Grant awarded for renovation of the IHPA Iowa State Fair booth. Pg. 3

Sign up to help in the IHPA Iowa State Fair booth. Pg. 6

NHB Provides Additional Funds for CCD Research. Pg. 8
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 Gordon Powell, IHPA Treasurer, 4012 54th St., Des Moines, IA 50310 Phone : (515) 278-1762

The Buzz Newsletter

Rules for Classified Ads:

- Classified ads must relate to bees, beekeeping, or honey products.
- Ads are free for Buzz members.
- Ads are $10 per issue for non-members.
- Ads for non-sale items are $2 per line.
- Ads are limited to 60 words or 2 lines.
- Ads must be submitted by the 15th of the month for the next month’s issue.

The Buzz Newsletter

Rules for Club Listings:

- Club listings are free for Buzz members.
- Club listings are $5 per issue for non-members.
- Club listings are limited to 60 words or 2 lines.
- Club listings must be submitted by the 15th of the month for the next month’s issue.

9th International Pollination Symposium on Plant-Pollinator Relationships - Diversity in Action

June 24 - 28, 2007
Ames, Iowa, USA

A section on Colony Collapse Disorder is being added to the International Pollinator Symposium being held in Ames in June.

Colony Collapse Disorder Symposium
Date: Wednesday (June 27)
Time: 8:00 to 11:00
Place: ISU; Scheman building

Special section on CCD
Speakers – Robert Danka, Jeff Pettis, Diana Cox-Foster and Marla Spivak.
There is a one day cost of $175.00 which includes daily meals, daily refreshments and conference materials.

Additional details are available on the web at:
http://www.ucs.iastate.edu/mnet/plantbee/home.html

Changes of Address

Get all your issues of The Buzz Newsletter. If you move make sure your Buzz can find you! Send changes of address to the Buzz address listed at the bottom of the page, or email changes to: thebuzz@abuzzaboutbees.com

For Sale: S.E. Iowa raised Queens.
Ready in June.

Contact Ron Wehr
(319) 698-7542

FOR SALE: Queens from high producing Carniolan stock that has survived an Iowa winter. Available from late June to early Sept. Marked queens are $12.50 each. Shipping and insurance on small lots runs $7. Shipping to most points in Iowa is overnight.

Contact Adam or Phil Ebert at 641-527-2639 or e-mail ehoney37@netins.net

For Sale: 2 gallon buckets with lids.
Great for feeder buckets or small quantities of honey. 1-10, $1; 11+, 75 cents.

Contact Phil Ebert 631-527-2639 or e-mail ehoney37@netins.net

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Greetings from the President of the IHPA

Dear Honey Producers,

Well, the weather has improved a little in our part of the state. We did receive an excessive amount of rain and wind a few weeks ago, but we are now recovering. I overheard some of the senior center clients talking about the weather and of course they said, "If you don't like the weather in Iowa wait a few hours." I think you can say that about any destination, but people like to think we are unique in the weather department. I hope everyone else has recovered from the Spring weather. Mike's brother had a lot of wind damage and they are only about a mile and a half away from us. We only had to repair our greenhouses.

My computer is working again! I am still amazed at how much I use it. Every time I went to do something I had to try something a different way. I couldn't get files off of it because it said it couldn't communicate with the printer. It was just acting like a spoiled child!

The Iowa House and Senate appropriated money in the Agriculture budget to fund a State Apiarist. Everyone keep your fingers crossed that the entire budget will be signed by the governor soon. The budget takes effect in July. Thank you to everyone who worked to make this happen. It has been almost six years since the Apiary Department was eliminated from the IDALS department. I am excited to finally have someone again that can help us with beekeeping problems and to guide our Iowa beekeeping industry with expertise. Thanks to Maury Wills and his staff for the help these past six years. This will give the officers and the board of directors more time to devote to actual IHPA business. Thanks again to Representatives Clel Baudler and Jack Drake and to Senator Nancy Boettger for sponsoring the amendment to once again include Apiary in the IDALS budget. I know other representatives and senators worked very hard to make this happen, to them we say thank you.

The Iowa Honey Producers has also been awarded a grant to update and renovate the area where we are located during the Iowa State Fair in the Ag Building. It will be a tight schedule to get things done by August 9th, so we would like volunteers to help work to create a pleasing, workable space to sell our honey products and honey lemonade. Let me or any officer or board of director know if you would be able to help accomplish this with us. We are interested in all ideas and suggestions. The award letter will appear elsewhere in this newsletter. [See page 9]

Speaking of the Iowa State Fair, please respond to the work schedule for help at the fair. The Iowa State Fair is August 9th through the 19th this year. I already have some slots filled up. Remember we need approximately 21 people to work each day for all 11 days of the Iowa State Fair. The IHPA will provide you with entry tickets when you schedule a time to work. Please contact me early so that you can obtain the day and the time that you would like to work.

Don't forget to enter your items in the Apiary Department at the Iowa State Fair. We want to have a great showing. While you are out working with your honey bees, take notice of that great looking frame of honey or the best looking extracted frame, the best hive to get an observation hive going from, that wonderful tasting honey and beautiful comb honey. Don't forget to take your camera with you while working in the bee yards. It isn't as hard as it appears. Just make sure that you follow all of the rules and suggestions in the state fair book. To receive one, please call the Iowa State Fair at (515) 262-3111 or log onto www.iowastatefair.org for information.

Remember to get your bids for selling honey or honey products to John Johnson by the 30th of June. I always appreciate the hard work of our members to get such a great variety of items that we offer for sale to the wonderful people attending the Iowa State Fair. Look for the bid sheet form in this issue.

Many of you have talked about raising your own queens. The IHPA is planning a Field Day doing just that. Pat Ennis is working hard to provide another great field day for you. Please reserve July 14th to learn about raising queens in Iowa. The event will be held at the Iowa 4-H Camp located near Luther, Iowa. It will be where we were last year. It just so happens that the farmers' market that I attend on Saturdays isn't going to be held on that day, so I can attend. I know it is a busy time of year, but what a great time and location Pat and Peggy provided us with last year. Please consider attending.

Chelsa Bronnenberg, our 2007 Iowa Honey Queen is available to help you promote your products. Call her to schedule a time for her to help you.

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Chelsa Bronnenberg, our 2007 Iowa Honey Queen is available to help you promote your products. Call her to schedule a time for her to help you.

Colony Collapse Disorder is still in the news. Maury Wills e-mailed Bob Cox recently and Bob suggested that we contact the lab in Beltsville, MD if we need to send any suspicious samples. It appears that by the inspection reports most of the honey bee death loss is not CCD. Of course, not all is reported. Just remember to use good hygiene management and be careful with your treatments for mites. Follow all of the directions. Let's hope this will clear up.

If you would like any updates, contact the University of Pennsylvania. They are doing the main work on this research.

I need to get some beekeeping work done myself, so I had better get to work. "Bee " careful out there in the heat.

Sincerely,

Donna Brahms, IHPA President
A WORD FROM THE IOWA HONEY QUEEN

Chelsa Bronnenberg
2007 Iowa Honey Queen

I had the opportunity to talk to two sixth grade science classes at Newman Catholic School in Mason City for 40 minutes each. I was pleased to find out how much the students already knew about pollination and honey bees. I handed out packets of information that I put together for the students so they were able to take the information home and teach their parents about honey bees. I started out by talking about the benefits of local honey and how important it is to read the label. I passed around a jar of honey that I bought from the store that stated, "The honey may be from Argentina, Canada or the United States," and also passed a jar of pure, natural local "IOWA" honey and asked the students if they could tell a difference between the honey by reading the labels. After doing this exercise they all wanted to look at the label on their honey they had at home. I was able to bring an observation hive and explain the roles of the three types of bees that are found in the hive. I gave away a 12oz. honey bear from Spring Valley Honey Farms to the first person who found the queen bee. I passed around treats that were made with honey, I was surprised to find out how many of the students had never tried anything made with honey.

This was a wonderful opportunity for me and I am so excited to be representing the Iowa Honey Producers. If you have a promotion opportunity that I can help you with please contact me by email: Chizel2004@aol.com or by phone: (515)210-1027.

Chelsa Bronnenberg
2007 Iowa Honey Queen

THE BEEYARD REPORT

Adam came home to stay on May 8th. I finally got the grass mowed for the first time on the 12th. It was at least a foot tall. Mowed probably isn't a very apt term. It was more like thinning it out and beding it over a little. I usually turn the horses on it when I don't have time to mow. This spring has been so wet, I decided to keep them off the yard. The hoof prints really cut things up. It makes the croquet course much more challenging. You can hit the perfect shot and have the ball take a 90 degree turn when it hits one of the holes.

We were supering at this time (mid May) last year. We haven't even thought about it this year. Things are about two weeks behind where they have been the last two or three years. We are late getting the queen yard started. We didn't get our breeders brought home until the 12th. It has been so wet, we haven't been able to get to a lot of the yards. We had two yards decimated by mites that still had boomer colonies left. We bought those home to put in the breeding pool. Is there some mite resistance there or was it just the luck of the draw? I don't know but they have had mite pressure for sure. Adam did his first graft on the 15th.

We tried MiteAway pads in a few yards this spring. They definitely inhibit egg laying for the first week or ten days. I thought I was having massive queen failure in one of the yards but they came out of it when the acid dissipated. We are finding very few mites overall. The most I have gotten on an ether roll is one.

Jay Vilwock from Channel 5 was here on the 11th. He wanted to do a piece on the disappearing bees. If you give Jay a situation he can instantly give you four or five verbal images to describe it. TV news is all about sound bites but I thought the piece they did was pretty good. The best one was on the six o'clock news. There was a shorter version at ten. Jay had done some home-work on the internet. One explanation he found for CCD was "Bee Rapture"--the bees were being called to the heavens. Another explanation blamed it all on Kevin Federline. That was my favorite.

We have had really good luck with sales. I had to buy a few barrels of honey to give myself a cushion. When we had 120 barrels stacked up in the warehouse last fall, I was wondering what I was going to do with all of it.

We are still pulling brood and making splits in mid May. The early splits were three frame. Adam and Alex making them with four frames now. We usually run our splits as singles but this year we are giving second stories to the early splits. I need to get the brood boxes out of the warehouse and I don't think we are going to see a flow for a while. It also makes for a lot less work in the fall.

I hope everybody has a decent year.

Submitted by Phil Ebert

IN HIVE OR CASTLE, DUTY WITHOUT POWER

The New York Times
Wednesday, May 16, 2007

By NATALIE ANGIER
Published: May 15, 2007

I never much cared for royalty, although I admit that, for reasons my family and I are still struggling to understand, I named my first cat "Princess Bubbles."

Nevertheless, as I watched Queen Elizabeth II float serenely last week through her swooning colonial multitudes, here chatting with Goddard engineers on the wonders of the space age, there catching the president on blunders about the queen’s age, I couldn’t help but doff a small mental tiara to the great lady.
Such sober poise and unpompous stances! She’s majestic, all right, her regalness clearly born, made and thrust upon her every day of her life. In so many ways, Elizabeth reminded me of another monarch I admire: the honeybee queen, that stoical, beloved mother to the worker masses in a beehive. Sure, Her Highness may go in for pastel solids and Her Hymenoptera for fuzzy stripes, but both are tiny, attractive celebrities prone to being swarmed. Both are kept meticulously well-groomed by a retinue of handlers and are fed high-quality foods generally unavailable to the proletariat. Both are, yes, long-lived. And both share the dubious honor of having enormous social responsibility but very little power.

“The queen bee, like the queen of England, is not the ruler, and she doesn’t tell anybody what to do,” said Gene E. Robinson, a professor of integrative biology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. “But she makes things work, and she makes everything better by being around.”

Dr. Robinson and other researchers are trying to understand the deep nature of the honeybee: why it behaves as it does, how a young bee knows it’s time to grow up and get out of the house, how an older bee finds its way back to the house after a hard day’s work, and what distinguishes a queen bee from the tens of thousands of worker bees that surround her.

The researchers are driven by more than a perfectly understandable besottedness with bees. They see bees, with their comma-sized brains, compact genomes and circumscribed set of stereotyped behaviors, as offering a relatively simple and politically unobjectionable system for deciphering the biology of behavior. To that end, they are mapping out the chemical sequence of honeybee DNA and recently published a rough draft of the bee’s 11,000 or so genes. Researchers are also scrambling for clues, any clues, into the recent, baffling disappearance of honeybees across the United States, a potentially catastrophic trend that threatens the hundred or more food crops dependent on bees for pollination.

Unlike the great bee die-offs of the past, when mites or other deadly pathogens left mounds of bee corpses lying by the hives, in the newest crisis there are as yet no bee bodies to forensically explore. The bees are simply flying off by the billions as though into the void. When beekeepers check affected nests, the combs are filled with pollen and honey, but there is almost nobody home: the workers have largely vanished, leaving the queen in an unnatural state of quiet near-solitude, helpless on her own.

That a queen cannot survive without her court is a testament to the incomparable interdependence of social insect society, the pulsing, groupthinking superorganism that is the honeybee hive. Honeybees in a colony are as close-knit as cashmere, sharing up to three-quarters of their genes, compared with the 50 percent link between human siblings, and that strong kinship helps explain their highly cooperative style. They are also nearly all female. Less than 1 percent of the hive dwellers are drones, short-lived, bug-eyed males built to mate once with a queen before dropping dead to the ground with an audible pop.

There is no top-down structure to honeybee society, no central command post or leaders with whips. Power is disseminated through the hive, and daily decisions about, say, whose turn it is to feed the larvae, take out the trash or fan the nectar into honey are made sensually and regionally, through a constant exchange of chemical, tactile and visual cues. “It’s a lot of local responses to local stimuli,” Dr. Robinson said. “Little things collectively give rise to decisions.”

As for the queen, she is so far from being a decisive potentate that she can seem goofily out of the loop. When a colony is ready to move to a new hive, for example, about three dozen scout bees appraise the local real estate, consult with one another and with other workers and finally, communally, settle on the best new spot. Come moving day, the queen has no idea where to go and must be shown the way.

The queen hasn’t time for gossip or bee-blogging. She is too busy laying eggs. That is her sole job, and one that she alone can do, for the other females in the hive lack working reproductive parts.

Day in, day out, the queen remains in her climate-controlled chamber laying eggs, one or two per minute, maybe 2,500 a day. All the while she is pushed, provisioned and plucked by her retinue of nurses, her mandibles kept spotless, her bristles kept stunted with the nutritious, high-calorie, egg-enabling delicacy called royal jelly. “I’d say that being queen is the absolute worst job in the hive,” said May R. Bernbaum, a professor of entomology at the University of Illinois. “At least the foragers get out for fresh air and some scenery.”

What the queen lacks in liberty, though, she makes up for in longevity. Whereas worker bees live only two or three months, a queen lives two or three years, and some have been known to survive to age 8.

Scientists are just beginning to understand how the queen so dramatically outlives her workers, when she and they arise from the same genetic roots. Dr. Robinson and his colleagues reported last month that a queen’s early diet, exposure to royal jelly, which allowed her to mature into a queen rather than a worker, may offer her a lifetime of antioxidant protection against cellular decay.

However she manages, the queen bee defies the normal rule in biology that organisms must choose between a long life and high fecundity. Her loyal subjects need her, and so she dutifully broods on. Now will they please return the favor and come back home?
Dear Honey Producers:

We hope you will be able to help the Iowa Honey Producers Association with honey and lemonade sales at the 2007 Iowa State Fair. Dates of this year’s fair are August 9th through the 19th. Please bring any other helpers with you who may be interested in working. Children who are ten years of age and older enjoy assisting and are welcome.

We will send passes which provide free entry to the State Fair to all who assist with honey and lemonade sales.

Days, dates and times for which help is needed are listed at the bottom of this letter. Please return the work schedule, call or e-mail, if you prefer, indicating the dates and times you will help. Also, if possible, please list a first or second choice of dates and times you can be available to help with sales. Please state the names of all those coming with you who will be helping with State Fair sales.

I already have dates filling up. Thanks to those who have asked for a specific date at this early time. Remember that we need approximately 21 people per day to fill the necessary shifts. The building is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. for each of the 11 days that the Iowa State Fair runs. This is the main money making project of the Iowa Honey Producers Association. Please help us maintain our money to provide the necessary programs of the association.

**Hope to see you at the Iowa State Fair!**

Donna Brahms, IHPA Booth Manager  
65071 720th Street  
Cumberland, IA  50843-8125  
(712) 774-5878-H or (712) 250-4304-C  
E-mail: mbrahms@netins.net

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| Address:_______________________________________________________  
| City, State, Zip:______________________________________________  
| Telephone:____________________________________________________ 

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We always have a “Honey Of A Time” working at the Iowa State Fair!
### 2007 BID SHEET FOR HONEY AND PRODUCTS
#### TO BE SOLD AT THE IOWA STATE FAIR SALES BOOTH

Bid on any or all items (state quantity you will supply and bid price):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Bid Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 lb. Jars—light honey</td>
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<td>2 lb. Jars—light honey</td>
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<td>5 lb. Jugs—light honey</td>
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<td>8 oz. Antique Jars</td>
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<td>Hard Honey Candy(assorted)</td>
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<td>Creamed Honey-flavors</td>
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<td>Other Beeswax Products</td>
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<td>12 Oz. Bears—light honey</td>
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<td>24 oz. Bears—light honey</td>
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<td>1 lb. Skep—light honey</td>
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<td>50 or 60 lb. Pails (for lemonade)</td>
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<td>Comb Honey</td>
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<td>Creamed Honey-regular</td>
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<td>Beeswax Candles</td>
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<td>Beeswax Bars (1 oz., ½ lb., 1 lb.)</td>
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**NOTE:** We need a substantial supply of comb honey in plastic boxes and section comb honey. This item is usually in short supply and thus bidding doesn’t make sense. We will accept cut comb in plastic boxes and wooded and round section comb containers. Quality standards for all comb honey are: clean cappings and all cells capped. Cut comb in plastic boxes must be well drained with little or no liquid honey. We will pay **$4.00** per unit for cut comb in plastic boxes or section comb honey which weighs at least 14 ounces. We will pay **$3.25** for comb honey in round containers that meet quality standards. Honey from all suppliers must be **2007** crop, Iowa honey with 18.5% or less moisture content and excellent overall quality. All of the containers need to be at a uniform fill line and free from foam. The IHPA booth manager has the right to refuse any containers not meeting this standard. Winning bids will be based on price, quality and ability to provide required quantity of product for the entire fair. All winning bids will remain in effect for the duration of the Iowa State Fair. **Bids must be received by June 30, 2007.**

Please sign the bid sheet and provide address and phone numbers. Suppliers of State Fair Honey will use their own business label on products supplied for State Fair Sales. Labels must be attractive with preprinted working, which includes name and address of the supplier and net weight of item supplied. Include one sample of your label with the bid sheet.

**NOTE:** Arrangements need to be made to pick up any used product between 9 p.m. & 10 p.m. Sunday, August 19 or 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Monday, August 20, 2007.

Your Signature_____________________________Name (printed)________________________
Address, City, Zip__________________________Phone &/or Cell________________________

Return to: W. John Johnson   2426 Hamilton Dr.  Ames, IA  50012-8202

**Remember: This is the major money making event for the Iowa Honey Producers!!**
Featured Beekeeper of the Month

This month’s featured beekeeper is Duane Dufoe. He and his wife, Mitzi, live in Grinnell, Iowa. Duane’s business name is GDB Honey. Gary Starkey, Duane Dufoe and Brian Starkey teamed up in this venture. This was their first year. It seems Phil Ebert and Margaret Hala were teaching a class at Iowa Valley in Marshalltown and Duane has always been interested in keeping bees so this was a good chance to learn. Duane told his friend Gary about the class and the two of them started out. They decided to buy their bees from Curtis Barnhardt. In the course of deciding how many hives to have, Gary’s son Brian said he was interested in a hive and that’s how the three started. Mitzi even helped them extract. The first year they produced 9 gallons of honey from 4 hives. They learned they should have fed the bees as soon as they got home. This year they are thinking about expanding the operation to 15 to 20 colonies. Duane said they used the honey as gifts to family and friends at Christmas time, but next year his mother will sell honey at the flea markets she is involved with.

Duane has attended the field day at Boone and the winter meeting in Marshalltown. He is thinking about working at the State Fair. Learning how to better control mites and splitting hives are next on his agenda. In addition to all the steps in setting up a hive and taking care of it Duane says he has learned what the honeybee bump dance means and writes, “Some days bees have a mind of their own.”

Keep on learning and thanks for your story Duane.

Submitted by Ron Wehr

NHB Provides Additional $100,000 in Funds for Research on Colony Collapse Disorder

March 28, 2007

Firestone, Colo. – The National Honey Board (NHB) has approved $100,000 in additional funding for research on the phenomena recently termed Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD), bringing NHB’s total funding to date for CCD research to $158,000.

The funding has been awarded to a CCD Working Group composed of university faculty researchers, state regulatory officials, cooperative extension educators and industry representatives. In January, NHB approved an emergency funding request for $13,000 for the group. In addition, NHB approved $45,000 for a CCD research project as part of its 2007 production research funding.

In late 2006, some beekeepers began reporting large losses in honey bee colonies. Although bee experts have identified several possible causes, a prevailing theory has yet to emerge.

The CCD group and Bee Alert Technology are asking beekeepers’ assistance in reporting instances of honey bee CCD. Beekeepers can assist with this effort by participating in the National Bee Loss Survey at www.beesurvey.com

For more information about CCD and the CCD Work Group, visit http://maarec.cas.psu.edu/index.html

NHB conducts research, advertising and promotion programs to help maintain and expand domestic and foreign markets for honey. These programs are funded by an assessment of one cent per pound on domestic and imported honey.

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Bees In Peril

The Progressive Farmer

April 2007

www.progressivefarmer.com

America’s bees are in trouble. And that spells big problems for crops that depend on insects for pollination.

Beekeepers and researchers blame the varroa mite – nicknamed “vampire mite” because the bloodsucking parasite attacks young and adult honeybees. The mites nearly destroyed the wild honeybee population in the 1990s and are now causing havoc to commercial bee colonies. Some say the vampire mite – along with the small-hive beetle that causes damage from larval feeding – may have reduced the bee population as much as 50% over the past two decades.

But the hurt doesn’t stop with beekeepers. Honeybees pollinate more than 90 commercial crops and are a major carrier of pollen for seeded fruits, vegetable crops that grow on vines and forages like alfalfa and clover. Even wild bees that are resistant to the mites are losing numbers, thanks mostly to habi-
tat loss. Bees are responsible for 15 to 30% of the food we eat in the U.S.

Now farmers are struggling to get bees for pollination. California almond growers need about 1.4 million colonies of honeybees to pollinate a half million acres of trees. By 2012, that number is expected to swell to 2 million hives as harvest-ready trees come into production.

In 2005, pollination demands nationwide outstripped the domestic supply of honeybees. This forced U.S. farmers to import honeybees for the first time since 1992.

Pesticides only provide limited control of the mites and beetles. Plus, chemical controls are difficult to use without harming the bee population. Researchers are looking at biological controls that attack the mites but not the bees. They’re also looking at genetic enhancements that may help breed bees so they’re resistant to the parasites.

Submitted by Larry Spina

### Applesauce – Honey Nut Bread

- 2 1/2 c. Bisquick
- 1 c. quick cooking oats
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 c. honey
- 1 c. applesauce
- 1 c. golden raisins
- 1 c. walnuts, chopped

Combine first 4 ingredients; make a well in center of mixture. Combine egg, honey, and applesauce; add to dry ingredients, stirring just until moistened. Stir in raisins and walnuts. Spoon batter into two greased and floured 7 1/2 x 3 1/2 x 2 1/4 inch loaf pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 to 50 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pan 10 minutes, remove from pans and cool completely on wire racks.

Recipe from www.cooks.com

### IDALS Grant Awarded to the IHPA

May 14, 2007

Donna Brahms
Iowa Honey Producers Association
65071 – 720th Street
Cumberland IA 50843

Dear Ms. Brahms,

Thank you for submitting a grant application to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship’s Specialty Crop Grant Program. After careful consideration by the Grant Approval Committee, I am pleased to announce to you that the Iowa Honey Producers Association’s grant application has been approved in the amount of $4,000.

Enclosed with this letter is a Substitute W-9/Vendor Update Form that should be completed and returned to the Accounting Bureau in order to receive your check. If you have any questions about this form, please contact Erinn Sprouse at (515) 281-8611.

In addition, the Grant Approval Committee is requiring awardees to submit two reports to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship regarding the progress of the awarded project: one at the six-month mark and a final report at the completion of 12 months.

Congratulations and thank you for your contribution to the agricultural community. We are eager to watch your project evolve in the coming months.

Best wishes,

Bill Northey
Secretary of Agriculture
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
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The Buzz Newsletter
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ISSUE 6 – June 2007

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