



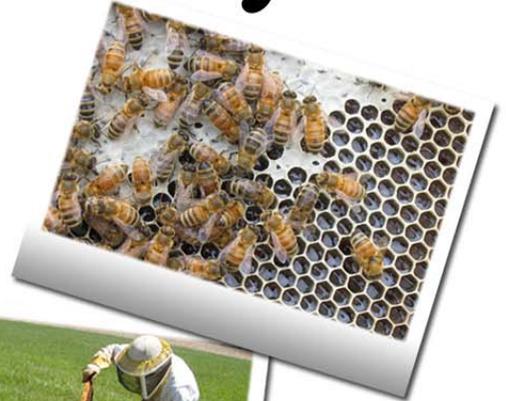
The Buzz

Newsletter of the Iowa Honey Producers Association



February 2009

IHPA Photo Gallery



www.ABuzzAboutBees.com

KS and MO Associations Joint Meeting Pg.4

Featured Beekeeper of the Month Alex McGuire Pg.6

IHPA Photo Gallery Pg.8

2009 American Honey Queen Hails From Iowa Pg.8



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Cover Photographer: Alex Ebert



Dates To Bee Remembered

3/8/2009 The next IHPA board meeting will be at 2:00 pm in Des Moines at the Heartland Inn, 11414 Forest Ave.

4/3&4/2009 Iowa State Horticultural Society Expo

4/18/2009 Think ahead! CIBA will have their annual beekeeping equipment auction Saturday, April 18th 2009. Location to be announced.

8/13-23/2009 The Iowa State Fair



For Sale: Package bees delivered S.E. Iowa 5 miles N. of Drakesville. Pickup early April, \$30 deposit required. Italian or Carniolan Queens. Call (641) 799-9266 or (641) 682-8333 evenings are best.

Charles Newton
11245 Jewel Ave.
Bloomfield, IA 52537

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: Package bees. We will have 2# and 3# for sure. The status of 4# with 2 queens is uncertain at this point. Delivery will be in early April. You have 48 hours to get the bees after they arrive. We will sell until the truck is full. That should include the month of March. You have your choice of Carniolan or Italian queens.

Contact Phil Ebert for price and availability. 641-527-2639 or e-mail ehoney37@netins.net

For Sale: 2 & 3 Lb packages of Italian Bees with Queen. Bees are from Hill-Ward Apiary in California will be available the first part of April. Place your order by February 28.

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

CINNAMON HONEY MUFFINS

Printed from COOKS.COM

- 1/4 c. honey
- 2 c. presifted flour
- 3 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/4 c. melted shortening
- 1 egg, well beaten
- 1 c. milk

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Grease muffin cups.
2. Put 1 teaspoon of the honey in each cup.
3. Into mixing bowl sift together dry ingredients.
4. Add remaining ingredients. Stir only until dry ingredients are moistened.
5. Spoon batter into muffin cups filling them 2/3 full. Bake in preheated oven 20-25 minutes. Makes 12.



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

Greetings from the President of the IHPA

Dear Honey Producers,

WOW! I certainly didn't enjoy that cold snap we had, let's just hope that our honey bees are keeping themselves warm and still have enough food to keep them going until it warms up enough to check them. Cold weather is a fact of winters, but the sub zero temperatures and wind chills have a negative impact on all things. Mike had to work outside for his job during those cold days. I don't think I would be able to do it, I much prefer the weather we had over Christmas when we traveled to North Carolina to attend Mike's brother's wedding. December 27th we took the grandkids to the ocean to play on the beach and it was 75 degrees. That is more my preference.

Most of you should have received the notice of reminder to register your hives and sensitive crops. It is not that hard to do. If you need help contact Andy, the Iowa State Apiarist, and he will help you get registered. It is very important that you register the location of your hives. When chemicals are being sprayed in your area, you will be notified and you have several options to protect your colonies. If the new bee rule is adopted, we will be able to register hives all year long should it become necessary to relocate any colonies. Please protect your investment and register your hives. We need to be responsible beekeepers and registering hives is one of those responsibilities.

On that note, several Iowa beekeepers are not happy with the bee rule. Nothing is perfect. There is a misconception that the IHPA officers and board of directors approved the proposed bee rule changes. We did not. It was proposed by the pesticide bureau. There are some very good points in it. Being able to register hives all year is a plus in my book. Having the hours limited for spraying is also a plus. Not all of us are going to agree on the perfect time to spray, but it is an improvement. The chemical applicators will be limited to hours of application if the application will be within 1/2 mile of a registered apiary. Again, nothing is perfect. One of the problems that needs addressed is the liability aspect of not following the rule. It is a large issue and not addressed in the bee rule. We will have to work on that one by addressing the proper channels.

Congratulations are in order. Diane

Jurchen, the 2008 Iowa Honey Queen, was crowned 2009 American Honey Queen during the banquet at the American Beekeeping Federation meeting held in Reno on January 17th. Diane will represent the beekeeping industry at events all over the United States during her reign. Diane is the daughter of Linda and Jeff Jurchen of Cumberland. She has two sisters, Teresa and Laura. Diane attends Northwest Missouri College in Maryville, MO majoring in early childhood education. Please join me in offering her our best for a great year of meeting beekeepers and promoting the honey industry.

It is getting plenty late to order packages and queens for the upcoming season. I hope that chore has been completed. Now is also the time to finish up working on equipment to have it in good condition to start the new beekeeping season. The time will arrive when we can see bees flying and the weather will warm us. Make a goal this year for better records. Everything will improve in your operation if you have great records. Our brains just can't remember all the details, but if it is in writing, the details are available to us.

As you are daydreaming of warmer days, plan ahead to enter the Iowa State Fair. Now is the time to organize your thoughts about what you might want to enter. Order supplies and do some of the details while it is not so hectic. There have been some changes so check the rule book carefully when they are available. I would like to encourage more youth to enter the youth categories. One of the fun challenges is to keep your camera with you at all times while you are doing beekeeping activities. You never know when that perfect photo will present itself.

Speaking of youth, the equipment has been delivered to the youth scholarship winners. The equipment was provided by B & B Honey Farm in Houston, MN. Mike and I went to Minnesota after we got back from North Carolina on New Year's Day to pick it up. Boy, was my car full. It reminded me of farmers' market days! Classes are being held. The packages of honey bees will be sent from Lee Heine in Wisconsin. Lee has graciously donated the packages again this year. They will likely be shipped around the end of April. We will keep everyone posted as the time nears. The youth will be assembling their equipment and

eagerly anticipating the arrival of spring and their new honey bees. Thanks to all of the mentors for your time and talents. Without mentors, this program would not be successful.

If you are having an event and would like to have the Iowa Honey Queen attend, please contact the 2009 Iowa Honey Queen, Shiliah Spaulding. She will do her best to get your event on her calendar. Having the honey queen at an event always draws lots of attention. Contact Shiliah early if you know of a date that you would like to have her help you. These events could be an expo, it could be a tasting, a promotion in your community, a parade, a community celebration, farmers' markets, etc. Shiliah's phone number is (712) 365-2591

As some of you heard at the Annual meeting we have had some accounting issues come up. We feel it is necessary to inform the membership of pending issues. We, the officers and board of the IHPA, have been unable to obtain records of the past treasurer. Upon advice of counsel, it has been decided by the IHPA officers and board of directors to pursue the past financial records of the IHPA. This is necessary and in the best interest of the Iowa Honey Producers Association to do so. We also need to have an accounting to obtain the non-profit exempt status [501 (c)6] needed to satisfy requirements of the Internal Revenue Service. We will keep you updated as things progress. If anyone has questions, please contact one of the board members.

Don't forget to try out some new honey recipes for your "honey" during February for heart month. Valentine's day can be a honey of a day.

Sincerely,

Donna Brahms, IHPA President



KS and MO Associations Joint Meeting

The Kansas Honey Producer's Association and the Missouri State Beekeepers will hold a combined meeting in Overland Parks KS on March 6th & 7th, 2009. Guest speakers will be Dr. Clarence Collison from the Mississippi State University he is the head of the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, Dr. Rudolf Jander (Dr. Karl Von Frisch's last Doctoral Student) now at the University of KS professor in Animal Behavior., Dr. Orley (Chip) Taylor University of Kansas professor of Insect Ecology, Dr. Deborah Smith-Associate Professor in entomology Department of Ecology and Evolutional Biology University of KS (and one of the foremost authorities of bees of the world), Danny Najera -doctoral student University of Kansas- Department of Ecology and Evolutional Biology and Dr. Ron Fessenden co-author of the new book the Honey Revolution. There will also be a representative from the National Honey Board.

The meeting will be held at the Marriott Hotel at I-435 & Metcalf. To make your reservation call 913-451-8000 and mention the code words American Beekeepers to get the rate of \$85.00 + tax. You must reserve your room by February 12th For more information call Joli Winer at 913-856-8356 or visit the website of nekba.org. or the website of the Missouri State Beekeepers. Program and registration forms are available by mail or at the website.

Iowa State Horticultural Society Expo

The Iowa Horticultural Society is sponsoring an All Iowa Horticulture Exposition on April 3-4, 2009 in Ottumwa at the Bride View Conference Center. The ISHS is supplying the IHPA with a booth. The board would like members to submit bids for honey to be sold for a fundraiser for the IHPA during this event. We will be selling t-shirts, tank tops, aprons and cookbooks that the IHPA has for sale, along with information about the organization, etc.

We felt that we should have some honey also. If you would like to submit a bid for honey, please send it to Pat Randol, 2505 Carriage Trail, Winterset, IA 50273. Her phone number at home is (515) 462-4768 or her cell phone number is (515) 210-7445. E-mail bids may be sent to: prandol@fbx.com The deadline for bids is March 1st.



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 informa-

tion. 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

The Beeyard Report

I returned home from Fresno to find six inches of snow on the ground and some big drifts. In the following week, we have had more snow, lot's of wind and very cold temps. I'm hoping the snow has covered up all the hives for some extra insulation.

In the Buzz last month, Andy said that a number of people wanted to apply Terramycin to help the health of their bees. This greatly alarmed me. Terramycin is not going to fix sick bees. In all likelihood, it's not even going to

offer protection against foulbrood. In my opinion, there are four areas that stress bees--mites, viruses, poor nutrition and insecticides. Mites magnify the effects of the last three. The interaction of the factors is not well understood but we know they work together to shorten the life of the bees. You need to direct your attention to the stress areas.

Viruses have always been present in bees. Mites facilitate the spread of viruses plus they weaken the bees and make them more susceptible. Last year, Jerry Bromenshank got a virus detection machine from the army that was developed for use in biological warfare. Since testing was started, many viruses have been found in the bees that no one suspected were there. We don't know what the effect of these newly found viruses is.

Poor nutrition is another problem. Ag is practiced more intensively than ever. Eliminating weeds eliminates forage. Bees need pollen from a variety of sources. That's where the bees get their protein. Some pollen has been proven to be low in protein. If a bee has less than a 40% protein content in its body, it's going to have a short life.

The affect of insecticides has been magnified the last few years. All native pollinators are in decline. Insecticides are often mixed with fungicides which can increase their toxicity to an even greater level. A number of insecticides have been found in pollen samples. The bees are carrying this stuff home and feeding it to the brood.

What can you do? Put bees in a sheltered area if possible. That will give them some kind of buffer against spraying. Work with your neighbors. Most people we talk to try to spray when it will do the least damage to the bees. Early morning and late evening spraying will minimize losses. Talk to them about what they are using. Pyre-

throids (Ponce, Asana), in general, are less toxic to bees than organophosphates like Lorsban. We don't use pollen substitutes very often but if you are in a barren area, I would recommend them for spring application. I have used them in the fall when we doubled up the colonies we ran as singles during the summer. Those colonies store a lot of their pollen in the first honey super. When we take the supers off, they lose that so we try to supplement it. The winter bees need to have higher protein content in their bodies. The only thing we can do about viruses at the present time is to keep Varroa levels low.

than a cursory inspection before they are reused. Typically, they have rotten larva but it doesn't rope. Keep looking. There could be some scale present.

From here on out, activity will start to ramp up. We are getting lots of calls about packages and there are lots of winter projects to complete. Holiday season is over.

Submitted by Phil Ebert



First Response

'Those are bees!' These might be the first words out of somebody's mouth upon finding a swarm of honeybees. But what if you are a first responder on a call for a "bee emergency"? Stating the obvious isn't going to get the job done if a truck carrying beehives overturns on the highway. And with the number of hives that cross the country each year, it is a possibility.

Fortunately for a few fire departments in southeast Iowa, Vern and Doris Ramsey know all about honeybees. The Burlington fire department called Vern to inquire about a training session for about 60 people altogether. Vern says he is also looking at possible sessions with departments in Fairfield and Ottumwa. The presentation of nearly an hour introduces personnel to protective gear and protocols for approaching a scene with thousands of honeybees flying through the air.

While a swarm of honeybees can easily be handled by a local beekeeper, it is reassuring to know that more and more of our first responders are gaining the knowledge necessary to effectively handle the larger "bee emergencies" thanks to the Ramsey's.

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One result of the adverse factors affecting bees is the poor queens we get now. Even the queen breeders admit that it's hard to get queens to last the season. Steve Park gave a presentation on his operation when I was at the Fresno meeting. He runs everything double queen. When one queen fails, he just pulls out the divider. In the other scenario, when the whole stack goes queenless, he takes a queen right box from one of the double queen stacks and puts it on the queenless one. It's a good method.

There is one other caution I would note. No matter how hard we try, we always have some colonies crash from mites. I think those colonies are very prone to break down with the initial stages of foulbrood. The last couple of years, I have noticed a little bit of scale in the combs from the colonies that crashed. Those combs require more

Iowa Honey Queen

Happy Valentines Day to all. I hope whatever you give your special someone, it will include something sweet from the bees!!

The month of January has kept me busy with my many school and 4-H activities. My team the BC-IG Falcons girls won our Conference and placed second in the Western Valley Conference. My 4-H club, the Maple Huskies, raised \$500.00 for our annual bake sale fundraiser, this year, we are buying a typewriter and junior high books for the Battle Creek Library. We only have 11 members so we were thrilled we did so well.

I visited the Willow Dale Care Center and talked to 30 residents and their families about my activities as the 2009 Iowa Honey Queen. They enjoyed my scrapbook and I served fresh bread with honey on it!!

The bees flew on January 22 and 23 and they all seemed busy. One of my brother Whitt's hives didn't look as active as the rest, so we will be watching them closely in the coming weeks. I have sold all my 2008 honey crop. My college fund is looking better every year!

January came to an end in the goat and sheep barns. We will be starting the lambing, calving and kidding in the next

week. I got to do most of the shearing this year except when a couple yearlings wouldn't stand, so my dad came to the rescue to help me finish shearing them!

The ground hog seen his shadow this morning so we get bundle up for another six weeks KEEP WARM!!!

Thanks,
Shiliah Spaulding
2009 Iowa Honey Queen.



Featured Beekeeper of the Month

This month our featured beekeeper is Alex McGuire. She is another of our Iowa Honey Producers Mentor Program participants. She lives in West Des Moines, is one of four children in the McGuire family and her parents are Julia and Matthew.

Alex is a freshman at Dowling Catholic High School. She enjoys volleyball and Art Club. This spring she is hoping to be able to participate in track. Beekeeping and drawing are her hobbies.

Alex has one hive, considers herself a hobbyist, and really likes pouring honey into jars. Her mentor is Jerry Kern. She says she got stung a few times when she was putting her bees into the hive, but over all hasn't had much trouble with the bees stinging. She even managed to get her grandpa interested in beekeeping and he attended the Iowa Honey Producers Annual Meeting with her. Alex also belongs to the Central Iowa Beekeepers Association. There are about 20 members. When she graduates, Alex is planning to attend college and is considering something science related and art.

Thanks for your story Alex.

Submitted by Ron Wehr



**Alex McGuire [right] and Jerry Kern [left] take a peak inside the beehive.
Alex is taking part in the IHPA Youth Mentoring Program.**





T-Shirts and Tank Tops Front View

Women's Tank Top Back View

White and Off-White Aprons

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

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

Youth		_____ qty. X \$10.00	\$ _____
Adult	size (S) (M) (L) <i>circle one</i>	_____ qty. X \$11.00	\$ _____
Adult	size (XL) (XXL) <i>circle one</i>	_____ qty. X \$12.00	\$ _____
Adult	size (XXXL)	_____ qty. X \$13.00	\$ _____

Women's tank top (NEW!)

Adult	size (S) (M) (L) <i>circle one</i>	_____ qty. X \$10.00	\$ _____
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Aprons with IHPA name and a honeybee design (NEW!) (White) (Off-White) <i>circle one</i>	_____ qty. X \$15.00	\$ _____
	Shipping	\$ _____

Make checks payable to:

IOWA HONEY PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

TOTAL \$ _____

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

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

Shipping is \$3.00 per shirt, or \$5.00 for two shirts.

IHPA Photo Gallery

Spring is getting closer. Before long it will be time to get out that camera to take a picture of your overwintered bees, or your very first package of bees, or maybe of a honeybee for the Iowa State Fair photo contest. I am here to tell you that now you can share your beekeeping pictures with the world. The IHPA website has recently been upgraded with a photo gallery! Everyone is encouraged to share their beekeeping pictures on the website for all to see. That means everyone. You don't have to be a professional photographer; you just need to like bees! Go to www.abuzzaboutbees.com and click on the Photo Gallery button to see what your fellow beekeepers have been up to.

The IHPA Photo Gallery will allow everyone to share their experiences with beekeeping. That includes even the not so nice pictures as presented in the "Pest" section of the photo gallery. Varroa Mites, Foulbrood, Small Hive Beetles, and Wax Moths may not make for pretty pictures but they are quite

valuable when it comes to new beekeepers. The goal of this section is to be another resource to help you identify what these pests look like when you get inside the hive.

Putting your picture up on the IHPA Photo Gallery is as easy as sending a copy by email attachment to photos@abuzzaboutbees.com. I (Alex Ebert) will take care of resizing the photos and loading them into the photo gallery. Please also include the Photographer's Name and a Short Description. The description doesn't have to be much, but it is your opportunity to share with us what is going on in the picture and when/where it was taken. You can also give your picture a Title, example "Honeybee on a Flower". Include this information for each picture you send. For printed pictures you may mail them to IHPA Photo Gallery, c/o Phil Ebert, 14808 S. 102nd Ave. E., Lynnville, IA 50153. You must include a self addressed stamped envelope if you would like the pictures returned.

If you have any questions regarding the IHPA Photo Gallery feel free to

email them to me at photos@abuzzaboutbees.com

It's still February and the bees are sleepy most days. Most people haven't taken many or any pictures this year. That's quite all right. Pictures do not have to be from any particular year, though it is helpful to note what year they were taken. Not only can you send in pictures from years past, but I would even suggest that this is an opportunity to share pictures of how beekeeping was done "back then". A sense of history in beekeeping to see just how beekeeping has changed over the years.

So get your beekeeping pictures out and send them in to the IHPA Photo Gallery. Share your beekeeping experience with the world, and keep that camera clicking!

Submitted by Alex Ebert



2009 American Honey Queen Hails From Iowa

The American Beekeeping Federation is proud to announce that Diane Jurchen was selected as the 2009 American Honey Queen at its annual January convention in Reno, NV. Diane is the 20-year-old daughter of Jeff and Linda Jurchen of Cumberland, IA and the granddaughter of Raymond and Phyllis Aupperle of Cumberland, IA and of Harold and Bobby Jurchen of Griswold, IA. She is also the great-granddaughter of Ellen Aupperle of Massena, IA. Diane is a sophomore at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, MO, majoring in elementary education.

Prior to being selected as the American Honey Queen, Diane served as the 2008 Iowa Honey Queen. In this role, she promoted the honey industry at fairs, festivals, and farmers' markets, via television and radio interviews, and in schools.

Diane will spend the next year promoting the beekeeping industry throughout the United States in a wide variety of venues. To schedule an appearance with American Honey Queen Diane Jurchen, please contact American Honey Queen Program Chairperson Anna Kettlewell at 414-545-5514.



Much High Fructose Corn Syrup Contaminated With Mercury, New Study Finds

Brand-Name Food Products Also Discovered to Contain Mercury

Institute for Agricultural Trade Policy
January 26, 2009

Minneapolis – Mercury was found in nearly 50 percent of tested samples of commercial high fructose corn syrup (HFCS), according to a new article published today in the scientific journal, *Environmental Health* <<http://www.ehjournal.net/content/8/1/2>> . A separate study by the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP) www.iatp.org detected mercury in nearly one-third of 55 popular brand-name food and beverage products where HFCS is the first or second highest labeled ingredient—including products by Quaker, Hershey's, Kraft and Smucker's.

HFCS use has skyrocketed in recent decades as the sweetener has replaced sugar in many processed foods. HFCS is found in sweetened beverages, breads, cereals, breakfast bars, lunch meats, yogurts, soups and condiments. On average, Americans consume about 12 teaspoons per day of HFCS. Consumption by teenagers and other high consumers can be up to 80 percent above average levels.

"Mercury is toxic in all its forms," said IATP's David Wallinga, M.D., and a co-author in both studies. "Given how much high fructose corn syrup is consumed by children, it could be a significant additional source of mercury never before considered. We are calling for immediate changes by industry and the FDA to help stop this avoidable mercury contamination of the food supply."

In the *Environmental Health* article, Dufault et al. found detectable levels of mercury in nine of 20 samples of commercial HFCS. Dufault was working at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

when the tests were done in 2005. She and co-authors conclude that possible mercury contamination of food chemicals like HFCS was not common knowledge within the food industry that frequently uses the sweetener. While the FDA had evidence that commercial HFCS was contaminated with mercury four years ago, the agency did not inform consumers, help change industry practice or conduct additional testing.

For its report "Not So Sweet: Missing Mercury and High Fructose Corn Syrup" <<http://www.healthobservatory.org/library.cfm?refid=105026>> , IATP sent 55 brand-name foods and beverages containing HFCS as the first or second ingredient to a commercial laboratory to be tested for total mercury. Nearly one in three products tested contained detectable mercury. Mercury was most prevalent in HFCS-containing dairy products, followed by dressings and condiments. Attached is the summary list of the 55 products and their total mercury content.

In making HFCS, caustic soda is used, among other things, to separate corn starch from the corn kernel. For decades, HFCS has been made using mercury-grade caustic soda produced in industrial chlorine (chlor-alkali) plants. The use of mercury cells to produce caustic soda can contaminate caustic soda, and ultimately HFCS, with mercury.

"The bad news is that nobody knows whether or not their soda or snack food contains HFCS made from ingredients like caustic soda contaminated with mercury," said Dr. Wallinga. "The good news is that mercury-free HFCS ingredients exist. Food companies just need a good push to only use those ingredients."

While most chlorine plants around the world have switched to newer, cleaner technologies, many still rely on the use of mercury cells. In 2005, 90 percent of chlorine production was mercury-free, but just 40 percent of European produc-

tion was mercury-free. Four U.S. chlor-alkali plants still rely on mercury cell technology. In 2007, then-Senator Barack Obama introduced legislation to force the remaining chlor-alkali plants to phase out mercury cell technology by 2012.

The *Environmental Health* article by Dufault et al. can be found at: www.ehjournal.net.

"Not So Sweet: Missing Mercury and High Fructose Corn Syrup," by David Wallinga, M.D., Janelle Sorensen, Pooja Mottl and Brian Yablon, M.D., can be found at: www.iatp.org.

IATP works locally and globally at the intersection of policy and practice to ensure fair and sustainable food, farm and trade systems. www.iatp.org .

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 IHPA 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



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Phone : 515-266-6112
Fax : 515-266-1112

**Stock Up
Now for the
New Season!**

QUALITY WOODENWARE

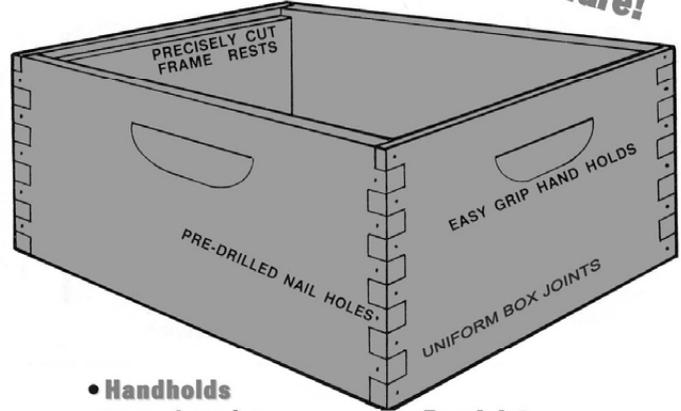
—A DADANT MANUFACTURING SPECIALTY—

**Ask about
our assembled
woodenware!**

Hive Bodies And Honey Supers

*Dadant Super Construction . . .
Small Details Make A Big Difference*
Ponderosa Pine Wood Products

Our woodenware is manufactured from hand selected ponderosa pine. Each board has been carefully moisture-metered to assure its proper moisture content before it is precision milled into the finished product. All our supers have "pre-drilled" holes for nails to prevent splitting during assembly.



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. Layer knots and knots with crack or splits are allowed.

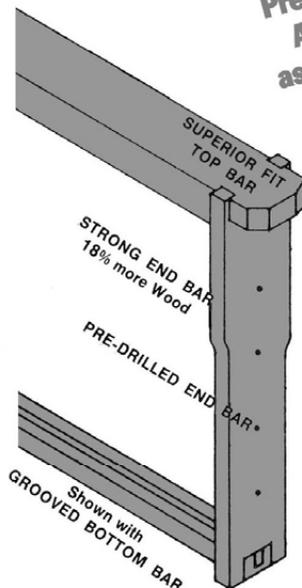
- **Handholds tapered cut for easy gripping**
- **Moisture Metering before cutting to prevent warping**
- **Uniform Dovetails to prevent cracking**
- **Predrilled Nail Holes to prevent splitting**
- **Box Joint Construction for superior strength**
- **Ponderosa Pine from the Northwest. The best wood for the job.**
- **Uniform Frame Rests provides the proper "Bee Space"**

Dadant Quality Frames

Dadant Frame Construction

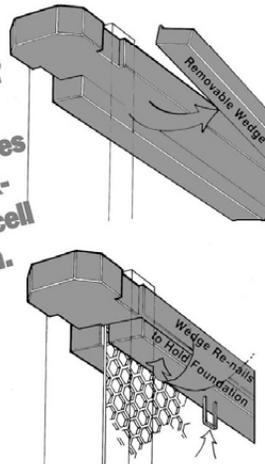
—2 Frame Styles—

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



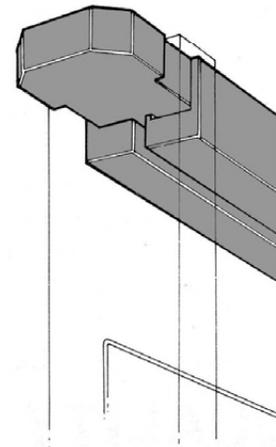
**Pressed for time?
Ask about our
assembled frames
with beeswax-
coated plasticell
foundation.**

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.

NOTE: Unless otherwise specified, frames with grooved bottom bars will be shipped. SOLID AND SLOTTED BOTTOM BARS ARE AVAILABLE IN 100 OR MORE QUANTITY. Please specify bottom bar desired.

Dadant & Sons, Inc. 1318 11th St., Sioux City, IA 51102
1-877-732-3268 Fax 1-712-255-3233 www.dadant.com

The Buzz Newsletter

Iowa Honey Producers Association
207 S.E. Diehl
Des Moines, IA 50315

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ISSUE 2 – February 2009



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Officers

President: Donna Brahm
65071 720th St.
Cumberland, IA 50843-8125
(712) 774-5878
Mbrahms@netins.net

Vice President: Pat Ennis
1040 Union Ave.
Goodell, IA 50439
(641) 444-4767
flat_Lander@lycos.com

Secretary: Mary Ebert
705 Hwy. #1 West
Iowa City, IA 52246
(319) 354-6696
Mebert@netins.net

Treasurer: Melanie Bower
207 S.E. Diehl
Des Moines, IA 50315
(515) 287-6542
melrb@msn.com

Historian: Peggy Ennis
1040 Union Ave.
Goodell, IA 50439
(641) 444-4767

Past President: Curt Bronnenberg
1433 Hull Ave.
Perry, IA 50220
(515) 465-5939
CBronny823@aol.com

District Directors

District #1 Kristoffer Valleroy, Sr.
1638 W 35th St.
Davenport, IA 52806
(563) 320-1488
kvalleroyr@yahoo.com

District #2 Louise Johnson
34147 310th St.
Guttenberg, IA 52052
(563) 252-2340
LouiseJ@alpinecom.net

District #3 Matt Stewart
2956 170th St.
South Amana, IA 52234
(319) 662-4145

District #4 Phil Ebert
14808 S. 102nd Ave. E.
Lynnvile, IA 50153
(641) 527-2639
Ehoney37@netins.net

District #5 Pat Randol
2505 Carriage Trail
Winterset, IA 50273
(515) 462-4768
prandol@fbx.com

District #6 Larry Boensen
6724 200th Street
Ocheyedan, IA 51354
(712) 735-4205
lm5kbees@iowatelecom.net

State Apiarist

Andrew Joseph (515) 725-1481
andrew.joseph@iowaagriculture.gov

Back-to-Basics Beekeeping Club

Contact: Eves Cadwallader
2420 285th St.
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
(641) 673-3993
weic@kdsi.net

Central Iowa Beekeepers Association

Contact: Arvin Foell
30930 530th Ave.
Kelley, IA 50134
Home phone 515/597-3060
Cell phone 515/450-9494
ajfoell@huxcomm.net

Des Moines Backyard Beekeepers

Contact: Frank Pering
210 E. Kirkwood Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50315

IDALS website
www.agriculture.state.ia.us



Queen Co-Chairs

Regina Jager (641) 660-0772
Louise Johnson (563) 252-2340

Iowa Beekeeper Clubs

East Central Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Terry Dahms
3086 Sycamore Trail NE
Iowa City, IA 52240
(319) 338-5919
Terry.dahms@gmail.com

North Iowa Bee Club

Contact: Pat Ennis
1040 Union Ave.
Goodell, IA 50439
(641) 444-4767
Flat_Lander@lycos.com

Northeast Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Louise Johnson
34147 310th St.
Guttenberg, IA 52052
(563) 252-2340
LouiseJ@alpinecom.net

Northwest Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Larry J. Boensen
6724 200th St.
Ocheyedan, Iowa 51354
(712) 735-4205
Lm5kbees@iowatelecom.net

Southeast Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Dave Oliver
1603 200th St.
Fairfield, IA 52556
(641) 472-3916

Southwest Iowa Honey Producers

Contact: Mike & Donna Brahm
65071 720th St.
Cumberland, IA 50843
(712) 774-5878

Additional Links and Emails

National Honey Board
www.honey.com

American Beekeeping Federation website
www.ABFnet.org

Robert Haxton
Food Processing Plants
Iowa Dept. of Inspections and Appeals
rhaxton@dia.state.ia.us