



ILLINOIS STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN

September/October 2003 • Volume 85, Number 5

“TALKING UP” NATIONAL HONEY MONTH

Because September is National Honey Month, it makes a lot of sense for us beekeepers who market our honey to “talk it up”. With that in mind, I want to call your attention to a new Honey Month Kit available free from the National Honey Board. The kit contains sample brochures, recipes with color slides, media tips and press releases, with sample instructions to approach and attract local newspapers, radio and TV media.

The kit includes samples of two new, full-color brochures:

- *In the Garden with Honey*
- *Sweet and Simple Spa Moments*

In the Garden with Honey contains recipes for food and beauty treatments, for homemade food gifts combining honey with nature’s bounty, honey usage ideas and an introduction to flavor characteristics of varietal honeys. *Sweet and Simple Spa Moments* contains recipes and ideas for homemade spa treatments, plus “Food for Fuel” recipes. I would urge you to take advantage of the materials in this kit by calling the NHB toll-free order line at 888/421-2977, pressing #6. You’ll also receive in the kit *The Story of Pollination*. This brochure is an excellent tool to emphasize the importance of honeybees to agricultural crops, home gardens, and wildlife.

I also learned from statistics in the above kit that Illinois beekeepers produced about 720,000 pounds of honey in 2002. That’s 188,000 pounds more than the average of the previous five years. While I hope our production this year will be that good, it’s doubtful according to some beekeepers. The consensus is that the nectar flows have been “okay, but not as good as last year”. As usual, it depends on where your bees are located. Some beekeepers report ample flows while others falling short.

Last, I want to “talk up” our Fall convention in Springfield coming Saturday, November 8, in the Agriculture Building Auditorium at the State Fair Grounds. We have not yet secured our keynote speaker, but we have secured our second speaker, Charles Lorence, a thirty-year beekeeper,

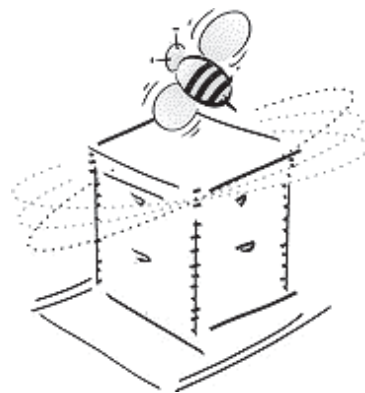
teacher, former bee inspector and past president of ISBA. “Chuck” and his wife, Karen vacationed this year in New Zealand where they visited numerous apiaries, took a multitude of slides, and interviewed beekeepers extensively. Chuck has put together a very interesting program including a taste of New Zealand honey. Also on the program, Chief Bee Inspector Steve Chard will review the year on hive inspections. And, we’ll bring back the beekeeper-of-the-year award thanks to our Northern Director, Ken Haller. Stand by for an interesting day on November 8th.

John Hansen, ISBA President

APIARY INSPECTION SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

The good news is that the Illinois Department of Agriculture finally has an Apiary Inspector for the northwestern district. Lynn Osborn recently joined the Department and has hit the ground running! I’m sure that many of you in that portion of the state have already received an inspection from Lynn. Lynn currently resides in Freeport in Stephenson County. He can be reached at 815/236-2264 (cell) or 815/599-0035 (home) and his address is: 239 Greenfield, Freeport 61032. Lynn can also be contacted via e-mail at: l.osborn@insightbb.com. Lynn is an experienced beekeeper and most recently was employed as a high school teacher, until his retirement. Lynn has quickly become an asset to our apiary inspection team.

With the addition of Lynn Osborn, the Department of Agriculture can now gladly state that for the first time in many



ILLINOIS STATE FAIR RESULTS

years the Department now has a full team of Apiary Inspectors. Of course, the big advantage with a full team of inspectors is better service for Illinois' Apiary Industry.

Unfortunately, we didn't have much time for celebration regarding our expanded inspector team. Darrel Perry, the Department's Apiary Inspector for west-central Illinois, is now carrying out limited inspector duties and will eventually be leaving the Department. Darrel continues to be available upon request for inspections if problems have cropped up in your colonies or if moving permits are needed. Darrel has done an excellent job as a Department Apiary Inspector and we wish him the very best of luck with his future endeavors.

The Department is now in the position of searching for a new Apiary Inspector for west-central Illinois. If you or anyone you know may be interested in serving as an Apiary Inspector for the Department in that area of the state, please contact me at 217/785-4233. We would like to fill this position as soon as possible.

The Department's fiscal year 2003 Apiary Inspection Annual Report is now available and will be printed in an upcoming ISBA newsletter. It will also be covered at the 2003 ISBA annual meeting here at the Department of Agriculture on November 8, 2003. I would be happy to provide you with a copy upon request.

During the month of November, beekeepers will receive a notice from us for annual re-registration of their colonies with the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Please complete the registration form and mail it to the Department in a timely manner. It's important that we have the most up-to-date information on your colonies to provide the best service to you possible. It's also important that we have your current address so new apiary-related information can be mailed to you.

Based upon our inspections, the small hive beetle has not spread beyond a few locations in Henry, Kankakee, McLean, Whiteside and Will Counties. Perhaps Checkmite+ Bee Hive Pest Control Strips are doing the job. Or perhaps, the tip of the iceberg could be on the horizon with the beetle expanding its presence across Illinois. Certainly, we can't let our guard down. Please be on the lookout for the beetle and contact your Apiary Inspector or me if you suspect that beetles have entered your colonies.

Feel free to contact your Apiary Inspector or me if we can be of assistance to you.

Steve Chard, Chief Apiary Inspector

The results from the State Fair Honey Exhibit can be found as a 2-page insert in the middle of this issue of the *ISBA Bulletin*. Thanks to Norma Meyer for tabulating the results, and a rousing round of "Congratulations" to all who won or participated. A great big "Thank You!" to all of the volunteers who helped at the Bees and Honey Exhibit as well as the Honey Ice Cream Booth at the Illinois State Fair this year. Thanks to Rita Taylor for supervising the Honey Exhibit. And to the many others who have helped throughout the years, we sincerely appreciate your contributions!

ILLINOIS BEEKEEPERS ATTEND HEARTLAND APICULTURAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE

by Jill Mayes, HIBA

Illinois was well represented at the second annual Heartland Apicultural Society conference held in Midway, Kentucky, July 10-12, 2003. Those that attended included

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RESULTS OF JUDGING FROM 2003 STATE FAIR

Norma Meyer of Edwardsville provided the following information about Professional and Open Class competition judging results at the Illinois State Fair. There were four Division 1 or Professional displays set up by Lincoln Land (LL), Illiana (IL), St. Clair (SC), and Cook-DuPage (CD) beekeepers associations. Twenty-one individuals entered Division 2 or Open Class Competition. In Open Class competition, entries were ranked from 1st to 9th place. The number of ranked entries in any one display class appear in the last column of the Division 2 results. Congratulations to all our winners!

DIVISION 1: Professional Class

Display Class \ Ranking	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place	4 th Place
Display of white comb honey	CD	IL	LL	SC
Frame of honey for extracting	SC	LL	CD	IL
Frame of white honey for cut-comb or for packing in glass	SC	IL	CD	LL
Frame of amber honey for cut-comb or for packing in glass	SC	CD	IL	LL
Display of amber cut-comb in plastic 1-lb. boxes (6 boxes)	SC	LL	IL	CD
Display of white cut-comb in plastic 1-lb. boxes (6 boxes)	CD	IL	SC	LL
White comb honey in round sections (3 sections)	IL	SC	LL	CD
60 lbs. light extracted honey	SC	IL	LL	CD
Amber comb honey in round sections (3 sections)	IL	SC	LL	CD
40 lbs. amber extracted honey	SC	IL	LL	CD
Dark extracted honey, 6 1-lb. jars	LL	SC	CD	IL
40 lbs. variety of honey in various size containers	IL	LL	SC	CD
Designs in comb honey	IL	LL	SC	CD
Light or amber chunk honey in glass jars, 3 2.5-lb. square jars	LL	SC	IL	CD
Light chunk honey, 3 1-lb. jars	LL	SC	IL	CD
Amber chunk honey, 3 1-lb. jars	SC	IL	LL	CD
Beeswax molded in commercial shapes, 15 lbs.	LL	CD	IL	SC
Art designs in beeswax, 10 lbs.	SC	IL	LL	CD
Color photography	LL	SC	IL	CD
Crystallized (or creamed) honey, 3 1-lb. jars	LL	SC	IL	CD
Honey gift pack	LL	IL	CD	SC
Best display booth	LL	IL	CD	SC
SWEEPSTAKES	SC	LL	IL	CD

DIVISION 2: Open Class

Display Class \ Ranking	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	#
Frame of honey for cut-comb or for packing in glass	Garrett Kaiser Springfield	Kevin Karnes Pesotum	Robert Walters Athen	9
Display of white cut-comb honey in plastic boxes, 3	Garrett Kaiser	Kevin Karnes	Robert Walters	7
White comb honey, 3 sections	Leo Spicer, Jr. Pleasant Plains	Valerie Wright Kansas	Ryan Washburn Redmon	6
3 comb honey in round sections	Valerie Wright	Garrett Kaiser	Ray Chapman Bunker Hill	9
Light extracted honey, 3 1-lb. jars	Richard Baugh Macomb	Larry Waller Marshall	Steve Mayes Mackinaw	9
Amber extracted honey, 3 1-lb. jars	Leo Spicer, Jr.	Garrett Kaiser	Grant Kaiser Springfield	9
Dark extracted honey, 3 1-lb. jars	Leo Spicer, Jr.	Larry Waller	Garrett Kaiser	9
Amber chunk honey in glass, 3 1-lb. jars	Leo Spicer, Jr.	Garrett Kaiser	Cynthia Clements Astoria	7
Light chunk honey in glass, 3 1-lb. jars	Kevin Karnes	Garrett Kaiser	Leo Spicer, Jr.	7
Chunk honey in glass, 3 2.5-lb. Square jars	Leo Spicer, Jr.	Garrett Kaiser	Valerie Wright	7
Crystallized (or creamed) honey, 3 1-lb. jars	Leo Spicer, Jr.	Richard Baugh	C. Gerberding Rochester	8
Beeswax, molded in commercial forms for sale, 3 lbs.	Valerie Wright	Richard Baugh	Ryan Washburn	9
Beeswax, are designs, 3 lbs.	Leo Spicer, Jr.	C. Gerberding	Ryan Washburn	9
Beeswax candles, 1 pair, molded	Garrett Kaiser	Cynthia Clements	Valerie Wright	9
SWEEPSTAKES	Leo Spicer, Jr.	Garrett Kaiser	Valerie Wright	10

Also entering the Open Class division but not placing among the top three in any display class were the following six individuals: Gene Reilly, Brighton; Pat Wagner, Edwardsville; Ken Heller, Elmhurst; Linda Godell, Troy; Ron Fischer, Oak Park; and Ellen Maxwell, Washington. Congratulations to all who entered the honey show!

**VOLUNTEERS WHO ASSISTED AT THIS YEAR'S
ILLINOIS STATE FAIR HONEY SHOW AND ICE CREAM SALE**

Heart of Illinois

Janet and Danny Hart
Jill and Steve Mayes
Tom Elston
Nathan Sasse
Earl Lutes

Lincoln Land

Rich Ramsey
Ken Beauchamp
Fred, Carolyn, and Chelsea Gerberding
Bill Barrows
Melvin Kemmerling
Rob Ostermeier

St. Clair

Udell and Norma Meyer
Raymond and Catherine Chapman

Cook-DuPage

Harry and Pat Patterson



ISBA members in attendance at the Heartland Apicultural Society meeting in Kentucky during July. Thanks to Jill Mayes for providing the photograph.

Bill & Dot Buckley, John Hansen, Mark Hoard, Mike & Anita Kotcher, Steve and Jill Mayes, Udell & Norma Meyer, Jim Rice, Rich Ramsey, and Rita Taylor. Beekeepers from Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Kentucky, West Virginia, Ohio, and Tennessee attended. The Illinois beekeepers fielded a team (Mike Kotcher, Steve & Jill Mayes, and Rich Ramsey) to compete in the Beekeeping Quiz Bowl, but lost to the Indiana team in a tiebreaker. Participants had the chance to attend classroom sessions on a variety of topics, visit an apiary for hands-on training, and explore the horse farms in the bluegrass region of Kentucky. With everything that was heard and seen in three days, everybody left with new ideas to consider and lots to talk about on the drive home.

TWO NEW ISBA T-SHIRTS

The ISBA has recently added two new t-shirts to its catalog. These shirts make it even easier for ISBA members (and their friends and family) to spread the word about honey and beekeeping. These high-quality, grey shirts all have the ISBA logo prominently displayed on the left chest. On the back of the shirt you have two choices: “got honey?” and “Honey” with the National Honey Board bear logo! We are the first organization allowed the use of this bear logo! A huge thanks to the NHB for their support of the ISBA! The shirts are available in Large, X-Large and XX-Large sizes.

Each shirt is \$18.00 plus shipping of \$4.00 (all proceeds go to the ISBA). If ordering more than one shirt, please include shipping costs of \$4.00 for your first shirt and \$2.00 for each additional shirt. To order, simply send a check for your total order plus shipping, your address and phone number and your needed size(s) to the address below. Make sure to designate which design you would like on the back of your shirts! Make your check payable to the “Illinois State Beekeepers Association”. If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail or call.



Send orders and inquiries to:
 Ken Haller, Northern Region Director - ISBA
 627 Saylor
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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 2003 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 2003 (members only)

	1 Yr.	2 Yr.	3 Yr.
<i>American Bee Journal</i>	\$16.45	\$31.30	\$44.05
<i>Bee Culture</i>	\$17.00	\$32.00	N/A
<i>The Speedy Bee</i>	\$13.25	\$25.25	\$34.00

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