



# *The Buzz*



*Newsletter of the Iowa Honey Producers Association*

April 2020



Beek of the Month of April: Joseph Klingelhutz (see the goats?)--Page 10

Our very active Queen--Page 5

Summer Field Day at Dordt--see Page 11 to Register

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Think State Fair: What sold there--Page 14

COVID 19--On every Page of our lives!

Iowa Beekeepers, IHPA members:

First I hurry; now I sit and wait. What a life I have. I drive hard to make my times the best I can, only to be at the mercy of dock people that are most definitely not paid by what they get done. I guess it's my penalty for being twelve hours early for my arrival time. Very frustrating.

The weather today in central Missouri is in the upper 60's with full sun! An almost perfect bee day. We need sunny days and I pray by the time you are reading this your bees are building and ready to split or ready to place at their spring/summer locations. I'm hearing of bees en route from California now in the first ten days of March. Seems early compared to other years. I hope weather holds and it all works out.

We have a situation in this country now that is affecting all of us. Some maybe not right now but I feel sooner or later is going to make some sort of impact. Beekeepers are people that know how to make adjustments. Please don't be afraid to adjust and possibly do things differently than the past. I don't think I care to go into this very deeply but it makes me think just how many different people are in a truck stop and where they all are from. I used to not think nor care much, but I find myself looking at license plates more than ever! This I feel is just another reason to get the family out to check a good hive



of healthy bees in the spring! A healthy activity for the family.

I want to remind all who are involved in any state fair product that our decision meeting will be after the board meeting at Summer Field Day in Sioux Center. The committee felt we can do this as we are all there at that time. Please adjust your time accordingly, since all members are welcome to witness.

The IHPA is making adjustments too. I pray this virus will settle down soon and further adjustments are not needed. As your president, I will not take unnecessary risks with the health of either the board or IHPA members. Decisions sometimes are very hard, but I will always err on the side of caution.

I want to end my writing this month on a happy note. The honeybee is very close to becoming the state insect. This would be very good news. We are making a difference with legislative people, our honeybee day, and our lobbyist is making Iowa a better state to have bees in. I realize it's not perfect, but we are taking steps in the right direction.

I pray for good direction, and that the decisions I make are good ones. The IHPA is a very strong, solid association. I'm very thankful we are. So, bee a blessing.

Sincerely,  
Roy Kraft, IHPA President

Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship News News

from our State Apiarist, Andy Joseph

Hello from indoors. As I write this, the Iowa Honey Bee Day event is planned for tomorrow morning at the Capitol. Forecast of -60F for the morning, I believe the coldest of the year. Right now I just keep thinking, "I hope my truck starts"! It always does... I'm looking forward to seeing several of you there. It has been a good time these last couple years, and it creates a great presence of our beekeeping industry down among the legislators. Tons of thanks to Jamie and all involved! It's been neat to see the IHPA Facebook updates of cities across Iowa which have signed onto the proclamation in celebration of Honey Bee Day as well.

I still don't have any great insight into how our bees are wintering across the state, but from what I've been hearing, things are going pretty well, overall, so far. Losses seem relatively few. Deadouts I've seen personally seem to be mite-related over anything else. These last couple winters have been fairly rough. We still have a ways to go but even if our loss numbers double over the next six weeks or so, I think we'll still come out better than 2018 and 2019! ...That observation is both encouraging and depressing depending on your perspective. It would be incredible to catch a decently early spring and open boxes of well-wintered bees all ramping up nicely.



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## A Sweet Addition to the Governor's Mansion

We are really starting to see results of our efforts of hosting the Honey Bee Day reception on February 13<sup>th</sup>. The Monday after the reception, a bill (Senate Joint Resolution 2004) designating the State Insect as the honeybee started moving through the process of becoming law. It passed a subcommittee and the next day that week it passed the full Senate State Government Committee by a unanimous vote!! This is huge for the attention that honeybees need in Iowa. More on this in the Legislative Report in this issue of the Buzz.

Also, I was able to talk at length with Kevin Reynolds (the First Gentleman of Iowa) during the Reception. Beekeepers and people interested in all pollinators have a real friend in Kevin. His background is in preserving soil and our natural resources!! I asked him if they would be interested in placing a couple of hives at Terrace Hill (this is the residence of the First Family and it really is a mansion). He really liked the idea so after finding this out I was able to set up a meeting with Kevin at Terrace Hill to go over the logistics of placing hives and what is necessary to maintain them. This meeting included our one and only Doyle Kincy!! Doyle has volunteered to place the hives and maintain them!! Thank You Doyle!!

After this meeting we all agree placing hives at the Governor's Mansion is a win-win for all of us. Des Moines does allow hives to be placed within the city limits and by Doyle placing hives there highlights how honeybees pose no threat to area residents. Of course, Doyle will provide the Governor's family with honey so that they can give "Terrace Hill" Honey to all their friends (including political friends) and their family.



Other cities looking at the possibility of allowing hives within their city limits will be able to see that the Governor and her family has absolutely no issues with this.

Doyle will be placing two hives there sometime in April after the packages arrive. I am planning on getting a Press Release out to the media. Any questions or comments please direct them to me or Doyle and not Kevin Reynolds. Look forward to some very positive aspects from this.

Jamie Beyer

## Andy's report continued:

Beginner bee courses are coming along nicely. The amount of new interest in beekeeping never ceases to amaze me. Welcome to any new Buzz readers! I've visited several classes here and there and have been impressed with the enthusiasm and interest in getting started off right. We have a lot of good course instructors dedicated to helping new beekeepers succeed. There sure is a passion (and obsession) in practicing beekeeping that goes beyond other industries and interests.

The CIBA winter meeting went really well--despite nature trying its hardest to squash the event. I was sad to miss Larry Connor. I always enjoy what he has to share, and I really like checking out everything new from Wicwas Press. His flight plans were nothing but delays and cancellations, but at least his books made it to Iowa! Thank you to Dr. Wu-Smart and Sheldon Brummel for making the trip and presenting their work. The Great Plains Master Beekeepers program sounds excellent, and I'd certainly encourage anyone to check it out. Master Beekeeping Certification is all about becoming a proficient, successful beekeeper regardless of scale, becoming a leader in the local beekeeping community, and becoming a knowledgeable and confident instructor, speaker and media contact. This program seems like a really nice framework to develop these skills and talents. I'm excited to see it take off.

Here's to a great Iowa Honey Bee Day and an early Spring!



To those who never have “done bees” in CA, Josia Eden Vandersall describes her experiences.

Even the sky seemed lighthearted in the orchards. A gentle breeze and a warm bright sun fell around us as we checked and treated hives. We would stop every once in a while to see the buds as they began to change from brown/green stumpy knobs into bright white or pink tips. Here and there we would see a flower fully opened and its pollen being fought for by the restless bees that were making their first trips out of the hive after a long winter. As they flew around us, we eagerly began our own work among the almonds.

This was our second trip out to care for the bees. February was upon us, and in Northern California that week the temperatures were around 60 degrees during the day and expected to climb to the 70s and 80s in the following weeks. It was set to be an early bloom because of the lack of rain, and we were in full anticipation of seeing the orchards in full bloom with the little white flowers we'd heard so much about. There was a wonderful sense of peace on this trip. In January, on our first trip out to care for bees in the almonds, we nervously went through each hive. Beekeepers, I've learned, can expect at least a 20 percent loss each year and though most of the bees were doing quite well, it was still surreal to actually experience loss. Boosting weak hives is satisfying work, but it also sure is nice to open up a hive knowing already that there are happy live bees storing pollen and drinking honey.

The bloom did not happen all at once, each day that we worked we looked around to see just a bit more white than the day before. It did not disappoint. It was truly an intoxicating experience. No matter how hard I tried, I could not stop myself from exclaiming, “Whoa!” and “Pretty!” at every flower and tree I saw. They became increasingly more beautiful each day. A few flowers, then a whole branch, then a whole tree. What left the biggest impression upon me, even more than the blooming almond trees, was getting to experience a little world where everything is as it should be. Not only the trees, but both the bee and the beekeeper also seemed to be in “full bloom”. All three were doing what they were made to do.

On our first trip out there, I couldn't imagine an almond tree as anything other than the gray-brown wiry branches that stuck to your bee suit as you worked your way around the four-way pallets. I had only seen them in one season of life. Now their small white flowers were snow-capping the orchard groves. I'd seen the hives set out in the summer and then super-boxes overflowing with honey in fall, but nothing was as beautiful as standing still in one spot and hearing that euphoric bee hum coming at you from every possible direction.

The very best of all was to see my boss, Adam Ebert; a beekeeper who has spent his whole life caring for and loving bees, totally surrounded by bees, flowers, and

sunshine. The joy on his face was indescribable. As we drove through the orchards, he subconsciously had his hand resting on his heart and would stop at trees that were in full bloom to smell the flowers and listen to the bees humming high up in the branches. Every once in a while, he would hop out of the truck, crack open a hive, and peer inside, just to admire it. The blossom, the bee, and its keeper. Everything around me as it should be, in its happiest moment. That is rare in this world. Beekeepers, as I am observing, are the sort of people who not only appreciate this temporal beauty, but they have also chosen to find beauty in many undesirable tasks. Heavy lifting, bad weather, giving treatments, worrying about bees dying are just a few to name. There is a lot about beekeeping that is not fun, beautiful, or happy. The beekeeper, I now know, just has a darn good pair of eyes. They can see what was and what is still to come in the things that are seemingly so small, so insignificant, and so unchanging.

It was truly sad to leave this happy world of honey and sunshine, but the bees were in good hands. We left satisfied that we would see them again in the spring, ready to start all over the cycle of bee life that brings so much beauty and peace to our own changing lives.

So, beekeepers, I presume you too have seen the undeniable beauty of the bees and have chosen to continue finding the beauty that lies in caring for this now fragile species. I applaud you. As someone who is very new to this sweet world, I count myself as yet only an observer and faithful admirer to your way of life. I am so grateful that I've had the chance to borrow a pair of your super-hero glasses and see this wonderful world of beekeeping in all its full glory. I am so grateful for the beauty you have created through your sacrifices and heartaches. Keep on beekeeping on!

Submitted by Josia Eden Vandersall

## SAVE THE DATE

IHPA 2020 FIELD DAY

"Keep The Knowledge Flowing"

June 27, 2020

8:30 - 4:30pm

Dordt University Campus

Sioux Center, Iowa

More exciting information to follow. Register on Page 11.

## A Busy March Rolls into a Busy April (Queen Abigail)

Happy April, fellow beekeepers. I am excited to share with you my recent activities and my upcoming activities. I was able to share about beeswax at the Iowa 4-H Legacy Awards. Attendees were able to make a rolled beeswax candle. While they rolled their candle, I shared with them how beeswax is made, what it is used for, and its many health benefits. One of my favorite parts of the night was meeting the parents of the 2004 Iowa Honey Queen Maria Zuber Madden. On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, I demonstrated how to make hand cream, lip balm, and rolled beeswax candles at the East Side Branch of the Des Moines Public Library. The young audience members were eager to help and did a fantastic job. A big thank you goes out to my friend, Joanna Hammel, for helping me with the program. On March 9<sup>th</sup>, I led two Honey Bee Story Times at the Urbandale Public Library. One of my main points at story time is how gentle honeybees are and that they do not want to sting people. On March 10<sup>th</sup>, I attended the North Iowa Beekeepers Club March meeting. Ellen Bell's presentation was excellent, and I enjoyed meeting fellow beekeepers. On March 12<sup>th</sup>, I spoke to three second grade classes at Cattell Elementary in Des Moines. I taught them the basics of honey bees, showed them how honey is made, and explained the honey bee's role in pollination. Also, on March 12<sup>th</sup>, I led a Crafting with Beeswax demonstration at the Polk City Public Library. I had a large audience of nineteen people two of which were beekeepers. Everyone enjoyed learning about honey bees and how to use beeswax. On March 14<sup>th</sup> I participated in National AG Day at Living History Farms. I had a board with different types of pie on them. I then asked visitors what their favorite pie was and asked them if they thought the main ingredient was pollinated by honeybees.

On March 21<sup>st</sup>, I will be presenting at the Newton Arboretum and Botanical Garden about how anyone can help honeybees. April is also going to be a busy month for me.

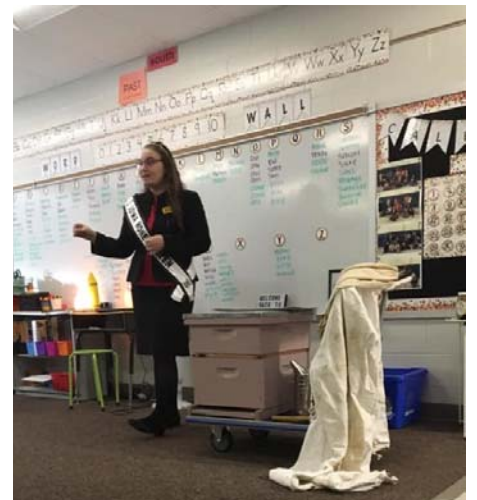
On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, I will be leading HoneyBee Story Time at the South Side branch of the Des Moines Public Library. I will be at the Indianola Sustainability Fair on April 4<sup>th</sup>. I will be leading HoneyBee Story Time at the Pleasant Hill Public Library on April 15<sup>th</sup>. I will be helping at the Central Iowa Beekeepers Association's Auction on April 18<sup>th</sup>. On April 21<sup>st</sup>, I will be sharing about honeybees as pollinators at the East Side Branch of the Des Moines Public Library. On April 26<sup>th</sup>, I will be presenting to a group of 4-Hers in Madrid.

I have been handing out my Honey Queen brochures that I received in February at all my recent programs and events. My brochures have the following recipes: Honey Glazed Chex Mix, Mom's Favorite Body Cream, Honey Apple Buttermilk Scones, Honey Apple Oatmeal Cups, Iowa State Fair Honey Lemonade, and Beeswax Lip Balm. The brochures also have cooking with honey tips, my bio, and Connie's contact information in them. I really enjoy having such an informative brochure on hand. A big thank you to all of you who made it possible.

This summer, my family and I plan on growing our apiary from three hives to around eight. We purchased packages from Spring Valley and are looking forward to their arrival. We are trying a Saskatraz package. I am excited to find out how Saskatraz bees are different from Carniolan bees. I would really like to harvest honey from our hives this year as we did not harvest any honey last year. We are planning on learning how to make creamed honey and beeswax food wraps.

If you would like to schedule me to give a presentation or attend an event please contact Connie Bronnenburg, the IHPA Queen Chair, at (515)-480-6076 or cbronny823@aol.com. As always be sure to like the Iowa Honey Queen Program Facebook page to keep up with all my activities. Until next time,

Abigail Kelly, 2020 Iowa Honey Queen



## From the Beeyard by Phil Ebert

March is coming in like a lamb. I hope it goes out the same way. Years ago, if we got our bees thru the winter to the first of March, we had it made. Not so anymore. March is when they really start to die. We always figured that we would have another 25% dead from whatever we had alive at the end of February. The bees just don't live as long as they used to. If March weather is good and the bees get some pollen from willows and soft maples, they will begin to brood up and replace the old bees that are dying off. If weather is poor, it is very common for the colonies to go downhill. The old bees are dying and there is nothing to replace them.

Be sure your bees do not starve to death in the spring. When brood rearing ramps up, so does food consumption. If we have a box full of bees, we will feed them automatically. How fast the bees take feed depends on what kind of feeder you are using.

There are pluses and minuses to all the feeders. I have never been fond of the hive top feeders. The

bees don't like to go up into them when it is cold. If your equipment is not tight, they can also precipitate robbing. Sometimes the bees don't take the syrup. You have to lift the feeder off to check them. It is easy to pour the syrup down your leg if it is still full. I always found that very irritating.

I generally like bucket feeders but the large temperature swings possible in the early spring can cause them to leak. However, they are absolutely the best type of feeder for package bees. They simulate a honey flow with a steady supply of syrup that the bees cannot take too quickly. Division board feeders are not without problems, but they are the best for our operation. A hungry colony can empty one of those out in a few hours. They are easy to fill with a pump. I have found that large colonies will take syrup out of them if daytime highs are in the 30's. However, I don't like them for package bees, especially if said packages are on foundation. Healthy bees do not drown in DB feeders, but weak bees do. Most package bees have some travel stress. Quite often a large number of them drown in the DB feeders. The other thing with packages is that they will set up housekeeping right



next to the feeder. I like to have them in the middle of the box. If the package bees are healthy, quite often they are in a hurry to get the feeder emptied out. If they are on foundation, they often get pretty creative with comb building.

We leave a heater in the syrup tank overnight so we are giving warm syrup to the bees. That makes it thinner and the bees smell it better. Protein patties can be a plus, but you do not need them if natural pollen is coming in. We used to put them in during February in case the weather stayed bad and the bees couldn't get out.

Packages can be hived in cold weather. If it is below freezing, we like to do it inside, but you do not want it too warm. 40 degrees is a good temp but 30 is better. I don't like to dump them on the bottom board if it is that cold. Leave all the frames in. Get the bees good and wet with syrup. You want them rolling around like bee-bees in the cage. Then dump them onto the top bars of your box. If you get bees in the air, they are not wet enough. Cover

the resulting pile of bees with a sheet of newspaper and use something to hold it in place, ie, another box. If you put your hand on the newspaper, you will feel heat coming off the cluster within 30 seconds. The bees will move down onto the frames within an hour or so. After they have moved down, install the inner cover. The queen needs to be placed immediately behind the hole. A feeder jar can be placed on the hole. The bees will cluster around the queen. You want her close to the hole so the bees will have access to the syrup. You do not have to block the entrances if the temps are not going to be in the 40's. We have successfully done this with inside temps as low as 20 degrees. REMEMBER—Bees need access to food in order to generate heat!!! No food equals dead bees. DO NOT place a jar or bucket feeder on top of the frames with an empty box around it. With no inner cover to hold them in the lower box, the bees will quite often crawl up off the frames and go a corner of the upper box where they will die.

By the time you read this, spring should be at hand. I hope everyone is ready! -- Phil Ebert

## Emma's Recipes

With Easter in just a couple of weeks and summer coming soon after, we beekeepers will just keep getting busier as the year progresses. Before all those summer activities start I decided to try out a couple of recipes that take just a little bit more time and would make great additions to your Easter meal. Every table needs a couple of pies, cookies, and family favorites so I started with a peach cheese pie. I was also feeling like spring when I was cooking so I made some jelly thumbprint cookies. If you need something fun to do with your kids, thumbprint cookies could be a lot of fun for younger kids to help make too!

### Peach Cheese Pie (Pg. 119)

1 ½ (8 ounces) packaged cream cheese	2 eggs
½ cup honey	1 teaspoon vanilla
1 teaspoon lemon juice	¼ teaspoon almond extract
1 can sliced peaches (unsweetened)	1 tablespoon cornstarch
1/3 cup honey (for glaze)	

Soften cream cheese. Add eggs, honey, and vanilla. Blend well. Pour into unbaked pie shell and bake at 375 for 30 minutes. Cool.

Drain peaches; reserve 1 cup juice. Combine cornstarch and honey. Stir in reserved juice, lemon juice, and extract. Cook, stirring until thick. Arrange peaches petal fashion on baked cheese pie filling. Garnish with maraschino cherry or other fruit of your choice. Spoon glaze over fruit (top of pie). Chill 1 hour.

Emma's Notes: While this recipe was a little more time consuming than some of the ones I have tried, it was not super difficult. The hardest part was making sure the peach glaze was thick enough followed by creaming the cream cheese filling. I made the mistake of trying to mix the filling by hand. If you want it to be very smooth and creamy, use a mixer. That will ensure the filling is creamy and will remove all of the lumps. For the glaze, I cooked it for about 10 minutes, and it was still a little runny. I would probably do 12-15 next time I make it. As long as you remember to stir it consistently, it would be better to make it too thick than too thin. I also used strawberries instead of cherries, however they are mostly there for a little "sparkle" and color rather than changing the flavor. Overall, everyone who tried it thought the pie was very good.

### Honey-Sweetened Thumbprint Cookies (Pg. 84)

2/3 cup raw honey	1/3 cup warm coconut oil
1 ½ teaspoon vanilla extract	1 ½ cup whole wheat flour
¾ cup rolled oats	1 tablespoon corn starch
½ teaspoon fine grain sea salt	¼ teaspoon baking soda
Zest of one lemon	your favorite jam or preserves

Preheat oven to 350 degrees with wire rack in the top third of oven. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.

In a large mixing bowl, pour the warm, melted coconut oil over the honey and whisk in the vanilla extract. In a separate medium bowl, combine the flour, oats, cornstarch, sea salt, baking soda, and lemon zest. Add the flour mixture to the honey and stir until just combined. Let the dough sit for 2-3 minutes. Stir once or twice again – the dough should be quite stiff. Roll the dough into balls, one level teaspoon at a time and place an inch apart on the baking sheets. They will spread when baking. Using a damp pinky finger, make a well in the top of each ball of dough. Fill each "well" to the top with 1/8 teaspoon of jam. Bake 7-9 minutes or until the bottom and edges are just golden. Resist the urge to over-bake as these cookies can dry out.

Emma's Notes: Yummm! I have only one complaint: these cookies are very small. I started by doing one level teaspoon at a time, as the recipe instructs. Those cookies did not spread out very much and were not much bigger than a quarter. I then tried ½ tablespoon level full and increased the jelly to ¼ teaspoon. That made a nice size of cookie, so I made all the cookies like that and did not alter the cook time. Another tip: if you do not have the zest of one lemon, use ½ teaspoon lemon extract or two teaspoons lemon juice. If you add lemon juice, add a couple teaspoons more flour.

## RULES FOR 2020 STATE FAIR PRODUCTS BEING SOLD AT THE IHPA BOOTH

### THE PERSON SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE IHPA

There will be a 4-Person committee including the booth manager.

Applications must be sent by email to all 4 committee members: Kris Silvers [Kristin.silvers@gmail.com](mailto:Kristin.silvers@gmail.com), Ed St. John [esj178@gmail.com](mailto:esj178@gmail.com), Heidi Love [bhlove5@aol.com](mailto:bhlove5@aol.com), and Doyle Kincy [dwkincy@msn.com](mailto:dwkincy@msn.com)

A copy of Application shall be sent by USPS (United States Postal Service) to Doyle Kincy; 7304 Monroe Ct. Urbandale, IA 50322

**Firm cutoff date of June 15, 2020** (must be postmarked by this date)

The committee will meet on June 27, 2020 after the board meeting at summer field day. The meeting will be held in a predetermined neutral place. The general IHPA membership will be allowed to witness.

All liquid and comb honey is to be from 2020 harvest from all Iowa origins. (Except honey for lemonade)

All glass honey containers and creamed honey containers must have a protection seal.

All plastic honey containers must have a pressure seal. (This includes all large containers)

All products must show proper labeling ( Supplier, name, city, phone #)

Any item **not listed** on the application sheet or any specialty items you wish to market at the IHPA State Fair Booth needs to be approved by the booth manager by the committee deadline. ( June 15,2020)

**ALL CONTAINERS NEED TO BE CLEAN, NON STICKY; AND SUBJECT TO REJECTION BY BOOTH MANAGER.**

Honey for the Honey Lemonade (50-pound buckets) will be a sealed bid only. Low bid takes it all.

Pollen must have a "US Pollen" label

Due to the time frame of honey styx production it will be a one year commitment starting 2021.

These rules will be reviewed by the board annually.

### SOLE CLASSES:

There will be one person that will have a sole class of honey or item based on price list. For example: one person will have ALL 24 oz. bears for the state fair based on price list. If 2 or more producers apply for that item, it will be decided by a draw, winner will take the whole class.

You will only be allowed to win every other draw, however if you are the only one that entered that class you will get the class and be eligible for the next draw.

Draw order is per list on application sheet

If you win any sole class you ARE NOT eligible for case lots, however, if you are not chosen in the draw for any of the sole classes, you will be eligible for case lots but you must have it on your application sheet if you are wanting to supply those.

### OPEN CLASSES:

All beeswax products (candles, ornaments, blocks, soaps, lotions, lip balms etc.) must be packaged to maintain cleanliness and for presentation. (This will be the booth managers discretion)

Please submit a list of what you would like to market at the Iowa State Fair for 2020. Please provide a phone number where you may be reached if committee has questions.

You are only allowed to supply a maximum of 4 scents of each product.

### CREAMED AND FLAVORED HONEY RULES: MUST BE IOWA HONEY:

Flavored honey and creamed honey must come from a certified kitchen.

A copy of the license must be on file with the booth manager and booth manager must have them with them at the state fair.

**(License must be attached or mailed with application package)**

If more than one person is wanting to bring a flavor, a draw will decide who brings the flavor

You are required to provide a 1 once sample, by committee deadline, if you wish to bring pure creamed honey. (MUST HAVE SAMPLE TO DOYLE KINCY BY NOON ON JUNE 27, 2020)

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**CASE LOTS:**

The purpose of the case lots is a way for the small beekeeper to provide honey to the fair.

Case lot classes are 1-pound glass, 1-pound plastic and the 12-ounce bear

Case lots will be in case quantities of 24 bottles

You may bring no more than 4 cases of each class.

Minimum is one case of 24 for a class.

If you do not win any of the ‘Sole Class’ categories then you will be eligible for case lot. (This must be marked on your application to be considered)

Clean up rule: In the event the required quantity cannot be fulfilled through the case lot system, those participating in the “sole class” will be encouraged to help supply the additional quantity needed of each class through a draw. (One person per class decided by draw if needed.) These items will not be placed out until after Day 5.

**CUT COMB, ROSS ROUNDS and CHUNK HONEY:**Must be in a sealed container

Must be well-drained without liquid honey(Chunk honey excluded)

Quality standards will be used (clean capping with all the cells capped)

Needs to weigh at least 14-ounces(Chunk honey excluded)

MUST be frozen for a minimum of 48 hours prior to arriving at the Iowa State Fair, subject to rejection, booth manager’s discretion. (Chunk honey will need to be frozen as well.)

**DELIVERY OF PRODUCTS:**

All products must be delivered to IHPA booth at the Iowa State Fair

Product must be delivered between Sunday to Wednesday hours are as follows: Sunday Noon-6PM, Monday 10AM-6PM, Tuesday 10AM-6PM, Wednesday 10AM-6PM (unless other arrangements are made with the booth manager)

**YOU MUST PROVIDE AN INVOICE WHEN PRODUCT DELIVERED AND EVERYONE MUST COMPLETE A W-9. (W-9 will be provided on site.)**

**Please make plans to pick up unsold product on Sunday evening 9PM-10PM or Monday between 8AM-NOON. (unless other arrangements are made with booth manager)**

**Save the Honey Bee**

With the Honey Bee being one step closer to becoming the State Insect, now’s the time to get your Save the Bees Iowa DOT decals. Do it now and avoid the RUSH. The decals are \$10 each or 2 for \$15. Please complete the application below and return to Rhonda Heston, IHPA Treasurer, 52735 187<sup>th</sup> Ave, Chariton IA 50049. If you have any questions, please call 515-724-2124.

This decal is made to the same specifications that the month decal is made. So it should last a few years. Now, for those of you that do not want to buy the Decal License Plate (\$5.00 in addition to your registration fee plus \$5.00 renewal fee at the County’s Treasurers Office) but still want a **COOL DECAL** you can use them like any decal – in your vehicle’s window, bumper or even on your refrigerator. The purpose of this decal is raise awareness Honey Bees and IHPA in Iowa. All funds raised will go to support Iowa State Fair Booth renovations.



Thanks for your support of this fun way of showing off our love of honeybees and of IHPA.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Beek of the Month, April 2020

Joseph Klingelhut ([jo.aloysius@gmail.com](mailto:jo.aloysius@gmail.com)) graduated from Iowa State University in 2016 with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and Forestry. It was at ISU that Joe discovered his love for beekeeping. He took a two-credit beekeeping course at ISU out at their Horticulture Research Center from August through December and discovered he was both fascinated and amazed about bees. It was the very first beekeeping course that ISU offered which was perfect timing as it certainly captivated Joe.



Joe was so fascinated with beekeeping that he found a job as a beekeeper in New Zealand at Wild Joy Honey where he worked after graduation for about eight months. Wild Joy Honey is an apiary on the Coromandel Peninsula that is about 2.5 hours away from Auckland. It is in the northern area of New Zealand which has sub-tropical climate. He and the owner of Wild Joy worked 600 hives at 41 different sites with Joe being the primary worker with the owner mentoring him. He worked all these hives without a smoker at any time. Smokers weren't used due to time involved in maintaining them. Wild Joy Honey also did pollination work at some kiwi fruit farms with about 300 hives.

Interestingly, Wild Joy Honey product is Manuka honey from native manuka bushes. Manuka honey has a scaled rating called UMF (Unique Manuka Factor) which must be at least 10 UMF to be considered suitable to be medicinal. Manuka honey is the major antibacterial honey due to a component in it called methylglyoxal (MG). Joe worked the hives doing all the various activities from frame management between hives, splitting management making more hives, swarm management, pest management with emphasis on the varroa mite and assisted with the eventual honey extraction process. He captured 30 swarms throughout the summer. At the end of the season he assisted in extraction using a 16-frame extractor resulting in 43 300-gallon barrels of Manuka honey.

After returning to Iowa, Joe wanted to make beekeeping his life's work. He started with three colonies in 2018, splitting them to six throughout the summer. Unfortunately, he lost five out of the six in the 2018 winter. He admits being totally unprepared for winter management. It never really gets very cold in northern New Zealand. Failure was a good lesson though as Joe threw himself into learning beekeeping management for our Iowa climate and what good winter preparation means. In 2019 he started out with five packages and, with splits, ended the year with eleven. All are doing great this year so far as he checked on them during our extremely warm weather start in early March.

During this last winter Joe and a friend spent plenty of time in a wood working shop making woodenware for this upcoming season. He made twelve nucs and made over a hundred wooden frames and hive boxes. He wants to aggressively grow his apiary.

Joe volunteered to become active in the East Central Iowa Beekeeper's Association and is now that association's Vice-President. His vision for the association is to grow the membership

and wants to start mentoring new members and giving beekeeping presentations routinely to raise both the knowledge level of members and awareness of the community about beekeeping. Joe is on a swarm call list for Johnson County and really enjoys the hunt for swarms.

He has an interesting story to share with our Buzz family which also gives us a lesson learned. "One funny story from last year: I decided to look into my hives as dusk was coming in, so all the mature foragers were back in the hive. I was using smoke, but they were still very defensive with me. This was about a week after I took honey off of the hives. My mother has two



goats in the back that are about 100 feet away from my beehives. The bees started to attack the goats and they began screaming and running around the yard and could not get away from the bees. I closed up the hives and began running around the yard trying to catch the goats to calm them down. I could see dozens of bees attached to them, buried in their hair. I was smoking the goats and was able to corral them into an 8x8 little shed they use for sleeping. In the shed I spent about an hour with them puffing smoke towards the entrance where there was a wall of bees waiting to come in. The poor goats were hyperventilating, and I was sure they were going to suffocate from swelling of their throats. My mother, who is a veterinarian, yelled from the house and I screamed to NOT come over to us. She tried anyway and soon after I heard her screaming as she ran back into the house. A few minutes later she came out wearing my extra bee suit with some epinephrine needles for the goats. We jabbed them, waited awhile until it was dark and the bees went home and all was dandy. I need to learn to just wait until the right time to look into my hives. Or move the goats and/or the beehives."

Submitted by Ed St John, IHPA District 3 Director

**2020 Iowa Honey Producers Association  
 Summer Field Day  
 "KEEP THE KNOWLEDGE FLOWING"  
 Saturday, June 27, 2020  
 Dordt University  
 498 4<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Sioux Center, Iowa**

**Registration: 8:00a.m.                      Field Day: 8:30 – 4:00p.m.**

This will be a full day of knowledge exchange for beekeepers of all levels.  
 A delicious lunch and an am/pm snack is included in the registration cost.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Registration:</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Single (member):            \$35.00 before June 1, 2020	
Number attending: _____	x \$35 = _____
After June 12, 2020, Number attending _____	x \$40 = _____
 Single ( <u>non</u> -member): \$40 before June 1, 2020	
Number attending: _____	x \$40 = _____
After June 12, 2020, Number attending _____	x \$45= -----
 Walk-ins (members and non-members)	x \$45= _____

\*\*\*Walk-ins on June 27, 2020 are welcome, however lunch may be unavailable.\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*Space for this event is limited to the first 200 registrants.\*\*\*

Return this completed form together with your check payable to IHPA,  
**by Friday, June 12, 2020** to:

Rhonda Heston, IHPA Treasurer  
 52735 187th Avenue  
 Chariton, IA 50049

Got questions? E-mail Cheri VanSickle, Event Coordinator at: [vansicklemm@hotmail.com](mailto:vansicklemm@hotmail.com) and  
 put "Summer Field Day Question" in the subject line or call 712-566-9294.

## Legislative Report for the April Buzz

We have a good chance to get the Legislature to designate the Honey Bee as the State Insect. It has passed two Senate Committees and is eligible for Senate Floor Debate. Now is the time to contact your Senator to ask them to support this bill. It is Senate Joint Resolution 2004.

We also have several other bills that are good for bees. Please read below for a summary of all of them. Please contact me with any questions or comments.

### **Bills of Interest:**

(SF = Senate File, SSB = Senate Study Bill, HF = House File, HSB = House Study Bill, SJR = Senate Joint Resolution)

**SF 2389** (formerly SSB 3171) - Food Production Facility Trespass (F) - The bill creates the crime of food operation trespass at facilities that process food for human consumption including apiaries and honey production facilities.

### **On Senate debate calendar:**

**SF 457** - Ag Crime Surcharge (F) - This bill creates a new agricultural crime surcharge. The surcharge would apply to those who commit the theft of agricultural property or criminal mischief for damaging, defacing, altering, or destroying agricultural property. In addition, the theft or damage must be classified as a first-degree offense (class "C" felony), second degree offense (class "D" felony), or third-degree offense (aggravated misdemeanor). The agricultural property is limited to: (1) a crop, (2) livestock, or (3) honeybees or associated items.

Passed the Senate 45-1. Approved by House subcommittee

**SF 393** - Beekeeping Offenses (F) - The bill rewrites the current Iowa law regarding beekeeping crimes from a single paragraph to a more orderly numbered system.

**SJR 2004** (formerly SSB 3187) - Honey Bee as State Insect (F) - The joint resolution would make the honeybee the state insect.

**HF 742** - Ag Crime Surcharge (F) - This bill creates a new agricultural crime surcharge. The surcharge would apply to those who commit the theft of agricultural property or criminal mischief for damaging, defacing, altering, or destroying agricultural property. In addition, the theft or damage must be classified as a first-degree offense (class "C" felony), second degree offense (class "D" felony), or third-degree offense (aggravated misdemeanor). The agricultural property is limited to: (1) a crop, (2) livestock, or (3) honeybees or associated items.

Approved by subcommittee - Ready for Senate Appropriations Committee consideration.

**HSB 629** - Ag Taxation (F) - The bill modifies the sales and use tax by modifying the exemption for agricultural production. Specifically, the bill defines "agricultural production" to include the production of "agricultural products" for intended sale or livestock consumption. "Agricultural products" is modified to include corn, eggs, fruit, hay, honey, livestock, milk, oats, soybeans, vegetables and wheat.

Approved by subcommittee

Submitted by Jamie Beyer

### **Presentation by Mike Connor: Bees and Trees\*\*\*\*\***

A few years ago, I watched a presentation by Mike Connor: Bees and Trees on what I call the University of Youtube. Recently, I watched it again and picked up more information that I had either missed or forgotten when I watched it the first time.

The full-length presentation at the 2015 Heartland Apicultural Society annual conference is 55 minutes long, but well worth your time. Mike is a Midwest beekeeper as well as an arborist and nursery grower who knows the importance of trees for our pollinators. If you're looking for information on planting honey bee friendly trees in the Midwest or simply learning more information about pollinator planting, I highly recommend this presentation and give it five stars out of a possible five.

Many of you may know that I often suggest planting trees for our honey bees and as time passes, this need is becoming more noticeable. Our landscape is changing quickly and the importance of trees should not be underestimated. Spring is a great time to plant and it's much easier to plant and maintain trees than lots of smaller plants. We all need trees!

*Respectfully submitted by Sheila Weldon*

### **District 4 News:**

As you read this we are entering into April. The winter overall has been milder and from what I'm hearing the percentages of colony survival has been better than the last couple of years. Still, beeks are losing hives. It seems many of those did not address mites and food stores in a timely manner to get their hives ready for the winter months. Again, in my opinion, this starts in August. There is no reason a colony should starve to death. That is something we CAN control. You can't wait till October, then try to feed to get them up to get them up to weight.

Hoping that this is another great honey producing year. Get those supers ready and stay ahead of your girls or they will decide to change their address. Get signed up for Summer Field Day and if you want to sell your products at the State Fair, read the rules in this issue. Cutoff date is June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Doyle Kincy

IHPA District 4 Director

# North Iowa Beekeepers' Club Auction

The North Iowa Beekeepers' Club is having an auction of  
beekeeping equipment / poultry equipment.  
Mark your calendar for the last Saturday in April 2020!



## Location:

P & P Honey and Bee Supply Inc

Pat & Peggy Ennis

2105 110<sup>th</sup> St, Goodell, IA 50439

Date: Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 / Starting @ 10:00 am / Auctioneer: Roy Kraft

We're looking for new / gently used beekeeping and or poultry items!

We all have some stuff in the shed or barn we don't use that would be of great benefit or value

to someone else. So now is a great time to dust off, repair, paint and bring it to the auction!

**All combs, to be sold, will be inspected before the auction.**

To consign your items, and for a list of items being consigned, please call or email Pat  
@

515-293-2601 or [pphoneandbeesupply@gmail.com](mailto:pphoneandbeesupply@gmail.com).

Consignment rate: Before April 1<sup>st</sup>, - 10% / After April 1<sup>st</sup>, - 15%

All auction proceeds will benefit the North Iowa Beekeepers' Club and the youth with the purpose of educating and promoting the craft of beekeeping thru speakers and events to all the beekeepers throughout North Iowa.

Restrooms will be available (port a potties)

Number of Products Sold at  
Iowa State Fair

	Amount Sold in 2019	Amount Sold in 2018	Amount Sold in 2017		Amount Sold in 2019	Amount Sold in 2018	Amount Sold in 2017
24 ounce bear	165	231	282	1 pound glass (liquid honey)	148	182	172
3 pound jug	28	48	83	1 pound plastic (light honey)	209	131	348
2 pound jug	65	75	104	12 oz honey bear (light honey)	234	397	368
5 pound jug	42	40	23	Comb Honey (Clamshells & Boxes)	717	507	540
2 ounce bear	558	311	482	Ross Rounds	NA	NA	NA
16 ounce Antique (Muth) jar	67	29	46	Chunk Honey - 12 oz	179	156	124
8 ounce Antique (Muth) jar	36	36	31	<b>total pounds</b>			
4 ounce Antique (Muth) jar	36	36	16	Honey for Lemonade - 50 pound pails	2,368	2,335	2,428
Buckwheat Honey 1 pound	102	0	0	<b>Creamed Honey - 1 pound</b>			
12 pound gallon jug	22	35	23	Almond	73	0	
Honey Stix	30,186	28,532	40,897	Apple Cinnamon	120	0	
<b>Flavored Honey- 6oz</b>				Bavarian Crème	245	0	
Almond	NA	33	0	Black Walnut	68	48	
Apple Cinnamon	64	114	71	Blackberry	110	153	
Apricot	NA	0	17	Blueberry	77	0	
Black Cherry	70	0	69	Cinnamon	264	173	
Blackberry	69	57	54	Jalapeno	86	71	
Blueberry	70	76	50	Lemon	104	42	
Butter Rum	74	89	72	Mango Habanero	81	84	
Butterscotch	NA	0	0	Mango Tangerine	NA	237	
Carmel Apple	48	0	56	Pecan	74	113	
Cherry	12	0	48	Pecan Cinnamon	70	64	
Chocolate Mint	NA	50	39	Pure	443	42	
Cinnamon	48	59	50	Raspberry	160	63	
CranRaspberry	77	14	0	Raspberry Jalapeño	128	79	
Jalapeno	63	59	43	Strawberry	128	92	
Lemon	67	72	77	Apricot	41		
Orange	32	76	49	Butter Vanilla	58		
Peach	89	123	75	Chai	34		
Peach-Mango	NA	0	66	Maple Bacon	72		
Pralines & Cream	NA	31	0	Fire Starter /5 pk	26	13	23
Raspberry	79	78	77	Bee Pollen (1/2 pound)	35	35	100
Strawberry	76	64	0	Bee Pollen (1 pound)	38	43	pounds
Chai	21	0	0	Beeswax Bar - 1 ounce	60	50	77
Chai & Butter Vanilla	33	0	0	Beeswax Bar - 1/2 pound	22	27	28
Habnero	51	0	0	Beeswax Bar - 1 pound	75	29	26
				Wooden Honey Dippers	66	95	109
11 piece nativity set	NA	5	3	Hand dipped pair candles	NA	0	0
Corn cob candle	18	26	27	Apple	7	0	0
12" pair dinner candles	NA	4	9	Christmas Tree	5	0	0
8" pair dinner candles	14	18	24	Decorative Tree	6	0	0
Tea lights (12 pack) candle	19	13	25	Fairy Ball	1	0	0
Round Pillar Bee	NA	8	15	Morel Mushroom	41	0	0
Pillar 6" rolled look candle	13	7	15	Rose Pillar	5	0	0
Square Bee Candle	NA	7	4	Turtle	36	0	0
Votive (4 pack) candle	12	8	23	Small skep w/bear candle	28	25	44
Turkey candle	NA	8	11	Med skep candle	8	9	14
Light house candle	8	12	4	Large skep candle	NA	6	8
Pillar 10" rolled look candle	NA	3	11	Owl	33	0	0

### District 3 Tidbits

March is upon us and the weather as usual is unpredictable. April is fast approaching. These months are when many hives are lost usually due to starvation. Brood is being raised and our unpredictable weather cold spells wreak havoc. Remember to check your hive's food stores before our spring bloom. At a March 9th East Central Iowa Beekeepers meeting consensus was that everyone's hives were doing good this year as compared to past years. Also, most beekeepers who checked their hives saw the foragers coming back with pollen.

I have held both honeybee overview presentations and introduction to beekeeping presentations at the Solon and Cedar Falls Libraries over the past month. The Gilmore City Bradgate Elementary School has introduced a "Seed to Table" education program and project to their students. They received a grant for this project and will be establishing an eight-hive apiary for the school. The students are all getting involved in different aspects of beekeeping. They are planning to decorate the hives with paintings, and they are learning about honeybees and planning future honey sales. They are planning a conversion of their football concession stand into a honey room during extraction season. A group of about 20 folks had planned a trip to my Introduction to Beekeeping at the Cedar Falls Library so I accommodated them and instead gave that presentation at their elementary school.

Ed St John, IHPA District 3 Director

### 2 Now offering IOWA bees for sale!

We have been raising and grafting our own queens for 4 years, with good success in overwintering. We select strongly for gentleness, honey production, low mite counts, and winter hardiness. Because we graft our own queens and they are open mated, all our bees are considered an **Iowa Hybrid breed**. They do exceptionally well in our Iowa climate!

**5-Frame Nuc - \$170** (\$100 deposit, with balance due upon pickup at farm in Runnels) 3 deep frames of brood and 2 deep frames of resources. May.

**4-Frame Nuc - \$145** (\$75 deposit, with balance due upon pickup at farm in Runnels) 2 deep frames of brood and 2 deep frames of resources. May.

**Deep Frame of Brood and Bees - \$25** A single, deep frame of brood/bees. April.

**Deep Frame of Resources - \$20** April.

Overwintered **2019 Queens - \$35** Marked, caged, 2019 queens that have overwintered either in Iowa or in California (feel free to request your preference). Or buy queen and frame of bees - **\$60**. April.

**2020 Queens - \$45** Marked, caged, mated and laying 2020 queens grafted from our own Iowa overwintered stock! Or buy queen and frame of her bees - **\$70**. May.

**Queen Cells - \$8** Ready-to-emerge queen cells grafted from our own Iowa overwintered stock! Runnels pickup on certain dates. Late May/early June.

To place an order, please contact: **Ellen Bell**  
[ellen@bellfarmiowa.com](mailto:ellen@bellfarmiowa.com)

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## Don't Poop Where You Eat: Bee Defecation on Flowers May Explain Disease Transmission

By Melissa Mayer

For most people, flowers call to mind many things—romance, appreciation, well wishes—but probably not ... bee poop. Insect pollinators are crucial to maintaining biodiversity and crop yields but face global declines. Clues that may help save these important insects might come from an unexpected place: apian fecal matter.

It turns out that bees defecate while foraging pollen or nectar, and sick bees may defecate more than usual, possibly transmitting infection through their fecal matter. In a recent paper in the *Journal of Insect Science*, researchers set out to determine how important flower shape is to bee defecation patterns, with the hope that this data might help unravel the mysteries of disease transmission among bees.

"While it is common knowledge amongst bee biologists that bees frequently defecate, the fact that they will sometimes defecate on the flowers upon which they are feeding seems counterintuitive and deserves further study," says [Jenny Hazlehurst](#), PhD, assistant professor of biology at California State University East Bay and one of the authors of the study. "I am most excited about the potential applications of this research for understanding how to best protect pollinators from pathogens that are spread from the fecal to oral route."

### So Many Flowers, So Little Time

To figure out the importance of flower shape to the likelihood of bee defecation during foraging, the team performed 31 separate 4-hour foraging trials in a flight cage. For 12 hours before each flight, they fed the common eastern bumble bees (*Bombus impatiens*) a 30 percent sucrose solution mixed with fluorescent dye to make it easier to visualize their fecal matter.

It's a strategy that Hazlehurst thought up while working on an earlier project, looking at another type of pollinator. "Sometimes the birds we captured as part of the [University of California Riverside] macrosystems project had been visiting hummingbird feeders in residential areas where people had put red dye in the nectar solution. The fecal samples we collected would come out as colorful red splashes as a result," says Hazlehurst. "That gave me the idea to track where pollinators were defecating using fluorescent dye, which I had previously used as an analog for pollen to track the movement of pollen grains between flowers."

During each flight trial, the bees had access to 12 individual flowers or inflorescences arranged in a random grid. These included four flower shapes: cup, tube, small composite flower (diameter of the disk is smaller than petal length), and large composite flower (diameter of the disk is larger than the petal length).

To standardize the foraging experience, the team emptied the flowers of naturally occurring nectar and deposited a sucrose solution in each flower prior to the trials. They also set up paper disks below each flower to simulate the

way flowers pack together in natural foraging circumstances.

### A Bouquet of Results

After each flight trial, the researchers examined the flowers and paper disks under ultraviolet light to detect bee poop. They reported 28 total fecal events with 46 percent of those taking place on flower parts and 54 percent occurring on the paper disks below the flowers.

The results confirmed that flower shape matters. Bees were significantly more likely to defecate on the seaside daisies (*Erigeron glaucus*), which served as the large composite flowers in the study. Statistical analysis revealed significant differences between large composite flowers and each of the other three flower shapes (cup-shaped, tube-shaped, and small composite flowers).

The researchers think floral morphology might explain these findings. The longer it takes a bee to forage on a flower, the more likely it is that that forager will defecate. Some factors that influence how long a bee spends at an individual flower include corolla depth, nectar concentration and viscosity, and whether the bee is gathering nectar or pollen. Composite flowers comprise many small florets, so foragers must move from floret to floret, which takes more time, increasing the likelihood that they will defecate and/or face exposure to fecal material left by a previous forager.

### The Big Picture

That exposure is particularly important to researchers since fecal matter may pass infection from bee to bee—and, crucially, from groups of managed bees to wild bee populations (or vice versa). "Emerging work is looking at the potential for the spillover of bee pathogens from managed bees that are used in agriculture such as the European honey bee and the eastern bumble bee into wild bee populations," says Hazlehurst.

"Pathogen transmission at shared floral resources through defecation on the floral surface and subsequent consumption by the next pollinator to visit is one potential mechanism for how diseases could move between managed and wild bee populations, or even in the reverse direction. It is important that we know about this possibility so that we can come up with good management strategies to prevent this from happening."

Hazlehurst hopes this study leads to more research into the factors, like infection, that play a role in bee defecation patterns and pathogen transmission on flowers. Future studies should also look at other large composite flowers to confirm the findings.

There's no doubt that insect pollinators are vital links in the food chain. In fact, [one out of every four bites](#) of food needs bee participation to get to the fork—and bee pollination helps the agricultural industry to the tune of \$15 billion in increased crop value every year. Which means bee poop might be a hot commodity, at least for researchers hoping to protect pollinators.





## Annual Auction Central Iowa Beekeepers Association

**What:** CIBA Annual Auction  
**When:** Saturday April 18, 2020  
Auction starts at 10:00 AM  
**Where:** 18930 210<sup>th</sup> St.  
Minburn, IA 50167



### Auction Consignment

It's time to consign! Committing to consign does not require a list of the items you are consigning, but the sooner we know the items you have to sell, the better we can advertise, and the better your opportunity to sell your beekeeping equipment.

CIBA members that commit to consign by **March 1<sup>st</sup>** will be awarded a 10% consignment fee, which is a reduction from the standard consignment fee of 15%. After March 1<sup>st</sup> —15% fee for all.

### Inspection!

All combs and certain equipment will be inspected by the State Apiarist or designees starting at 8 AM the day of the auction. (Rejected equipment/comb must be removed from the premises immediately.)

### Concession Stand

Calling all cooks and bakers! As in the past there will be a concession stand at the auction. The stand funds our Honey Queen/ Ambassador program. Please let us know if you would like to help with food items, and what you are interested in assisting with!

**Questions?** Please contact Steve J Hanlin at [letterbuck@mchsi.com](mailto:letterbuck@mchsi.com)



### Sweet Layens Hive with Winnie the Pooh

This beehive makes me smile and makes me envious. Brent & Bridgette Hardesty are currently taking beekeeping classes with us in Knoxville and making a few Layens Hives (horizontal hives) in preparation for honey bees this spring. Their niece, Morgan Terpstra, freehand painted this Layens Hive and Brent shared the photos. Without a doubt, this is the sweetest hive that I've ever seen!

*Respectfully submitted by Sheila Weldon*



We are sorry to announce the passing of **Steve Heston**. He died on Monday, March 16. Steve was husband to Rhonda Heston, who is our IHPA Treasurer. Please join us in wishing Rhonda the sympathy that we all share when we lose someone close to us. If you wish to send Rhonda condolences, please use the address on the back page of this issue.

Steve will be remembered in a memorial service held on April 25 with visitation from 11:00 to 2:00, with services at 2:00 and a reception following at Hamilton's Funeral Home located at 6th and Lyon in Des Moines.



## **Spring Valley Honey Farms**

14405 Hull Ave.  
Perry, Iowa 50220  
Curt and Connie Bronnenberg  
515-480-6076

[www.springvalleyhoneyfarms.com](http://www.springvalleyhoneyfarms.com)

***Our Honey bee colony numbers and strength has rebounded exceptionally well this year! We will again be shaking our own package bees! Package bees will be available the first week of April until June 15<sup>th</sup>. Our package bees will be supplied with California mated queens from CF Koehnen & Sons, Jackie Park Burriss & Olivarez Honey Bees! You will have a choice of Italian, Carniolan or Saskatraz.***

***We have found that shaking our own package bees gives our customers more flexibility on pick up dates.***

***2-pound package bees \$102.00 + \$7.00 cage deposit***

***3-pound package bee \$125.00 + \$7.00 cage deposit***

***We will be offering 5-Frame Nucs with Carniolan, Italian, or Saskatraz Queens. They will be healthy, well fed and have a laying queen with all stages of brood.***

***1-99 \$160.00***

***100 +\$150.00***

***Because we feel supplementing carbohydrates and protein is important, we offer a gallon of syrup and protein patty for \$7.00 with the purchase of package bees or nucs.***

***During package season we are very flexible and usually available but always best to call or text Connie at 515-480-6076 as we do not keep regular store hours. If you call or text me an order, we can get your order ready and you can pick it up at your convenience.***

***We offer a full line of beekeeping equipment. You can find the list and prices of our equipment on our website.***



# got bees?

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## OUR HONEYBEE INVENTORY

**Nucleus Hives (Nucs)  
Single-Deep  
Complete Hives**

## Package Bees

We are shaking our own package bees in April 2020! These bees will be packaged in Iowa & not hauled across the country in a truck. The queens will be a hybrid Italian-Carniolan cross.



## AVAILABILITY DATES

**April 2020**

Package bee pick up.

**May 2020**

Nuc & single pick up.



## FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

## Pick Up Locations

We now offer two bee pick up locations in Iowa:

1090 Highway 1 North  
Mount Vernon • Iowa 52314

14808 South 102<sup>nd</sup> Ave East  
Lynnville • Iowa 50153

## Honey Containers

Pick up your bees & honey containers in one convenient stop. Order both online & we'll have them ready to pick up at the same time!



## CONTACT OUR TEAM TODAY

319.259.9377  
info@eberthoney.com  
www.eberthoney.com

@eberthoney

Item	1-25	26-50	51+	Italian or Carniolan?	Quantity	Subtotal
2 lb Package	\$107	\$107	\$104	Hybrid		
3 lb Package	\$128	\$128	\$125	Hybrid		
Nuc	\$165	\$160	\$155	Hybrid		
Single	\$205	Call	Call	Hybrid		

PLEASE PROVIDE NAME, ADDRESS, EMAIL & PHONE NUMBER:

**Subtotal** ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

Live in Iowa?  
Add 7% sales tax \_\_\_\_\_

\$7/pkg refundable  
package cage  
deposit required: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

Select a package bee  
pick up location (April):

- Mount Vernon • IA  
 Lynnville • IA

Select a nuc & single  
pick up location (May):

- Mount Vernon • IA  
 Lynnville • IA

Please make checks payable to Ebert Honey, LLC and mail to either address listed on the right of this page. Ensure your name, mailing address, phone & email are written on your check or this form so we can contact you when your bees are ready. For orders of 25+ units, we will accept a 50% deposit at this time. Please note that our online prices are 3% higher to account for credit card transaction fees.



**-preserving a legacy and love of beekeeping-  
Tim Wilbanks – 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Beekeeper**

### **3-lb. Packages**

**Italian, Carniolan, & Russian/Italian Hybrid Queens available  
Loads arriving to the Iowa City area in late March, mid-April, & late April**

**Qty 1-9=\$130/ea\*, Qty 10-99=\$124/ea\*, Qty 100+=\$119/ea\***

**\*Plus IA Sales Tax**

### **5-frame Nucs with Italian or Carniolan Queens**

**Pick up in WI only—arriving weekly late April-early May  
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## The Buzz Newsletter Article/Ad Submissions

Please send submissions, classified ads, and photos to rrihpa@gmail.com or mail to The Buzz, c/o Ron Rynders, 890 13th Ave SE, Sioux Center, IA 51250 Cell 712-449-5010. Complimentary (small) ads run for two months. Paid (larger) ads payment handled by Treasurer Rhonda Heston. (Small ads run for 3 issues.) **The deadline for submissions is the 10th of each month to be included in the following month's newsletter.** The Buzz is a monthly newsletter published by the Iowa Honey Producers Association which is an affiliate of the Iowa State Horticultural Society.

### Expired Membership

If you are reading this in print, your membership is current. However, if you are reading this online, did you send in your dues? A valid membership is still requested for you to read The Buzz Newsletter online. Please contact Rhonda Heston if you are unsure if your dues are current, at 515-724-2124.

### 3 FOR SALE: 2- or 3-pound packages of Italian bees with queen.

Picked up in Aurora or Cedar Rapids mid-April. Hill-Ward Apiary bees from California. All orders by March 1st. Douglas Child 319-634-3682 / or [childbees@gmail.com](mailto:childbees@gmail.com).

1 **For sale-** 4-frame medium Nucs- \$140;  
4-frame deep Nucs- \$155. Locally raised Queens.  
Decorah IA 563-419-0877

**3 For sale:** (Picked up prices) 4-frame nucs \$135. 5-frame nucs --\$150 . \$5 to mark the queen. 3# packages--\$130 +tax.  
New woodenware. **Sioux River Bees** Call or text  
Marlene 712-320-1907 or Jim 712-330-6329

**2 FOR SALE:** Package bees, nucs and single-story colonies. See pricing for nucs and singles on our full-page ad. 3# pkgs will be \$128+\$7 cage deposit + 7%sales tax. 2# pkgs will be \$107+\$7 cage deposit + sales tax. There is a \$4 discount per pkg for orders of 50+. There will be a 3% surcharge if you use a card. The cage deposit is not taxable. All packages will be shaken in Iowa. There will be no travel stress on these bees. Use the order form on our full-page ad or contact Adam at 319-430-3514 or [adam.ebert@eberthoney.com](mailto:adam.ebert@eberthoney.com). Contact Phil at 641-527-2639 or e-mail [ehoney37@netins.net](mailto:ehoney37@netins.net). Queens and syrup will also be available.

**3 Help wanted** The National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS) is hiring part-time field interviewers in many areas of IA. Earn extra money working out of your home. For more information call 515-776-3400 and ask for Cindy.

(Note: When I got this ad, I followed up on it, took some training and **am now interviewing farmers and collecting** data. Turns out to be a good part time job for a person who resists the idea of retiring completely. Try it! Editor)

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500-1,999 cost .12 each

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Connie [515-480-6076](tel:515-480-6076). Curt [515-480-6075](tel:515-480-6075)

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# The Buzz Newsletter

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