

The Texas Beekeepers Association

Journal



Nov / Dec 2020

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Issue 20-6



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President's Report from Ashley Ralph

I hope this update finds you all well. As we wind down a strange year, I'm looking forward to 2021. Our TBA Board is excited to continue to find ways to accomplish our goals regardless of the challenges that the Pandemic and anything else can throw at us.

The National Honey Board Consumer Survey showed that Honey was the #1 preferred sweetener in the United States for the first time. How cool is that?! Honey's reputation for being a "natural", "unprocessed", "good source of antioxidant", "good for the environment" and "flavorful" choice over other sweeteners made it the sweetener of choice for survey participants. On this attributes list was also "organic" but I have mixed feelings about this label since it's not achievable as a local or Texas Beekeeper. While we can strive for organic practices on our parcel of land, our bees travel far and wide. So, while I think organic honey is

great, I'd rather support local, first. See, 2020 isn't all bad! Honey bees have made their way deeper into the hearts of Americans.

It has been so frustrating not getting to see everybody in person, but the TBA Board has been busy working on the Texas Honey Show, The TBA Virtual Event, THBEA Raffle, our first annual Video Contest, and more. A huge and special thanks to everybody who worked to make these things happen - they have been a huge success. The THBEA Raffle was an amazing testament to the TBA and THBEA supporters and THBEA can now plan ahead for projects and grants in 2021. There are lots of updates in this issue so I'll leave the details for those updates.

It's that time of the year where regular hive inspections turn to equipment repairs, ordering supplies and bees for next Spring, and winding the apiary down with well-fed bees for winter. Make sure your bees are well fed and keep an eye on them! Enjoy the holidays!

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Cover Picture: Scenic, Nanette Davis, 1st Place 2020



Vice President's Report from John Swan

Well, we've almost made it to the end of another year and 2020 will quickly be a passing image in our rearview. If you're like me, it can't get here fast enough. This last year we have all been faced with situations and circumstances that we never thought we would have to endure. Hopefully, 2021 will at least expose a light at the end of the tunnel for what has otherwise been an unprecedented year of challenges.

Some of the biggest challenges this last year has been the concern for health and safety, which were accompanied by the restrictions around gatherings. This caused most organizations to rethink how they interact with their members. So, despite having to cancel both of our in person events this year, we were able to offer our first ever virtual beekeeping event online at the beginning of November! This was a lot of fun and we were able to hear from some amazing individuals including Dr. Ramsey, Dr. Tarpy, Dr. Ozturk, and Sam Comfort! We had a total of 168 participants join us online for this event, and have received a lot of good feedback on the event as well. Making this first adventure into the online virtual world has taught us a lot about how we can find solutions to the ever present challenges caused by COVID. We will be taking this information forward into our planning for future events and contingencies for the 2021 season and beyond.

With the end of another year comes the end of another

beekeeping season and the quickly approaching winter months. Are your bees all snuggled up in their hives and tucked in for Winter yet? Here are a few pointers to help ensure your bees have the best chance of surviving this winter. Make sure your bees have plenty of capped food stores heading into winter. In our area, a medium full of capped honey is typically sufficient for a colony to overwinter with. If your colony only occupies a single box, then make sure they have a 50/50 ratio of frames of bees to frames of food. If the colony does need added food stores be sure not to feed liquid syrups to the bees once the average daytime temperatures are below 60°. Instead of liquid, you can switch over to supplementing with a solid sugar feed such as a sugar camp, candy board, or sugar brick. These can provide an emergency source of carbohydrates without overloading the colony with too much excess moisture. Wrapping hives is not required here, however it certainly won't hurt anything if you choose to do it anyway. The added insulation can help provide a buffer against the cold winter winds and will help the colony better thermoregulate. All in all though, hopefully your bees are already set for winter and you can enjoy the off season without too much disruption.

Here's to wishing you and yours a safe and happy holiday season. Bee safe!

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Texas Honey Show

“Dedicated in Memory of Ann Harman, World Renowned Honey Judge and Beekeeper”



Hive Box by: Bert Acosta recipient of “The Ann Harman Award of Excellence in Beekeeping” 2020

We are so thrilled to announce that the 2020 Texas Honey Show was a complete success all because of you. We had 115 entries this year. We have averaged 132 the previous two years. Considering a pandemic is in effect, your hard work helped us to prove how important the honey show is to Texas beekeepers. The Honey Show Team wants to give you a huge thank you.



This year we partnered with “The University of Texas at San Antonio” to supply them with honey samples from all over the state. We were so excited to see all the

different color and varieties of honey. There were so many that we determined to break up the honey into three categories instead of our normal two.



Pictured above: Donny Johns and Pamela Yeamans

The judges used two different moisture content readers to be sure they were getting accurate numbers. Once judging was done, we looked at mail-in entries to see if there were any differences. Across the board, the judges were not able to tell the difference between mail-in entries and personally dropped off entries. We understand that some of you had concerns about issues with mailing your honey to us.

Texas Honey Show

“Dedicated in Memory of Ann Harman, World Renowned Honey Judge and Beekeeper”



*Pictured above: Daniel Brantner entry
1st place “Best in Gadgets”*

Daniel Brantner took 1st place in gadgets with his prized design of “Cooling Towel Headgear”. The judges spent a lot of time over lunch discussing how handy it would be during Texas hot summers.

We did not produce a 2021 calendar this year because all events and dates are still up in the air. We will produce a Texas Honey Show Calendar next year and include this year’s winners and last years winners. Thank you for your grace and understanding on this. The photo entries and winners will also be used and featured throughout the year in the TBA Journal.



The mead judges were so impressed at how each passing year the meads are improving. There was a cherry and a peach mead of particular note that was entered by David Sebastian. He took first place in both “Spiced Mead- Fruit & Spice” and “Spiced Mead – Spice, Herb, or Vegetable”.



Pictured above: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place entries in the bees wax block, bees wax candle, chunk honey, and creamed honey categories.

Texas Honey Show

“Dedicated in Memory of Ann Harman, World Renowned Honey Judge and Beekeeper”

Class	1st	2nd	3rd
Extracted Honey LIGHT	Greg Oermann Temple Area Beekeepers Association	Jimmy Middlebrooks Longview Beekeepers Association	Daniel Brantner Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.
Extracted Honey LIGHT/AMBER	David Sebastian Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.	Steven Pool Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.	John Swan Travis County Beekeepers Assn.
Extracted Honey DARK/AMBER	Nisha Coker	Bert Acosta	James Nielson Wise Texas Bee Club
Creamed Honey	Rebecca Vaughan North East Texas Beekeepers Association	Daniel Brantner Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.	Bert Acosta
Chunk Honey	Katrina Semones Chisholm Trail Beekeepers	Donovan Johns Wise Texas Bee Club	Bert Acosta
Black Jar (Judged)	Stacy Smith		
Wax Plain Block	Bert Acosta		
Beekeeping Arts and Crafts	Beth Derr Marshall Beekeeping Association		
Photo Close-Up	Bert Acosta	David Sebastian Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.	Nanette Davis Montgomery County Beekeepers Assn.
Photo Scenic	Nanette Davis Montgomery County Beekeepers Assn.	Shirley Sebastian Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.	Dex Rogers North East Texas Beekeepers Association
Photo Portrait	Don Rogers North East Texas Beekeepers Association	Bert Acosta	David Sebastian Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.
Beekeeping Gadgets	Daniel Brantner Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.	Don Rogers North East Texas Beekeepers Association	
Candles	Bert Acosta		
Bee Box Art Contest	Bert Acosta		
Video Contest	Catherine Dunaway Montgomery County Beekeepers Assn.	Kimberly Rogers North East Texas Beekeepers Association	
Traditional Mead - Dry	Eric Japon Fort Bend Beekeepers Association	Cindy Coleman Longview Beekeepers Association	
Traditional Mead - Semi-Sweet	Daniel Brantner Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.		
Traditional Mead - Sweet	Scott & Nanette Davis Montgomery County Beekeepers Assn.		
Fruit Mead - Berry	David Sebastian Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.		
Spiced Mead - Fruit & Spice	David Sebastian Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.		
Spiced Mead - Spice, Herb, or Vegetable	Scott & Nanette Davis Montgomery County Beekeepers Assn.		
Best of Show	Winner	Winner's Bee Club	
Best of Honey	Greg Oermann	Temple Area Beekeepers Association	
Best Small-scale Honey	Nisha Coker		
Best Sideline Honey	Bert Acosta		
Best of Art	Bert Acosta		
Best of Gadgets	Daniel Brantner	Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.	
Best of Videos	Catherine Dunaway	Montgomery County Beekeepers Assn.	
Best of Mead	David Sebastian	Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.	
Sweepstakes Award	Bert Acosta		
Bee Club Entries	Winner by Club Size		Nbr of Entries
Most Entries for Large Club	Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.		18
Most Entries for Medium Club	North East Texas Beekeepers Association (tie)		21
Most Entries for Medium Club	Marshall Beekeeping Association (tie)		21
Most Entries for Small Club	Longview Beekeepers Association		9

Texas Honey Show

“Dedicated in Memory of Ann Harman, World Renowned Honey Judge and Beekeeper”

This year we featured a film category. The topic was, “What I Love About Beekeeping”. We had several entries and when the judges were done, the whole Honey Show Team had the privilege of watching each of them. They were all even better than what we had hoped. We ended with the 1st place winner Catherine Dunaway’s short film. She said

“My family has helped me every step of the way...It has been a real source of joy for us and source of hope for the future. Hope for the Spring when...thanks to the bees, everything will be in bloom again.”

These words brought many of the judges to tears. In a world that seems at times dark. We are reminded that help is never too far and that there is so much hope for the future and we can find it all in our beehives. The Texas Honey Show would like to give a sincere heart felt thanks to you. If you have not seen the video entries, I would highly recommend it. Your heart will feel much lighter. You can find them here: <https://vimeo.com/483879729/2a0467de3d>

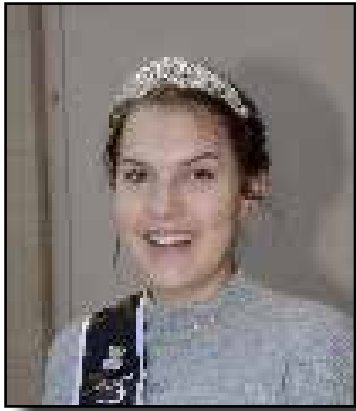


Pictured Above: Saundra Smith

Every year the Honey Show Team likes to recognize one of it's own members for their hard work and willingness to go above and beyond. Saundra Smith is just such a person. At the 2019 TBA's Annual Convention in San Antonio, the honey show team was on a tight schedule. Any time something out of the ordinary was needed to be done, Saundra was there. We had to judge mead in a different part of the convention and Saundra was there to help and make sure everything went without a hitch. She guided and assisted the mead judges again in 2020. For that and so much more we are truly humbled and grateful.



Have a safe and Merry Christmas from the Texas Honey Show Team 2020



2020 Texas Honey Princess

Blake Nester

This year has been one for the books. Becoming the Texas Honey Princess has been such a terrific honor that I would not trade for the world. I met so many new beekeepers, learned different facts and ways to keep bees. The best part was that I had the privilege to teach others about honey bees.

I would not have had this amazing year if it was not for the Texas Beekeepers Association, the Texas Honey Bee Education Association and the Texas Honey Queen Program.

Although this year was challenging due to the circumstances, these wonderful people found a way to make my year meaningful and productive. I would especially like to thank Sandra Smith, the Texas Honey Queen Chair. She put so much effort into this year by scheduling all of our events and answering my questions. She made this program about educating the public and not just the title I was given. She encouraged me to reach my highest potential. I could not have survived this year without her.

I would also like to thank Alaine Heivilin. She always had my back and taught me so much about being a Texas beekeeper. She helped me out so much and I am so thankful.

Lastly I would like to thank every beekeeper that is involved with these amazing programs. I would not have come this far without all of you.

Thank you for having me as your 2020 princess.

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THBEA Report to TBA Members 16 November 2020

The Texas Honey Bee Education Association (THBEA) is a non-member, IRS designated under section 501(c)(3) non-profit, controlled entity of TBA. THBEA's current directors, appointed by the TBA Executive Committee, are Chris Doggett, Roger Farr, Chris Moore, Ashley Ralph, John Swan, Rebecca Vaughan, and Terry Wright - Leesa Hyde, Sec.; Barbi Rose, Treasurer

THBEA began in 2016, and according to its founding documents is organized exclusively to:

- **enhance and expand the awareness** of the contribution of honey bees to agriculture and to society,
- **create additional appreciation and interest in the profession of beekeeping** through studies in technical and scientific subjects,
- **strengthen beekeepers' skills** through education programs, and
- provide resources for continuing **bee research** particularly in areas that will advance bee culture, improve pollination, and conserve biodiversity.

In 2020, THBEA had many successes, despite the challenging environment. Its activities are broken into three broad areas.

- **Fundraising**
 - Completed our first-ever on-line public raffle; with 11 donated prizes we generated over \$13,000 in funds!
 - Completed all TDA and TxDMV requirements to begin sales of honey-bee themed specialty license plate
 - Solicitation of public and private granting organizations as new sources of funding
 - Developed the "Adopt-a-Hive" program to partner beekeepers and local businesses to generate donations to THBEA; rolling out in early 2021
- **Grants Awarded**
 - Awarded youth program grants to TBA-member associations; considering similar program for 2021
 - Awarded a grant to partial fund the 2019/20 TBA Honey Queen program
 - Awarded grants to honey bee research and pollinator promotion organizations
- **Projects**
 - Developed a public-information campaign utilizing a new brochure - "You Can Help Texas Honey Bees...Here's How" – Rolling out in late 2020
 - Reprinted the "NewBees' Guide to Texas Beekeeping" – approximately 8000 copies distributed in three years
 - Began work with Texas Farm Bureau to develop/supply materials for honey bee education in the classroom
 - Began work with Texas Farm Bureau to supply information on the benefits of honey bees to farmers

THBEA may focus in 2021/22 on these additional potential projects:

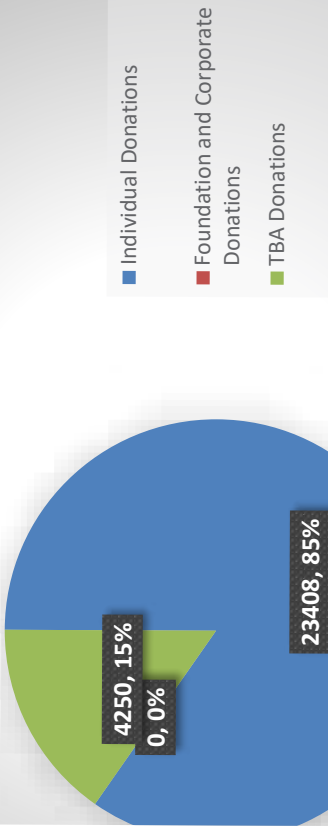
- Selecting the THBEA focus area for 2021/22 – In 2020 it was public education; complete existing project to further education of the general public in 2021/22
- Award grants to TBA-member associations for youth programs and to TBA for the 2020/21 Honey Queen Program
- Update THBEA.com website to the TBA-look and add short videos on THBEA projects and activities

THBEA receives funding from:

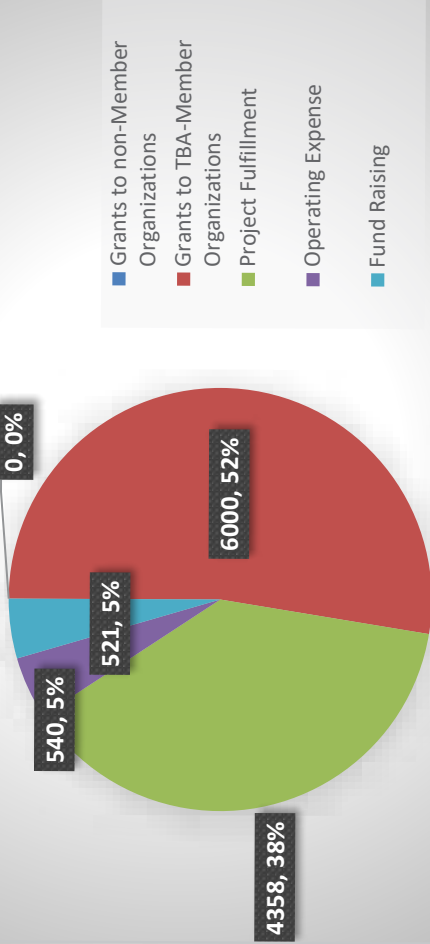
- Contributions by beekeepers and those interested in supporting the beekeeping industry in Texas,
- Grants from other 501(c)(3) organizations whose goals are in line with THBEA's, and
- Future sales of a bee-themed TxDMV specialty license plate. THBEA will receive \$22 for each new plate or registration renewal.

ed 2019 with net assets of \$47, 344 of which \$41098 is restricted for specific projects. The income and expenditures for 2019 are below:

THBEA 2019 Income (\$27,658)

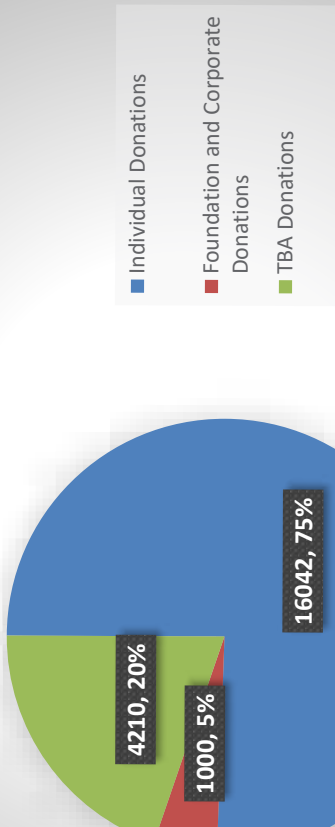


THBEA 2019 Expenditures (\$11,418)

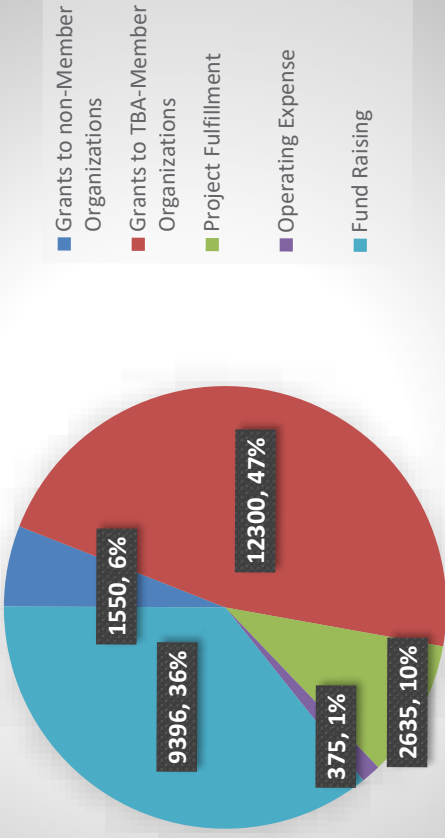


acts to end 2020 with net assets of \$42339 of which \$20536 is restricted for specific projects. The income and expenditure for 2020 are below:

THBEA Est. 2020 Income (\$21,252)



THBEA Est. 2020 Expenditures (\$26,256)



imates as of November 15, 2020 - THBEA only commits to grants and projects when money is actually in hand. This means that 2020 donations are used to fund THBEA grants in 2021. Donate via [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) or the **Amazon app** by naming Texas Honey Bee Education Association as your charity.

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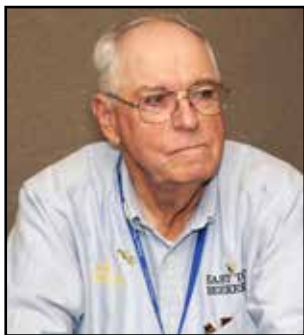


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The Brantley Column

from S. S. Brantley

*2016 Life Member Texas Beekeepers Association
2017 Life Member Louisiana Beekeepers Association*

December in the past meant joyous times at the Christmas style meetings at your bee club. I suspect that will not happen at many locations in December 2020! However, since we have all this spare time, we can do the same beekeeping things that we have done in past years.

I have in the past suggested at this time of year club members consolidate orders for new equipment with other club members to take advantage of bulk pricing. However, it seems this year the bee supply houses are trying to make up for sales lost due to the pandemic. Some special sales of woodenware are by pallet lots only, which would require several individuals to get together to take advantage of the offer.

In the Ark La Tex area, we are unusually blessed with a pretty mild winter, allowing our bees to fly many days between December 1st and February 28th. On some of these warm days, (temperatures in the low 60s) we should be able to take a quick check in the brood chamber to determine the status of the hive and of the amount of remaining stores. If you have two brood chambers, there should be plenty of stores in the top chamber. However, it never hurts to check when the weather allows. Make sure your hives do not run out of stored food during the colder days and nights of December and January.

In the event you just now got around to doing a check for mites, it is still not too late to put miticide strips in the hive. Nearly all of the mites will be on adult bees as there will be very little brood in the hive for the winter. Be sure to follow manufacturer's instructions when you install the strips. I place two strips just inside what appears to be the outside edge of the cluster so there will be good contact with the bees. Place two strips in the top box and two in the bottom box, in the same relative positions. After the prescribed number of days, remove the strips on a warm afternoon. It would be a good idea to also do your first mite check of 2021 to get an idea of the basal mite load in your hive before the new brood cycle begins.

December is the month to get those dead outs cleaned and ready to be placed back in service this spring. It is also a good time to clean and prepare your swarm traps for use. A good project would be to build some sturdy but lighter swarm boxes that would be easier to mount when you have to climb a tall ladder to secure them in a tree. You should also prepare some Nucs to house small captured swarms. I recommend transferring swarm trap bees to a Nuc rather than a full-sized hive, particularly one with a screened bottom board. The larger box and screened bottom do not give a feeling of security for a small two or three frame group of bees, creating a greater tendency for them to abscond. I prefer to initially house a captured swarm in a five-frame Nuc and "grow" them until they fill that box. I then transfer them to a full size box. Larger swarms of bees should do OK in a full sized screen bottomed box. However, I suggest you consider closing it off for a week or so until they get several frames of wax drawn, then you can open it back up.

Wax foundation, if that is what you prefer, can be installed to be ready for use this spring. Clean and wire the frames now and have them ready to add the wax foundation around the first of February. If you install the wax in December and stack the frames, you may find tiny white lines caused by wax moth larva in the wax. New wax foundation is not very attractive and normally not be destroyed by the moths but may still show signs of larva activity.

December is also a time for giving. If you are considering giving financially to worthy causes, look at Heifer.org. Heifer International is an organization dedicated to supporting sustainable farming in the USA and many foreign countries. For \$30, you can support the gift of a hive of honeybees. Quoting from their web page, "A Heifer honeybee gift donation includes a bee package, hive, box and training in beekeeping techniques." <https://www.heifer.org/gift-catalog/animals/gift-of-honeybees.html>

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Look for the Honey Locator and Events Calendar

Moving Forward Through Fear

"The Continuing Journey of Two Seventh-Year Small-Scale Beekeepers"
TBA Journal Article – November 2020

by Roger and Sue Farr, Caddo Trace Beekeeping Association (CTBA), Mount Pleasant, Texas;
Master Level Beekeeper - Texas Master Beekeeper Program (Roger)

Pictures are by the authors unless otherwise indicated.



Photo - Hudson Old, East Texas Jo

Fear paralyzes. It stops people in their tracks and makes them unable to move forward without assistance. This is whether you talk about life in general, change in particular, or even just doing something new. Today you're hearing words like these all the time: Chaos. Isolation. Anger. Uncertainty. Shouting. Loneliness. Distractions. Social Distancing. Angst. Hopelessness. Nasal Swabs. Detours. Fear. Unreality. Closures. Masks. ZOOM Meetings. Virtual Everything contribute to or are expressions of, fear.

However, without overcoming fears we cannot move on in life. Fear sounds like, "I've never done this before." Or, "No one ever told me about this!" Sometimes I hear these as excuses, from myself, or others I'm working with. Recognizing the fear and the emotions behind it is a great first step in overcoming fear. For me the underlying emotions are usually, "I might fail!" and "What will those who love me the most think?" Sometimes even just asking the question, "What's the worst that could happen?" takes away or reduces the fear level so that forward progress is possible.

Beekeeping, while usually full of joy, is also full of firsts and full of fears for new beekeepers. When teaching NewBees, we want them to recognize that they could die from one honey bee sting, if highly allergic or from ~2000 stings if only normally affected by honey bee venom. Now that you are afraid, let's see what we can do to mitigate those risks. We'll never eliminate as long as we choose to be involved with stinging insects. We teach them to purchase and use good protective equipment and we teach them to trust it even when there are thousands of bees in the air! Soon they begin to see the bees as partners in their beekeeping endeavors, who usually behave well, but some times may just have a "bad hair day!"

Right now, we're helping NewBees get ready for winter by reducing the size of their hives and removing excess drawn comb and empty boxes. We're also teaching them to use oxalic acid vaporization in December to control varroa mites putting them on a good path to keep their spring and summer mite counts low. We've had the joy of extracting fall honey with some and we are getting ready to make creamed (spun, solid) honey from our fall



1 - Hives cut down for winter. Each top box is full of honey, the bottom has brood, brood comb, pollen, and nectar



2020 has been quite a year! Some will remember it for a long election cycle and the competing noise of political accusations. Others will remember 2020 as the year of the virus. Parents of young children may remember this as their first homeschooling year. Restaurant and small business owners will remember 2020 as the year they had to say goodbye to loyal and motivated staff. International travelers will remember it as the-year-of-no-travel. Medical personnel may try to forget the horrors and, instead, get some sleep.

Honey bees do not stop their work because of politics, COVID, the economy, or grounded planes. They even work the camelia blooming in November instead of the normal December or January! Beekeepers, for the most part, do not let years like 2020 stop their work, either, unless it is to recruit extra help, find more effective ways of doing things, and to successfully use the internet to keep going and learning. We've attended several virtual conferences this year.

For the Farris, our honey bees in 2020 produced record numbers of nucs, queens, queen cells, wax, honey, and new beekeepers. Being at home more meant closer attention to our bees in 2020. We are grateful for the abundance and the ability to share it with neighbors, friends, and friends-to-be.

Like every other Texan, we have witnessed the chaos, felt the loneliness, and dealt with uncertainties. However, we have dug our own roots deeper into the Rock, communicated more directly – and frequently – with each other, and become more flexible in all things. Grace has been freely offered and received.

This has been a good year for us in many other ways as well. New granddaughters: both born early, and both now thriving. New relationships: some one-on-one behind masks, and some virtual. New wisdom: from reading and chewing on great books to discussing deep topics with a few trusted friends. New ideas: when faced with closed doors and detour signs, there has to be a way, and there often is. New routines: walking instead of running, eating something from the garden or beehive at each meal, and visiting over the internet when international travel is not possible.

American poet Henry Longfellow said it well: "The best thing one can do when it's raining is to let it rain."

Author and pastor Max Lucado said it best: "It's going to be okay. Don't be afraid, God is still in control of all of His creation and His creatures."

Uncertainty is the new normal. In Texas, we don't know when or how much, but it's going to rain. In our neck of the woods, northeast Texas, it's going to rain a lot. Let it rain. It's going to be okay. Don't be afraid to venture out!

We'd love to hear about your beekeeping adventures!

Roger and Sue Farr

rdfarr@gmail.com; sue.farr1@gmail.com



3- Extracted honey in the 1/2 gal. jars is waiting to be combined with starter seed crystals from last year's production to make spun or creamed honey, which we and our customers love!



4- The girls are still bringing back pollen and nectar to their hives. Camelias are some of the few flowers available in late November.



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Applying Propolis Tincture to Wounds

by: Robin L-S Young, Metro Beekeepers Association



Do you find yourself on the fence about whether you should gather propolis this next spring? Here is another possible use for this amazing antibacterial-antifungal wonder that bees make. I was preparing a bath for my six-year-old son and noticed this little blemish on his leg. My first thoughts were having to call his pediatrician to try and get an appointment. With Covid-19 still a thing, I started to think of other possibilities. I could go to the local pharmacy and get a fungal cream but then that is where actual sick people go to get prescriptions filled and such. Our family is healthy, and we are working to keep it that way. So, I started to try and think what I had that I could possibly use that was antifungal. Jack, my husband, said, "Why don't you use some of your propolis?". For the first time I remembered to grab my camera so that I could take pictures and show you how we apply it.

- Propolis stains everything so be sure you are not wearing anything nice or new.
- You always want to be sure the wound site is clean. In the case of a young child, I put them in the tub and let them take a nice long bath.
- Once the wound is clean, I gather some paper towels, a paper plate and my propolis tincture.



- Then I would hold the paper towel below the wound so that when I use the dropper, the tincture drips down the wound and into the paper towel.



- Once the wound is covered, give it a few minutes to let the alcohol evaporate then repeat. I usually repeat this application several times until I am satisfied that the wound is covered.



- Leave the wound uncovered wearing only loose-fitting clothing that you do not mind staining. Apply two to three times a day until healed. Always keep an eye out for staph infection deep under the skin that the propolis tincture cannot get to. In those cases, see a medical physician.

Proverbs 16-24 Pleasant words are a honeycomb sweet to the soul and healing to the bone.

Texas Beekeepers Association

Annual Awards

2020 President's Award

This award recognizes an individual, or several individuals, deemed by the president to have made such a singular contribution to the Texas Beekeeping Industry as to have earned this recognition.

This year's award was presented to Mike Hatch, TBA Webmaster.



With all this year's issues, Ashley Ralph asked John Talbert to present the award.

Mike Hatch spends a great deal of his time keeping the TBA website, the THBEA website and the Real Texas Honey website up to date. He is constantly being asked to implement new ideas as well as having to update the many different software packages that we use. From membership software to conference registration software to adding videos and constantly changing new information on beekeeping, TBA would not be where we are without his help and expertise.

Thank you Mike.

*John Talbert presenting Mike Hatch with
2020 President's Award*

Texas Beekeepers Association

Annual Awards

2020 Jim Petty Memorial Texas Beekeeper of the Year

This award was established in 1974 by Mary Petty in memory of her husband, Jim Petty, who was killed in an accident involving a truckload of bees. He was a well-liked, highly respected beekeeper in the State of Texas. The award is given to a commercial beekeeper for outstanding service to the beekeeping industry.

This year's award was presented to Tanya Phillips and Chuck Reburn



Ashley Ralph presented this award to Tanya, her husband Chuck having sadly passed away earlier this year.

Tanya and Chuck are leaders in the Austin beekeeping industry keeping bees in top bar hives, running their own beekeeping store - Bee Friendly Austin - holding classes in beekeeping and an annual event - Tour d'Hives. Chuck had also ventured into Mead before his untimely passing. Tanya still gives presentations on Top Bar Hives and other aspects of beekeeping to TBA Associations.

Thank you Tanya and Chuck.

*Ashley Ralph Presenting Tanya Phillips with
2020 Jim Petty Memorial
Texas Beekeeper of the Year*

Texas Beekeepers Association

Annual Awards

2020 John G. Thomas Meritorious Service Award

This award is given to a non-commercial beekeeper, researcher, regulator or individual who has had a major impact on the Texas Beekeeping Industry.

This year's award was presented to Dr. Juliana Rangel



Dr. Phil Kaufman, Janice Thomas, Shirley Doggett (seated), Dr. David Ragsdale, Skip Talbert, Ashley Ralph, Dr. Juliana Rangel, John Talbert and Chris Doggett

Thank you Juliana

Report from Catch the Buzz

November 18, 2020

Rangel Receives Texas Beekeepers Association Award

Research, education and outreach efforts recognized

A Texas A&M AgriLife Research scientist was recognized recently for her efforts related to honey bees and beekeeping in Texas.

Juliana Rangel received the John G. Thomas Meritorious Service Award from the Texas Beekeepers Association. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo)

Juliana Rangel, Ph.D, AgriLife Research honey bee scientist in the Department of Entomology, Bryan-College Station, received the John G. Thomas Meritorious Service Award from the Texas Beekeepers Association. The award is given to a non-commercial beekeeper, researcher, regulator, industry or individual who has had a major impact on the Texas beekeeping industry.



Rangel, who is also director of the Janice and John G. Thomas Honey Bee Facility at Texas A&M University and an active member of the Texas Beekeepers Association, said the organization has been integral in her success as a researcher and educator.

"I wouldn't have gotten this far in my career without their support," she said. "It's been a great relationship to work and collaborate with them and showcase the research my grad students do in the lab and participate with them through workshops. They've also awarded us with research scholarships and have been a tremendous partner in what we do here."

Rangel and her graduate students give classes and presentations as part of outreach to beekeepers. She said the programs are a good learning and professional development component that allows students to share science with the apiculture industry.

Rangel said it was an honor to receive an award named after Thomas, a long-time Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service entomologist, who passed away this year and had been an avid supporter of and advocate for the university's apiculture program.

"Dr. Thomas was an advocate for beekeeping in Texas for decades," she said. "It's very special to receive this award."

Ashley Ralph, president of the Texas Beekeepers Association, said Rangel made an immediate impact on the organization's activities and goals upon joining the university in 2013.

From sharing research results, her own participation and allowing graduate students to participate in the organization and other associated clubs, Ralph said Rangel had "enhanced the understanding of our members about beekeeping issues and will continue to do so."

"We are so proud to award Juliana for her continued work in research and education," Ralph said. "Through her research and the research of the graduate students she leads at the Honey Bee Lab, we are given a better understanding of what we consider to be the most fascinating insect on the planet. Honey bees are the backbone of our diverse Texas agriculture, and this research allows us all to be better stewards for bees."

Rangel earned a bachelor's degree in ecology, behavior and evolution from the University of California, San Diego, and doctorate in neurobiology and behavior from Cornell University. She was named an associate professor in the Department of Entomology at Texas A&M University in 2018.

Texas Beekeepers Association

Annual Awards

2020 Lifetime Membership Awards

Awarded for Meritorious Service to Texas Beekeepers Association

Dennis Herbert

Dennis has given exceptional service to members of Texas Beekeepers Association by his research and knowlege of Agricultural Exemptions - different in almost every county in Texas - as they relate to beekeeping. Thank you Dennis for your research and knowledge and willingness to help.



Dennis Herbert

Thank you Dennis

Texas Beekeepers Association

Annual Awards

2020 Lifetime Membership Awards

Awarded for Meritorious Service to Texas Beekeepers Association

Beth Derr and Ron Gumm

Beth and her husband Ron were instrumental in raising funds for the application to the Department of Motor Vehicles in Texas for a specialised license plate related to the Honey Bee. Without their efforts this activity might never have happened. This award was presented at a Marshall Beekeepers Association by Mr. Stanford Brantley.



Mr. Stanford Brantley, Beth Derr and Ron Gumm

Thank you Beth and Ron

THBEA Raffle Results

Raffle Prize #1 donated by Dadant and Sons

Winner: Alta Mantsch of Princeton, Texas

Raffle Prize #2 donated by MannLake, Ltd. and Texas Bee Supply

Winner: Rajesh Atluri MD of Waxahachi, Texas

Raffle Prize #3 donated by Winding Creek Apiaries

Winner: Aron Jones of Burleson, Texas

Raffle Prize #4 donated by Silver Linens Jewelry

Winner: Tanya Phillips of Austin, Texas

Raffle Prize #5 donated by Jorge Mata

Winner: Dru Riddle of Fort Worth, Texas

An enormous thank you to all those who donated prizes. We raised over \$13,000 which will be used for educational programs. Thank you again.

Raffle Prize #6 donated by Moore Honey Farm

Winner: Dannie Sims of Malakoff, Texas

Raffle Prize #7 donated by Texas Bee Supply

Winner: Jerry Rose of Magnolia, Texas

Raffle Prize #8 donated by Prime Bees

Winner: Larry Woodson of Grandview, Texas

Raffle Prize #9 donated by Holdman Honey

Winner: Michael Kelling of Brenham

Raffle Prize #10 donated by The R Weaver Apiaries

Winner: Sharon Vollers of Pearland, Texas

Raffle Prize #11 donated by Bee Weaver Honey Farm

Winner: Teresa Albright of Blanco, Texas

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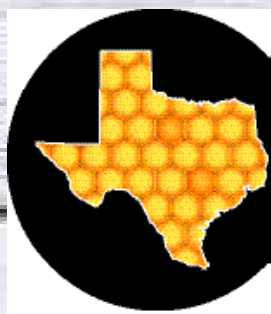
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At Home Beekeeping Series

Distance Learning for Beekeepers

We're offering beekeepers the chance to attend virtual meetings from the comfort of one's own home using a computer or mobile device. Each event will bring participants up to date on timely beekeeping topics. Time for Q&A included.

ALL ARE WELCOME! IT'S FREE!

- Nov 24: Getting started and staying in beekeeping, with Jeff Harris (Mississippi State)
- Dec 29: Beekeeping boxing day sales, with vendors & Geoff Williams (Auburn) & Anne Marie Fauval (Bee Informed Partnership)
- Jan 26: The honeybee colony's year, with Jamie Ellis
- Feb 23: Understanding and integrating honey bee nutritional ecology into beekeeper practices, with Pierre Lau

Last Tuesday
of the month

6:30 – 7:30 pm
Central Time

Watch via Zoom Webinar
<https://auburn.zoom.us/j/904522838>

or Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/LawrenceCountyextension/>

Questions? Email Allyson Shabel ams0137@aces.edu

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From Catch the Buzz - Honey Bee Vaccine

First-ever insect vaccine helps bees stay healthy

The easily administered oral vaccine could keep pollinators safe from bacterial diseases and give invaluable support for food production worldwide.

Food and pollination services are important for everyone: humans, production animals and wildlife alike. Inventing something that guards against pollinator losses will have a tremendous impact.

The Dalan AH oral vaccine, previously called PrimeBEE, is the first-ever vaccine for honey bees and other pollinators. It fights severe microbial diseases that can be detrimental to pollinator communities. The invention is the fruit of research carried out by two former scientists in the University of Helsinki, Dalial Freitak and Heli Salmela.

The basis of the innovation is quite simple. When the queen bee eats something with pathogens in it, the pathogen signature molecules are bound by vitellogenin. Vitellogenin then carries these signature molecules into the queen's eggs, where they work as inducers for future immune responses.

Before this, no-one had thought that insect vaccination could be possible at all. That is because the insect immune system, although rather similar to the mammalian system, lacks one of the central mechanisms for immunological memory – antibodies.

"Now we've discovered the mechanism to show that you can actually vaccinate them. You can transfer a signal from one generation to another," Dalial Freitak, researcher and now the CSO of Dalan Animal Health, says.

From moths to honey bees

Dalial Freitak has been working with insects and the immune system throughout her career. Starting with moths, she noticed that if the parental generation is exposed to certain bacteria via their food, their offspring show elevated immune responses.

"So they could actually convey something by eating. I just didn't know what the mechanism was. At the time, as I started my post-doc work in Helsinki, I met with Heli Salmela, who was working on honeybees and a protein called vitellogenin. I heard her talk and I was like: OK, I could make a bet that it is your protein that takes my signal from one generation to another. We started to collaborate, got funding from the Academy of Finland, and that was actually the beginning of our oral vaccine for bees," Dalial Freitak explains.

Future plans: vaccinating commercially used pollinators against any microbe

Dalial Freitak and Dalan Animal Health are the pioneers in a totally new animal health sector.

"I sincerely believe it is about time we start caring about our six-legged companions, whose work and contributions to our wellbeing have been neglected way too long. We take our bees for granted but this industry is a breaking point and it is high time that we find solutions to help to protect them. Vaccines have

proven to be the most effective way to prevent and contain disease and most importantly, our approach is organic without the use of harsh chemicals," Dalial Freitak says.

Dalan AH aims to develop a vaccine against American foulbrood, a bacterial disease caused by the spore-forming *Paenibacillus larvae* ssp. *larvae*. American foulbrood is the most widespread and destructive of the bee brood diseases. "We hope that we can also develop a vaccination against other infections, such as European foulbrood and fungal diseases. The plan is to be able to vaccinate against any microbe".

Now, the company has introduced the concept of an insect vaccine to the USDA and have filed a license application for the first ever honey bee vaccine.

"Our next goal is to launch our first vaccine product in the US and then the EU. Once we have tackled bee diseases we want to offer solutions for other commercially used pollinators such as bumble bees and other beneficial insects. Our goal is to offer innovative solutions in insect health in order to promote sustainable agriculture," Dalial Freitak says.

Being a pioneer is inspiring

The journey towards the vaccine has so far been immensely inspiring.

"Writing the roadmap for insect vaccination and filing the clinical protocol with the regulator was super exciting. The other inspiring moment was seeing my idea come to life and seeing a prototype vaccine formulation in a bottle had been a dream come true. Now we have to get it approved and onto the market so others get to participate in changing the way we care for our insects."

The COVID-19 situation has been the biggest challenge for the company so far.

"The lock-downs and travel restrictions have definitely slowed us down. But we have a creative team and we are doing everything we can to make up for the slowdown. Here probably the good thing has been that Dalan AH has been from the beginning a virtual company, so having several online meetings and brainstorming involving people around the globe has been a routine for us from the get go," Dalial Freitak says.

Commercialisation has been the goal right from the beginning

"The Dalan AH oral bee vaccine is a great showcase of the variety of innovations coming from the University of Helsinki. It has been inspiring and rewarding to see how the Dalan team has expanded and advanced the technology and business further continuously improving our response to the declining bee populations," says Jari Strandman, CEO of Helsinki Innovation Services, company responsible for technology transfer and spinout company creation from the University of Helsinki.

<https://www.miragenews.com/first-ever-insect-vaccine-helps-bees-stay-healthy/>

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Bee Education Association**

Greetings from Dr. Juliana Rangel at Texas A&M University

*Assistant Professor of Apiculture, Department of Entomology,
Texas A&M University*



Dear TBA members,

Howdy again from my home office! As the holiday and end-of-year season approaches in this year of uncertainty and chaos, I want to give thanks to all our followers and supporters for yet another year of successes at Texas A&M University's Honey Bee Research Program. We have two graduate students (Myra Dickey and Jordan Ellis) that finished their first year of graduate school in the middle of a pandemic, and we have two students (Pierre Lau and Alex Payne) that have worked really hard this year to try to complete their field work so that they can graduate with a Ph. D. next spring or summer. So, all things considered, I am thankful that myself, my family, my loved ones, and my program staff are healthy, have a job, and are doing "fine" despite all the chaos around us. We are fortunate... others are not. I try to remember that every time I feel down or want to complain about the status quo. We are very fortunate.

On 3 November, a memorable day for many reasons, a wonderful thing happened. I was asked for an in-person meeting with my boss to discuss work. Instead, I was asked to go in to receive the 2020 John G. Thomas Meritorious Service Award from the Texas Beekeepers Association. Many friendly faces were there: John Talbert and his son Skip, Ashley Ralph, Christopher Doggett, Shirley Doggett, Dr. David Ragsdale (my old boss), Dr. Phil Kaufman (new boss), and the incredible Janice Thomas (widow of Dr. Thomas). What an honor... and a shock. I am incredibly humbled and thankful for this award. Thank you TBA for believing in me and our amazing group of students and staff!!!

Despite our laboratory staff still working mostly remotely unless doing bee work, we have been busy analyzing data, writing papers, submitting grant and fellowship applications and preparing presentations for conferences. In particular, most students in the lab recently presented at the (first ever virtual) annual meeting of the Entomological Society of America (15-18 November). Besides my own symposium presentation, we had a total of five graduate student presentations, three undergraduate student presentations. Our graduate student Jordan Twombly Ellis was awarded **2nd place** in the Pollinators category, and undergraduate student Jordan Gomez received **1st place** in the undergraduate student competition. Congratulations ladies, well done!

Presenter	Presentation title
Juliana Rangel. Invited speaker for the section symposium: Impacts of pesticide toxicity in agroecosystems: implications on physiology, behavior and population dynamics of pests and pollinators	Effects of beekeeper-applied pesticides on the reproductive health of honey bee (<i>Apis mellifera</i>) queen physiology and worker retinue behavior
Myra Dickey , graduate student presentation	Transcriptomic analysis of the honey bee (<i>Apis mellifera</i>) queen brain in response to pesticide exposure during development
Pierre Lau , graduate student presentation	Pollen is unique: A comparison of existing methods for analyzing protein and lipid content in pollen
Taylor Reams , graduate student presentation	Honey bee (<i>Apis mellifera</i>) cell invasion by <i>Varroa destructor</i> and implications due to mite invasion for developing bee brood

Jordan Twombly Ellis , graduate student presentation. <i>2nd place award</i>	Honey bee (<i>Apis mellifera</i>) workers experience accelerated age polyethism and premature death due to developmental stressors
Alexandria Payne , graduate student presentation	Honey bee tolerance to <i>Nosema</i> infection when fed diets with varying macronutrient ratios
Jordan Gomez , undergraduate student presentation. <i>1st place award</i>	Determining the effects of nutrition on honey bee (<i>Apis mellifera</i>) pathogen defense against deformed wing virus
Cora Garcia , undergraduate student presentation	Honey bee (<i>Apis mellifera</i>) macronutrient regulation: Nurse bee nutritional preferences for protein and lipid
Marybeth Buchman , undergraduate student presentation	Evaluating the effectiveness of a commonly used protein supplement on honey bee (<i>Apis mellifera</i>) colony growth during summer dearth

The next session of the **At Home Beekeeping Series** will be Tuesday, Nov. 24, from 6:30-7:30 CST. Our speaker this month Mississippi State University's Dr. Jeff Harris. He will be discussing getting into and staying in beekeeping. Please help us out by sharing this info on your social media sites and sending the flyer to your partners and local beekeeping associations. Here is the link to the event on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/3459407380735964>. Feel free to just share the event or this post onto your Facebook sites!! No need to register, just log on a few minutes before we begin. We hope you will join us and spread the word to your beekeeping friends and clubs!

Finally, our former student Liz Walsh just published another paper from her dissertation: Elizabeth M Walsh, Mark A Janowiecki, Kyle Zhu, Nancy H Ing, Edward Lind Vargo, Juliana Rangel. 2020. **Elevated Mating Frequency in Honey Bee (Hymenoptera: Apidae) Queens Exposed to the Miticide Amitraz During Development**. Annals of the Entomological Society of America, saaa041, <https://doi.org/10.1093/aesa/saaa041>.

Abstract

Most honey bee (*Apis mellifera* Linnaeus, 1758) (Hymenoptera: Apidae) colonies in the United States have been exposed to the beekeeper-applied miticides amitraz, coumaphos, and *tau*-fluvalinate. Colonies are also often exposed to agrochemicals, which bees encounter on foraging trips. These and other lipophilic pesticides bind to the beeswax matrix of comb, exposing developing bees. We explored whether queen-rearing beeswax containing pesticides affects the reproductive health of mated queens. We predicted that queens reared in pesticide-free beeswax would have higher mating frequencies and sperm viability of stored sperm compared with queens reared in wax containing pesticides. Mating frequency and sperm viability are two traditional measurements associated with queen reproductive health. To test these hypotheses, we reared queens in beeswax-coated cups that were pesticide free or contained field-relevant concentrations of 1) amitraz, 2) a combination of *tau*-fluvalinate and coumaphos, or 3) a combination of the agrochemicals chlorothalonil and chlorpyrifos. We then collected queens once they mated to determine sperm viability, using a dual fluorescent cell counter, and mating frequency, genotyping immature worker offspring at eight polymorphic microsatellite loci. Sperm viability did not differ between control queens and those reared in pesticide-laden wax. However, queens exposed to amitraz during development exhibited higher mating frequency than queens reared in pesticide-free beeswax or beeswax containing the other pesticide

combinations. Our results suggest that miticide exposure during development affects queen mating frequency but not sperm viability, at least in newly mated queens. This finding, which has practical implications for commercial queen rearing and overall colony health, calls for further study.

I leave you with a big THANK YOU for all your support in 2020. Let us hope that next year is better and safer for our beekeeping population and that we are able to meet in person at some point in 2021. I certainly miss interacting with folks at all the beekeeping meetings. As always, for up-to-date information regarding our program, or for new and interesting posts regarding bees and beekeeping, please visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TAMUhoneybeelab>. Happy holidays! Stay safe!!

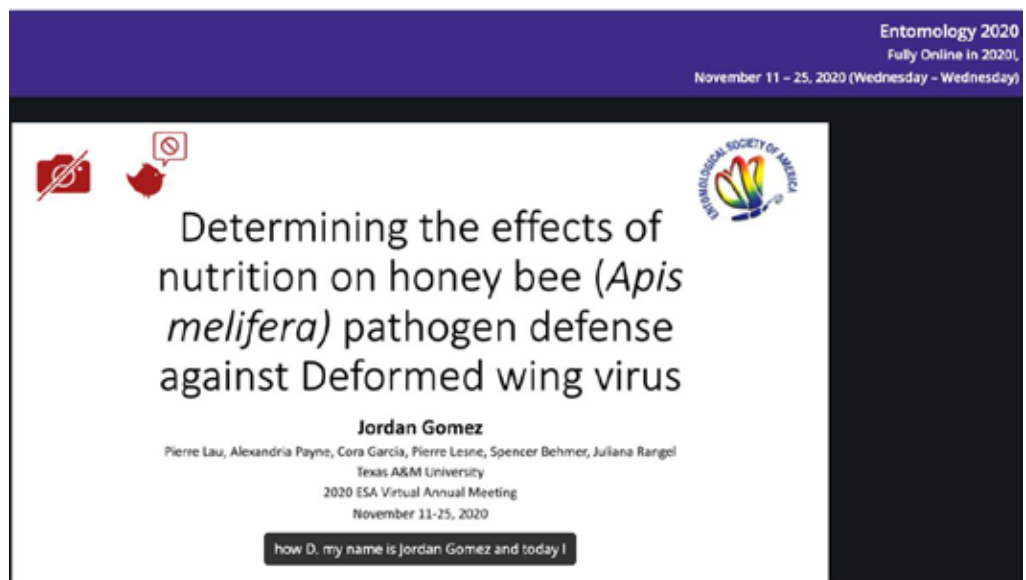


*Dr. Rangel after award of the
2020 John G Thomas Meritorious Service
Award from the
Texas Beekeepers Association*

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This supports the Texas Honey Queen program
and many other Educational Activities**



Ph. D. student Jordan Twombly Ellis received the 2nd place award at this year’s virtual Entomological Society of America meeting in the category of Pollinators for her talk: “**Honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) experience Accelerated Age Polyethism and Premature Death due to Developmental Stressors.**”



Undergraduate student Jordan Gomez received the 1st place award at the annual (virtual) meeting of the Entomological Society of America for her presentation: “**Determining the effects of nutrition on honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) pathogen defense against deformed wing virus.**”

Good News for Honey Producers from the Texas Department of State Health Services

Selling Honey

The Department of State Health Services has adopted the latest FDA guidance (7th edition) published in August 2018 regarding Food Facility Registration with respect to raw honey.



The Guidance reads:

B.1.19 Am I required to register if I extract and bottle honey produced on my farm (i.e., remove the wax seal and spin the honey out of the honeycomb, then bottle the honey)?

No. Many activities associated with beekeeping and honey production are within the “farm” definition and therefore do not require registration. In this case, extracting honey is considered harvesting and bottling honey is packaging a RAC (raw agricultural commodity), which is a type of manufacturing/processing included within the “farm” definition.

As a result of this decision, beekeepers selling raw honey in Texas will no longer be required to obtain a Food Manufacturer’s license and comply with the related requirements (i.e. licensed honey house, etc.) Since there is no requirement to obtain a Food Manufacturer’s license, the statute exempting small-scale beekeepers is moot, and limitations specific to that statute will no longer be in effect.

The FAQs below are copied from the DSHS Manufactured Foods website: <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/foods/faqs.aspx> (scroll to the bottom of the page)

Department of State Health Services Consumer Protection Division- Manufactured Foods
Beekeeper Honey Production Frequently Asked Questions - July 15, 2020

1. Did anything change for beekeepers selling honey in Texas with the adoption of the updated 25 TAC 229.210-225 Subchapter N, Current GMP and GWP in Manufacturing, Packing or Holding Human Food that became effective August 2, 2017?

Yes, beekeepers that sell raw honey produced from their own bees/hives are “farms” and are exempt from licensing as food manufacturers when engaged in allowable farm activities. Examples of allowable farm activities include extracting and bottling raw honey whether for retail or wholesale. DSHS adopts the clarification provided by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in its Questions and Answers Regarding Food Facility Registration (Seventh Edition): Guidance for Industry in Question B.1.19. (see above)

2. Is pasteurization of raw honey an allowable farm activity?

No, pasteurizing raw honey is a manufacturing activity that requires a license as a food manufacturer. DSHS adopts the clarification provided by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in its Questions and Answers Regarding Food Facility Registration (Seventh Edition): Guidance for Industry in Question C.4.3.

3. Are there any laws that apply to beekeeper raw honey producers?

Yes, while beekeepers harvesting raw honey will not be required to license with DSHS as long as they are only engaged in allowable farm activities, harvesting operations that conduct filtering, packaging, and labeling of honey are still subject to the adulteration and



misbranding provisions of Texas Health and Safety Code 431. Texas Agriculture Code, Title 6, Chapter 131, Bees and Honey, Subchapter E, Labeling and Sale of Honey gives DSHS regulatory authority over the labeling of honey. DSHS will investigate complaints of adulterated honey and mislabeled honey and take appropriate compliance action.

4. Can a beekeeper blend other raw honey into raw honey from their own bees/hives?

Yes, as long as some of the raw honey is from the beekeeper's own bees/hives, a beekeeper can blend other raw honey with the beekeeper's honey. If you blend honey no longer considered raw, like pasteurized honey, blending is no longer an exempt farm activity and a food manufacturer license is required.

5. Is allowing raw honey to dry so that it crystallizes an allowable farm activity for beekeepers?

Yes, a beekeeper drying raw honey from their bees/hives is an allowable farm activity as long as there is no additional manufacturing/processing (other than packaging and labeling). Packaging and labeling raw agricultural commodities are allowable farm activities.

6. If a beekeeper whips air into their raw honey to sell as whipped honey, would this be considered manufacturing requiring the firm to license as a food manufacturer?

Yes, whipping air into raw honey is a manufacturing activity that requires a food manufacturer license.

What does all this mean?

(Editorial Comment)

Dodie Stillman, Texas Beekeeper Association Area 1 Director and a member of WCABA, forwarded this information to me that the TBA will be sharing in their next newsletter about selling honey laws.

When asked her opinion she said, "this is not widely known at this point...there hasn't been much publicity about it...mostly because TBA was waiting for the FAQ to be posted online." When asked how this might affect her way of doing business (beekeeping) she added, "It's not going to change my extracting or handling process (because) I don't have enough hives to get 1,000 lbs, much less the old limit of 2,500." "But everyone that was thinking of building a honey house can rethink the expense now."

She admitted that the downside is self-regulation; hoping that beekeepers will be vigilant to still use sterile/clean bottles and practice approved bottling methods (excellent point).

Be mindful as you might relax when it comes to your honey processing that all of the above is directed toward raw honey and "farm activities" and any "processing" of the honey is still under rules and regs that remain in place. Make sure you know the difference.

...the Editor

Keep it Local, Keep it Real!



Certan for Wax Moth Control is Back

from Kirk Kirksey, Master Beekeeper, Dino-Bee Club

A few years ago Certan, a biological spray for controlling Wax Moths on stored beehive frames, vanished from US beekeeping supply catalogues. Even though the product is widely used in Europe, rumor was the product was a money-loser in the States for it's UK parent company. This summer, to my surprise, the American Bee Journal ran a full page add announcing Certan's return to the US. Turns out the EPA recently re-approved the product for use by beekeepers on this side of the pond. B402 is the product's new name in the US (it is B401 in Europe) even though 'Certan' still appears on the bottle. Each state must individually approve the product for use, but the good news is Certan has been approved for use in Texas.

Under the Certan Hood

Certan is a targeted formulation of *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) – a family of organic based insecticides – was first certified by the EPA in 1961. Bt products use strains of different bacteria that naturally occur in the soil, and produce proteins toxic to some immature insects – specifically larva. Bt is harmless to humans (and all mammals) because we cannot activate the poisonous protein. But when it comes to controlling Wax Moth with Bt products there is more beekeepers need to know.

There are more than a few Bt products on the market and it is important to understand the differences. Each "type" is a subspecies of Bt bacteria (think races of honey bees), and each Bt subspecies targets selected insects but not others. For example, the BT subspecies lethal to Mosquitos is israelensis. The israelensis strain of Bt will have no effect on Cabbage Loopers. Certan, billed as a larvacide (more politically correct than 'pesticide', I'm guessing) incorporates Bt Aiwazi, a bacterial subspecies lethal to Wax Moth Larva but harmless to honey bees.

I should point out that there are other Aiwazi based Bt products on the US market. These are designed for general purpose use on vegetable, fruit and nut crops, turf etc. Certan/B402 is formulated specifically for use against Wax Moths on wax based frames.



Wax Moth Tunnel Close Up



Wax Moth Larvae

Wax Moth Life Cycle

Although there are several types of Wax Moths, two species -Greater Wax Moth (GWM) and Lesser Wax Moth(LWM)- pose the biggest problems for beekeepers because wax moth larva is most destructive to beekeepers' comb.

Female moths lay eggs in tiny crevices in the wax and even on the frame. When the eggs hatch, the larva begins a destructive march across the wax comb. The larva moves through the comb

eating the wax and spinning fine silky threads. Larva continue eating through the comb leaving ugly, waxless channels and a mass of hairy looking silk. Eventually, the larva will stop and spin a cocoon in which it will pupate until a mature moth emerges.

In a healthy colony, honey bees can control Wax Moth population. However a Wax Moth infestation can overpower a weak colony with the larva quickly destroying existing comb. Perhaps the biggest risk to the beekeeper comes when storing honey supers for the winter. Supers stored in dark, poorly ventilated locations are particularly susceptible to Wax Moth infestation. Eggs hatch and, with no honey bees present, larva quickly destroy valuable comb.

Using Certan

The Aiwazi microorganism targets the Wax Moth larva by depositing protein the comb. The larva eats the comb and dies. As I mentioned before, this protein is toxic to Wax Moth larva but is harmless to humans and honey bees.

Straight out of the bottle, Certan is a milky liquid concentrate. For use, this liquid is diluted 1 part Certan to 19 parts distilled water (5% solution). This mixture is sprayed directly onto the wax combs. I use an everyday hand sprayer. For bigger jobs a pump garden sprayer can be used. Four ounces of Certan will treat 80 deep frames, 124 medium frames, or 143 shallow frames. Before using be sure to carefully read the label booklet that includes detailed instructions and "User Safety Recommendations". For more product information, check out the manufacturer's website at <https://www.vita-europe.com/beehealth/products/b401/>. At this writing, a 5 ounce bottle of Certan costs around \$35.00.



Would any member of TBA interested
in helping with this Journal contact
Chris Doggett
ckdoggett@gmail.com

Help includes:

Obtaining suitable articles

Working with Adobe products to
format articles appropriately and
similar editorial activities

Thanks

Update from Texas Apiary Inspection Service

from Mary Reed, Chief Apiary Inspector

Hello Texas beekeepers!

I hope all of you have had a successful fall beekeeping season and have already started gearing up for the winter months. This is a good time to make sure your bees have enough stores, remove queen excluders (if you use them), and think about reducing the hive entrance and shielding the screened bottom board if you live in a cold and windy location. All of these measures will help ensure that the bees stay well-fed and cozy during these colder months. Here at our office we have had a busy season getting our inspections completed. There are quite a few beekeepers who come to Texas in the fall to take advantage of the mild winter before heading out to California in January for almond pollination. Fortunately we have not seen any symptoms or issues out of the ordinary this season. Most of the hives have looked healthy and well-prepared for the coming months.

This fall we were able to hold another round of exams for the Texas Master Beekeeper Program. Earlier this year we had to cancel the spring session due to COVID, but fortunately we were able to convert the exams to an online format in time for the fall session. We had a great turnout of participants for the Apprentice, Advanced, and Master levels, and everyone did a

great job of bearing with us as we tested out an online format for the first time. We plan on hosting another virtual session in the spring (the date is yet to be determined) and more details will be sent out to the program's email listserv and Facebook page at a later date. If you are interested in learning more about the TMBP, I recommend checking out the Program Requirements document available on the program's website (<https://masterbeekeeper.tamu.edu/program-requirements/>). If you have any questions about the program, please don't hesitate to reach out through the contact form: <https://masterbeekeeper.tamu.edu/contact-form/>.

As we finish out the year, I want to remind everyone that this is the perfect time to start planning your spring bee season. Whether that means ordering bees or queens, building new equipment, or polishing your trusty hive tool, you should use this time to assess how this past year went and what changes (if any) you want to make in this coming year. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact our office (tais@tamu.edu; 979-845-9713). In the meantime, I hope you all have a safe and happy holiday season!

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- * **Tennessee State Beekeepers Association**
- * **Wisconsin Honey Producers Association, Inc.**
- * **American Honey Producers Association**
- * **Florida State Beekeepers Association**
- * **Minnesota Honey Producers Association**
- * **North Dakota Beekeepers Association**
- * **Texas Beekeepers Association**
- * **Washington State Beekeepers Association**

Kevin Rader: Buzzus@beekeepingins.com
www.beekeepingins.com
888-537-7088

2020 Texas Honey Queen

Virginia Allen



Cooking with Honey

Back at the Homestead

I have had people across the country contact me to buy my honey for their allergies. While my honey has a depth of flavors unlike others that I have tried, the pollen contents from my honey may not help their area-specific pollen allergies. For these instances, I refer my customers to the National Honey Board's Honey Locator (<https://www.honey.com/honey-locator>) where, similarly to the Real Texas Honey (RTH) map, they can zoom into their area and connect with beekeepers around them. Of course, if the customer wants a honey with a flavor explosion experience, I am always happy to ship it to them.

With over 300 unique flavors of honey in North America, it can be overwhelming to choose which one is the right flavor for your recipe! Today, I want to share the principals that I use to help ease the conversion, measuring, and selection process.

General Rules to Remember

- 1) The cook makes it how the cook likes it. This is a standard rule in my family. It means that each family prefers different flavor combinations so you may need to adapt my tips to meet your family's needs.
- 2) Light-colored honey has a delicate, powdered sugar flavor (ie. Fireweed, Alfalfa, and Sage) while Dark-colored honey has a deep, molasses flavor (ie. Buckwheat, Tupelo, and Eucalyptus).
- 3) There are exceptions to every rule! Keep experimenting and get ready to learn!

Since my family and I have been beekeeping for six years, we have several gallons of honey to choose from. Even though we keep our hives on the same property, different wildflowers come up each year, keeping the flavor of our honey fresh, unique, and ever-changing!

As I explained in a previous article in the series, honey, by definition, is a sweet, thick liquid made by bees dehydrating the nectar from plants. Because it is sweet we can combine it with flavor contrasts, such as in Honey.com's [Sweet + Salty Honey Baked Vegetable Medley Fries](#) or their [Honey Lime Fruit Salad](#), or flavor compliments, such as in Honey.com's [Honey Citrus Glazed Carrots](#) and their [Honey Joes](#).

Honey has twice the number of calories as cane sugar. Fact: In one tablespoon of sugar, there are 48 calories whereas honey has 64 calories in one tablespoon. Since honey is sweeter than cane sugar, we will be using less of it.

Using honey as a dense liquid will add liquid to our recipe, therefore we will need to reduce other liquids in the recipe. If the recipe's only liquid is eggs, then add 1 Tbsp of flour at a time until thickened.

Lastly, here are the key temperatures to keep in mind while cooking with honey.

50° F - Chrystalizes

110° F < - Pollen, propolis, antioxidants, and enzymes are destroyed

140° F - Quality degrades

160° F - Caramelization

Here is a quick reference chart to easily convert your family's favorite recipes!

4 Main Rules of Transforming Recipes with Honey

1. 1 c Sugar : 2/3 c Honey
2. Reduce liquids by 1/4 cup
3. Add 1/4 tsp Baking Soda
4. Lower oven temp by 25° F

Tip: You may want to print out this page and keep it handy in a cookbook or nearby cabinet.

Tricks for Drinks

When mixing honey into warm drinks such as tea or coffee, allow the hot liquid to cool to a temperature where you can comfortably dip your finger into the drink without scalding yourself before adding honey as a sweetener. Even though the honey will mix in faster with hotter liquids, you can kill the beneficial enzymes in the honey by doing so. The best practice for making teas is to boil water, steep the tea bag or herbs, remove the teabag, allow it to cool to drinking temperature, then add honey before enjoying!

For cold, summer drinks, whisk the honey with a small amount of the recipe's liquid. Your goal is to slowly thin the honey by adding more and more water or juice to it, incorporating it evenly throughout the refreshing drink. If you were to pour the honey directly into the serving pitcher, it may not blend and sweeten the beverage as desired and pool up on the bottom of the pitcher. After sweetening to your liking, then add the cold ingredients, such as ice and frozen fruit. Trying to mix honey into a cold drink is nearly impossible, so just take about one cup of your liquid base, if needed microwave it for 10 seconds, then whisk in your honey.

Especially in the Fall and Winter, I make my Morning Routine Warm Fruit Tea to help me get moving and provide structure when I just want to stay curled up and cozy.

Morning Routine Warm Fruit Tea

Cook Time: 8-40 mins

2 Tea Bags (Celestial Brand)
2 ½ cup water
1-2 Tbsp Real Texas Honey

- 1) Microwave water for 2 mins until nearly boiling. (Unload dishwasher)
- 2) Steep tea bags in hot water. (Plan major tasks for the day and complete the first task)
- 3) If tea is still too hot, sweep the floor. Once the tea is cool enough to put your pinky finger in comfortably, whisk in honey and taste.
- 4) Pour the tea into a travel thermos and start your day!

Techniques for Granola Mixtures

Regardless in the form of balls, bars, or dry cereal, granola mixes very well with honey and other ingredients to create stimulating tongue entertainment. As in my recipe for Peanut Butter Energy Bites, mix the honey with other ingredients, as we did for the beverages, to slowly equalize and distribute the honey throughout the recipe. Next, add the large chunky ingredients to the wet mixture to get them sticky.

In a separate bowl, mix the dry ingredients before slowly incorporating it into the wet mixture. These tips will help give you a more consistent texture for your granola recipes.

No-Bake Energy Bites

Makes about 20-24 balls

1 cup (dry) oatmeal
2/3 cup toasted coconut flakes
1/2 cup ground flaxseed
1/2 cup Peanut Butter
1/3 cup Real Texas Honey
1 tsp. Vanilla Extract
1/2 cup semisweet chocolate chips
(optional) 1 Tbsp. Chia Seeds

- 1) Mix the oatmeal, toasted coconut flakes, and ground flaxseed and set aside.
- 2) Blend in order the peanut butter, honey, and vanilla extract.
- 3) Stir in the chocolate chips and chia seeds, ensuring their surfaces are completely wet.
- 4) Intermittently, sprinkle the dry ingredients into the peanut butter mixture and stir until fully incorporated. Repeat until all ingredients are combined.
- 5) Roll balls of whatever size you prefer. (Mine were about 1 inch in diameter). Store in an airtight container and keep refrigerated for up to one week.

Chief's Note: My family eats these so quickly that I have to make a double recipe so that I can have some and they still barely last one week!

Treats by Topping and Glazing

You cannot go wrong with glazing a filet. Simply drizzle honey over the filet right after it comes out of the oven or pan. The heated fish will warm the honey and help it to spread with ease.

Every year for Christmas my family makes Baked Brie and Honey to add to our cheese board. Honey's sweet flavor and smooth texture meld together with the creamy, salty brie cheese. Here's the recipe for your family cookbook!

Baked Brie and Honey

1 round of Brie Cheese
1/2 cup sliced Almonds
1/4 cup Real Texas Honey
Crackers and Meat slices to serve
(optional) Rosemary leaves

- 1) Cut cheese round in half, forming two full circles.
- 2) Pour about 2 Tbsp of Honey in the middle of one of the cheese circles.
**If you want a very nutty cheese, add a thin layer of sliced almonds at this time.
- 3) Place the second cheese circle on top of the honey and bake at 375° F for 5-6 mins.

- 4) Top before serving by lightly drizzling honey, sliced almonds, and herbs if desired.
- 5) Serve with crackers and sliced meats!

This has been a great series to learn about how to market your honey and cultivate great relationships with your customers. We have talked about historic uses of honey, what real honey is, and is not, and now how to cook with honey. Honesty and transparency is the best policy to cultivate a relationship of trust and now that you are armed with information, share your knowledge with your customers and people in the community!

Farewell for now

TBA Members, I want to thank you for your continued support of the Texas Honey Queen Program through your financial donations and kind words of encouragement throughout the year. I am blessed to have been a part of this program as we broke new ground by expanding our visibility on YouTube and through virtual presentations. While travel has been limited this year, I was able to reach over 13,000 people through presentations and social media. I have attached an infographic with more detail about my accomplishments for this year.

Looking forward, I have submitted my application to become the 2021 American Honey Queen or Princess and am preparing for the competition which will be this January. Following the end of my representative season, I will be finishing my Bachelor's in Business Management and seeking a job in the healthcare industry. I have every confidence that the skills that I have learned this year have prepared me for my future career, and for that, I offer my heartfelt thank you.

Sincerely, Virginia Allen
2020 Texas Honey Queen

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Summary of State Honey Queen Events

By Virginia Allen, 2020 Texas Honey Queen

Report time frame: Nov '19- Oct '20

Report Overview...

Through the challenges of this year, I have focused my effort and refined my skills to provide high-quality virtual outreach. During the first three month of my reign, I attended and taught at every opportunity that I was given. Because the social distancing order prohibited our normal venues from hosting the Texas Honey Queen Program, I continued to create social media posts and started crafting powerful messages and content for our YouTube Channel. Each new video I post attracts 150% more views!

Engagement

2.3K

average is 24

Facebook Posts

95

average is 5 per month

Comments

216

average is 2.5

Total Audience Reach
13,250

from Promotions
11,671

from Presentations
1,152

YouTube Videos
318 Views

Contact Information

texasbeekeepers.org
@texashoneyqueenprogram
2020texashoneyqueen@gmail.com

Capstone Project



After three months of planning, recording, and editing audio and video, along with interviewing multiple commercial beekeepers about their experiences, I was able to deliver a high-impact video for every audience!

Marketing Accomplishments

Published Articles

3



Presentations

11



YouTube Videos

3



State Events from November to October

- Marshall Bee Club (Marshall)
- North Central Texas Academy 4-H (Granbury)
- Austin Area Beekeepers Seminars (Austin)
- Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assc. (McKinney)
- Denton County Beekeepers (Denton)
- Gainesville Beekeepers (Gainesville)
- Northeast Texas Beekeepers Conference (Longview)
- North Forney Culinary Arts (Forney)
- Kallison Elementary (San Antonio)
- Cole Elementary (San Antonio)
- San Antonio Rodeo (San Antonio)
- Daughters of the American Revolution
2020 Annual Conference (Dallas)
- East Texas Beekeepers Asso. (Oct. via Zoom)

Listing of Local Beekeepers' Associations in Texas with TBA Delegate and Regular Meeting Information Shown for Each

Please forward any changes and/or additions to
Leesa Hyder, Executive Secretary, execsec@texasbeekeepers.org

Alamo Area Beekeepers Association

Rick Fink - (210) 872-4569

president@alamobees.org

www.alamobees.org

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday on odd # months

Helotes Ind. Baptist Church

15335 Bandera Rd., Helotes at 7 pm

Austin Area Beekeepers Association

Dodie Stillman - (512) 560-7550

austinareabeekeepers@gmail.com

facebook.com/groups/Austin/AreaBeekeeperAssociation

www.meetup.com/Austin-Urban-Beekeeping/

Meeting: 3rd Monday of each month at 7pm

Frank Fickett Scout Training and Service Center

12500 N I-35, Near Parmer Lane, Austin

Bees in the East Club

Mark de Kiewiet (210) 863-8024

beesintbeeast@att.net

Meetings 4th Saturday of each month at 10am

Water Garden Gems, 3230 Bolton Road, Marion,

Bell/Coryell Beekeepers Association

Frank Morgan - (254) 423-2579

bellcoryellbeeclub@gmail.com

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month (except December) at

Refuge Ministries, 2602 S. FM 116, Copperas Cove - 7pm

Big Country Beekeepers Association

Ken Hobbs - (325) 665-4045

paniolobee@icloud.com

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month except December at 6:30pm

Ben E Keith Company Beverage Distributors (Budweiser Co.)

2141 Cottonwood St, Abilene

(entrance on Cottonwood St next to flagpole)

Brazoria County Beekeepers Association

Steve Brackmann - (832) 884-6141

stevenbrackmann@yahoo.com

bcba@brazoria-county-beekeepers-association.com

www.brazoria-county-beekeepers-association.com

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month

Brazoria County Extension Office, 21017 CR 171, Angleton at 6:45 pm

Brazos Valley Beekeepers Association

Nathan Krueger - (979) 324-1160

info@bvbeeks.org

www.bvbeeks.org

Meetings: 3rd. Tuesday of each month (except Dec.)

First Christian Church, 900 S Ennis St., Bryan from 6pm

Caddo Trace Beekeepers Association

Terry Wright - (903) 856-8005

tcwright7021@yahoo.com

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month

Titus County Agrilife Ext. Bldg., 1708 Industrial Rd., Mount Pleasant at 7 pm

Caprock Beekeepers Association

Victoria Watts - (806) 392-2355

mystique175@att.net

Meetings: 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm

Freeway Bible Chapel, 5507 Marsha Sharp Freeway, Lubbock 79407

Central Texas Beekeepers Association

Michael Kelling - (979) 277-0411

CentralTexasBeekeepers@gmail.com

www.centraltexasbeekeepers.org

Meetings: Monthly on the 4th Thursday (except November and December)

Washington County Fairgrounds, 1305 E Bluebell Rd., Brenham at 7pm

Chisholm Trail Beekeepers

Scott Zirger (682) 385-0008 or (510) 301-5796 (cell)

scott@zirger.us or chisholm-trail-beekeepers@googlegroups.com

Meetings: Last Monday of each month

United Cooperative Services, 2601 S Burleson Blvd, Burleson

Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.

Russell Dittfurth - (972) 658-3951

president@cchba.org

www.cchba.org

Honey Queen Program: honeyqueenchair@CCHBA.org

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm

Collin College Conference Center, (Central Park Campus)

2400 Community Dr., McKinney

Colorado County Beekeepers Association

David Behlen (832) 230-5740

coloradocountybeekeepers@gmail.com

Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm

316 Spring Street, Columbus

Comal County Beekeepers Association

Julie Morgan - (210) 475-2924

e.julie.morgan@gmail.com

Meetings: 1st Thursday of each month

Beefy's on the Green Restaurant, upstairs room

12910 US Hwy 281N at 6:30 pm

Concho Valley Beekeepers Association

Rex Moody - (325) 650-6360

cvbeekeeper@gmail.com

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month Jan-Nov at 6:30 pm

Texas A&M res. & Ext. Center, 7887 US Hwy 87 N, San Angelo

Deep East Texas Beekeepers Association

Ellen Reeder - (337) 499-6826

ellenswartz@sbcglobal.net

Denton County Beekeepers Association

Gary Barber - (972) 768-5505

board@dentonbees.com

www.dentonbees.com

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm

Please see calendar for location

Dino-Beekeepers Association

Chip Hough (817) 559-0564

dino-beeclub@hotmail.com

www.dino-bee.com

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of month at 6:30 pm

Glen Rose Citizens Center, 209 SW Barnard St., Glen Rose

East Texas Beekeepers Association

Richard Counts - (903) 566-6789

dick.counts4450@gmail.com

www.etba.info

Meetings: 1st Thursday of each month at 6:45 pm;

Whitehouse Methodist Ch., 405 W Main (Hwy 346), Whitehouse

Elgin Area Beekeepers Association

Jerry Lee - (917) 710-6072

elginbeekeepers@gmail.com

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm

Various Locations

Elm Fork Beekeepers Association

Jan Hodson - (940) 637-2702

janrhodson@gmail.com

Meetings: 3rd Thursday of each month

The VFW Hall, 3332 North Grand Ave, Gainesville

Erath County Beekeepers Association

Kay Purcella - (325) 330-0745

kaysyellowrose@hotmail.com

Meetings: 3rd Monday of each month, Texas Agrilife Research and Extension Center, 1229 N US Hwy 281, Stephenville at 7pm

Fayette County Beekeepers Association

Mike Mathews (713) 805-9673

mmathews324@gmail.com

Meetings: First Saturday of the month, Feb, April,

June, August, October and December at 5 pm

Fayette County Ag. Bldg., 240 Svoboda Ln., La Grange

Fort Bend Beekeepers Association

Lynne Jones - (713) 304-8880

info@fortbendbeekeepers.org

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month (except December) at 7:30 pm

Bud O'Shieles Community Center, 1330 Band Rd., Rosenberg

Fredericksburg Beekeepers Association

Joe Bader - (830) 537-4040

joebees@gmail.com

Meetings: Third Thurs. of even number months (excl. Dec) at 6:30 pm

Gillespie County Ext. Off., 95 Frederick Rd., Fredericksburg

Harris County Beekeepers Association

Jeff McMillin - (713) 203-6348

jefferylmc@yahoo.com

www.harriscountybeekeepers.org

Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm

Golden Acres Center, 5001 Oak Ave., Pasadena

Hays County Beekeepers Association

Nathalie Misserey (512) 699-0605

hayscountyba@gmail.com

Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of each month at

Vista Brewing, 13551 FM 150, Austin, TX 78737 at 6:30pm

Heart of Texas Beekeepers Association

Gary Bowles (254) 214-4514

gm.bowles@yahoo.com

Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month (except Dec.) at 7 pm
in Lecture Hall

MCC Emergency Services Education Center, 7601 Steinbeck Bend Road, Waco

Henderson County Beekeepers Association

Kathi Murphy-Boley (972) 467-5092

kdbmurphy@gmail.com

Meetings: 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm

Faith Fellowship Church, 5330 Highway 175, Athens, TX 75762

Hill County Beekeepers Association

Robin Sliva - (254) 205-0534

rs.plumleeplace@gmail.com

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm

Hill County Courthouse Annex, 126 S Covington St., Hillsboro

Hopkins County Beekeepers Association

Jon Dalzell - Secretary, (214) 395-1730

dalzelljon@aol.com

Meetings: 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm

Hopkins County Agrilife Bldg., 1200 W Houston St., Sulphur Springs

Houston Beekeepers Association

Shelley Rice - (832) 545-7178

info@houstonbeekeepers.org

www.houstonbeekeepers.org

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm

Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet St., Houston

Houston Natural Beekeepers Association

Dean Cook

houstonnaturalbeekeepers@gmail.com

Meetings: Second Saturday of the month at 11 am

1702 Rothwell, Bldg C, Houston

Johnson County Beekeepers Association

Bruce Watts, Jr. - (817) 992-2294

bruce.jr@sbcglobal.net

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm

2099 W FM 917, Joshua

Lamar County Beekeepers Association

Randall Childres - (903) 249-9105

lamarcoba@gmail.com

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm

Lamar County Fairgrounds, Bldg B, 570 E Center St., Paris

Liberty County Beekeepers Association

Cameron Crane - (409) 658-3800

info@libertycountybeekeepers.org

www.libertycountybeekeepers.org

Meetings: 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm

Liberty Agrilife Extension Office, 501 Palmer Ave., Liberty

Longview Beekeepers Association

Karin Bayne - (903) 261-3021

Meetings: 4th Thursday of each month at 6 pm

Texas Agrilife Extension Office, 405 E Marshall St., Longview

Marshall Beekeeping Association

Beth Derr - (936) 591-2399

*marshallbeekeeping@gmail.com***Meetings:** 2nd Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm

Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 501 Indian Springs Dr., Marshall

Montgomery County Beekeepers Assn.

Andy Knight - (281) 305-4072

*mocobees@gmail.com**www.mocobees.com***Meetings:** 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm

Montgomery County Extension Office, Tom Leroy Education Bldg., 9020

Airport Road, Conroe

Northeast Texas Beekeepers Association

Rebecca Vaughan - (972) 841-3751

*rebeccavaughan2@gmail.com**netbacantontexas@outlook.com***Meetings:** 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00 pm

Canton Baptist Church, 303 South Athens St.,

Canton, TX 75103

Palo Duro Bee Club

Paige Nester - (806) 678-8048

*nesterpaige@gmail.com***Meetings:** 1st Thursday of each month

Creek House Honey Farm, 5015 4th Ave, Canyon

Pineywoods Beekeepers Association

Terry McFall - (409) 289-7387

*tdmcfall@hotmail.com***Meetings:** 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm

Lufkin/Angelina County Chamber of Commerce

1615 S Chestnut St. Lufkin (just off Loop 287)

Red River Valley Beekeepers Assn.

Larry Roderick (940) 237-2814

*roderickwaterwells@gmail.com***Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday of each month (except December) at 7pm

Bolin Science Hall Room 209, Mid West State University,

310 Taft Blvd., Wichita Falls

Rusk County Beekeepers Association

John Stewart - (903) 842-4433

*jes.stewart@gmail.com***Meetings:** Last Thursday of each month at 6 pm

Church of the Nazarene, 906 W Main St, Henderson

San Marcos Area Bee Wranglers

Gay Fraser (512) 264-2021

*smabeeWranglers@gmail.com***Meetings:** 2nd Thursday of the month 7:00 pm - 9:15 pm**Extra Meetings:** 4th Thursday of the month, March, April, May 7:00pm

Pecan Park Riverside RV Park, 50 Squirrel Run, San Marcos

Southwest Texas Beekeepers Association

Cynthia Schiotis (210) 317-5596

*swtexasbeekeepers@gmail.com***Meetings:** 3rd Thursday of odd numbered months at 6pm

Sutton County Public Library, 306 E Mulberry St., Sonora

Temple Area Beekeepers Association

Jim Billings (254) 760-2053

*holly21351@aol.com***Meetings:** 2nd Thursday of each month at 7pm

Troy Community Center, 201 East Main Street, Troy

Texarkana Beekeepers Association

Sarah Clinesmith - (903) 277-2145

*sarahaddie@aol.com***Meetings:** 3rd Monday of each month at 6pm

Texarkana Public Library, 600 W 3rd St Texarkana

Texas Hill Country Beekeepers Association

Linda Williams - (830) 688-0560

*texashillcountrybeekeepers@gmail.com**facebook.com/TXHillCountryBKAssn/***Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of odd months at 6:30 pm

Schreiner University, 2100 Memorial Blvd, Kerrville

Travis County Beekeepers Assn.

Tanya Phillips - (512) 560-3732

*traviscountybeekeepers@gmail.com**www.TravisCountyBeekeepers.org**https://www.facebook.com/groups/TravisBeeks/***Meetings:** First Monday of the month at 7 pm

Zilker Botanical Gdns., 2220 Barton Springs Rd., Austin

Tri County Beekeepers Association

Erin Davis - (903) 389-3436

*erin.davis@ag.tamu.edu***Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:30pm

Sam's Restaurant, Fairfield, TX

Tyler County Bee Club

Scott Martin - (409) 283-4507

*tcbclub16@gmail.com***Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of each month at 6 pm

Nutrition Center, 201 Veterans Way, Woodville

Walker County Area Beekeepers Assn.

Larry Fuchs - (936) 661-0633

*walkercountybeekeepers@gmail.com***Meetings:** Last Thursday of each month at 7 pm

Walker Education Center, 1402 19th St., Huntsville

Williamson County Area Beekeepers Assn.

Gillian Mattinson - (512) 961-9955

gillmatties@gmail.com *www.wcaba.org***Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 pm (except December)

Georgetown Public Library, 402 W 8th St., Georgetown

Wise Texas Bee Club

Donny Johns - (817) 939-3249

*info@wisetexasbeeclub.org***Meetings:** First Thursday of the month at 6pm

Public Library, Bridgeport

Wood County Beekeepers Association

Bill Zimmer - (469) 222-3901

*woodcountybeekeepers@gmail.com***Meetings:** First Tuesday of every month at 7 pm

The Red Barn, 100 CR 4830, Winnsboro

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