



ILLINOIS STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

# BULLETIN

March/April 2002 • Volume 84, Number 2

## *From the President*

### **Inspire Young Beekeepers, Spark Their Interest**

Ever see a child's eyes open wide in awe while viewing an observation hive, especially when finding the queen? You'll notice it occurs frequently if you've ever set up a live bee display at a fair, flea market or in a classroom, for example. Then the questions start. How do the bees make honey? Do you ever get stung? How many stings have you gotten? How many bees are in there? What do bees do in winter? While most of the children seeing the bees will never become beekeepers, you've opened the door to their minds, hopefully sparking their interest to learn more. At the very least, the few minutes of bee education you provide for each child or parent can alleviate the fear of bees in some and soften a negative attitude toward bees in others. Occasionally, a young viewer will become so inspired he or she will follow through and later become an active beekeeper. And that is precisely my focus in this message.

One need only attend an ISBA convention to notice the greater number of middle-aged and older beekeepers in contrast to the low number of younger attendees. While much can be said for the experience, knowledge, and wisdom we "seasoned" folks have gained over the years, we need more young beekeepers to whom we can pass on all this beekeeping know-how. That is why one of my goals this year is to work toward attracting more young people to beekeeping and to provide the programs and support to hold their interest. Many of you individually already work toward that end and do so as a matter of routine. My sincere wish is that every beekeeper able to do so will join in these efforts. On the association level, if your organization does not currently sponsor one or more beginner beekeepers, ISBA can assist you to set up such a program and help support it. Let us know if you need such assistance. I'll be talking more about this subject as the year progresses.

Meanwhile, the Missouri Beekeepers Association will be setting up a Kids 'n' Bees display on March 9 at our upcoming Tri-State meeting in Keokuk, Iowa. They could use some volunteers to attend this display. It's a great opportunity for attendees' family members who will not be attending the sessions but who may want to provide educational services for the kids. Contact Sharon Gibbons at (636) 394-5395 for more information or to help. Sharon also receives e-mail at [sgibbs314@earthlink.net](mailto:sgibbs314@earthlink.net). See you in Keokuk.

*John Hansen, ISBA President*

### **APIARY INSPECTION SUPERVISOR REPORT**

Greetings to everyone! I hope this winter has been kind to you and your honeybees. I would like to share some information with you.

On January 26, 2002 the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDA) gained official approval from the USEPA for Checkmite+ strips (coumaphos) to be sold and used in Illinois for fighting varroa mites and small hive beetles. The IDA requests this emergency approval annually from the USEPA.

Speaking of Checkmite+ strips, USEPA has found some beekeepers (not in Illinois) misusing coumaphos in terms of not specifically following label requirements. Examples of confirmed misuse include, leaving strips in brood chambers longer than allowed by the label, cutting strips in half or reusing strips, or leaving strips in the hive during honey production. These actions of misuse are a recipe for disaster. Human health problems can occur, resistance can rapidly develop and the product's existence in the marketplace is jeopardized. **Please do your part in precisely following the label directions. The IDA's Apiary Inspectors will be closely monitoring coumaphos use this year. Detection of a coumaphos misuse will be treated as a violation of the**

**Illinois Pesticide Act and will be acted upon by the IDA, accordingly.**

Consistent with our efforts last year, one of the IDA's highest priorities this year will be to closely watch the spread of the small hive beetle in Illinois and to assist beekeepers with battling the beetle. To date, there have been verified cases of beetles in Will, Kankakee and McLean Counties. The IDA urges beekeepers to inspect their hives on a regular basis to see if beetles are present. Feel free to contact your IDA Apiary Inspector for assistance in identifying the beetle and in using the proper treatments. Please report confirmed cases of small hive beetle to your Apiary Inspector or to Steve Chard (217/785-4233).

It's the time of year when the IDA starts to receive moving permit requests. The IDA commends beekeepers for their conscientiousness in submitting moving permit requests last year. The number of requests was much higher in 2001 as compared to 2000. We believe that reflects beekeepers' understanding of the importance of moving permits in protecting the industry from diseases and pests. The IDA wishes to remind beekeepers that moving permits are required by the Illinois Bees and Apiaries Act. Additionally, the Act contains enforcement provisions for cases when bees are

moved without a permit. Please do your part to secure the necessary permits. The IDA would much prefer to work with beekeepers in a positive manner on the moving permit issue as opposed to taking an enforcement action.

The IDA will again be conducting a large number of Apiary inspections this year. If you would like to receive an inspection, please feel free to contact the IDA Apiary Inspector in your area or contact Steve Chard in the Springfield office. The list of IDA Apiary Inspectors is included in this newsletter for your convenience. The IDA conducts inspections, in part, to provide a service to beekeepers. I think you will find the inspections to be beneficial to your operation.

The IDA continues to search for prospective Apiary Inspectors for the northwestern and southernmost districts. If you or someone you know would be interested in becoming an IDA Apiary Inspector, please call Steve Chard at the Springfield office.

This year, I will be attending numerous local beekeeping association meetings and participating in apiary inspections with our Apiary Inspectors. I look forward to meeting and visiting with beekeepers around Illinois!

*Steve Chard, Chief Apiary Inspector*

***APIARY INSPECTORS  
ILLINOIS DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE***

Mike Gerard  
206 N. 4<sup>th</sup>, Box 79  
Danforth, IL 60930  
mikegerard3@aol.com  
815/269-2026

Dan Wright  
P.O. Box 83  
Kansas, IL 61933  
217/948-5353 (home)  
217/948-5121 (work)

Udell Meyer  
8844 Trio Lane  
Edwardsville, IL 62025  
618/633-2429

Charles Ott  
906 Peoria Avenue  
Lincoln, IL 62656  
217/732-4633

Rita Taylor  
4274 Taylor Homestead Rd.  
Pleasant Plains, IL 62677  
217/626-1319

Frank Cassidy  
202 S. Park, Box 401  
Hardin, IL 62042  
618/576-9666

Steve Chard, Chief Apiary Inspector  
Illinois Department of Agriculture  
Division of Natural Resources  
P. O. Box 19281  
Springfield, IL 62794-9281  
217/785-4233

**TRI-STATE BEEKEEPERS MEETING MARCH 8/9**

This year's ISBA Summer meeting is being held much earlier than usual. Nonetheless, the earlier date will allow beekeepers to attend before they get too busy with apicultural duties. The Tri-State Beekeepers meeting is being sponsored by the State associations of Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri. Dadant & Sons of Hamilton, IL, will serve as meeting host, and the Heart of Illinois Beekeepers are the Illinois coordinators of this event.

The meeting will provide an ideal opportunity to hear from nationally famous speakers, and restock supplies for the season ahead. *Sustainable Beekeeping in the Midwest* has been chosen as the theme for a Tri-State meeting which will be held Friday/Saturday, March 8/9, 2002. This will be the third such meeting hosted by Dadant & Sons. Similar events were held approximately 10 and 20 years ago.

Beekeepers in the Midwest and elsewhere are confronted today by a number of very significant challenges. Not the least of these are pests, diseases, and predators of honey bees. Other challenges to beekeeping in the 21st century include the intense practices of agricultural that are making beekeeping more and more difficult. Increasingly, even hobbyist beekeepers are challenged by the realities of the modern global market place, and these are producing a considerable strain on American beekeeping. As a

consequence, over the past few decades the number of beekeepers has dropped considerably. Beekeeping in the Midwest can be sustained if beekeepers are willing to work smarter, not just harder.

This Tri-State meeting is an effort to provide Midwestern beekeepers with a substantial amount of practical beekeeping information that can help them sustain apiculture into the foreseeable future. To date nearly 200 beekeepers have preregistered for this event. A complete informational file in PDF format (92k) with agenda, information about speakers and accommodations, and a pre-registration form is now available on the ISBA website: <http://www.isba.ws>. An information package and pre-registration form may also be obtained directly from Dadants by writing them at 51 S. 2nd Street, Hamilton, IL 62341, or by phoning them at (217) 847-3324.

**PACKAGE BEES AVAILABLE  
THROUGH ILLINOIS BEEKEEPERS**

The following Illinois beekeepers have offered to bring package bees back to Illinois from Southern apiaries. The following information is provide as a courtesy to Illinois beekeepers. Publication of this information does not constitute any sort of endorsement, guarantee, or assurance by the Illinois State Beekeepers Association or the Associations' newsletter editor.

(Joliet, IL) Ferry Leon Bilbrew from Joliet, IL, will be going to Mississippi in April to pick up a load of bees from Russell Apiaries. He will be selling these bees to anyone who is interested in them. They are a light-colored Italian bee. Mr. Bilbrew will be picking up two- and three-pound packages with queens as well as individual queens. All of the orders will need to be in and pre-paid by late March. All bees will need to be picked up in Joliet, IL, during April. If you have any questions, feel contact Mr. Bilbrew by any of the following means. Mail: Mr. Ferry Leon Bilbrew, 1370 Brandon Rd, Joliet, IL; Phone: (815) 723-9872; E-mail: [bflbilbrew@aol.com](mailto:bflbilbrew@aol.com). If phoning, call after 8:00 p.m. or early in the morning. Prices for queens and packages will be as follows: queens - \$8.00; two-pound packages - \$ 37.00; three-pound packages - \$45.00.

(Beason, IL) Nathan Sasse, a beekeeper in Beason, IL, and member of the Heart of Illinois Beekeepers Association, will be going to Mississippi in April to pick up a load of bees from Russell Apiaries. He will be selling these bees to anyone who is interested in them. They are a light-colored Italian bee. All queens will be marked. Mr. Sasse will be picking up two- and three-pound packages. All of the orders will need to be in by mid-March. All bees will need to be picked up in Beason, IL, ostensibly on the first weekend in April. The bees will need to be paid for in full before he departs for Mississippi

in April. If you have any questions, feel contact Nathan by any of the following means. Mail: Nathan Sasse, 1709 2000th Avenue, Beason, IL 62512; Phone: (217) 447-3409; E-mail: [nasasse@ilstu.edu](mailto:nasasse@ilstu.edu). Prices for queens and packages will be as follows: queens - \$8.00; two-pound packages - \$ 35.00; three-pound packages - \$40.00.

(Sullivan, IL) James Yoder of Kuntry Kettle in Sullivan, IL, will once again be going to Texas to bring back package bees from B. Weaver Apiaries in Texas. The following strains of bees will be available: Buckfast, All-American, BeeSMaRT (formerly Harbo), Bee Weaver Russian, and Koehnen Golden Italian. Bees will be brought back from Texas to Sullivan, IL, the first week of April. Bees will have to be picked up in Sullivan. Prices for package bees (including queens) are as follows:

No.	2-lb.	3-lb.
1-19	\$46	\$56
20-49	\$44	\$54
50-99	\$41	\$51
100-199	\$39	\$49
200 +	\$38	\$48

Clipping is \$1.50 per queen extra.

If you would like to arrange for package bees, call Mr. Yoder at (217) 728-4034 and leave a message. If you'd like to speak with Mr. Yoder, please call between 7:00 and 7:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday. For the record, Kuntry Kettle's address is RR 2, Box 198-A, Sullivan, IL 61951-9460. The Yoders also sell bee supplies.

**NEW POSTER AND GUIDE HIGHLIGHT  
MANY VARIETIES OF HONEY**

A vibrant poster and informative guide developed by the National Honey Board highlights the many colors and flavors of honey. The full-color poster and guide include photographs of 12 uniquely colored honeys along with illustrations of these honeys' floral sources. The materials also include descriptions of the 12 varieties of honey based on sensory testing done at rTech Laboratories, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Varietals featured on the poster and in the guide are alfalfa, avocado, basswood, blueberry, buckwheat, clover, eucalyptus, fireweed, orange blossom, sage, sourwood and tupelo. The poster and guide will be distributed to culinary schools, chefs and other food professionals.

The poster is available for \$5; the guide is available for \$1. To order, send your request with payment to the National Honey Board, 390 Lashley Street, Longmont, CO 80501 or watch your mail for an order form. For special bulk pricing, call the National Honey Board office at (800) 553-7162.

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>

**ISBA Executive Board 2002**

**President**

John Hansen  
127 N. Madison Ave.  
LaGrange, IL 60525  
(708) 579-9506

**Vice President**

William Buckley  
6525 S. Western Ave.  
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514  
(630) 654-1867

**Secretary**

Rita Taylor  
4274 Taylor Homestead Rd.  
Pleasant Plains, IL 62677-4024  
(217) 626-1319

**Treasurer**

Udell Meyer  
8844 Trio Lane  
Edwardsville, IL 62025  
(618) 633-2429

**Directors**

**Northern Region**

Ken Haller  
1543 N. Kennecott  
Arlington Hgts, IL 60004  
(847) 577-1925

**Central Region**

Steve Mayes  
P. O. Box 274  
Mackinaw, IL 61755  
(309) 359-8600

**Southern Region**

Ray Chapman  
R.R. 1, Box 215  
Bunker Hill, IL 62014  
(618) 585-4506

**ISBA Bulletin Editor**

Carl J. Wenning  
21 Grandview Drive  
Normal, IL 61761-4071  
(309) 454-4164

ILLINOIS STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER (USPS 258-600) is published bimonthly at 4274 Taylor Homestead Road, Pleasant Plains, IL 62677-4024. Second Class postage paid at Pleasant Plains, IL. Membership is \$6.00 per year which includes a year subscription to this newsletter. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Illinois State Beekeepers Association, 4274 Taylor Homestead Road, Pleasant Plains, IL 62677-4024.



**ILLINOIS STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION**

Rita Taylor, Secretary  
4274 Taylor Homestead Road  
Pleasant Plains, IL 62677-4024

Periodical  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Permit No. 2  
Pleasant Plains, IL 62677