



ILLINOIS STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN

May/June 2010 • Volume 92 Number 3

APIARY INSPECTION SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Steve Chard, Illinois Department of Agriculture

Greetings! Our inspection season is fully underway and all of our Apiary Inspectors have returned to provide excellent service to you. Feel free to contact your Inspector for an inspection, registration form, moving permit, advice on general honeybee management, etc. In addition, as I write this article, we are in the process of hiring an additional Apiary Inspector for central Illinois. Once that takes place, we will modify our Apiary Inspector Territories Map and provide contact information for our new Inspector on our Bees and Apiaries Program web page located on our Department website (www.agr.state.il.us). The information will also be transferred to the ISBA website.

Your ISBA has continued to make incredible progress on statewide legislation that would greatly aid in beekeepers' ability to sell honey, particularly at farmers markets. At this point, one of the bills has passed

through a House Committee and will be sent to Governor Quinn for signature. Director Tom Jennings attended one of the House Committee hearings and was very impressed with the ISBA's preparedness, testimony and the responses given to Legislators' questions. The ISBA continues to enhance its reputation with the Illinois General Assembly. Unfortunately, the Illinois Department of Public Health continues to object to the bills. If not already, the bill will soon be in Governor's Quinn's hands for consideration and possible approval.

There continues to be no change with the USEPA's approval of **Mite-Away Quick Strips** for varroa mite control. Their current position is that approval will not be given for a Section 18 emergency use exemption nationwide because there are other viable alternative products (Apistan, Apiguard, Hivastan, Checkmite, Mite-Away II, etc.) on the market to control varroa mites and there has not been a "non-routine" event. We understand that NOD Apiary Products, manufacturer of the new product, is currently pursuing a full Section 3 (permanent-use) registration with USEPA in an attempt to have the product approved for sale as soon as possible. The Department and

(Continued on page 2)

State Meeting—June 12

The Illinois State Beekeepers Summer Meeting will be held **Saturday, June 12, 2010** in northeastern Illinois. Dr. May Berenbaum, Entomology Chair at the University of Illinois, will be the keynote speaker. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and conclude by 3:00 p.m. Please be sure to bring a lawn chair with you as the meeting will be outside. The afternoon activities will include bee yard demonstrations. Be sure to bring a beekeeper's veil if you want to participate in this (it's required!). Lunch will be catered for a modest \$10 & you will be treated to one of the best buffet lunches you've ever had! Plan to *Bee* there and we hope to see you! The registration form is on Page 5. β

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ISBA will keep you posted as this process goes forward.

Colony Collapse Disorder continues to draw media interest. I was interviewed on RFD Radio Network on the status of CCD and what implications it could have on the Apiary Industry at the national and state levels. While CCD is a bad thing, it has indirectly brought extensive positive exposure to honeybees and beekeeping and that's a good thing. It gives all of us a great opportunity to tell our story and the story is definitely getting out. For example, the number of and type of questions that our Legislators asked ISBA representatives and other witnesses at various hearings on the honey legislation reflects the greatly increased public awareness of the importance of the Apiary Industry.

The Department is also providing another type of honeybee education experience to the general public with our "Community Garden". The Community Garden began in 2009 at the Illinois State Fairgrounds when the Department offered the opportunity for gardeners to obtain up to two 12 foot x 12 foot plots for \$10 each to use for the season. The Department supplied over 2,000 seed samples for gardeners' use in producing fruits and vegetables. The Garden continues in 2010 and 2 honeybee colonies will be placed relatively close to the garden plots. The honeybee colonies will definitely complement the Garden by way of pollination of plants and will also serve to provide an excellent educational experience for the public. The Department strives to educate the public on the value of honeybees to humankind on a continuing basis and this will present good opportunities for that to take place. β

From the ISBA President, Bill Buckley....

- Our summer meeting is on June 12, 2010 at the Belli Farm.
- The ISBA annual convention will be in Springfield on November 6, 2010 at the Agriculture building on the state fairgrounds. More information to follow.
- Beekeeper of the year nominations are being solicited now. Please send them to us for consideration.
- Let us help get the beekeeping Merit Badge reinstated for our future beekeepers. Go to Haagen Dais web site and sign the petition and add a few words to the Boy Scout Council telling them why you believe teaching the young about beekeeping is important. www.helpthehoneybees.com/#buzzlove also www.experien.ceproject.com/beepetition, Go to www.beesource.com for more information. This is from Christopher Stowell—13 year old Beekeeper in Skiatook, Oklahoma - who is a boy scout in troop 250 .
- Please keep the letters going to Governor Quinn asking him to sign SB 2959 to help this state's small-scale beekeepers maintain their hives. Get your friends and neighbors to write letters, also.

Governor Pat Quinn in Springfield
Office of the Governor
207 State House, Springfield, Il 62706
Phone 217-782-0244
TTY888-261-3336

Chicago Office of the Governor
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph, 16-100
Chicago, Il. 60601, Phone
312-814-2121
E-mail—www.illinois.gov. β

What are you doing for National Honeybee Day?

August 21, 2010

More information at
www.nationalhoneybeeday.org



California Is New Haven For Hedgerows: In Full Bloom Now

DAVIS, Calif., May 7, 2010—If USDA and the Xerces Society have their way, long rows of native wildflowers, clovers and blooming shrubs could border agricultural fields all across California. Currently the concept is in full bloom at USDA's Plant Materials Center (PMC) near Lockeford, Calif., where the partners hope to demonstrate to farmers and the public both the beauty and the practical benefits of planting forbs such as California poppies, lupines, baby blue eyes, clovers and other flowering plants on the edges of fields, orchards or vineyards.

"It's no secret that honey bees have been having a hard time lately," says Mace Vaughan, Pollinator Program Director for Xerces. "Native bees can work alongside the domesticated honey bees to pollinate the cornucopia of fruits, vegetables and nuts grown in California. Having flowers blooming from February to November will provide food and habitat for native pollinators honey bees alike."

California leads the Nation in adopting the practice of field-side hedgerows and last year accounted for half of all those developed in the United States. In 2009, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and farmers developed 57 miles of hedgerows—enough to string these colorful "bed and breakfasts for pollinators" from Merced to Fresno.

Margaret Smither-Kopperl, the newly-hired manager of the PMC, is originally from England. While California farmers are leading the adoption curve in the U.S., Smither-Kopperl says that hedgerows have been common in England for hundreds, sometimes thousands of years. While originally serving as a type of fencing, they also host wildlife and pollinators and include berries and medicinal plants. "You can even date the age of the hedges by the number of species they host," she says.

U.S. farmers in California and elsewhere have been using hedgerows planted with native species for more than a decade now in order to provide habitat for beneficial insects that can help control crop pests. Thomas Moore, state biologist with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation

Service, says that incorporating forbs into the hedgerow mix can create dense plantings that can outcompete field-bordering weeds, while supporting pest management and pollination.

NRCS and Xerces, a non-profit looking out for the well being of invertebrates, are working to design mixes of species that they hope will be grown at NRCS Plant Materials Centers across the Nation. "Our hope is to develop easy-to-follow prescriptions of species that farmers and ranchers could adapt for their specific needs," says Moore.

Several Resource Conservation Districts and other partners throughout the state are working with NRCS and Xerces to demonstrate how hedgerows are beneficial for different crops and locations throughout California. NRCS can share the cost of building hedgerows for eligible farmers and ranchers. Field offices statewide can provide more information or go to www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov. To watch a short YouTube video on California pollinators, view "Birds and Bees". (Released from USDA) β

Thought on Our Honey Legislation

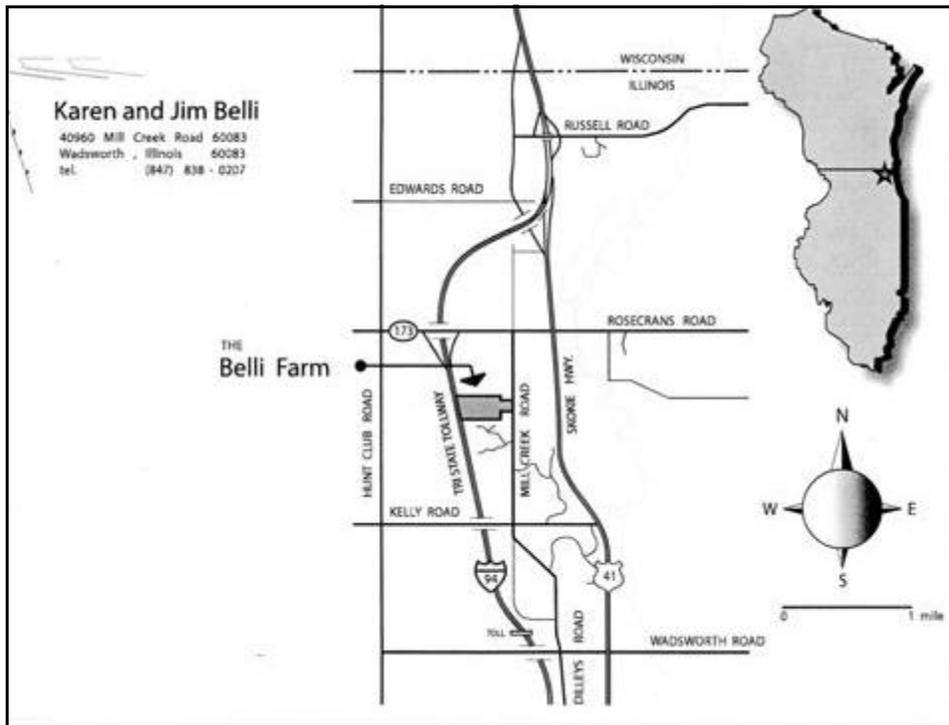
Mike Sabo

Well, as of May 7th the Illinois legislative session is over until November. Everyone might like to know where we stand on our bill.

SB2959 was successfully passed through both the House and Senate. The ISBA membership should congratulate itself on pulling together as one voice and making itself heard in Springfield. This doesn't mean that it is time to rest on our laurels. The measure will soon go to Governor Quinn and he has 60 days to sign it into law or veto it. The legislators who sponsored the measure inform me that a veto is a very strong possibility given that the Department of Public Health testified against at every opportunity. The Director of IDPH will likely ask the Governor to veto the bill when it reaches his desk.

I would like to ask everyone to take a moment and contact the Governor and encourage him to sign our bill. For those who are also members of other organizations (Farm Bureau, farmers markets, 4H, etc), I would encourage you to work within the leadership of those organizations to try to gain their support for our cause before the Governor.

The beekeepers of Illinois worked hard for this legislation. We did well. β



**ISBA Summer Meeting -
Saturday June 12, 2010**

**Many Thanks to our hosts,
Karen and Jim Belli!**

**Download the agenda and
registration form at**

**[http://niba.home.mchsi.com/
SummerMeeting.html](http://niba.home.mchsi.com/SummerMeeting.html)**

**Hold a state bee meeting
in a beeyard?
What a great idea!**

A great lunch at a great price!

Lunch will be catered by Captain Porky's! They are located in nearby Beach Park, IL. You can check out reviews on the web or even on Facebook. Fantastic! This is a GREAT price for this really good lunch. Don't miss it! "Fast Food" is located a number of miles away and it won't be nearly as good. You can also bring your own. Your choice. Lunch is recommended!

Directions to the Farm

From the South: Exit the Tollway (I94 West) at the Rosecrans Rd. exit (1st after the toll just past Gurnee) and take a right (East) on IL 73. Take the first right and head South on Mill Creek Rd. watching for the signs. The Belli Farm is on the right. Either park safely (please) along the road or safer parking in the parking lot of the Boy Scout Camp (opposite side of the road, just South of the Belli Farm) as it's just a very short walk.

From the North: Exit I94 East at Hwy. 41 right at the WI/IL border. Take a Right at IL 73 - Rosecrans Rd. and head West. Turn Left at Mill Creek Rd. (before the Tollway) and head South to watch for the signs. The Belli Farm is on the Right. Either park safely along the road (please) or in the parking lot of the Boy Scout Camp (opposite side of the road just South of the Belli Farm) as it's just a short walk.

From the West: Take IL 73 East until you cross I94. Take the first Right and head South on Mill Creek Rd. The Belli Farm is on the Right. Either park safely along the road (please) or safer parking in the parking lot of the Boy Scout Camp (opposite side of the road just South of the Belli Farm) as it's a short walk.

From the East: Dock your boat at Winthrop Harbor (it is pretty wet journey coming from the Michigan side unless you go around the lake) and arrange transportation to the Belli's. Take IL 73 West and turn Left at Mill Creek Rd. to head South and watch for the signs. The Belli Farm is on the Right. Either park safely along the road (please) or safer parking in the parking lot of the Boy Scout Camp (opposite side of the road just South of the Belli Farm) as it's just a short walk. β

**Illinois State Beekeepers Association
Saturday, June 12, 2010 Summer Meeting**

Belli Farm - 40960 Mill Creek Road - Wadsworth, Illinois 60083
Cook-Du Page /Northern Illinois/Lake County Associations – Host

Agenda

- 8:00 - 9:00 Registration / Refreshments
- 9:00 - 12:00 General Session presentations
 - Keynote Speaker - Dr. May Berenbaum, Professor and
Department Chair , Entomology, University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign
- 11:45 - 1:00 Lunch (Catered – please indicate below)
- 1:00 - 3:00 Bee yard workshop sessions

Bring your veil - they are mandatory in the bee yard

Summer meeting registration fee - \$10.00 per person
Catered lunch available **only if paid in advance by June 5** - \$10.00 per person
To register: Complete the form below and return with your check or money order payable to
Cook Du Page Beekeepers Association to -

Jane Collins
909 Creekside Circle
Naperville IL 60563

Illinois State Beekeepers Association Registration Form - 2010 Summer Meeting
Meeting date: Saturday, June 12, 2010
Return this form by June 5, 2010

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone () _____ e-mail _____

Additional attendees(#) _____ Total attending _____
Children age 8 and under (free)

Number of attendees @ \$10.00 ea..... _____

Number of lunches @ \$10.00 ea _____

Total payment enclosed _____

5 *Help us out (if you would like to sit) -
please bring a lawn chair with you to the meeting.*

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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 2009 are \$10 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 the association secretary.

Reduced Journal Rates for 2009 (members only)

	1 yr	2 yr	3 yr
American Bee Journal	19.50	37.00	52.15
Bee Culture	21.00	38.00	N/A
The Speedy Bee	13.25	25.25	34.00

The Illinois State Beekeepers Association Bulletin (USPS 258-600) is published bimonthly at 4274 Taylor Homestead Road, Pleasant Plains, IL 62677-4024. Membership is \$10.00 per year that includes a one-year subscription to the Bulletin

POSTMASTER: Send address Corrections 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

ISBA Summer Meeting June 12

- ⇒ Department of Ag update
- ⇒ Hedgerows for bees
- ⇒ June meeting registration.
- ⇒ Honey legislation update

