The Buzz
Newsletter of the Iowa Honey Producers Association

January 2009

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The Buzz Newsletter Article Submissions and IHPA Memberships

Please send submissions, classified ads, and photos to Alex W. Ebert by email to TheBuzz@ABuzzAboutBees.com or by mail to The Buzz, c/o Phil Ebert, 14808 S. 102nd Ave. E., Lynnville, IA 50153. The deadline for submissions is the 15th 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. IHPA Membership is only $10 annually. To join IHPA and receive your complimentary member subscription to The Buzz Newsletter, please contact Melanie Bower, IHPA Treasurer, 207 S.E. Diehl, Des Moines, IA 50315, Phone: (515) 287-6542

For Sale: 2 or 3 lb. packages of Italian bees with queens picked up in Cedar Rapids or Aurora, Iowa the first part of April. Bees from the Hill-Ward Apiary in California. All orders must be received by February 28, 2009.

Contact: Douglas Child 319-634-3682

For Sale: We can take orders of package bees but pricing won’t be known until mid to late January. Contact Phil Ebert 641-527-2639 or e-mail ehoney37@netins.net

For Sale: I will again be selling 2# & 3# packages of bees this year. Prices will probably be slightly higher than last year, but I won’t know until near the end of January. You need to place your order by February 28 for delivery in April.

Gordon Powell
4012 54th Street
Des Moines, IA 50310
Ph. 515-278-1762

For Sale: Belt Driven four frame tangent extractor, motor, stand, base, included. Unit has been maintained and is in good shape.

Contact: Tom Phelps
1723 Hilltop Rd.
Mt Pleasant, IA 52641
319-385-1553

IHPA Apparel (These are membership prices. Non-member prices are available on request.)

IHPA T-Shirts (Bright yellow shirt with brown lettering)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth</th>
<th>size (S) (M) (L) circle one</th>
<th>____qty. X $10.00</th>
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Women’s tank top (NEW!)

| Adult | size (S) (M) (L) circle one |____qty. X $10.00 | $___________ |

Aprons with IHPA name and a honeybee design (NEW!)____qty. X $15.00 $___________

Shipping $___________

Make checks payable to: IOWA HONEY PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

TOTAL $___________

An IHPA t-shirt makes a great gift for bee enthusiast of all ages!

Send form and check to: Melanie Bower, IHPA Treasurer
207 S.E. Diehl
Des Moines, IA 50315

Think ahead! CIBA will have their annual beekeeping equipment auction on April 18th, 2009 with the location to be announced.

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Dates To Bee Remembered

January 18, 2008 IHPA Board Meeting at the Heartland Inn in West Des Moines at 2:00 p.m. The address is 11414 Forest Ave. Take the University Ave. exit off of I-80.

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Dear Honey Producers,

Another year is in the record books. Our attention is now drawn to predictions of what the new year will bring. I think that the beekeeping industry is due for some good news. Let's hope that 2009 will be a great year for beekeepers. Maybe there will be a breakthrough in colony collapse disorder. Maybe there will be no need for spraying soybean aphids. Maybe there will be an abundant nectar flow for the entire state of Iowa, not just certain locations. Hope leads to many great things happening. Let's all hope for 2009 to be the best year yet!

As I sit to write this article, the temperature is below zero. It was just a miserable day to be out of doors. The wind sure felt like it was just cutting right through everything. Let's hope the cold snap doesn't stick around too long. Let's also hope that the colonies that we winterized are in good shape and can handle this extremely cold weather. Maybe we should keep our fingers crossed also.

Mike hasn't worked for a couple of days, but he sure has gotten the pile of beekeeping magazines, seed catalogs and other magazines read and filed. Cold weather is good for something! Perhaps you also don't have time to keep up on magazines during the frenzy of the summer, now is a good time to catch up. He has also made a list of things that we need to get done for spring. Ordering packages and queens are some of those items.

Now is the time to get any honey bee packages ordered and any new equipment ordered or put together. Let's hope there is no shortage of package bees or queens this year. The more quickly you decide about the number of colonies to increase or if you just want to requeen colonies, the more likely you will receive your order. There are several package suppliers advertised in the BUZZ or check with the national magazines or your equipment suppliers to get your bees ordered.

Diane Jurchen is competing in Reno at the American Beekeeping Federation Convention for the American Honey Queen. Another hope of the IHPCA is to get an American Honey Queen or another American Honey Princess. Good luck Diane in Reno. The experience is one she will always remember and we know that she will represent the IHPCA well. Diane is attending school in Maryville, MO majoring in education.

Remember if you are having an event this year and would like Iowa Honey Queen Shiliah Spaulding to attend, book the date early. If you know of a date that you would like honey queen representation, please let Shiliah know now so she can put it on her calendar. The more quickly you contact her, the more likely you will have her attend. There are only so many days in the year.

The Iowa State Fair is still eight months ahead, but now is also the time to decide on your entries. If you have them in mind, as the spring and summer progress you can work on projects. I always have my camera with me, you never know when you can get that winning photo. As Mike drives for his job, he thinks of ways to make the wax art project. We need to keep the exhibit numbers high so that we don't lose any space or award money in the categories. Think of entering Apiary exhibits at the fair while you don't have as many things to do this winter.

Beginning beekeeping classes are starting to form in January, February and some into March. Phil Ebert has included a list in this issue of the BUZZ. If you know of a person interested in becoming an Iowa beekeeper, please let them know about our website or give them the information so they can attend some classes. Andy is also going to coordinate some summer classes in Ankeny. Our youth scholarship winners will also be attending classes and receiving their equipment in January. Let's encourage as many new beekeepers as we can to increase our numbers. The future of the Iowa Honey Producers Association is in new beekeepers and new association membership.

If you have any suggestions for the board to act upon this coming year, please let one of your directors or officers know what you would like us to concentrate on. We hope to represent each and everyone of you, but if we don't know what you feel is important for us to do, we can't always succeed in making the membership happy. Encouragement or volunteering to help on committees is another way to help your organization.

The IHPCA will have a booth at the Iowa State Horticulture Expo to be held in April at Ottumwa. If anyone has ideas or wants to volunteer to man the booth, let us know. The booth is free of cost to us because we are an affiliate of the Horticulture Society. We can get lots of information out to the public at very little cost to us.

Let's Bee Cheerful and hope for the best beekeeping year in Iowa for 2009.

Sincerely,

Donna Brahms, IHPCA President

Pesticide Regulation
For those who saw the “Pesticide Regulation” talk given by Chuck Eckermann at the annual meeting: He has made the information from his Power Point slideshow available upon request but asked that it not be published in The Buzz or on the IHPCA website. Anyone interested in obtaining the slideshow details should contact me either by phone or email.

Thank you, Andy
(515) 725-1481
andrew.joseph@iowaagriculture.gov
2009 Beekeeping Classes
Here is the tentative list for 2009 beekeeping classes. Fees vary with location but, in general, are between $30 and $60.

Winterset--Pat Randol starts this class Jan 26 at the Winterset library. It will meet each Thursday thru March 5 with no class on Feb 26. Contact Pat at 515-210-7445

DMACC Ankeny Campus--John Johnson starts this class Jan 29. It will meet from 7 to 9 for six weeks. Contact Lois Kiester at DMACC to enroll. 515-964-6685

Marshalltown--Phil Ebert and Margaret Hala teach this section. Class begins Feb 5 and runs from 7 to 9 for six weeks. Contact Jean Brownlie at Iowa Valley Continuing Education to enroll. 800-284-4823 or 641-752-4645 Ex-5607

Kirkwood Washington Campus--Ron Wehr is the instructor. The exact date is not known at this point. Class will begin in mid to late Feb and run four weeks. Contact Kirkwood at 800-352-8833 to enroll or call Ron for information. 319-698-7542

Spencer--This will be a weekend course sometime in March. Contact Larry or Marlene Boernsen for information. 712-735-4205

Cedar Rapids--The Indian Creek Nature Center runs this course. The class starts Jan. 22 and has eight sessions. Contact the Center for information. 319-362-0664

Knoxville -- Craig Green starts this class Jan. 6 at the Knoxville library. It will meet each Tuesday through March 3 at 6:30PM. Contact Craig at 641-842-2112.

Indianola--Mike Wyatt starts this class Jan 8th at the Indianola Presbyterian Church. It will meet each Thursday through March 5th at 6:30PM. Contact Mike at 515-961-0357.

NIACC
www.niacc.edu
Come find out what all the buzz is about! Learn how to start your own beekeeping hive. Iowa’s Honey Bee Association provides this buzz-worthy event. Gain valuable beekeeping knowledge from experienced beekeepers along with new trends and ideas to make your endeavor a success.

Sat, Feb. 21-Mar. 14, 9am-Noon
Tuition & Fees: $30
Location: MT 154, NIACC
Instructor: Ennis
Course#: 62875

10 Reasons NOT to Endorse Pesticides
Several people have asked me why I think the BBKA [British Beekeeping Association] should not take money from pesticide manufacturers in return for endorsing their products. That the question even needs to be asked seems to me a sad comment on the moral vacuum that many people inhabit these days, but here are some of the reasons that occur to me:

1. It is unnecessary. On the BBKA's own figures, the money from product endorsement could be replaced by a small increase in the annual membership fee - £1.00-£1.50 - depending on which BBKA document you read.

2. It is unethical. Do the Royal Horticultural Society endorse herbicides? Does the AA (the Automobile Association or Alcoholics Anonymous) endorse whisky? Do the Metropolitan Police endorse crack cocaine? Then why does the BBKA feel the need to endorse products that are toxic to bees?

3. It is unconstitutional. Nowhere in the BBKA Constitution can I find any passage that gives the executive the power to accept sponsorship money from corporations with a vested interest in selling compounds harmful to bees.

4. It damages their credibility. Do the BBKA expect to be taken seriously as advocates of bees and beekeeping, when a significant proportion of their income is derived from profit-seeking corporations with contrary aims?

5. It is against the stated objects of the BBKA. The BBKA constitution states: "The objects of the BBKA shall be: to promote and further the craft of beekeeping; to advance the education of the public in the importance of bees in the environment". Exactly how are either of these objects furthered by endorsing pesticides?

6. It is unprecedented. I know of no other beekeeping organization in the world that takes money for endorsing pesticides.

7. It makes the BBKA a laughing stock among other European beekeeping organizations, who have been campaigning for years against the use of pesticides that are toxic to bees, and which have killed billions of bees in France, Germany, Italy and elsewhere. The BBKA should be showing solidarity with our European colleagues, not spitting in their faces.

8. It is against the wishes of a significant number of UK beekeepers. If the feedback I have received is indicative of the proportion of beekeepers who have an opinion on this subject, then far more of them are against the idea than for it.

9. It creates a dangerous precedent. The BBKA are proposing to endorse products based solely on the data supplied
by the manufacturer, without any requirement for independent testing. Once they have shown themselves susceptible to product endorsement, and have become dependent on the income, it will be all too easy to put their stamp on more and more products, until they lose all vestiges of the credibility they once had.

10. Bayer - one of the most vilified and untrustworthy corporations on the planet - will gain far more from this exercise than the paltry few thousand pounds they are handing to the BBKA. Their single aim is to make a profit - the bigger the better - and they are doing it by selling ever-increasing quantities of products that have been proven to be deadly to bees and all other insects - with the BBKA symbol on the label.

I could go on, but if you are not convinced by now, I would be wasting my time.

But I will add one more question: why is the BBKA executive so very, very keen to accept Bayer's money?

They have suppressed discussion of this subject on their web forum (banning me in the process); they have censored beekeepers' comments from their own web site, once they realized that they were all opposed to their position (see www.britishbeekeeping.com for details); they have published endless propaganda on this subject in their newsletters; they have refused to print opposing points-of-view; the president, Tim Lovett, has personally canvassed his own Surrey branch with an outrageous piece of propaganda that reads as if it was written by Bayer's PR agency, making clumsy links between rejecting endorsement proposals and 'extremism'; the president and two of the technical committee have strong links to the pharmaceutical industry, while another member of the technical committee, Norman Carreck is a strong advocate of chemical agriculture who has publicly supported GM and described crop rotation as 'old-fashioned'.

I think there is more to this than the BBKA executive is admitting. What do you think?

We call upon all beekeepers to make their views on this subject known to the BBKA.

You can send them an email using this form http://www.britishbee.org.uk/contact-hq.php or perhaps you would like to send the BBKA president, Tim Lovett, a personal message? If so, here is his email address - tjl@dermapharm.co.uk [note the fact that he owns/once owned a company in the same business as Bayer]

And - just to be fair - my email address is phil@biobees.com

Phil Chandler
www.biobees.com

Unlike the BBKA, who have suppressed all discussion of this issue on the web or in print, we welcome debate - feel free to discuss it on our forum, whether or not you have an interest in 'natural' beekeeping.

Also see:
http://www.bayer-kills-bees.com
http://www.britishbeekeeping.com

"I see in the near future a crisis approaching that unnerves me and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country. . . . Corporations have been enthroned, an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money-power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until the wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the Republic is destroyed."

(Origin unknown, often attributed to Abraham Lincoln)

Further reading:
Evidence That Pesticides Are Seriously Messing Up Our Honey Bees - http://tinyurl.com/5an2e4

Bee Product Producers Directory

We’re in the process of setting up a “producers directory” of bee products to be added to the IDALS website. The intent of the directory is to assist in the marketing of locally produced bee products. Any and all interested in adding your listing to this directory should send the necessary information (see below) to me, Andy. For an example of what we’re aiming towards, please take a look at the Christmas Tree Growers Directory at

http://idalstest.a-t-g.com/Horticulture_and_FarmersMarkets/christmasTreeDirectory.asp

and try a couple searches.

Again, this directory is open to any Iowa beekeeper with bee / hive products (hones, pollen, wax products, nucs, soaps, balms, lotions, etc.) available for sale.

Your information should include all that apply to your product offerings:

Beekeeper Name
Business Name
Product(s) For Sale
County
Address
State, Zip
Phone Number
Email
Website
Business Hours
Dates / Season Products Are Available
Directions

Once we have received a number of listings for the directory, it will be made available online, and will continue to be updated and maintained from that point forward.

Thanks,
Andy
Andrew.Joseph@IowaAgriculture.gov
(515) 326 5765
I was talking to Bob Cox today and found out he has undergone surgery to remove a large tumor in his brain. He is still going to have more surgery to remove some more of the tumor. He will then have radiation treatment and probably chemo. I don't know how long he has been off work due to the surgery, but it sounds like he will still be off for a month or longer to get all of the treatments done. If anyone would like to send Bob a get well card his address is:

Robert Cox
914 Kerria St
Weslaco, TX 78596-7222

Submitted by Gordon Powell

The weather transitioned to snow on the 29th. I was in a rush to get the shelter finished for the horses before it got too nasty. I salvaged enough leftover steel from the honey house addition to cover the back and one side. I have three pieces of rake and corner left to install and it will be complete.

The extracting line is cleaned up. I'm in the process of moving it over into the new part of our building. I haven't completely decided how I want to arrange it.

Adam is in the U.K. finishing the research for his Phd paper. By the way, his topic is 19th century English beekeeping. He is due to complete his work in April.

I had a call from one of the tree services. They said they had a log crammed with bees that they had cut out of a tree. They wanted to save the bees. I didn't want it but I told them to bring it over since they had made an effort. There proved to be only a handful of bees left. I did appreciate that they wanted to save them.

I'm beginning to feel rested. I like to take a hot shower before I go to bed. If the furnace is running when I get out, I stand over the register for a while. There isn't much heat in the upstairs of my old farmhouse.

When I go upstairs to bed, it's a bit like coming out of the sauna and jumping into a cold lake. I read somewhere they do things like that in some of the Nordic countries. It works, though. I go to sleep right away. I'm sure you have figured out by now that I don't have a lot to write about in December.

I'm learning more about exporting than I ever wanted to know. I found out the hard way that you cannot ship soft wood pallets into Japan. Then my customer got taxed 45% on the shipment because I didn't send a purity certificate with the honey. This was something new. I have sent other shipments to Japan with no problem. The normal import tax is 20%. We have our old friends the Chinese to thank for the need for a purity certificate. They have been sending a lot of junk into Japan. The authorities are getting tired of it. The tax was on both the value of the product and the cost of shipping---a double zinger.

I used some newspaper for packing in the boxes that went to Japan. My customer enjoyed reading them. He found out that a vacuum that sells for $800 in Japan only costs $400 in the US. I'm a bit of a newspaper junky myself. When I get packages from other parts of the country, I always go through the newspaper if they used it for packing.

Stay warm everybody.

Submitted by Phil Ebert

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WEAVER’S famous QUEENS and Package Bees

★ Buckfast ★ All-American

The R Weaver Apiaries, Inc.
16495 CR 319, Navasota, TX 77868

Phone: 936-825-2333 Fax: 936-825-3642
Email: rweaver@tca.net www.rweaver.com

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THE BEEYARD REPORT

The days will be getting longer by the time you read this. Spring will be just around the corner. If the bees are healthy, there will begin to be a little brood after the first of the year. I always reflect on the past season as we move into winter. It wasn't a crop disaster but it sure wasn't very good. It was the poorest crop we have had in 10 or 12 years.

It was also a horrible year for rearing queens. We started out behind and never caught up. The good weather in late Sept and early October kept brood rearing going until November. There should be a lot of young bees for winter.

It was 50 degrees and sunny on Nov 28. That's a big change from last year when it was cold and snowy. Good weather lets the bees finish their syrup. I hate it when the feeders are still half full in the spring. I look at the feeders and think, "There's syrup in there". Then I lift the box and dump syrup down my leg. The colonies we made up from the queen yard had dropped low enough that they weren't visible from the top but I could smell them. A few were still on top and hanging into the division board feeder. I gave those another shot of syrup. We have everything in doubles this year. We tried 50 or so in singles last year and had a 98% death loss. The colonies look the way I want them to look. We'll have to see how many are alive in the spring.

The weather transitioned to snow on the 29th. I was in a rush to get the shelter finished for the horses before it got too nasty. I salvaged enough leftover steel from the honey house addition to cover the back and one side. I have three pieces of rake and corner left to install and it will be complete.

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Stay warm everybody.

Submitted by Phil Ebert
The 2009 Iowa Honey Queen

Hi everyone! My name is Shiliah Spaulding and I am your new 2009 Iowa Honey Queen. I am the daughter of Roger and Lois Spaulding of Battle Creek in Northwest Iowa. I am the youngest child of five older brothers.

My family is very active in 4-H and enjoy participating in Communication projects, exhibit hall entries and showing sheep, horse, dog, poultry, and goats. I am the president of my 4-H club, the Maple Huskies, and president of my county 4-H council. I am also a member of the Northwest Iowa Area 4-H council!

In between 4-H I also participate in Livestock Judging, Volleyball, Basketball, and throw shot and discus in Track and Field.

My brother, Whitt is the one who got me interested in bee keeping. I always got to help him because it was always "Shiliah I need this or that!"

One day when Mom and I were cleaning church, Cecelia my mentor, came up and said she had a swarm in the apple tree and she needed my help. I even had a skirt on, but that didn't stop me from climbing up that ladder and cutting off that branch! I've loved bees ever since.

As your Northwest Iowa Honey Queen, I kept busy going into schools, libraries, and care centers telling kids and adults about bees. We have many school kids and adults come to tour our farm. Not only do I tell them about the animals, but I also tell them about my bees.

As your new 2009 Iowa Honey Queen, I hope to tell many more people about bees and how they help our world!!

Shiliah Spaulding
2009 Iowa Honey Queen
Featured Beekeeper of the Month

This month our featured beekeeper is Levi Price. His parents are Lariea and Aaron Price. Levi has two sisters and he and his family live on a small acreage near Winterset. They raise a few chickens and turkeys and enjoy the out of doors.

Levi is one of the 2008 Iowa Honey Producers Mentor participants under the capable guidance of Pat Randol. He is 13 years old, attends Winterset Junior High School and is in the 8th grade. Cross-country, band, chorus, basketball and this spring track are his extracurricular activities.

Levi says he started beekeeping because he thought it would be a fun thing to do and he could harvest the honey to eat and maybe even sell some next year. The name of his business is B².

He says learning to keep bees has been a wonderful experience and it also provides a little honey for his family. He likes watching the bees work. In the future he plans to have about five hives.

Thanks for your story Levi.

Submitted by Ron Wehr
Deciphering honeybee dances and stock market swings

Grad student's model brings order to complex systems through math

Anne Trafton, News Office
December 10, 2008

What do dancing honeybees and stock markets have in common?

At first glance, not much. But both are complicated dynamic systems that are extremely difficult to model -- until now. An MIT graduate student has developed a methodology for automatically constructing computer models that can accurately describe the behavior of such complex systems with very little background information.

The work has numerous potential applications, from enabling oil companies to get a clearer picture of where oil might be located underground to allowing port operators to spot suspicious behaviors.

Graduate student Emily Fox, of MIT's Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems, will present her new model at the Neural Information Processing Systems conference on Dec. 10. The methodology is designed to build models for complicated systems whose behavior is characterized by abrupt changes. These complex dynamic systems include stock markets and dancing bees: Honeybees switch between several dances in seemingly random fashion, and stock markets are notoriously unpredictable.

While modeling of dynamic systems is a subject that has received considerable attention from researchers in many disciplines, most require constraining assumptions such as a single, consistent mode of dynamic behavior, and possibly prior information regarding the structure of the underlying dynamics.

"It's quite exciting that even when you remove the shackles of putting in prior information, there's a lot you can discover about a complex system," said Fox's advisor, Professor of Electrical Engineering Alan Willsky.

The new methodology sifts through sets of data, looks for patterns and comes up with equations that describe these patterns.

In the case of the honeybee, Fox told the model the position of the bee and its head angle for 30 seconds, taking data in each of 30 frames per second. From that information, the model came up with the number of different dances, the bee's dancing state at each time point, the probability that the bee will switch to a different dance at each point, and equations that describe each dance.

The methodology, which aims to come up with the simplest model that explains the data, accurately concluded that the honeybees have three dances. Biologists have long known that honeybees use the dances to communicate distance and direction of potential food sources or nest sites.

The methodology provides a tool that can potentially save time and effort for scientists who study the dancing bees, who now have to painstakingly review long videos and visually categorize the dances.

"You don't want to go through and check frame by frame," said Fox. "This is a way of automating that, and labeling the data for them."

Fox also tested the model on data from the Brazilian stock market, using the same algorithm she used for the dancing bees. Given information on the Brazilian market's daily returns over a four-year period, the model inferred the number of modes of market volatility and the probability that the market would shift to a different state of volatility.

Currently the researchers are focusing on the model's descriptive abilities, and the accuracy with which it discovers and extracts models. While the work is still in relatively early stages, it offers promise in several areas. The first is simply discovering behavior, helping scientists and other users with their studies or monitoring responsibilities.

While the primary objective of this research is discovering models that can explain complex behavior (and thus inform domain experts), the extracted models could also be used as the basis for real-time estimation, tracking and prediction.

In addition, in the context of oil exploration this methodology could be used to discover models that automatically describe "depositional environments," i.e., processes of laying down geological layers in the earth, such as those deposited in a river bed or by a sand dune moving across a desert.

Erik Sudderth and Michael I. Jordan of the University of California at Berkeley are also authors of the paper Fox will present at the NIPS conference.

The research was funded by the Army Research Office and the Air Force Office of Scientific Research.

Carrot Cake (Honey)

3c. flour
1 1/2 c. honey
2 tsp. baking soda
2 tsp. cinnamon
1 c. chopped pecans
1 tsp. salt
1 c. vegetable oil
4 eggs
3 c. grated carrots

Frosting:
8 oz. pkg. cream cheese
16 oz. powdered sugar
1 stick butter
1 tbsp. vanilla
Sift flour, soda, and salt with cinnamon.
Add oil, honey, and eggs. Mix well. Fold in carrots, add nuts. Pour into 2 layer pans. Bake at 325 degrees for 30 minutes or until done. Frost when cool with cream cheese frosting prepared as follows: mix cream cheese and butter until fluffy. Add powdered sugar and vanilla. Mix thoroughly.
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### 3 Basic Grades

- **Select:** A grade that is truly “selected” which allows only very small tight knots and no deviations in the dovetail, rabbets, or hand holds.
- **Commercial:** The most widely used by commercial beekeepers. Tight knots are allowed where they occur except in the Dovetail and Rabbet.
- **Economy:** The same precise fit as the other two grades but is a lower wood quality. Does not pass quality standards for “select” or “commercial” but is a good serviceable box. Loose knots and knots with crack or splits are allowed.

- **Handholds**
  - tapered cut for easy gripping
- **Moisture Metering**
  - before cutting to prevent warping
- **Uniform Dovetails**
  - to prevent cracking
- **Pre-drilled Nail Holes**
  - to prevent splitting

### Dadant Frame Construction

- **18% more wood in end bars**  
  (Full 3/8” thickness)
- **Grooved bottom bar stronger and easier to use**

- **Wedge Top Bar**
  1) Wood wedge is removed from frame.
  2) Foundation is placed in frame.
  3) Wood wedge is held firmly against foundation and nailed or stapled in place.

- **Grooved Top Bar**
  Foundation is placed in bottom-bar groove and top-bar groove. This frame works best with a rigid foundation such as Duragilt or Plasticell.

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February 2009

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American Beekeeping Federation website
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