulbrood levels remain low. Testing for small hive beetle in colonies abutting the USA border yielded no finds. He notes that one benefit of the “Honey Bee Expansion Program” is in the amount of old black brood comb that is being replaced in the hives, which results in healthier colonies. N.B. remains in the position of not being self-sufficient in colonies for wild blueberry pollination and an estimated 20,000 colonies are imported from other provinces. Some reports indicate bumper crops of blueberries in excess of 5000 lbs. per acre – which might explain (over-stocking?) why some beekeepers report not making a surplus of honey while in blueberry fields.

Québec



Scott Plante

Despite the fact of a poor crop for 2013 the bees seem to have entered winter in good condition. Treating with oxalic this season has proved to be tricky, with colonies still having fair amounts of capped brood in the first week of November. I guess some of us are going to have to treat in spring.

The wholesale and retail honey markets remain strong, even though there seems to be very little 2013 crop left for sale. The price for locally produced honey has stabilized with quoted prices of

2.15\$ to 2.75\$ / pound.

Blueberry growers seem to be very pro-active this year reserving there bees for the 2014 contracts in the month of November. Looks like it's going to be a good year!

Happy New Year

Malgré une récolte de miel médiocre en 2013, les abeilles semblent avoir débuté leur période d'hivernement en bonne condition. Cette saison le traitement à l'acide oxalique a été plutôt difficile, puisque certaines colonies avaient toujours du couvain operculé au début de novembre. Je suppose que certains d'entre nous auront à traiter nos ruches au printemps prochain.

Le marché de la vente en gros du miel ainsi que celui de la vente au détail demeurent toujours fort, bien qu'il semble rester très peu de miel de la récolte 2013 à vendre. Le prix du miel produit localement se stabilise entre 2.15\$ à 2.75\$ la livre.

Les producteurs de bleuets semblent être très proactifs cette année en réservant leurs ruches pour la saison 2014 au mois de novembre dernier. Une bonne année s'annonce.

Bonne Année 2014

Ontario



Brian Rowaan

Greetings from Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. It is my privilege to be writing my first provincial report as the CHC delegate from Ontario.

Firstly, I would like to thank the Ontario Beekeepers Assoc. for giving me the opportunity to represent our province at the national level. I will work hard to represent the broad interests of our province with regards to apiculture. As well, I'll be an active member on the CHC board to ensure a thriving and sustainable industry from sea to sea,

that we can all be proud of. Ontario's fall weather started out fantastic! Late September and early October were sunny and warm, which made for excellent feeding weather. However, this caused the bees to rapidly consume liquid feed to raise brood instead of putting on winter weight. Many beekeepers reported feeding over 100lbs per colony. After the 15th of October the weather turned cold, and anyone who waited until this date to begin feeding certainly had trouble getting their hives heavy enough for winter. Here's to hoping all of that late brood will make for nice robust colonies come spring time. November was one of the coldest on record for the province, and December seems to have been the same as well. Much of the province has had good early snow coverage, so hopefully that has helped keep the bees protected for cold winds.

Another plus for Ontario during the fall was very low varroa levels. This was reported right across the province. Many beekeepers spent much of the summer splitting hard to make up winter losses, as well as getting numbers up to take advantage of excellent honey prices and a strong demand for pollination services. These brood breaks helped keep the mite populations in check. Formic and oxalic acid are becoming increasingly popular treatments, as many are trying to stay away from hard treatments which can build up in comb and cause unneeded stress for the bees.

The OBA has been working hard to protect our bees from neonicotinoid exposer. Being fully aware that this is a touchy subject, I want to be clear that the OBA's call for a moratorium on NNIs, is not a battle of beekeepers against farmers. We could not have more respect and appreciation for the men and women that grow our food, and provide locations for beekeepers to place their hives. Many beekeepers that have done an excellent job of maintaining low winter losses during the years of varroa, tracheal mites, and Apistan resistance, have suddenly watched their hives fall apart. PMRA testing has confirmed that hives contain NNIs in stored honey, pollen, and wax, even in fall; many months after planting has taken place. PMRA has concluded that the use of NNIs is not sustainable, and we are calling on the provincial government to act on this conclusion and place a moratorium on their use until a good solution can be found.

I am looking forward to my first board meeting at the end of January in Edmonton with the rest of the CHC board. I would like to wish you all a relaxing winter, with much time spent with your families and your feet up by the woodstove thinking about an enjoyable and profitable 2014 bee season!

Manitoba



Brian Ash

Hopefully Manitoba will be shoveling its way out of this deep freeze soon. We have had consistent temperatures of between -25°C during the day to -35°C at night, throughout December. This has been the coldest December in the past 120 years. Not sure if I like that record! The only good news is that we have been sharing the cold with our neighbours in Saskatchewan.

The cold weather has caused some concern for

those over-wintering hives out doors. Have received some reports of frost covered top ventilation holes, with some hives in 4 packs having ice restricting most of the bottom entrances. Certainly is too early to tell; yet some worry the long cold spell may mean higher consumption of winter stores. On the other hand, most of Southern Manitoba has had plenty of snow covering, so some packs are almost completely buried. Areas such as Brandon and Steinbach seem to be hit hardest with heavy snowfall.

MBA congratulates the Manitoba Cooperative Honey Producers Limited (MCHPL) on celebrating 75 years at their Annual meeting, in Winnipeg, this past December. It was at the January 1938 Annual Meeting of MBA that attendees voted to accept a report recommending the formation of a Manitoba Co-operative. A Provisional Board was appointed, and they held their first meeting on April 5, 1938 where Bylaw and Charter documents were completed. In order to raise funds, a process allowing members to hold share capital was created. The Cooperative began operations in July 1939.

The new web based reporting process introduced by Pest Management Regulatory Agency last year resulted in 9 Manitoba producers registering difficulties with bees adjacent to corn planting areas. MBA has subsequently formulated our policy of working collaboratively with seed growers to find a resolution, yet encouraging PMRA to act quickly to mitigate the neonicotinoid concerns.

Our Province had cut the Apiary Inspection Program budget in 2013, and we are seeking a meeting with Minister Ron Kostychyn, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development. MBA wants to determine how this could happen as MBA has been contributing yearly funds as part of the provinces Cost Recovery Program for the past 9 years. We also need to find out who will be overseeing the Apiary Inspection Program for 2014, as the bee season will be upon us shortly.

In another area, our members are having difficulties obtaining timely work permits from Philippines for summer helpers. In addition, we are concerned for the 4-year work in Canada, and 4 year stay away rule for Foreign Workers, as many have come to rely on the returning of trained and experienced staff they paid to develop. We will be asking the Province to carry our message to the Federal Government on this issue.

Manitoba responded to Canadian Food Inspection Agency about the shortcomings in the recent Risk Assessment report, basically continuing the ban on imported package bees. So far no response is forthcoming, and MBA is also seeking provincial support in our quest for bee stock, especially in light of our highest recorded winter losses last year.

Honey prices seem to be fairly stable, and inventory appears to be on par with this time in previous years.

Producers are looking forward to hearing from Randy Oliver, Grass Valley, California, and Dr. Jamie Ellis, Assoc Professor, Florida State University, as they give talks at the Upcoming Convention and Symposium. Sessions will begin on Friday February 28 and continue Saturday March 1, 2014, at Canad Inns Polo Park, Winnipeg. Topics include: Impacts of Pesticides on Bees, Supplemental Feeding, and What Beekeepers can do to Help Bees.

Saskatchewan



Calvin Parsons

Our honey crop was average according to the statistics people and I am sure that a large majority of the crop that we produced last summer has been sold by year end. I think very little is still in the hands of the beekeepers that isn't sold or committed to a packer. Some nice prices are being returned to beekeepers as well. reports of \$2.10 are quite common and with the lower value of the Canadian dollar I think prices should remain strong.

The colonies went into winter in good shape as much of the province had a late flow allowing colonies to pick up some

nice pollen stores in the fall. This with a good feeding program and mite control program goes a long way to getting colonies thru the winter.

Winter in Saskatchewan, It's been cold. No danger of global warming here again this winter. November was below normal and December has been bitter cold temperatures ranging 10-15 degrees below normal and a wind chill.

We have recently had our annual convention and much of the talk on the floor of the convention was about a program called Driftwatch. This is a program where beekeepers and others who have sensitivity to pesticide application can register their sensitive areas and hopefully the pesticide applicators will access the web site and see the sensitive areas on a map. This program should have a positive effect on the pesticide applicator and beekeeper relations. We hope to have the program rolling out in Saskatchewan this spring. The beekeeper should be able to stand in his yard and upload the yard site to the web standing in his bee yard using his smart phone!

Alberta



Kevin Nixon

I write this is it just after the new year. Central Alberta has already received 90% of an average winters snowfall. Hopefully this will mean a good spring, but really the one doesn't have any influence on the other. Just wishful thinking. (Luckily, I'm currently in Phoenix with a perfect amount of sunshine and a pool in the backyard!)

It sounds that honey prices are continuing to climb which must mean a shortage of high quality white honey. Hopefully the price can remain at a level where there's some profit for the beekeeper. This should hopefully encourage and allow beekeepers to put more back into their bees to keep them healthy and growing. The demand for bees as pollination units also continues to be strong all across Canada, which also gives beekeepers another opportunity to pursue. Will we be able to keep up to the demand for the future is another question and how do we get there?

The canola council, working with the CHC to possibly form a national drift watch program, is a very positive step forward in working together with other ag sectors to prevent spraying pesticides near bees. This was one of the recommendations from the previous Bee Incident Committee of the CHC. Hopefully it would be of use to many producers across the country. It seems to have been adopted and used by some states in the US and, although its not a total "fix", it can reduce some risk of having your bees sprayed.

Now that the PMRA response period has closed to the consultation on neonic use, it will be interesting what additional measures, if any, they will come up with to help protect the bees from exposure to neonics if necessary. As always, the CHC is committed to working with all the stakeholders to find the resolution to this ongoing concern. I hope everyone was able to enjoy the Christmas season with family and friends and 2014 may be a year filled with blessings for all.

British Columbia



Gerry McKee

On the West Coast, the weather has been mild with very limited rain, particularly in comparison to last year. Hopefully the incidence of Nosema disease will be low. In my front yard, the snowdrops have emerged several inches and a few bee scouts search for the odd buttercup, as mid-day temperatures are six to eight degrees. Bees are wintering well though vigilance will be needed to avoid starvation.

In our northern region of B.C., Kerry Clark reports the Dawson Creek area could well break snow records as long-

time residents say they have not seen so much since the early 1960's. Concern for colony survival is not due entirely to the weather conditions but colony buildup in the late summer and fall may have been compromised by the exceptional honey flows. The queen's egg laying may have been severely restricted as there was an intense flow of nectar due to the delayed cutting of field crops because of the wet summer.

As the BCHPA enters a new year, the review of accomplishments and works in progress will be undertaken in preparation to developing the Three Year Business Plan. Membership had grown by 17% over last year and financial situation was satisfactory as a small surplus was realized. Training and education opportunities were provided at both the Semi and Annual General Meetings; public presentations were conducted at the Pacific Agriculture Show in January and at the various events conducted by clubs for Day of the Honeybee. A second meeting with Dr. Melanie Stewart, Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture, was held following the AGM. Of the four items discussed, our interest in sampling fields for neonicotinoid residues and toxicity levels received a favourable response and planning will be initiated after preliminary inquiries to the Ministry of Environment and the Pesticide Management Regulatory Agency.

Our Hive'n & Thrive'n Conference in Kelowna, October 25-27th, was a great success both socially and financially. The Kelowna Conference Committee deserves high marks for working so diligently and enthusiastically. The Education Day was attended by over 80 participants who gained from a variety of topics ranging from managing and overwintering nucs to the healing powers of honey and other hive by-products for human health. The Honey Contest and Significant Other program were well received and will be expected at future Conferences.

A History of Beekeeping in British Columbia, 1950 – 2000, written by Douglas McCutcheon, was printed last spring. This long awaited history book was initially started in the 80's by John Corner, retired Head of the Apiary Branch but gradually became it necessary for Doug to take responsibility. There was a tremendous contribution of so many assisting Doug with researching stories, photos, records and reports as well as editing. The BCHPA provided financial support and distribution. As many have noted, this book will enrich our beekeeping community as one realizes the significant changes in beekeeping over the past five decades and the stories of courageous men and women who made beekeeping a way of life.

The BCHPA Instructor's certified training workshop for Beginner Beekeeping was launched prior to the Kelowna Conference and all 12 instructors successfully completed the rigorous examination. The Certified course was endorsed by the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture as there was a need to establish a competency based program with credible standards.

Recently my attention has again been drawn to possible confusion among some of our members about CHC's acceptance of corporate sponsorships from international petrochemical producers of pesticides. There's a perception the sponsorship could compromise the Board's decision making. Although no direct question of the Board's integrity has emerged, there are members wondering why the Board has taken a position of not supporting a moratorium. There is an understanding that working with stakeholders and making decisions based on scientific data will more likely gain greater support and implementation than working from a confrontational position. But, there is growing frustration over the apparent lack of adequate protocol in field testing new pesticides and their time sensitive toxicity of residues, particularly the possible chronic neurological developmental consequences. Some are wondering if the traditional model of relying on the registrant's investigations and data needs to be revised to expedite scientific investigation by expanding PMRA's mandate for supplemental investigations of the impact of new pesticides on pollinators.

A Tribute To Beth Hutchison, South Surrey, B.C.

Honeybees were her inspiration and Beth wanted to help save them.

Attended by friends and family, a celebration of Life Tea Party, was held November, 2nd, 2013, at Gracepoint Community Church, South Surrey, B.C. To honour Beth Hutchison with one of her favourite past-times, sharing with others over tea and sweets, her father, David Hutchison, thought this theme would be a great tribute. He reflected that "Beth always thought that any situation could be improved with a cup of tea." This remarkable talented young woman passed away October 25th after a four year battle with terminal brain cancer that began when she was 16, shortly after losing her mother to the deadly disease.



In April, Beth shared her story with the Peach Arch News, stressing that while cancer consumed certain aspects of her life, at the core, she was a regular 20-year-old woman. She wished to experience and share the best things life had to offer.

In lieu of flowers, David had asked for donations to two of Beth's favourite causes which was split 50/50 between Make a Wish Foundation and The Canadian Honey Council's Save Our Bee campaign. An appreciated donation was received for the Canadian Bee Research Fund.

CO-OP Honey Packer



Bernie Rousseau

Manitoba Cooperative Honey Producers Celebrates 75 Years

The Manitoba Cooperative Honey Producers proudly celebrated their 75th Anniversary at their Annual General Meeting on December 3, 2013.

Incorporated in April 1938, the Cooperative was organized by a committee of the Manitoba Beekeepers' Association to relieve the distressed marketing situation in the beekeeping industry of the 1930s. With their head office located in Winnipeg, the Cooperative processed and marketed their high quality honey under a registered brand name.

In 1970, the Saskatchewan and Manitoba Cooperatives amalgamated under the name of Manitoba Cooperative Honey Producers (MCHP) Limited. Today, MCHP and the Alberta Honey Producers Co-operative Limited jointly own Bee Maid Honey.

The spirit and determination that started the Cooperative back in 1939 lives on today. The MCHP is proud of their strong heritage and retains its mission of providing members with a market for their honey and other beekeeping products at a fair and reasonable price on an orderly marketing basis. They look forward to growing their membership base and celebrating many more milestones in the years to come.

Bee Maid Honey Marketing Campaign Wins CAMA Merit Award

Two Bee Maid Honey Campaigns were recently nominated for three Canadian Agri Marketing Association (CAMA) awards. CAMA is dedicated to improving the marketing and communications sector of the agribusiness industry.

Awarded on November 21, 2013 in Quebec City, Bee Maid Honey's Bee a Honey Convert Online Conversion Tool won a Merit Award in the Web Design – Microsite Promotional Category.

Bee Maid's Random Acts of Sweetness campaign was also nominated in the Social Media and Promotional Items categories.

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Statistical Overview of the Canadian Honey Industry 2012

Prepared by: Market Analysis and Information Section, Horticulture and Cross Sectoral Division, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, November 2013
Submitted by Doug McRory (Field Editor), with permission

Overview

In 2012, over 8,000 beekeepers across Canada kept one or more hives, for a total of more than 700,000 hives nationally. With the vast majority of these bee colonies residing in the Prairies, where long summer days are ideal for foraging, it is no surprise that Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta collectively accounted for 85% of the country's total honey production. The industry as a whole recorded a 15% annual increase in the value honey produced, from \$151 million in 2011 to \$173 million in 2012.

The past five years have seen a reversal of the decades-long trend of declining beekeeper numbers. From 2008 to 2012, there has been a steady increase in the number of beekeepers, with 2012 figures showing an increase of 17% from 2008. All provinces except Saskatchewan saw an increase in the number of beekeepers in 2012. Ontario currently has the largest number of beekeepers, with 3,100 of the 8,126 operating in Canada, though the majority of beekeepers in Ontario are smaller operations or hobbyists. The country's total number of colonies has also steadily increased from 2008, showing overall growth of 24%. Despite a decline in the number of beekeepers in Saskatchewan, the number of colonies in that province actually increased by 38% over the past year, from 90,000 in 2011 to 125,000 in 2012, the largest increase of any province. Alberta remains the province with the largest number of colonies, at 282,000.

Saskatchewan also recorded the largest increase in both production and value, with figures climbing by 45% and 55% respectively. Alberta was once again the largest producer of honey in 2012, producing 40 million pounds, valued at over \$65 million.

Total Canadian honey exports increased from \$38.5 million in 2011 to \$73.2 million in 2012, up 90%. This can be attributed to a 124% increase in exports to the United States.

Canadian honey imports totalled \$15 million in 2012. Canada imported 1,322 tonnes of honey valued at close to \$4 million from Argentina, the most from any country in 2012. New Zealand and Australia were the 2nd and 3rd largest sources of honey imports; Canada imported \$2.7 million and \$2.6 million worth of honey from these countries respectively.

Aperçu

En 2012, plus de 8 000 apiculteurs canadiens possédaient au moins une ruche, pour un total de plus de 700 000 ruches à l'échelle du pays. Comme la majorité des colonies d'abeilles se trouvent dans les Prairies, où les longs jours d'été sont idéals pour butiner, il n'est pas surprenant de constater que le Manitoba, la Saskatchewan et l'Alberta se soient partagé 85 % de la production nationale de miel. Dans l'ensemble, l'industrie a enregistré une hausse annuelle de 15 % de la valeur du miel produit, passant de 151 M\$ en 2011 à 173 M\$ en 2012.

On a constaté, au cours des cinq dernières années, un renversement de la tendance à la baisse observée durant des décennies au chapitre du nombre d'apiculteurs. Le nombre d'apiculteurs a augmenté de façon constante de 2008 à 2012; les données de 2012 affichant une augmentation de 17 % par rapport à 2008. Il y a eu une augmentation du nombre d'apiculteurs dans toutes les provinces en 2012, à l'exception de la Saskatchewan. C'est en Ontario que l'on retrouve actuellement le plus grand nombre d'apiculteurs, soit 3 100 des 8 126 apiculteurs canadiens. La majorité des exploitations de l'Ontario sont toutefois plus petites ou sont des exploitations d'agrément. Le nombre total de colonies a également augmenté de façon constante au Canada depuis 2008, affichant une croissance globale de 24 % de 2008 à 2012. Malgré la baisse du nombre d'apiculteurs en Saskatchewan, le nombre de colonies a augmenté de 38 % dans cette province au cours de la dernière année, passant de 90 000 en 2011 à 125 000 en 2012. Il s'agit de la plus importante augmentation toutes provinces confondues. Avec ses 282 000 colonies, l'Alberta demeure la province comptant le plus grand nombre de colonies.

C'est la Saskatchewan qui a enregistré la plus forte augmentation en termes de production et de valeur, soit 45 % et 55 % respectivement. La province de l'Alberta est demeurée la plus grande productrice de miel en 2012, produisant 40 millions de livres évaluées à plus de 65 M\$.

Les exportations canadiennes de miel sont passées 38,5 M\$ en 2011 à 73,2 M\$ en 2012, affichant ainsi une hausse de 90 %. Cette hausse pourrait être attribuable à l'augmentation de 124 % des exportations vers les États-Unis.

Les importations canadiennes de miel ont totalisé 15 M\$ en 2012. Le Canada a importé 1 322 tonnes de miel de l'Argentine évaluées à près de 4 M\$. C'est de ce pays que le Canada a importé le plus de miel en 2012. La Nouvelle-Zélande (2,7 M\$) et l'Australie (2,6 M\$) arrivent aux deuxième et troisième rangs.



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1. Production

1.1. Number of Beekeepers¹ by Province

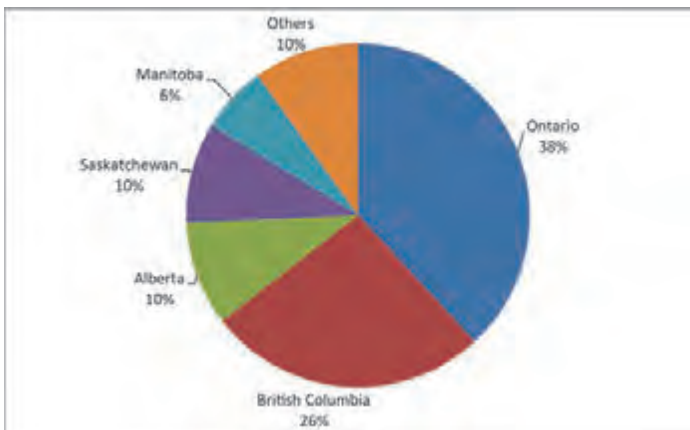
| Province | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Number of Beekeepers | | | | |
| Prince Edward Island | 24 | 28 | 33 | 43 | 46 |
| Nova Scotia | 210 | 205 | 215 | 209 | 244 |
| New Brunswick | 187 | 180 | 204 | 209 | 244 |
| Quebec | 256 | 245 | 262 | 268 | 271 |
| Ontario | 2,200 | 2,500 | 2,600 | 2,900 | 3,100 |
| Manitoba | 523 | 474 | 490 | 501 | 517 |
| Saskatchewan | 1,045 | 971 | 965 | 850 | 765 |
| Alberta | 620 | 663 | 769 | 798 | 800 |
| British Columbia | 1,866 | 1,742 | 1,865 | 1,935 | 2,139 |
| Canada ² | 6,931 | 7,928 | 7,403 | 7,713 | 8,126 |

Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

Notes:

1. Beekeeper numbers may include pollinators that may not extract honey.
2. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has no honey production to report.

1.2. Number of Beekeepers by Province – Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

1.3. Number of Colonies¹ by Province

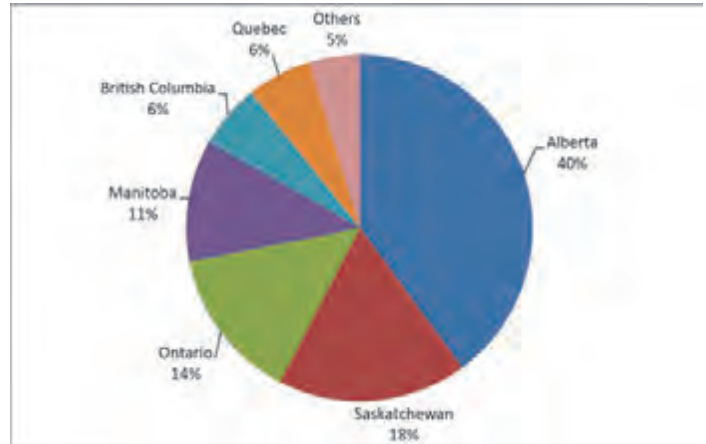
| Province | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | Number of Colonies | | | | |
| Prince Edward Island | 4,000 | 3,530 | 2,605 | 2,954 | 3,719 |
| Nova Scotia | 19,200 | 19,500 | 18,500 | 19,300 | 24,000 |
| New Brunswick | 3,000 | 2,700 | 4,288 | 4,500 | 5,650 |
| Quebec | 36,123 | 36,536 | 39,812 | 41,407 | 42,500 |
| Ontario | 80,000 | 82,000 | 83,150 | 90,000 | 101,000 |
| Manitoba | 75,173 | 70,746 | 78,000 | 77,000 | 80,000 |
| Saskatchewan | 90,000 | 85,000 | 86,000 | 90,000 | 125,000 |
| Alberta | 226,000 | 251,000 | 266,000 | 274,600 | 282,000 |
| British Columbia | 36,574 | 41,108 | 41,936 | 38,159 | 42,560 |
| Canada ² | 576,070 | 592,120 | 620,291 | 637,920 | 706,429 |

Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

Notes:

1. Colony numbers may include pollinators that may not extract honey.
2. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has no honey production to report.

1.4. Number of Colonies by Province – Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

1.5. Total Honey Production¹ by Province

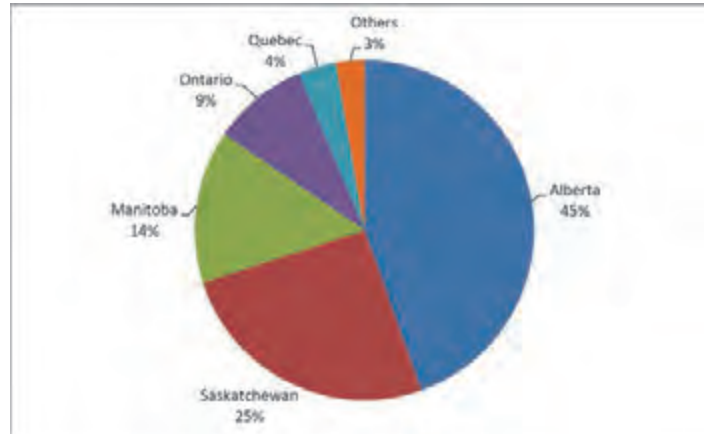
| Province | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Pounds (000) | | | | |
| Prince Edward Island | 260 | 265 | 201 | 271 | 184 |
| Nova Scotia | 392 | 416 | 528 | 248 | 250 |
| New Brunswick | 174 | 189 | 257 | 208 | 199 |
| Quebec | 3,186 | 2,039 | 4,030 | 2,867 | 3,306 |
| Ontario | 4,586 | 5,730 | 8,814 | 9,023 | 8,277 |
| Manitoba | 12,028 | 13,017 | 12,870 | 15,400 | 13,200 |
| Saskatchewan | 16,560 | 17,000 | 18,404 | 15,930 | 23,125 |
| Alberta | 25,990 | 29,116 | 34,580 | 34,050 | 40,520 |
| British Columbia | 1,719 | 2,590 | 1,988 | 1,826 | 1,817 |
| Canada ² | 64,895 | 76,362 | 81,672 | 79,823 | 96,878 |

Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

Notes:

1. Production excludes inventory.
2. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has no honey production to report.

1.6. Total Honey Production by Province – Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

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1.7. Value¹ of Honey by Province

| Province | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|----------------------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | CAD\$ (000) | | | | |
| Prince Edward Island | 520 | 530 | 603 | 813 | 551 |
| Nova Scotia | 784 | 1,248 | 1,584 | 745 | 752 |
| New Brunswick | 348 | 708 | 963 | 781 | 746 |
| Quebec | 8,527 | 7,837 | 9,516 | 10,234 | 10,500 |
| Ontario | 9,190 | 14,133 | 20,379 | 22,537 | 26,487 |
| Manitoba | 17,440 | 19,916 | 19,562 | 24,948 | 21,384 |
| Saskatchewan | 24,840 | 25,500 | 28,526 | 24,692 | 38,156 |
| Alberta | 37,755 | 48,837 | 56,230 | 59,168 | 65,938 |
| British Columbia | 5,779 | 7,544 | 6,634 | 6,774 | 8,190 |
| Canada ² | 105,183 | 126,253 | 144,197 | 150,692 | 172,704 |

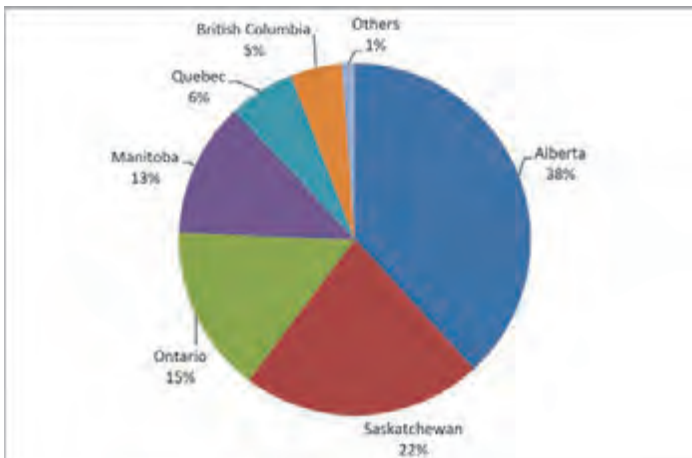
Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

Notes:

1. Value excludes inventory sales except for in Quebec.

2. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has no honey production to report.

1.8. Value of Honey by Province – Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

2. Farm Cash Receipts

2.1. Honey Farm Cash Receipts by Province

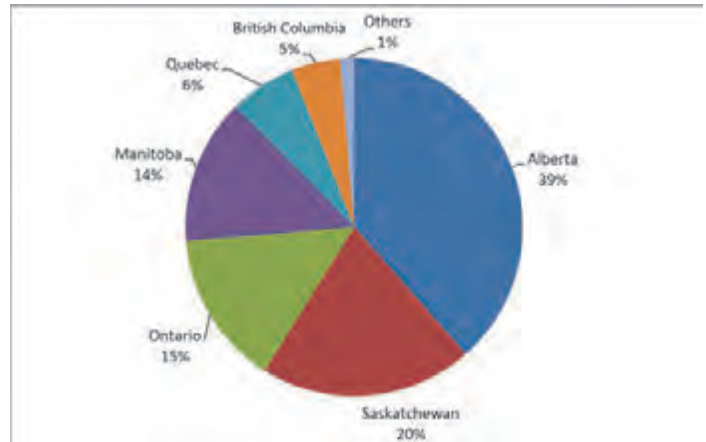
| Province | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|----------------------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | CAD\$ (000) | | | | |
| Prince Edward Island | 520 | 526 | 570 | 719 | 669 |
| Nova Scotia | 831 | 1,063 | 1,450 | 1,080 | 749 |
| New Brunswick | 247 | 546 | 848 | 863 | 762 |
| Quebec | 8,527 | 7,837 | 9,516 | 10,234 | 10,500 |
| Ontario | 9,280 | 11,414 | 17,689 | 22,261 | 24,315 |
| Manitoba | 15,464 | 19,000 | 19,693 | 22,955 | 22,703 |
| Saskatchewan | 23,129 | 25,269 | 27,467 | 26,034 | 33,444 |
| Alberta | 34,423 | 44,293 | 53,199 | 57,963 | 63,162 |
| British Columbia | 5,930 | 6,926 | 7,083 | 6,795 | 7,694 |
| Canada ¹ | 98,351 | 116,874 | 137,515 | 148,904 | 163,998 |

Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 002-0001)

Note:

1. Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded since the province has no honey production to report.

2.2. Honey Farm Cash Receipts by Province – Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 002-0001)

3. Trade

3.1. EXPORTS

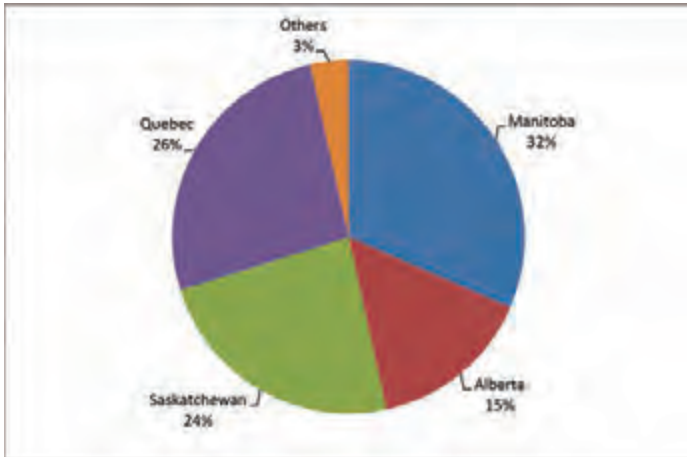
3.1.1. Canada's Honey Exports by Province

| Province | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | CAD\$ | | | | |
| Prince Edward Island | 0 | 15,000 | 24,895 | 293,693 | 57,972 |
| Nova Scotia | 48,922 | 3,629 | 358,397 | 70,804 | 1,967 |
| New Brunswick | 0 | 0 | 65,665 | 0 | 0 |
| Quebec | 9,099,275 | 4,411,251 | 7,906,512 | 7,148,631 | 19,264,744 |
| Ontario | 2,100,713 | 2,985,455 | 1,813,707 | 1,931,702 | 2,140,265 |
| Manitoba | 19,306,087 | 17,693,867 | 18,781,935 | 14,435,170 | 23,096,811 |
| Saskatchewan | 20,078,312 | 4,950,750 | 11,322,221 | 4,448,501 | 17,294,438 |
| Alberta | 18,522,947 | 16,924,051 | 15,530,459 | 9,388,582 | 10,995,268 |
| British Columbia | 686,824 | 138,259 | 1,191,317 | 835,397 | 385,833 |
| Canada | 69,843,080 | 47,122,262 | 66,995,108 | 38,543,063 | 73,237,298 |
| Kilograms | | | | | |
| Prince Edward Island | 0 | 2,727 | 4,526 | 36,328 | 2,933 |
| Nova Scotia | 10,427 | 668 | 71,090 | 19,181 | 265 |
| New Brunswick | 0 | 0 | 18,593 | 0 | 0 |
| Quebec | 2,818,064 | 1,128,942 | 2,087,139 | 1,803,576 | 4,983,349 |
| Ontario | 490,325 | 695,936 | 275,010 | 297,322 | 382,586 |
| Manitoba | 6,060,670 | 4,448,094 | 4,972,647 | 3,599,622 | 5,778,941 |
| Saskatchewan | 6,547,065 | 1,368,718 | 3,108,937 | 1,310,909 | 4,455,482 |
| Alberta | 6,200,421 | 4,261,264 | 4,110,291 | 2,168,374 | 2,566,012 |
| British Columbia | 214,063 | 22,781 | 283,882 | 217,925 | 74,636 |
| Canada | 22,341,035 | 11,929,150 | 14,932,115 | 9,453,309 | 18,224,204 |

Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net June 2013)



3.1.2. Canada's Honey Exports by Province – Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net June 2013)

3.1.4. Canada's Top Honey Export Destinations by Country – Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net June 2013)

3.1.3. Canada's Top 10 Honey Export Destinations

| Countries | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | CAD\$ | | | | |
| United States | 54,927,957 | 33,257,702 | 41,136,613 | 27,605,256 | 61,670,179 |
| Japan | 5,127,445 | 6,714,312 | 9,648,183 | 7,880,065 | 9,770,713 |
| China | 96,617 | 1,630,989 | 917,367 | 972,618 | 1,066,614 |
| France | 255,869 | 341,636 | 267,623 | 262,207 | 378,731 |
| Hong Kong | 105,265 | 84,702 | 215,348 | 367,799 | 331,691 |
| Belgium | 327,850 | 173,341 | 89,840 | 0 | 207,744 |
| South Korea | 126,056 | 12,177 | 10,389 | 16,777 | 207,015 |
| Sweden | 85,394 | 0 | 37,026 | 0 | 130,925 |
| Australia | 4,830,406 | 2,036,644 | 223,391 | 154,119 | 79,669 |
| Barbados | 204,624 | 67,404 | 134,755 | 66,759 | 70,406 |
| Others | 3,975,577 | 2,881,353 | 4,114,573 | 1,233,281 | 123,709 |
| Total | 69,843,080 | 47,122,262 | 56,995,108 | 38,543,063 | 73,237,298 |
| Kilograms | | | | | |
| United States | 17,272,537 | 8,302,454 | 11,053,443 | 7,148,189 | 15,831,774 |
| Japan | 1,616,402 | 1,692,286 | 2,440,219 | 1,690,307 | 1,896,912 |
| China | 27,311 | 456,944 | 173,227 | 191,261 | 203,363 |
| France | 77,481 | 72,602 | 58,368 | 58,869 | 89,332 |
| Hong Kong | 22,837 | 17,278 | 23,274 | 45,694 | 47,360 |
| Belgium | 88,520 | 37,323 | 20,852 | 0 | 62,294 |
| South Korea | 42,083 | 2,095 | 2,817 | 4,388 | 37,100 |
| Sweden | 20,480 | 0 | 6,732 | 0 | 20,980 |
| Australia | 1,619,863 | 511,027 | 56,540 | 38,594 | 20,650 |
| Barbados | 57,770 | 18,161 | 21,687 | 12,470 | 12,084 |
| Others | 1,494,851 | 818,080 | 1,073,956 | 285,537 | 22,355 |
| Total | 22,341,035 | 11,929,150 | 14,932,115 | 9,453,309 | 18,224,204 |

Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net June 2013)

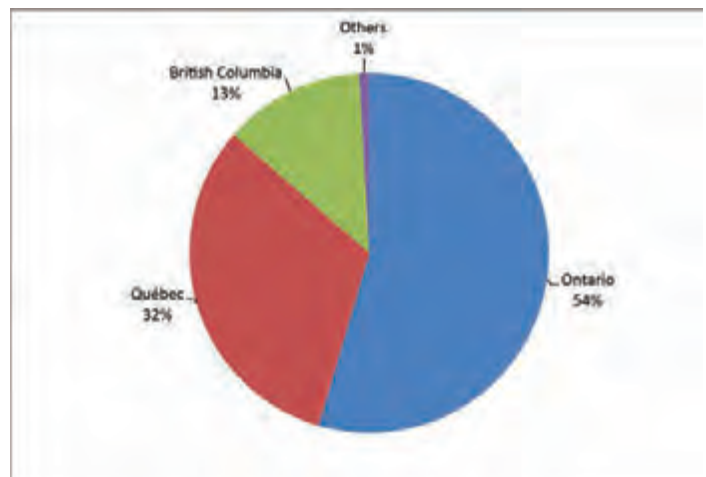
3.2. IMPORTS

3.2.1. Canada's Honey Imports by Province

| Province | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | CAD\$ | | | | |
| Nova Scotia | 409 | 2,515 | 1,357 | 749 | 780 |
| New Brunswick | 237 | 196 | 462 | 848 | 417 |
| Quebec | 1,926,155 | 2,059,428 | 2,646,818 | 3,878,440 | 4,749,666 |
| Ontario | 10,378,419 | 15,316,405 | 9,397,161 | 7,391,401 | 8,145,010 |
| Manitoba | 358,631 | 190,698 | 159,536 | 145,556 | 38,072 |
| Saskatchewan | 23,520 | 6,067 | 0 | 12,755 | 13,177 |
| Alberta | 16,465 | 39,420 | 11,822 | 16,897 | 79,620 |
| British Columbia | 2,482,795 | 3,085,752 | 2,275,641 | 1,675,952 | 1,895,226 |
| Canada | 15,196,631 | 20,700,481 | 14,492,797 | 13,324,396 | 14,922,521 |
| Kilograms | | | | | |
| Nova Scotia | 81 | 554 | 300 | 180 | 56 |
| New Brunswick | 59 | 49 | 114 | 131 | 73 |
| Quebec | 586,290 | 556,858 | 787,859 | 1,071,403 | 1,397,198 |
| Ontario | 2,558,197 | 3,644,997 | 2,074,837 | 1,499,611 | 1,801,179 |
| Manitoba | 99,065 | 55,837 | 51,890 | 38,193 | 8,784 |
| Saskatchewan | 5,481 | 2,400 | 0 | 2,598 | 2,231 |
| Alberta | 3,798 | 8,258 | 1,216 | 2,220 | 5,155 |
| British Columbia | 500,456 | 590,148 | 342,022 | 223,619 | 220,302 |
| Canada | 3,733,429 | 4,859,099 | 3,258,138 | 2,837,955 | 3,434,978 |

Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net June 2013)

3.2.2. Canada's Honey Imports by Province – Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net June 2013)

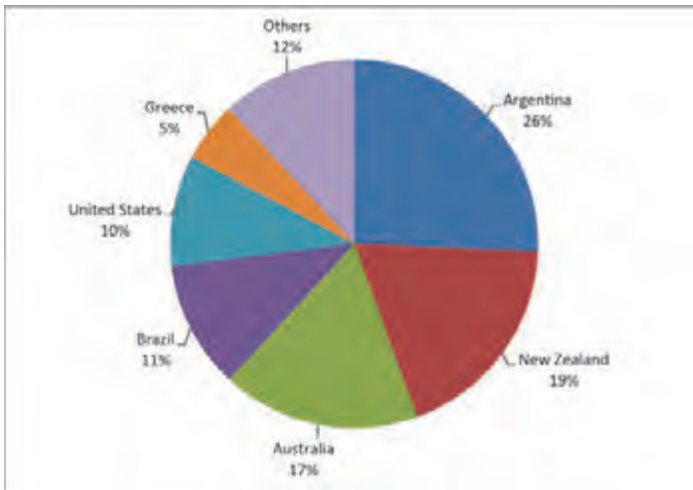


3.2.3. Canada's Top 10 Sources of Honey Imports

| Countries | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | CAD\$ | | | | |
| Argentina | 335,104 | 383,014 | 2,586,321 | 1,137,985 | 3,834,218 |
| New Zealand | 893,477 | 1,341,212 | 1,824,963 | 2,156,576 | 2,799,001 |
| Australia | 7,859,583 | 11,869,660 | 3,427,724 | 2,131,605 | 2,600,480 |
| Brazil | 1,429,348 | 2,624,581 | 2,234,227 | 2,533,792 | 1,671,963 |
| United States | 2,323,463 | 2,662,663 | 1,885,011 | 1,632,628 | 1,447,090 |
| Greece | 235,110 | 440,530 | 650,612 | 748,635 | 787,559 |
| India | 120,130 | 318,579 | 709,117 | 603,247 | 388,651 |
| Germany | 36,892 | 172,833 | 168,373 | 230,710 | 320,192 |
| China | 619,791 | 5,725 | 61,974 | 61,409 | 197,683 |
| Switzerland | 177,125 | 263,454 | 244,190 | 189,943 | 182,174 |
| Others | 1,186,620 | 817,930 | 680,085 | 1,887,666 | 895,309 |
| Total | 15,196,631 | 20,700,481 | 14,492,797 | 13,324,396 | 14,922,521 |
| Countries | Kilograms | | | | |
| | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
| Argentina | 117,180 | 115,195 | 838,870 | 335,066 | 1,322,066 |
| New Zealand | 61,456 | 160,924 | 114,444 | 165,049 | 375,345 |
| Australia | 1,702,924 | 2,787,755 | 825,370 | 331,041 | 388,268 |
| Brazil | 450,675 | 825,386 | 724,445 | 750,049 | 484,805 |
| United States | 852,965 | 856,651 | 497,215 | 426,134 | 337,716 |
| Greece | 22,759 | 29,359 | 47,021 | 85,648 | 131,563 |
| India | 37,780 | 63,334 | 162,630 | 158,100 | 62,508 |
| Germany | 7,999 | 32,187 | 26,817 | 37,283 | 60,448 |
| China | 331,705 | 947 | 40,035 | 24,436 | 91,079 |
| Switzerland | 46,155 | 34,076 | 36,662 | 30,929 | 24,589 |
| Others | 301,631 | 152,305 | 114,529 | 489,210 | 138,790 |
| Total | 3,733,429 | 4,859,099 | 3,268,138 | 2,837,955 | 3,434,978 |

Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net June 2013)

3.2.4. Canada's Top Sources of Honey Imports by Country - Percent Share, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada, (CATS Net June 2013)

3.2.5. Canada's Sources for Honey Bee Imports

| Countries | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|---------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| | CAD\$ | | | | |
| New Zealand | 822,211 | 1,053,287 | 633,682 | 2,746,392 | 2,110,082 |
| Australia | 0 | 110,405 | 56,268 | 333,036 | 414,177 |
| United States | 0 | 9,504 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 822,211 | 1,173,269 | 689,950 | 3,079,428 | 2,524,259 |
| Countries | Number of Packages | | | | |
| | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
| New Zealand | 11,070 | 1,091 | 10,142 | 36,150 | 25,803 |
| Australia | 0 | 768 | 480 | 4,316 | 5,310 |
| United States | 0 | 500 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 11,070 | 11,360 | 10,622 | 42,466 | 33,913 |

Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net September 2013)

Notes: Package bees are sold in a variety of sizes typically one pound, two pound and three pound packages. No detail on the individual numbers of different package sizes is available. Does not include queen bees.

3.2.6. Canada's Sources for Queen Bee Imports

| Countries | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | CAD\$ | | | | |
| United States | 2,239,315 | 2,894,887 | 2,586,648 | 3,020,885 | 3,399,366 |
| Australia | 109,657 | 65,472 | 502,757 | 149,778 | 264,162 |
| New Zealand | 12,012 | 22,035 | 142,617 | 159,005 | 149,167 |
| Chile | 140,606 | 237,107 | 185,772 | 156,277 | 50,002 |
| Denmark | 0 | 0 | 11,506 | 3,946 | 4,481 |
| Total | 2,501,640 | 3,039,501 | 3,432,300 | 3,489,891 | 3,867,178 |
| Countries | Number | | | | |
| | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
| United States | 153,964 | 155,072 | 161,195 | 167,042 | 169,954 |
| Australia | 8,266 | 5,781 | 7,145 | 10,635 | 18,083 |
| New Zealand | 880 | 1,426 | 7,502 | 7,577 | 7,155 |
| Chile | 10,403 | 15,607 | 12,847 | 10,378 | 2,453 |
| Denmark | 0 | 0 | 412 | 218 | 216 |
| Total | 173,313 | 177,886 | 189,101 | 196,846 | 197,841 |

Source: Statistics Canada (CATS Net September 2013)

4. Consumption

4.1. Honey Available in Canada

| Commodity | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|-----------|---------------|------|------|------|------|
| | Kg per person | | | | |
| Honey | 0.37 | 0.78 | 0.60 | 0.91 | 0.82 |

Source: Statistics Canada, (CANSIM Table 002-0011)

Note:

Does not adjust for losses, such as waste and/or spoilage in stores, households, private institutions or restaurants or losses during preparation.

5. World Data

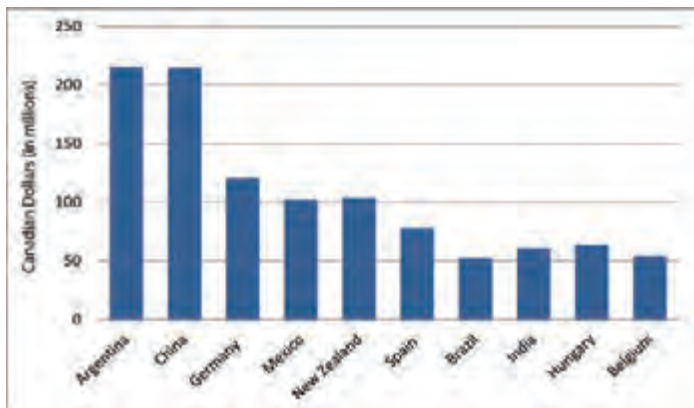
5.1. Top 10 Exporters of Honey Worldwide

| Countries | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | CAD\$ (in millions) | | | | |
| Argentina | 190 | 185 | 178 | 220 | 215 |
| China | 159 | 141 | 188 | 200 | 215 |
| Germany | 135 | 130 | 115 | 114 | 120 |
| Mexico | 87 | 92 | 88 | 88 | 102 |
| New Zealand | 54 | 68 | 73 | 87 | 104 |
| Spain | 65 | 71 | 84 | 79 | 78 |
| Brazil | 47 | 76 | 57 | 70 | 52 |
| India | 42 | 22 | 58 | 66 | 61 |
| Hungary | 93 | 69 | 63 | 60 | 63 |
| Belgium | 31 | 44 | 50 | 54 | 54 |
| Others | 413 | 454 | 460 | 469 | 540 |
| Total | 1,317 | 1,353 | 1,414 | 1,506 | 1,605 |

Source: Global Trade Atlas (October 2013)

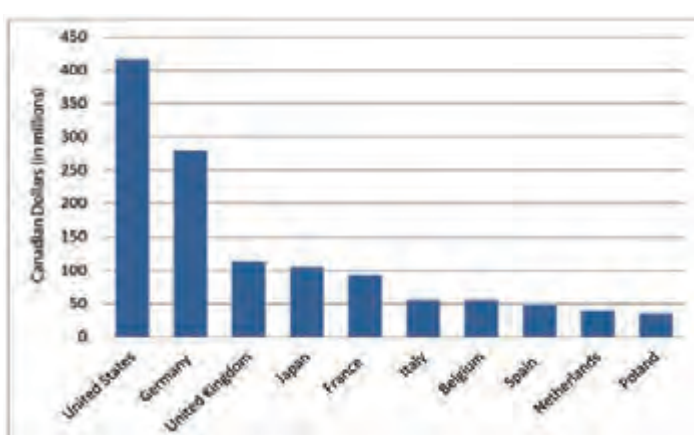


5.2. Top 10 Honey Exporting Countries, 2012



Source: Global Trade Atlas (October 2013)

5.4. Top 10 Honey Importing Countries, 2012



Source: Global Trade Atlas (October 2013)

5.3. Top 10 Importers of Honey Worldwide

| Countries | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|----------------|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | CAD\$ (in millions) | | | | |
| United States | 233 | 251 | 302 | 381 | 416 |
| Germany | 269 | 296 | 303 | 270 | 279 |
| United Kingdom | 111 | 117 | 108 | 125 | 114 |
| Japan | 92 | 99 | 104 | 117 | 105 |
| France | 101 | 98 | 100 | 108 | 93 |
| Italy | 48 | 59 | 55 | 57 | 56 |
| Belgium | 45 | 52 | 52 | 56 | 56 |
| Spain | 44 | 42 | 39 | 45 | 48 |
| Netherlands | 33 | 42 | 35 | 44 | 39 |
| Poland | 17 | 24 | 32 | 38 | 35 |
| Other | 249 | 282 | 305 | 309 | 348 |
| Total | 1,243 | 1,362 | 1,436 | 1,551 | 1,590 |

Source: Global Trade Atlas (October 2013)

6. Key Resources

Global Trade Atlas.

Statistics Canada. (CANSIM TABLE 001-0007)

Statistics Canada. (CANSIM TABLE 002-0001)

Statistics Canada. CATSNET.

Import and export data is based on the following Harmonized System Codes (H.S. Codes):

Honey for import: 0409000010 0409000021 0409000022
0409000023 0409000024 0409000025 0409000026 0409000029
0409000090

Honey for export: 04090000

Honey Bees for import: 0106410011 0106410012 0106410020
0106900011 0106900012 0106900020



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Apistan® anti-varroa mite strips are an essential part of any varroa mite control program.

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Cover Story

Are the Neonicotinoid Pesticides Contributing to the High Overwinter Losses Throughout North America?

By Doug McRory (Field Editor)

Two years ago, I would not have considered even asking this question. With the developments that have occurred in the past two beekeeping seasons in Ontario and Québec this is a question that should be on every beekeepers mind as the neonic's have been implicated in acute and sublethal effects on honey bees in both Ontario and Québec. There were also some reported incidents from Manitoba in 2013. Beekeepers from United States also feel that these pesticides are directly affecting their honey bees.

Dr. Ernesto Guzman and Les Eccles conducted a study in 2009 that indicated that varroa mites were the major contributing factor to over winter loss. In their study they did not take into account any of the pesticides that the bees were encountering which could also contribute to over winter losses. Dr. Maryann Frazier of University of Pennsylvania has data to show that a large number of pesticides show up in

the beehives. I feel that we need some independent studies to show if pesticides are a major contributing factor to the high winter losses that beekeepers are experiencing.

If you look back over the winter loss data on the Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturist (CAPA) website capabees.com, you will note that the high losses start with the 2007 winter and continue forward to the present. That time period also coincides with the time that seed treatments using the nionics became widespread on most of the significant crops in North America. It appears to me that these chemicals have built up in the soil over this time period to where they are coming out at high enough quantities to have acute and sublethal effects on the honey bees and wild pollinator populations. It only takes 32 parts per billion to kill a honey bee. Beekeepers in Ontario have been reporting bee kill incidents throughout the active bee season. Every time it rains there is a die off of field bees. This has to have a direct effect on those colonies ability to make it through the winter as it is affecting their populations throughout the season.

I would like to see a large epidemiology based study funded and carried out to see if there is any link between the neonic usage and the over winter losses that the beekeeping industry is experiencing. It is unsustainable for beekeepers to keep replacing these losses and also expanding the number of colonies as has been happening in Canada to meet the demand for pollination and honey production. Most beekeepers have a good handle on varroa and other diseases within their colonies but if there is something out there in the environment that is beyond their control that is having an effect on being able to get these honey bees through the winter, we need to figure that out and do something about it so we can keep the honey bees alive and productive.

The honey bees are like the canary in the coal mine – they are telling us as humans that there is something wrong in the environment and we need to determine what it is and act on it! ■



Bees need both protein and carbohydrate for good build-up and large honey crops.

Feed protein patties in spring to ensure colony health, maximum build-up and maximum production

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**Call Mike at 1-866-948-6084 today
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*Pollen in our formula is irradiated by Iotron for prevention of bee disease



Hive Lights

Classifieds

Help Wanted

Help Wanted: Beamsville (ON)

7 seasonal beekeeping labourers.
Contact- Charlie-Bee Honey
E-mail- Charlie-beehoney@sympatico.ca
Mike Parker-1 905 563 7285

7 Seasonal beekeepers wanted April to Nov. 2014
\$10.33/hour. Work is physically demanding and long hours.
Includes beehive management and maintenance. Must have valid and clean drivers license.

Charlie-Bee Honey requires 2 apiary technicians for the 2014-2015 season.

Apiary Technician- experience- 2 years minimum in the apiary field. Seasonal with potential for year round for the right person.

Duties- handle, feed, care for bee colonies, supervise crew members. Recognize bee health issues and take remedial action. Prepare hives for transportation for pollination and honey production. Bee yard maintenance. Operate and maintain machinery relevant to our apiary. Harvest honey, build and maintain beehive equipment, keep proper records. Able to interact with other people we deal with in our operations.

Wages- depends on experience.

Working Conditions- long hours at certain times of the year. A lot of jobs required outside in all kinds of weather. Heavy lifting involved. Must be a team players and able to work well and efficiently alone or in a crew. A lot of travelling in Ont. and Manitoba required. Must have valid and clean drivers license. DZ or AZ

beneficial but not necessary. Operate machinery but will train. Own transportation to and from work..

Help Wanted: Cottam/Wellington, (ON)

Seasonal beekeeper - April to Mid November 2014
Beekeeping experience an asset but willing to train. Position will require working with bees, extracting honey and must be willing to travel. All applicants must be physically fit, able to lift 70 lbs. English speaking with drivers licence preferred. Wages to start at \$10.25/hr and up based on experience.

Reply to: Sun Parlor Honey Ltd
238 E County Rd 14 RRI, Cottam, ON N0R 1B0
or info@sunparlorhoney.ca

Help Wanted: Alvinston, (ON)

6 seasonal beekeeper labourers in Alvinston, Ontario, Canada from April until December 2014.
Work is physically demanding and includes hive management and maintenance.

An International Driver's License is required. Must be able to follow instructions in English.

Send resume to info@munrohoney.com mailto:info@munrohoney.com or Munro Honey, Box # 428, Alvinston, Ontario Canada N0N 1A0

Help Wanted: Zenon Park, (SK).

Moyen honey farm ltd.
7 Full-time seasonal apiary harvest workers for 2014 season
Help with:

- Spring check,hive assessment
- Pest and disease control
- Grafting,making nucs, and raising queens.
- Assembling new equipment, and repair equipment.
- Supering hives, and harvesting honey.
- Maintaining bee yards.

- Fall feeding,treating hives, and wrapping hives.
Positions available from march 15,2014 to oct.30,2014
Wages starting @ \$11.35

Contact name- gerry moyen ph.#306-767-2440
Fax# 306-767-2626
Email resume @ germoyen@hotmail.Com

Help Wanted: Zenon Park, (SK).

Moyen honey farm ltd.
11 Full-time seasonal apiary harvest labourer for 2014 season

- Help with:
- Spring feeding
 - Assembling new equipment
 - Supering hives,and harvesting honey
 - Filling honey containers
 - Cleaning honet extraction equipment
 - Extraction honey
 - Fall feeding

Position available from april 15,2014 to september 30,2014
Wages starting @ \$10.35 Per hr.

Contact name - gerry moyen ph.306-767-2440
Fax# 306-767-2626
Email resume @ germoyen@hotmail.Com

Help Wanted: Saskatoon Area (SK)

Seasonal Apiary Labourers:
Seasonal Apiary Labourers wanted for Saskatoon area commercial beekeeping/queen rearing operations. Four full time seasonal positions (April through October) for the 2014 Season. Must have experience in hive maintenance, harvesting and extraction of honey. Knowledge of queen rearing an asset. Wages \$10.07 to \$15.00 depending on experience.
Apply to a.j.robertson@sasktel.net

Help Wanted: St. Andrews (MB)

One experienced Apiarist (NOC #8431) for up to six months, May - October, 2014. Must have at least high school graduation and beekeeping courses, a valid driver's license, at least 4 years experience in beekeeping. Hourly rate \$11.00 - \$14.00 depending on experience. Email applications, CV and references to margshoney@gmail.com

Help Wanted - Kinistino (SK)

Seasonal Apiary Harvest Labourers wanted in Saskatchewan for work in a commercial honey production and bee rearing operation. Four full time seasonal positions for up to 7 months (April through October) for the 2014 season. Two full time seasonal positions for up to 3 months (July - September) for the 2014 season. Apiary Harvest Labourers perform tasks such as: supering hives, harvesting honey, cleaning honey extraction and storage equipment, honey extracting, barrel moving, preparation, filling and storage, manufacture, assemble and maintain hive equipment, bee yard maintenance. Experience, valid drivers license and English speaking skills would be an asset but not required. Availability to work evenings, holidays and weekends is a must. Starting wages at \$10.27/hr with subsidized housing options and potential for bonuses based on performance, attitude and character. Long hours, week-end and evening/night work may be required. Work is physically demanding and fast paced. E-mail resume to B's BeeRanch Inc. at beeranch@sasktel.net

Help Wanted: Tees, Alberta

Tees Bees Inc requires general farm workers(harvest labor-

er NOC 8431) 2 required, experience is an asset but training is available, wage starting at 11.42/hr (or current wage according to NOC code). Apiary workers (low skilled worker NOC 8431) 3 required with a minimum of 1 yr experience, wage starting at \$12.53/hr(or current wage according to NOC code). Apiary technician (skilled laborer NOC 8251) 3 required with a minimum of 2 yr experience, wage starting at \$13.60/hr (or current wage according to NOC code). All positions are for the 2014 season. All wages are negotiable based on experience and productivity. A valid driver's licence and the ability to speak English is an asset. Must be physically fit and accustomed to working with honeybees. Email resumes to teesbeesinc@gmail.com

Help Wanted: Austin, Manitoba

One Position available for a full time, seasonal apiary labourer at New Rutherford Apiaries (4647204 Manitoba LTD) for the 2014 season April 1 - Oct 31 2014. Valid drivers licence and previous experience working with honeybees are an asset. Duties include helping with: honey harvesting/extraction, feeding/medicating hives, hive inspection, moving hives, building hive equipment, and clean-up. Hourly wage rate of \$11 - \$15/hour depending on experience. Some evening and weekend work required.
Send resume to: Mike Lewis, New Rutherford Apiaries LTD RR#1 Austin, MB R0H0C0.
email: mike-beehive@hotmail.com ph: (204)466-2551

Help Wanted - Aylsham SK

4 Seasonal full time beekeepers at Aylsham,Sk.. Employment from April to October 2014. Wages starting at \$11.00 per hour based on experience and qualifications.
7 Seasonal full time apiary workers at Aylsham, Sk.. Employment from July to September 2014. Wages starting at \$10.25 per hour based on experience and qualifications.
Send resume to Valteau Apiaries Ltd by fax @ 306-862-3682 or email Dan at valteau.apiaries @ sasktel.net

Help Wanted - MacGregor MB

Seasonal beekeepers - 3 apiary technicians & 7 apiary workers. March 1 to November 1, 2014. Valid driver's license an asset, previous experience working with honeybees a requirement. Wage range \$11.00-\$15.00 per hour depending on experience. Candidates must be willing to work days, evenings, weekends, and overtime in a fast paced, repetitive, and physically demanding environment. Duties may include: assessing hive health, feeding/medicating colonies, removal/extraction of honey, relocating colonies, collecting/cleaning pollen, building/repairing beehive equipment, and light maintenance on machinery/vehicles.
Contact: Nichol Honey Farm Ltd., Box 461, MacGregor, MB , R0H 0R0.
Phone (204)-252-2770, fax (204)-252-2129
email: nicholhoney@yahoo.ca

Help Wanted - North Battleford SK

Seasonal beekeepers/farm laborers required - May to October *2014*. Beekeeping experience an asset but willing to train enthusiastic people. Position(s) will require working with bees and extracting honey. All applicants must be physically fit, able to lift 50+ pounds. English speaking with drivers license preferred.
Wages to start at \$10.26/hr, up to \$17.00, based on experience. Reply to: Cameron Brown Farmer Brown's Honey, farmerbrownshoney@gmail.com

Help Wanted - Langenburg (SK)

13 Seasonal Workers:
13 Apiary technicians to:
- Help with Spring check, hive assessment and manipulation.
- Help with pest and disease control.
- Help with grafting, making nucs, and raising Queens.
- Assemble equipment
- Help super hives
- Help harvest honey
- Help keep field production records
- Help maintain beeyards

- Help with Fall feeding, assessment and treatments.
- Help to wrap bees.
Positions available from April 15, 2014 to October 31st 2014. Work is physically demanding.
Wages \$10.07 - \$17.00 per hour depending on experience.
Glory bee Honey, phone 306-743-5469 or email DennisGlennie@sasktel.net for more information.

Help Wanted - Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan

Groot's Honey Farm Highway 55 West, Meadow Lake, SK
Hiring for 2014 Seasonal Workers (April 01 - October 30, 2014)

Position: 3 Apiary Technicians (NOC 8253) \$13-\$14.00/hr depending on experience

Position: 4 Apiary Workers (NOC 8431) \$11-\$13.00/hr depending on experience

All applicants must be in a good physical condition.

*Apiary Technician must have a minimum of 2 years experience

*Someknowledge of Queen Rearing

*Driver's License is an asset

*The Apiary Worker must be able to work in the presence of honey bees and will assist with colony management and Honey extraction/processing

Essential Skills: Reading text, Writing, Oral Communication, Working with others, Problem Solving, Good in Decision Making, Job task planning and organizing

Contact: Calvin Groot, Phone: 1-306-236-3041 1-306-236-6924. Email: calvingroot@xplornet.com. Mailing address: P. O. Box 2077 Meadow Lake, SK, S9X 1Z4

Help Wanted - Porcupine Plain, SK

4 apiary workers. Full time, seasonal work. May-Oct 2014.
Spring/fall maintenance, building of equipment, supering, pulling honey, extracting honey, moving beehives, feeding bees. Inside and outside work.

Application to be made to: g.knudsen@xplornet.ca

Help Wanted - Golden Ears Apiaries Inc.

Seeking employees for the 2014 season. Apiary Technician (NOC 8253) 7 positions at \$14.00 hr. Apiary worker (NOC 8431) 3 positions at \$11.81/hr. Work starts in mid Feb, 2014 and ends late Oct. 2014. Some evening, night and weekend work, full time seasonal work. Applicants must be in good physical condition and be able to work in a team environment, speak English and or Spanish. Apiary Technician must have a min. of 2 years commercial beekeeping experience.

They will handle feed and care for bees in a manner appropriate for the season. Assist in the production of queen cells, nucs, queens and or replacement colonies. Recognize, report and monitor hive health issues and apply appropriate cures/controls. May drive and maintain vehicles including large trucks and forklifts. Maintain bee yards. Operate and maintain other apiary related equipment. Keep field and or production records.

Apiary harvesters do not require experience. They will super hives, harvest honey, extract honey, clean honey extraction and storage equipment. Move barrels, prepare and fill them. Maintain hive equipment and bee yards.
All employees may have to work long hours. Most tasks are performed outdoors in all kinds of weather. Work is repetitive and physically demanding.

All applicants should submit a resume to: jeanmardorze@gmail.com or write to: Golden Ears Apiaries Inc. 33197 Ito Place, Mission, B.C. V2V-3W7

Help Wanted - 4 Experienced beekeepers & 1 Honeybee Farm Supervisor - Pitt Meadows(BC)

4 experienced beekeepers wanted for January 15 - November 15, 2014, and 1 honeybee farm supervisor on a permanent full-time basis starting January 1st 2014. Preference will be given to candidates with queen rearing experience. Hourly pay rate \$13 - \$20, depending on experience. Send resumes to manager, Honeyland Canada Inc.

email: manager@HoneylandCanada.com

Ron Lin, Ph.D., President

Honeyland Canada 17617 Ford Road Pitt Meadows, B.C.

Canada V3Y 1Z1
Tel: 604 460-8889; Fax: 604 460-8887
Email address: DrBee@shaw.ca
website: www.HoneylandCanada.com

Help Wanted - 12 Beekeepers : Shellbrook (SK).

Need 12 willing beekeeping workers for Apr.-Nov. 2014. Pay starts at \$10.07 with bonuses based on performance. Training is on the job. Accommodations provided on rental basis.

Contact Murray: 306-747-3299

email: hanniganhoney@sasktel.net

Help Wanted - for 2014 : Meadow Lake (SK)

3 Experience Beekeepers

Must have knowledge of Queen Rearing and hives operation must speak English and Driver's license an asset

2 Helpers

Some knowledge of beekeeping, must speak English and Driver's license is an asset.

Groot's Honey Farm, Box 2077, Meadow Lake, Sk, S9X 1Z4 Phone: 1 306- 236-6924 /

email: calvingroot@xplornet.com

Help Wanted - Wendell Honey : Roblin (MB)

12 full-time seasonal positions available at Wendell Honey, Box 1439, Roblin, MB. in 2014

• Apiary harvesters to:

o assemble equipment

o help super hives

o help harvest honey

o help maintain beeyards

o help with Fall feeding

• Positions available from May 12, 2014 to mid-October 2014.

• Work is physically demanding. No experienced required.

• Wages \$12.00-\$15.00 per hour.

email Isabel Wendell at isy@wendell.ca or

fax 204 564 2568

12 full-time seasonal positions available at Wendell Honey, Box 1439, Roblin, MB.

in 2014

• Apiary technician to:

o help with Spring check, hive assessment and manipulation.

o help with pest and disease control.

o help with grafting, making nucs, and raising Queens.

o assemble equipment

o help super hives

o help harvest honey

o help keep field production records

o help maintain beeyards

o help with Fall feeding, assessment and treatments.

o help to wrap bees.

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• Work is physically demanding.

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email Isabel Wendell at isy@wendell.ca or fax 204 564 2568

Help Wanted- 2 Experienced Beekeepers: Honey Bee Centre Surrey (BC)

HONEYBEE CENTRE requires two (2) beekeepers for the 2014 season February 15 - October 15, 2014. Our company is situated in the centre of the Vancouver metropolis. Wages are \$13.00 for workers with three or more years experience. A driver's license is an asset. On-site accommodations are available at \$300 per month.

Contact John Gibeau. gibeau@honeybeecentre.com.

Visit our website at www.honeybeecentre.com.

Help Wanted: Pleasant Valley, Alberta

PLEASANT VALLEY requires General Farm Workers (Harvest Laborer): 3 required, experience is an asset but

will be trained, wage starting at \$11.52/hr. Apiary workers (Low skill Worker): 7 required with a min. 1yr. experience, wage starting at \$12.63/hr. Apiary Technician (Skilled Worker): 4 required with a minimum 2yr. experience, wage starting at \$13.72/hr. All positions are to be filled for the 2014 Season. All wages are negotiable upon experience and productivity. A valid driver's licence is a benefit. Ability to speak English is an asset. Must be physically fit. Email resumes to pollenpal@gmail.com attn. to Pleasant Valley or fax to 403-687-2410

Help Wanted: Fort Macleod, Alberta

POELMAN APIARIES requires General Farm Workers (Harvest Laborer): 5 required, experience is an asset but will be trained, wage starting at \$11.52/hr. Apiary Workers (Low skill Worker): 14 required with a min. 1yr. experience, wage starting at \$12.63/hr. Apiary Technician (Skilled Worker): 6 required with a minimum 2yr. experience, wage starting at \$13.72/hr.

All positions are to be filled for the 2014 Season. All wages are negotiable upon experience and productivity. A valid driver's licence is a benefit. Ability to speak English is an asset. Must be physically fit.

Email resumes to pollenpal@gmail.com attn. to Poelman Apiaries or fax to 403-687-2410

Help Wanted- Seasonal Beekeeper Helpers: Rocanville (SK)

6 full time positions for 6 months March 21 - October 21 - 2014

4 full time positions for 3 months July 3 - Sept 21 - 2014

Pay starts at \$10.07 - \$17.00 based on experience at B Strong Apiaries . Training on the job.

Contact: email Brian at bdstrong@sasktel.net .

Fax:306-645-4591

Help Wanted-Seasonal Beekeepers: Nipawin (SK)

5 Full-time Seasonal Beekeepers and 10 Beekeeper's Helpers (apiary workers) for April to November 2014. Work is physically demanding, and includes hive management and maintenance. Wages \$12.00 to \$17.00, depends on experience. Contact Yves Garez ph: 306-862-5979 fax 306-862-5974 or email y.garez@sasktel.net

Help Wanted - 4 Beekeepers: Shellbrook (SK).

Wanted 4 beekeepers for May to October 2014. Wages depending on experience. Contact Jason Rinas,

Email: jasonrinas@hotmail.com or

Phone: 306-747-7220 or 306-764-4303 or 306-747-3130.

Help Wanted- Meskanaw, (SK)

2 beekeepers helpers required. April to October 2014. Wages 10.00 - 13.00 / hour depending on experience. Contact: Calvin Parsons 306-864-2632

email parsonsfamily@sasktel.net

Help Wanted - Full time seasonal apiarist 2014 : Argyle (MB)

Full time seasonal apiarist, wages are \$12 to \$15 per hr. depending on exp. job is physically demanding, must help with wrapping, feeding, making nucs, supering, pulling honey, honey extraction, medicating hives, and winter preparation. Please call Cal Grysiuk, ph./fax 204-831-7838,

Email acgrysiuk@shaw.ca, or mail 83 Acheson Dr. Winnipeg, MB R2Y 2E8.

Help Wanted- Full time seasonal Apiarist Technician NOC 8431 and Apiarist

Labourers NOC 8431: Austin (MB)

Full time, seasonal Apiarist Technician, 1 position and Apiary Labourers, 3 positions, available at Busy Bee Apiaries, a honey farm near Rural Austin, MB, Road Lane #63074 for 2014 season. Apiarist Technician: April 15-Oct.31: duties: all apiary management like medicating, feeding, harvesting, extracting honey, maintenance, clean-up, other duties as assigned. Must have drivers licence \$12.55-15.00/hour based on qualifications. Apiary Labourers or Workers: 2 positions July 1-Sept30 1 position April 15-Oct 31 duties:

supervised hive management, harvesting, extracting honey, clean-up, other duties as assigned \$10.45-11.50/hour based on experience.

Send resume to Busy Bee Apiaries Ltd. C/O: Chris Rempel, Box 358, Austin, MB, R0H 0C0, e-mail: cdrempe@mts.net

Help Wanted - Seasonal beekeepers: Kinistino, (SK)

6 full time beekeeping positions for up to 8 months (April to Nov.) 2014. Familiar with beekeeping an asset but not required if willing to learn all aspect of beekeeping with training by employer. Starting wages will be \$ 10.27 with bonuses based on performances. Some week-end and evening work will be required during season for moving bees and bad weather during the week.

Work is physically demanding and fast paced.

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Contact Jon A. at sweet02@telus.net

Dutchman's Gold Inc. in Carlisle Ontario

Requires 1 Apiary Technician (NOC number 8253) and 3 Apiary workers (NOC number 8431) for the 2014, 2015 seasons.

Apiary Technician

Experience: minimum two years with a commercial apiary.

Education and Language requirements: must have diploma in Apiary Management Course. Must be able to communicate and write in English.

Duties: Handle, feed and care for honey bee colonies and supervise apiary workers. Recognize hive health issues and take remedial action. Prepare and transport hives for pollination and honey production. Bee Yard maintenance. Operate and maintain apiary related equipment. Harvest honey crop. Build and maintain beehive equipment. Keep field and production records. Interact with external farm personnel (ex. Owners of apiary locations, supply companies). Report to, and take direction from the owner of Dutchman's Gold Inc. Wages: Depending on experience \$16:00 to \$20:00 per hour. Apiary Worker

Experience: Candidates must have minimum 1 year working experience in a commercial apiary. Language requirements: None (English or compatible language with Supervisor would be beneficial)

Duties: Handle, feed and care for honey bee colonies under the direction of apiary technician. Learn to recognize hive health issues and report to supervising apiary technician. Prepare and transport hives for pollination and honey production. Bee Yard maintenance. Operate and maintain apiary related equipment. Harvest honey crop. Build and maintain beehive equipment.

Wages Depending on Experience: \$12.00 to \$15.00 per hour.

Working Conditions: Apiary Technicians and Workers will work long hours at certain times of the year. Many tasks are performed outside in all kinds of weather. Apiary Technicians and workers may routinely lift items weighing 30 kg or more. Bee yards are located in multiple locations in Southern Ontario. Apiary Technicians and workers will travel to those locations in company trucks.

Candidates must be in good physical health, be willing to learn, have a responsible attitude and be able to work in a team environment in a pleasant and civil manner. Seasonal employment (March through November) Could lead to permanent full time employment for the right candidate.

Contact: John at Dutchman's Gold Inc. 300 Carlisle Rd., Carlisle, Ontario. L0R-1H2. john@dutchmansgold.com Fax 905-689-7730

Help Wanted 3 Seasonal Beekeeper Helpers (apiary workers) Good Spirit Lake SK.

Wanted: 3 Seasonal Beekeeper Helpers (apiary workers) for the 2014 honey production season at Howland's Honey-farm, Good Spirit Lake, Sk. May to September 2013, \$10.27 to \$17.00 per hour depending on experience. A valid driver's license is a benefit and beekeeping experience an asset. Employees must have own transportation to the job site. Training available on the job.

Work is physically demanding, and includes hive management/ maintenance, harvesting and extraction of honey. Long hours, week-end, and evening work may be required during the harvest period.

Contact Danny or Sasha at Howland Enterprises Inc., phone 306-792-2044 fax 306-792-2064 or email sasha@howlandshoney.com for more information.

Help Wanted-5 Beekeepers Wanted: Nipawin (SK)

Full time beekeeping help, April to October. Beekeeping experience would be preferred. Wages start at \$10.27 per hour.

Contact Mark Knox, kinoxapiaries@sasktel.net , 306-862-5657, Box 179 Nipawin,Sask. S0E 1E0.

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Ralph Lockhart

Obituary

by Heather Clay, Executive Director Urban Bee Network

Ralph Lockhart, the largest beekeeper in New Brunswick, owner of Atlantic Gold and long time supporter of the honey bee industry, died 19 November, 2013, age 66. He was my friend and mentor, and he will be sorely missed. I frequently sought his sage advice in handling beekeeper issues when I was working in the maritime beekeeping industry. Since he was born in Moncton, he knew all the local beekeepers and was thoughtful and considerate of the many different personalities. He was aware of the the depth and complexity of the New Brunswick Beekeepers' association and provided background information that was incredibly helpful when dealing with key players in the industry.

When I first met him in 1983, he had already become the largest beekeeper in New Brunswick, growing his business as he found the cash from supplying hives for the expanding blueberry pollination industry. The age of aerial spraying of the forest for spruce budworm had caused a lot of problems for his hives but he carried on rebuilding and negotiating better drop zones for his bees. He was always looking for good deals and purchased used five ton trucks to move his bees for blueberry pollination throughout the south eastern and central region as well as north east to Bathurst. In those days his honey house was in an annex attached to his house. He was still working as an engineer doing evening shifts shunting trains for CN and the bees were his part time job. Each year he was hoping for a layoff so he could pursue his goal of full time beekeeping. When this finally occurred he moved his honey house to a new location, began wintering bees indoors and expanded his production so by the mid 1990's his company, Atlantic Gold, became a familiar maritime brand.

Ralph had some amusing stories of his early beekeeping years. When he started out beekeeping in Riverview, he had no money to buy a bee suit and instead dressed in a buttoned up raincoat with rubber gloves for protection and cigar for smoke. He was sweating inside the rubber suit and the bees chased him from the apiary. With his usual self deprecating humour he recalled that he quickly learned to work the bees without the rubber gear but he always kept a cigar handy. Even when he became a successful business man he never lost his concern for saving cents. He laughed uproariously when I showed him various photos of himself over the years, dressed

in a plaid shirt at every beekeeper event.

He was a quiet man and many would not know his contribution to training new beekeepers. Over the years, several of his staff kept bees on the side and he provided encouragement to them to become bigger beekeepers, even though they could potentially become competition. His staff rewarded him with their loyalty and hard work. Beekeeping is often a man's world and women can be excluded but Ralph was a good judge of character and recognised people who loved bees. A few years ago he employed a young woman as a field hand and he commented many times that she worked harder than any of his men. It is not an easy business but that hard worker, Beth Donovan, has since gone on to become an excellent beekeeper in her own right.

Ralph was an active member of several associations: South Eastern New Brunswick Beekeepers, New Brunswick Beekeepers, Maritime Beekeepers and the Canadian Honey Council, serving at various times as director on each of the boards of those organizations. It was through Ralph that I was hired as Provincial Apiarist for New Brunswick. He was a fair-minded person, concerned about the industry and wanted to see improvements for the good of all beekeepers. When varroa mites arrived in New Brunswick he actively co-operated with other beekeepers in a plan to respect quarantine zones that would protect Nova Scotia from the new pest. The plan worked and thanks to New Brunswick beekeepers, varroa mites did not arrive in Nova Scotia from bees pollinating blueberries along the border.

Living as a bachelor, Ralph kept a house that might appear untidy to those who have the time to tend to such minor issues, but if you wanted a document or receipt he could locate it quickly in his very orderly filing system. It was never a problem phoning Ralph day or night, except that you needed plenty of time. He was a good conversationalist and liked to hear about the goings on in the greater world of beekeeping. Even though he kept records written in long-hand, he was an early adopter of email and more recently FaceBook, so it was easy to keep in touch over the years. I wanted to ask him some questions to help me with a history of maritime beekeeping but sadly, I am too late. I will remember his ready humour, the cigars and cigarillos, his distinctive laugh and long phone conversations about the state of the beekeeping industry. His death is not only a loss of a fine person, it is a loss of beekeeping experience and historical information that can never be retrieved.



Douglas Alan Colter

Obituary

March 30, 1953 - November 4, 2013

Douglas Alan Colter of Donnelly, Alberta, passed peacefully November 4, 2013, in Edmonton, from a brain aneurysm. He leaves behind his loving wife Judith, son Adam, daughter Jillian (Chad Miller), and grandchildren Jenna & Carson. A graduate of the University of Victoria ('75), Doug attended the University of Guelph prior to becoming Chief Apiary Inspector for Alberta in 1979. Doug was passionate about beekeeping, never passing up an opportunity to promote the industry or share his knowledge about bees and honey. Diagnosed with ALL leukemia in 1984 and given 6 months, Doug lived on to see his children reach many of life's milestones. In 2001, diagnosed with a brain injury (a complication from his cancer treatments), he retired from public service. With help from homecare and brain injury workers, he gardened, swam, played crib & Scrabble, read, volunteered with "Ducks Unlimited" and helped tourists enjoy the observation beehive in Falher. Family and friends treasure this 29-year "bonus" of precious time with Doug.

A family celebration of Doug's life will be held March 30, 2014, in Victoria. A letter written in 2007 and found unsent after Doug's death says it best: "I never regretted the move to the "Honey Capital of Canada" (Falher, AB) or to the Smoky River area. It was the opportunity of a lifetime to live/work in, as we referred to it while I was at Guelph, the "Beekeepers' Paradise."

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Three-year Bees Abroad project in Kenya wins Government funding

Bees Abroad has secured major funding from the UK Department for International Aid (DFID) for a three-year project to alleviate poverty through advancing beekeeping skills and supporting bio-conservation and bio-enterprise in the arid and semi-arid land (ASAL) in the Kenyan district of Laikipia.

The Bee Products Enterprise Development (BPED) aims to raise incomes of 900 pastoral households through beekeeping providing for improved production, value addition, trade and profit sharing. It will also increase opportunities for women and marginalized members of society to engage in sustainable economic activity and increase control of their income. International Development Minister Lynne Featherstone said: "This project will change the lives of over 5,000 people in Kenya, half of whom live below the poverty line and are dependent on food aid. DFID funding will help Bees Abroad give people the skills and support they need to learn a trade which can increase

their independence.

"Beekeeping is a potentially vital source of income for these rural communities. As well as teaching beekeeping skills, the project will provide vital training in business and marketing, to help rural communities run successful enterprises. This is going to help generations of families increase their income and become self-sufficient. I hope Bees Abroad can create a real buzz around this worthwhile project."

The project will be implemented for Bees Abroad by John and Mary Home, assisted by David Evans. John and Mary already act as volunteer project managers for several of the charity's projects in Kenya. As well as helping community groups improve their beekeeping skills, they have been responsible for teaching beekeepers how to make value-added products such as hand creams and wax polish.

Support for the project also comes from Bees Abroad patron and television personality Jimmy Doherty. He commented: "This is a major achievement for Bees Abroad, who are a small and growing solid charity, with a core of very experienced beekeepers who really care about helping communities in the developing world. It's wonderful to think that 900 house-



The hives are on the Lolldaiga Ranch. The photo shows catcher boxes waiting for the migrating bees during the flowering season.

holds will be given beekeeping skills that can be used straight away and then handed on to future generations. It's sustainability at its best."

Commercial and community-owned bee product enterprises with a sound ethical, environmental and business base create new economic opportunities for pastoralist men and women. This project will increase economic returns from beekeeping and provide economic incentives for the sustainable use of indigenous natural resources. Product branding and market links will help communities to access rewarding local, national and East African regional markets. ■

Full Story web link: www.beesabroad.org.uk

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