



## ILLINOIS STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

# BULLETIN

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### *From the President:*

#### **BEEKEEPING IS A WORLD OF NEW IDEAS**

It's often said that there are as many ways to keep bees as there are beekeepers. Once we get past the basics, I believe that's true. We're each an individual and we each develop our own ways of doing things. And, I believe, that's one reason why beekeepers have such a great time at their meetings. Besides the socializing and kidding around, there's always the sharing of new ideas that keeps things interesting. At our local association meetings we often set aside time for individuals to introduce and demonstrate their latest gadgets or techniques for improving the beekeeping art. Often, those ideas are downright ingenious.

Obviously, the world of new ideas will always be emerging but the way those ideas are communicated is changing rapidly. No longer do we have to wait for the next meeting. In this modern age of cell phones, satellites and computers, our ideas can be transmitted around the world or to our neighbor down the road just as fast as we can speak or key them onto the Internet.

Today, the ISBA has embarked on a group website exclusively for use by ISBA members so that beekeepers throughout Illinois can communicate with each other anytime, day or night, through words or even pictures. This idea was spawned, initiated and set up by Ken Haller, our Northern Director. It's established and ready for you to get on it. I urge every ISBA member currently on the Internet to sign up and take advantage of this free service. Read the details elsewhere in this issue.

Further, let me also urge all local Associations that do not have a web site to establish one. (Only the Heart of Illinois Beekeepers has one). It's good for the Association and it's good for beekeepers looking to join a local group. Uniting beekeepers in this way just makes good sense and is healthy for the beekeeping industry in our State. To establish an Association website, I urge you to contact your editor, Carl Wenning, who has volunteered his services free of charge to

help you get it done. Carl can be reached at [wenning@phy.ilstu.edu](mailto:wenning@phy.ilstu.edu), or call 309/454-4164 evenings.

Looking ahead to our annual Fall Convention in Springfield, we will again meet in the Agricultural Building on the State Fair Grounds. The date is Saturday, November 9, 2002. We're very fortunate that Marla Spivak, Associate Professor, Department of Entomology at the University of Minnesota has graciously accepted our invitation to keynote the meeting. I'll keep you posted as the program develops.

*John Hansen*  
ISBA President

#### **APIARY INSPECTION SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

It has been a good year thus far for beekeepers around Illinois. Colonies are very strong for the most part and the honey flow started in early June in many areas of the state. Relative to the Illinois Department of Agriculture's (IDOA) inspections of apiaries around Illinois, we are finding little American foulbrood disease and a low incidence of varroa mite. Let's hope that these positive conditions continue through the remainder of the year.

I'm pleased to announce that Darrel Perry of Mount Sterling has joined our IDOA Inspector Team for the west-central district of Illinois. Darrel succeeds Frank Cassidy, who elected to retire at the end of May. Darrel is an experienced beekeeper and he looks forward to working with beekeepers in his district. If you wish to contact Darrel for an inspection or for other assistance, he can be reached at 217/773-2530.

As you know, the IDOA is closely watching the movement of the small hive beetle in Illinois. During the week of May 20, 2002 the IDOA conducted a survey in Grundy, Kankakee, Kendall and Will Counties, looking for the presence of the small hive beetle. The beetle was identified in only one location in Kankakee County. Since the discovery of the beetle in Illinois last year, the beetle has

been found in Kankakee, Will, and McLean Counties. Hopefully, the use of Checkmite+ Bee Hive Pest Control Strips and Gardstar is having an impact with controlling/eradicating the beetle. If you find beetles that appear to be the small hive beetle, we encourage you to collect a sample (at least 10 beetles, if possible) and send it to the USDA laboratory in Beltsville, Maryland for testing. The address for the Beltsville lab is shown at the end of this report. If the USDA concludes that your apiary has the small hive beetle, please inform your IDOA Apiary Inspector or Steve Chard at 217/785-4233 as quickly as possible.

Speaking of the small hive beetle, the IDOA has just begun to administer new regulations concerning the control/eradication of the beetle. The IDOA can now require treatments for controlling the beetle through the declaration of a nuisance or can establish a quarantine, similar to the IDOA's current authority for combating the varroa mite and American foulbrood disease. These measures can be taken if the IDOA's recommendations are not followed for treatment. The IDOA much prefers to work with beekeepers on the control/eradication of the beetle in a positive manner as opposed to taking an enforcement action. Likewise, the IDOA has a new regulation in place regarding the abatement of colonies infected with American foulbrood disease. The new regulations are included in this newsletter.

You have probably heard that varroa mite resistance to Checkmite+ strips has been confirmed in New Jersey. If your apiary should happen to experience this problem, please notify Steve Chard as soon as possible.

We are receiving many new apiary registrations this spring. Most are from individuals who are starting beekeeping for the first time. A few include those persons who were not aware that honey bees must be registered with the IDOA under the Illinois Bees and Apiaries Act. If you are keeping bees and are not registered with the IDOA, please contact your IDOA Apiary Inspector or Steve Chard for instructions to register.

As usual, feel free to contact your IDOA Apiary Inspector or me if we can be of assistance on any apiary issues. We're glad to help whenever possible.

**Steve Chard**  
Chief Apiary Inspector

**USDA Laboratory-Beltsville, Maryland**

Mark F. Feldlaufer  
Bee Research Laboratory  
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Building 476, BARC-East  
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**Revisions in Part 60 of the Bees and Apiaries Act**

Section 60.10 Definitions:

“Bee Parasites” means the parasitic bee mites, and other parasitic bee pests including but not limited to Varroa destructor (varroa mite), Varroa jacobsoni or Tropilaelaps clareae and Aethina tumida (small hive beetle).

Section 60.50a Diseased or Parasitized Colonies, Exotic Strains:

Hive bodies, supers, bottom boards, inner covers and outer covers may be salvaged by sanitizing with scorching flame. Unless otherwise approved by the Department, abatement by burning shall be accomplished by the beekeeper no later than 10 days after receiving written notice from the Department that American foulbrood disease has been detected in honey bee colonies.

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## NEW COMMUNICATION TOOL

The Illinois State Beekeepers Association announces a new communication tool to unite all Illinois beekeepers! The ISBA has created an on-line community through Yahoo Groups where members can participate in e-mail discussions, view an events calendar, post and view photographs and much more, all in the spirit of Illinois beekeeping. Never before has the ISBA had such a powerful tool to unite its membership. Joining the ISBA Group is easy. Simply access the registration web page listed below. The best part is, it's free and very easy. Our Yahoo group serves as a communication and collaboration portal to the membership of the Illinois State Beekeepers Association. All beekeepers who are members of the ISBA are welcomed and encouraged to participate in this group. Visit this web page for more details and to sign-up: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/illinoisstatebeekeepersassociation/>

## NORTHERN ILLINOIS BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES 2003 SYMPOSIUM

Mark your calendars now for March 29, 2003 for the next Beekeepers Symposium sponsored by the Northern Illinois Beekeepers Association (NIBA). The previous Symposium, held two years ago, was a huge success. The next one will be a must for Midwest beekeepers. Stay tuned for more information!

## VOLUNTEER NOW FOR ILLINOIS STATE FAIR

The Illinois State Fair Honey Show will run all day every day from August 9-18 in the Illinois Building at the State Fairgrounds in Springfield. The honey show display must be staffed by members of local beekeeper associations. Hosts sell honey ice cream and honey sticks, monitor commercial and open class displays, and answer questions from the general public. Volunteers are needed for all days. (The Heart of Illinois Beekeepers Association has set Tuesday, August 13 as their day to help out.) Contact Rita Taylor, Superintendent of the ISBA Honey Show, to arrange a time for your association membership to manage the display.

## ANNUAL SHORT COURSE AT UIUC

This year's UIUC Bees and Beekeeping Short Course will be held at the University of Illinois in Urbana on Saturday and Sunday, August 17-18, 2002. There will be lectures, hands-on workshops, and informal discussions on a host of topics including pesticides and bees, bee anatomy, mite biology and management, small hive beetle, queen genetics and rearing, bee diseases, honey as a nutraceutical, honey ID by pollen, swarm control, sting allergies, wintering in the

Midwest, pollination, colony organization, and much more. There will be an experiment where participants can join a research team and study bee behavior, "Birds-of-a-Feather" dinners (small groups of participants dine at restaurants on Saturday evening with a course instructor for spirited discussion on selected topics, and French-style gourmet honey tasting with honeys from around the world. Keynote speakers include: Prof. Marla Spivak, University of Minnesota; Prof. Gene Robinson, Dept. of Entomology, University of Illinois; Jerry Hayes, Columnist, *American Bee Journal*; and members of the University of Illinois Bee Research Facility staff.

[www.isba.ws](http://www.isba.ws)

The event will be held at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and the University's Bee Research Facility. The fee is \$75 which includes course materials, refreshments, & honey tasting. Group rates are available for lodging at the Hampton Inn for \$60 single/\$65 double room or Holiday Inn \$65 single/\$75 double. Events begin promptly at 8:00 AM on Saturday, August 17 and end at 1:00 PM on Sunday, August 18. This event is sponsored by the Department of Entomology and School of Integrative Biology at the University of Illinois; the Center for Economic Entomology, Illinois Natural History Survey; and the Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Illinois. Generous support has been received from Dadant & Sons and Wellmark International..

To register for this event, phone: (217) 333-2910, FAX: (217) 244-3499, or e-mail: [entowork@life.uiuc.edu](mailto:entowork@life.uiuc.edu). Send your name, address, phone number, email, and check to: Beekeeping Short Course, University of Illinois, Department of Entomology, 320 Morrill Hall, 505 S. Goodwin Ave., Urbana, IL 61801. This event is limited to 50 participants, so register early!

## HEARTLAND BEEKEEPERS CONFERENCE

This is a last-minute reminder that the Heartland Beekeepers Association will be holding their first conference ever at Goshen College, in Goshen, Indiana, July 11 – 13. Registration at the door will be accepted, but there is a \$20 late registration fee which went into effect on June 21. Join in with the Heartland Beekeepers as they set the direction of this new organization: education and profitability, discussion and elaboration on regional beekeeping concerns, and master beekeeper program among many additional matters. The agenda, complete list of speakers, registration and lodging information, side trips and tours, and vendors are on the conference website at [www.heartlandbees.com](http://www.heartlandbees.com). For additional information, contact Dr. Greg Hunt at Purdue University, 765/494-4605 or [ghunt@purdue.edu](mailto:ghunt@purdue.edu). You may also contact Dr. Tom Webster at Kentucky State University at 502/597-6351 or [twebster@gwmail.kysu.edu](mailto:twebster@gwmail.kysu.edu).

Membership in the Illinois State Beekeepers Association is open to all persons interested in bees and beekeeping. Beekeepers are urged to join through their local associations. Dues for 2002 are \$6 for the calendar year, **January 1 through December 31 only**. Dues include a subscription to this newsletter, the *ISBA Bulletin*. Beekeeping journals are available at about 25% discount to members as listed below; rates are subject to change without prior notice. **Make checks payable to:** Illinois State Beekeepers Association and mail to: Rita Taylor, Secretary, 4274 Taylor Homestead Road, Pleasant Plains, IL 62677-4024.

**Please indicate new or renewal subscription when ordering journals.**

**ADDRESS CHANGES:** Send old and new address six weeks prior to date of change when practical to: Rita Taylor, Secretary, 4274 Taylor Homestead Road, Pleasant Plains, IL 62677-4024.

**Reduced Journal Rates for 2002 (members only)**

	<b>1 Yr.</b>	<b>2 Yr.</b>	<b>3 Yr.</b>
<i>American Bee Journal</i>	\$15.70	\$29.88	\$42.15
<i>Bee Culture</i>	\$17.00	\$32.00	N/A
<i>The Speedy Bee</i>	<b>\$13.25</b>	<b>\$25.25</b>	<b>\$34.00</b>

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