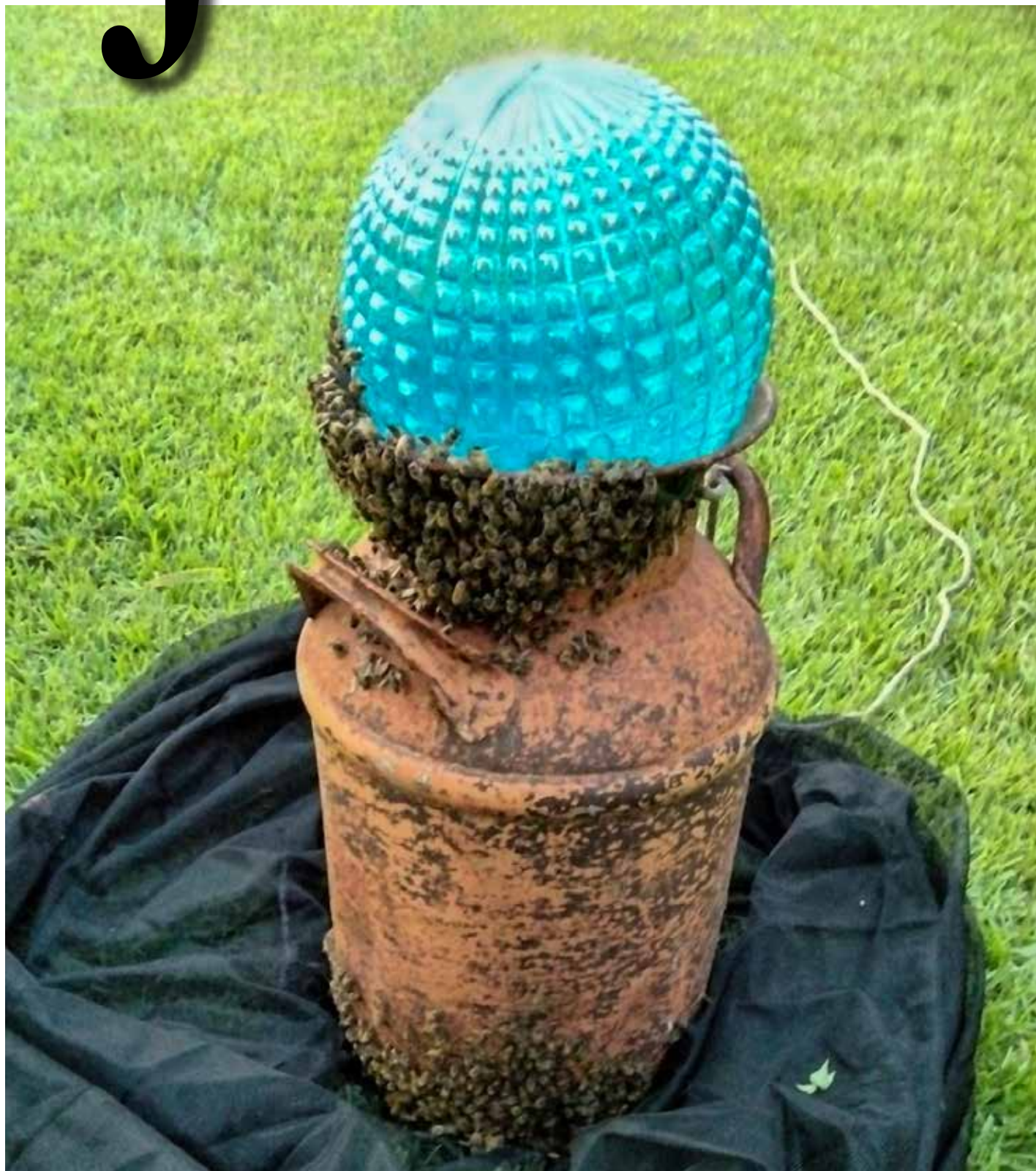


The Texas Beekeepers Association

# Journal







## GRANT WRITERS WANTED

THBEA Board is currently researching the design and build of a beekeeping education trailer to be used all over Texas to entertain and educate about bees and beekeeping in our great state! We need help finding and writing grants to make this dream a reality! Serious Volunteers Please

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## President's Report from Ashley Ralph

The TBA Summer Clinic was such a great time - Dodie Stillman and her team of volunteers really did a phenomenal job of organizing speakers, vendors, and delicious food for the occasion. I heard a ton of buzzing and excitement from attendees about the classes and learning, as well as the opportunity to meet fellow beekeepers. We had an overwhelming number of first time Summer Clinic attendees, many of whom have been learning from their local clubs and other bee schools but had not been to a TBA event yet - it was great to see so many new faces and some familiar ones among them.

The TBA website has a new feature that we're super excited about and it requires member participation. You can now update your profile (yes, you must login to the TBA webpage) to include special interests as well as services you provide as a beekeeper. This update will allow us to provide more relevant information to you as well as provide searchable member profiles for fellow beekeepers or even future public mapping for professional services related to beekeeping.

We have recently created some special interest group definitions with the goal of providing well rounded education and better understanding our membership. One thing we know is that while we all may keep bees a little differently or hold different standards within our apiary, we all care about the overall health of the honey bees in our apiary as well as within the industry.

TBA was invited to represent the bee industry at the Farm Bureau Legislative Ag Day in June that is hosted by some counties surrounding the Texas Capitol in order to bridge the gap of knowledge for legislative aids who may or may not have experience in agriculture. With urban areas accounting for so

much of the Texas population, it's a creative approach to educate the offices of both Senators and Representatives in issues that affect farmers. We were on the agenda with cattle, corn, Ag Extension agents, among others, and were given a platform to educate these smart young adults on bees and issues that affect the bee industry. We discussed the importance and contributions of bees and beekeepers to the food supply inside and outside of Texas, honey production within Texas, challenges and threats to bees as well as the industry, and fielded questions about truth in labeling, ag valuations, and bee facts. It was an exceptional opportunity that is a direct result of the progress your TBA Legislative Committee has made in building relationships and creating dialogue at the Texas Capitol.

The TBA Legislative Committee is currently working on a survey to send out to members as we gear up for what issues may arise in the 2023 session. Beekeeping has become progressively harder with loss of natural habitat, urban sprawl, use of pesticides, disease and pathogens spreading, and challenges in genetic diversity and more. As beekeepers, we have a lot in common when it comes to passionately defending honey bee health, so please help us as we continue to learn about what issues may affect our urban and rural beekeepers of all sizes.

We are already looking forward to the TBA Fall Convention and I think it's going to be a unique and exciting event based on what I'm seeing on the planning side - we can't wait to share more details but mark your calendar for a fun and educational beekeeping experience in Temple, Texas November 3rd-5th. (More exact dates and programming will be announced next time)

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*Front Cover Picture by Mr. S. S. Brantley*

## Vice Presidents Report

*from Dodie Stillman*



I have so much fun at the bee events I get to attend. I loved heading to Galveston last November, such a fun city to visit and the great bee people we got to meet and talk with, so much fun!! That excitement continued in June at the TBA Summer Clinic. I grew up in Conroe, so it's a great excuse to see friends and family while I'm there. Did you guys have fun?? Learn anything new?? Did you catch the future Master Beekeeper test question Dr. Delaplane tossed out there during his key note speech?? We have a couple of surveys that are still open if you'd like to send us any comments. If you absolutely loved a certain speaker, let us know so we make sure to invite them back again... If something could have been better, please let us know that too so we can try to improve in that area. The survey QR codes and links are below, there is one for the speakers, and one for the general event. We appreciate your feedback.

The survey information will come in handy as we jump into planning the Fall Convention! Please mark your calendars for November 3-5, 2022 and plan to join us in Temple, Texas, for our Fall Convention. We will have our Honey Show, the silent and live auctions, and our yearly banquet. We are honored to have Dr. Cameron Jack and Dr. Samuel Ramsey as our keynote speakers this fall.

I hope everyone had a successful honey harvest this year. Consider saving some of your honey to enter in the 2022 TBA Honey Show. You can enter polished jars, where the judging is focused more on presentation. Or you can enter honey in the Black Jar contest, where the only criteria is taste! All Black Jar entries will be automatically entered into the People's Choice contest for bragging rights as big as Texas!! The complete set of 2022 Honey Show rules as well as the 2022 Mead Rules are included in the Journal and will be posted on the TBA Website. One of the classes in the Honey Show is Beeswax Block. If you have your wax cappings and are not sure exactly how to go from the cappings to a block of wax check out a later article in the journal where I step through my inexpensive solar wax melting process. While we are suffering through temperatures of over 100 degrees, melting wax is super easy!!

With all this heat, we need to think about our bees and ourselves!! I'm sure everyone has a water source nearby for their bees, but please take care of yourself too!! If you haven't mastered drinking through your veil, another option is to fill a hydration back pack with ice water and wear it under your bee suit. That block of ice on your back can really help keep you cool.

The last item I want to mention is that it's time to check on

your mite populations. As we get really into our summer dearth, our bee populations will be shrinking, however, the varroa mite populations are still increasing. Do a mite check soon and if you are over your economic threshold, do something to help your bees. I like to think that the day after I harvest honey is the first day of winter preparation and the best thing I can do for my bees is to knock down the mite levels. So, find out your mite numbers and figure out your plan. My favorite resource for both obtaining mite numbers and figuring out the treatment options is to check in on the Honey Bee Health Coalition website <https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/>. Have you used the Varroa Management Decision Tool? [https://cantilever-instruction.com/varroatool/story\\_html5.html](https://cantilever-instruction.com/varroatool/story_html5.html) Answer 5 questions and get all the treatment options with label information and great videos to see how each treatment is applied.



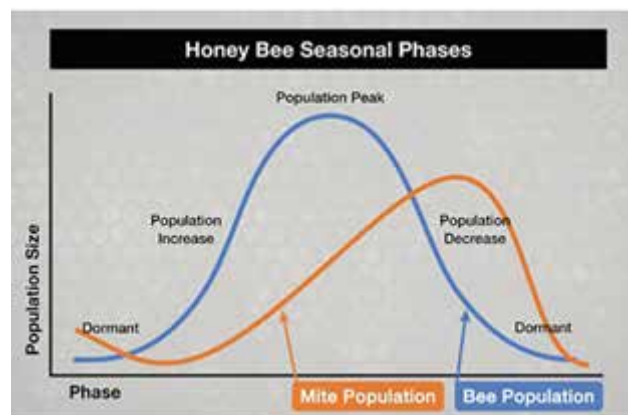
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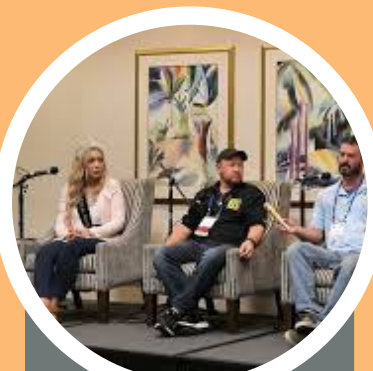
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## **Friday Nov 4**

- Educational Sessions
- Keynote speakers
- TBA Membership Meeting
- Texas Honey Show
- Texas Master Beekeeper Program Testing
- Live Auction & Banquet



## **Saturday Nov 5**

- Beekeeper networking
- Breakout sessions for all interests
- Panel discussions
- Interactive classes



# Dr. Samuel Ramsey

Dr. Samuel Ramsey's ground-breaking research has garnered international praise and recognition for its significant contributions to the entomological field. Always looking to forward scientific progress, diversity, and innovation, his career is distinguished by excellence and perseverance. Dr. Ramsey, founder and director of the Ramsey Research Foundation, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Entomology from Cornell University in 2011, and focused his research on Predatory and Parasitic Insect Behavior. He cultivated an interest and expertise in the close relationships between insects and other creatures (symbioses), and dedicated his doctoral research to understanding a parasite killing honey bees globally (Varroa destructor).

Honey bee and native bee health is declining worldwide with record loss rates in honey bee populations becoming routine (higher than 40% annual losses reported for 2018). These insects are so integral to crop production that challenges to their health threaten food security worldwide.

As he closely examines the biology of honey bees, their associated parasites, and related threats, he considers how discoveries can best be made available to everyone. Dr. Ramsey firmly believes that educating the public about this issue is key to solving it. Further, his strategies operate within the framework of Integrated Pest Management to use as little chemical insecticide as possible. This holistic methodology propelled him to Thailand to study the Tropilaelaps mite which is widely regarded as the next global threat to honey bee populations.

Dr. Ramsey strives to understand the behavior and biologies of these threats in isolation while developing preventative and emergency measures to preserve honey bee species at home and abroad. His current work, aptly named the Fight the Mite Initiative, was funded largely by generous support from the beekeeping community in response to his work in rehabilitating the industry.

Dr. Ramsey award-winning research on Varroa destructor has changed the standing paradigm on how the parasite feeds upon, and ultimately kills, honey bees. At the forefront of this scientific inquiry, he has had many opportunities to share his work internationally. Dr. Ramsey firmly believes that the ability to articulate one's findings to anyone who wants to hear them is just as important as the skills needed to reach important findings in the lab. This conviction is evidenced by his engaging scientific presentations and his contagious excitement in supporting the entomological community.



# Dr. Cameron Jack

Cameron Jack grew up in a small rural farm town called Logandale, NV, just outside of the lights and glitter of Las Vegas. His Grandpa was a high school principal but supplemented his income through beekeeping, managing about 150 hives for honey production and pollination.

Cameron grew up around honey bees and beekeeping, often helping his grandfather with hive inspections and honey extraction. He obtained his B.S. degree in biology from Southern Utah University in 2012 and completed his Master's degree at Oregon State University under the mentorship of Dr. Ramesh Sagili in 2015. There he conducted research on the honey bee gut pathogen *Nosema ceranae*. He then traveled across the country to pursue a Ph.D. at the University of Florida under the mentorship of Dr. Jamie Ellis where he began investigating methods to control the devastating pest *Varroa destructor*.

In 2018, Cameron was hired on as a teaching faculty at the University of Florida's Entomology and Nematology Department. He has been obsessed with creating a premier educational program that prepares students for the many challenges associated with beekeeping and to train those interested in entering the beekeeping workforce. Cameron currently teaches 10 honey bee-related courses and has created an online Beekeeping Certificate Program at both the undergraduate and graduate level at UF. In 2021, he transitioned into an Assistant Professor position where he continues to teach and conduct research focused on honey bee toxicology.

Most recently his projects have involved studying the efficacies of different chemical treatments to *Varroa* in field trials. Notably, his work on oxalic acid vaporization has been of interest to beekeepers around the world. He is also involved in a large-scale collaborative project screening a wide variety of untested chemicals for their toxicity towards *Varroa* and their effect on honey bees. As often as possible, Cameron tries to support undergraduate and graduate students with their research questions and helps them conduct meaningful studies that contribute to the overall scientific body of knowledge.







## Texas Master Beekeeper Program

*from Dodie Stillman*

When I finally got the OK to keep bees, it was in the middle of a hot July... I was so excited and right away started looking for more bee information... One of the first items I found was a mid 17th century proverbial bee-keepers' saying;

A swarm of bees in May is worth a bale of hay.  
A swarm of bees in June is worth a silver spoon.  
A swarm of bees in July is not worth a fly!

Well that was a bummer, but I didn't let it slow me down!! I found the Texas Beekeepers Association, while the cool club locator map wasn't there, I did notice another search option... it looked like each county had a bee club, well I saw Montgomery County and Collin County, 2 of the counties where I've lived... so I started looking for Travis County Beekeepers... but no such club existed, I tried Austin Beekeepers and lucked into the Austin Area Beekeepers Association. I also found the Williamson County Area Beekeepers Association, so I was set.

One of the first presentations I saw was by Lance Wilson. He put his e-mail address on the first slide and I had already sent him a question before the presentation was over. To my great surprise, he answered it the next day, so I asked another and he answered again. After a few months of this, and with the answers coming slower and slower, Lance told me about the Master Beekeeper Program in Georgia and told me I needed to go through the program. I looked through the information but knew I couldn't do it. I had a full time job and two young kids, no way I could leave town and spend the money getting to Georgia, a hotel, and taking a test. So, I let it go and concentrated on getting my first colonies of bees.

I talked a girlfriend into keeping bees with me and we both jumped in with two packages each. Having two beekeeping clubs close by and Lance still answering questions, I made it through my first year, even catching a swarm. It was a few years later that Lance told me he was working on a Master Beekeeping Program for Texas and wanted me to be a Guinea pig and go through the program. I was beyond excited.

What I know about myself is that I need a goal and a

deadline for motivation! So, I started at the beginning: <http://masterbeekeeper.tamu.edu/> The list was long, four books that looked more like textbooks, two magazines and just as many websites to review. I did the real student thing and asked if all of the books were going to be on the test... Us guinea pigs didn't have a study guide, and a website with most of the information still more geared toward Florida was a shaky start, but we persevered!

The website got better, the information in the books was great. The club meetings were informative. Having Lance as a mentor was a blessing that I will always be thankful to have had. The TBA events and conventions were invaluable! The friends I have made, the knowledge I've gained. No more information from the beekeepers in North Dakota telling us to wrap our hive in the winter. No more crazy information about taking honey anytime there was a surplus. This was all information specific to the south, for me, in Texas. Location is important in more than just real estate! Becoming a more knowledgeable beekeeper was boosting my confidence and my bees were thriving.

As I continued through the program, the information got more intense, the public service credits were accumulating, I was talking to everyone about honey bees! And I wasn't the only one, when I got to the Master-Level, there were 7 of us testing, I was in a study group and we took this very seriously. It showed, we all passed with flying colors, and are all still keeping bees alive.

We have touched so many people, teaching kids in schools, talking to garden groups and folks in the Master Gardener Program, reaching out to police and fire fighters and community leaders. There are currently 32 master level beekeepers in the program, followed by 112 beekeepers at the advanced level. While several hundred have completed the first apprentice level test. The TMBP is meeting its goal of increasing the knowledge and skill level of participating beekeepers, and increasing the overall health of the apiary industry by producing highly knowledgeable beekeepers that can help lead the industry and act as honey bee ambassadors to the general public. I hope you will consider looking into this program, and if it's a good fit for you, use it to increase your knowledge and success in the bee yard.



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# We're in Beekeeping for the Beekeepers

*"The Continuing Journey of Two Tenth-Year Small-Scale Beekeepers"*

TBA Journal Article – July 2022

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 Journal*

People keep bees for a wide variety of reasons. Some profit from pollination services. Others focus on beeswax. Some like to sell honey by the bear and others by the drum. Some keep bees because Grandpa was a beekeeper, and it just feels good to do things the old-fashioned way. We are in beekeeping because of beekeepers. Life is really all about people. Our lives are richer because of the people we've meet through bees. Here are some recent interactions.

Forty young children sat on a rug and listened to "Mr. Beekeeper" describe honey bees' jobs. Forty little hands waved in the air to answer his questions. Eighty eyes (well, maybe 76 eyes) focused on "Beatrice Bee," a 5-inch honey bee anatomical model, searching for her five eyes. Thirty-nine children tried to wait patiently to present their personal bee stories. Forty young children listened to Roger and remembered, "When you see a honey bee, let her be."

A friend sat alone in a dim hallway, hand-churning ice cream for our bee club's Independence Day celebration. She didn't ask for help, and she didn't stop turning the crank. She wanted to present a special treat for the beekeeping families, especially the children.

A gentleman offered to sit with a man recuperating from a hospital visit so that the beekeeping wife could learn how to test for varroa levels in her colonies.

A great-grandma purchased a bee suit for her 8-year-old great grandson. He spied the long-awaited Dadant package, looked at her with a huge grin, and asked, "Is this for me?" Yes! He proudly donned the suit, boots, and gloves, sweated in the 100-degree morning, and said he was ready to inspect grandma's bees with her!

Our beekeeping mentor saw that we had family (and three grandchildren) in town. He went to his car and returned with three bears filled with his wonderful honey; his gift to three future beekeepers.

Two first-year beekeepers decided to help each other inspect their hives this summer. They learned to trade off responsibilities and roles, and they both take their friendship seriously. One of the ladies experienced a family emergency, so the other asked Sue to help her do her colony inspections, including checking for queen emergence in a newly created split.

A high school age young lady took a huge step and bought her first colony, a 3-pound package from Georgia. She brought her entire family to hear Roger present on how to prepare to successfully overwinter bees. She sought out an older female beekeeper to be her mentor. Her father beamed as his daughter took on this adventure.

We don't keep bees for financial gain. Backyard beekeeping is local; and it really is all about the God-created people.

Keep learning and growing in your beekeeping knowledge and experience! We'd love to hear about your beekeeping adventures and what's on your summer reading list!

Roger and Sue Farr - [rdfarr@gmail.com](mailto:rdfarr@gmail.com)

## TAIS Update

*from Taylor Powell  
Chief Apiary Inspector*



Greetings Texas Beekeepers!

I am excited to introduce myself as the new Chief Apiary Inspector. You may recognize me from the previous journal, or perhaps I have inspected your bees before. You may have also heard me speak at various beekeeping events. My name is Taylor Powell and I have been with The Texas Apiary Inspection Service since 2020. I have also served as the Program Coordinator for the Texas Master Beekeeper Program since January. I graduated from Lubbock Christian University in 2018 with a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science and have been pursuing my Master's degree in Agricultural Biosecurity and Food Defense through Pennsylvania State University's World Campus.

Safeguarding Texas agriculture is something I have been deeply passionate about as a native Texan and One Health advocate. In my new role, I hope to empower Texas beekeepers to feel confident about their understanding of deleterious pests and diseases affecting honey bees. One of the things I will be doing as part of this plan is visiting Texas Beekeeper Associations to meet and encourage beekeepers to utilize our agency as a reliable resource for research-based education on honey bee health. I look forward to meeting everyone in the near future, but enough about me!

Let's talk about this brutal summer! The dry heat has been incredibly hard on the bees. You may be seeing your queens shut down and a subsequent population decrease. The bees are also likely depleting their resources much faster than they are

replenishing them as forage availability is slim to none. It may be hot, but that is not an excuse to neglect your bees. ☹

I remember, early on in my beekeeping experience, I lost a hive to starvation. Bill Baxter, our Assistant Chief Inspector, responded with "shame on the beekeeper who lets their bees starve" and I agree with him as much as it hurt my pride. Since then, I have made a point not to lose another hive to starvation which requires careful attentiveness to stored resources. Never think your bees are OK just because they were fine two weeks ago.

On a similar note, please also be mindful that water may be scarce for your bees. Water availability is crucial for honey bee survival just as it is for any other livestock. If they don't have a good water source, you are responsible for providing and maintaining one. Check the water source regularly to prevent or reduce mosquito breeding grounds.

Lastly, remember to use safe fire practices when lighting and dumping your smoker. Wildfires are popping up all throughout Texas. It should go without saying that you should never dump your smoker in a dry patch of dead grass when it's windy and you don't have at least a gallon of water on hand. Our inspectors carry fire extinguishers and several gallons of water in their pickup trucks as an additional safety precaution as we continue to conduct inspections across Texas.

We will come out of this tough weather eventually. Weaker colonies may be disconcerting, but don't give up. In the meantime, if you have any questions or would like to request an inspection, please feel free to reach out to our office via phone or email ((979) 845-9713; [tais@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:tais@ag.tamu.edu)).

***Renew your Membership, or Join Us.***

*[www.texasbeekeepers.org](http://www.texasbeekeepers.org)*

**If you change your address or email please contact**

**Shirley Doggett at [sdoggett@mindspring.com](mailto:sdoggett@mindspring.com)**

**or call (512) 924-5051**

***Look for the Honey Locator and Events Calendar***





## The Brantley Column

*from S. S. Brantley*

*2016 Life Member Texas Beekeepers Association*

*2017 Life Member Louisiana Beekeepers Association*

August is the month that is hard on bees as well as their keepers. There is little forage for the bees to attempt to collect. Crepe Myrtle trees are continuing to bloom and provide a small source of nectar and pollen. According to Pierre Lau, a PHD graduate of the Texas A&M Bee Lab system, the white blooming Crepe Myrtle trees provide the best bee forage. However if you only have purple or red blooming trees, by all means don't cut them down!

If you live in the city, window box flowers can provide a source of food for the bees.

Hives located in the river bottoms may have an unseen food source growing in the cooler areas of tree cover. Rattan Vine, Poison Ivy and Oak, and large patches of English Ivy could provide a good foraging area. Be aware of large areas of bitter weeds blooming as this can give the honey an undesirable taste or smell.

Be aware with little or no food to collect, the bees may be cranky and may be prone to sting without you doing anything other than entering the beeyard.

All of the surplus honey the bees have produced should be extracted by now. Do a periodic check of your hives to determine if there is nectar stored in the brood chambers. If there is no nectar available, the queen has no reason to lay eggs. She knows there is no food to feed any newly hatched larvae. If no food is available, feed with sugar syrup as needed. I suggest using 2-to-1 syrup mixture as the bees do not have to work as hard to evaporate and store the heavier mixture.

If you need to feed pollen patties, suspend a small piece of patty on a one-half inch mesh hardware cloth. Cut a six or seven inch square of the hardware cloth, snip the corners and fold it to make an upside down wire basket. Lay the piece of patty on the raised part of the wire so bees have access to the underside and can keep the hive beetles from depositing their eggs under the patty.

Do a mite check as mite populations are high at this time of the year. In a 300 bee mite check, there should be no more than nine mites. More mites found in the sample means a treatment needs to be done. Consider your area's high temperature when deciding on the treatment you want to apply. Some cannot be applied during the hottest part of summer. Read the directions on the package and apply it properly.

If you have extracted your supers and do not intend to store them on the hive all winter you have two storage choices to keep the wax moth from destroying the drawn comb. One method is to stack the supers and add 1/4 cup of paramoth crystals to the stack. Place an 8x8 inch piece of paper or a paper plate at the top of the stack, put the paramoth crystals on it, and set an outer cover over it.

A second method is to use the new Certan B402 to spray the extracted frames for wax moth control. Here is a link giving information about Certan and how to use it: [https://www.vita-europe.com/bee-health/products/b401\\_b402/](https://www.vita-europe.com/bee-health/products/b401_b402/).

If you opt to use paramoth crystal, you would need to let the supers air out next year before placing them on the hive. With Certan, there is no need to air out the supers prior to placing them back on the hive. Certan is available from most bee supply companies.

At this time, there is not much hope for a Goldenrod flow unless we get considerable moisture in September or October. With no fall flow for winter nectar storage, it may be necessary to feed 2-to-1 sugar syrup so the bees can store supplies for winter. Keep in mind that supplemental feeding has the potential to induce robbing. Reduce openings to about three inches on all hives being fed. If the colony is weak, reduce the entrance to the smallest entrance possible.



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The Texas Honey Show Committee is so excited to present this year's competition information. The competition is Friday, November 4th, 2022 during the Texas Beekeepers Annual Convention at the Frank Mayborn Civic and Convention Center in Temple, TX.

Entries will be accepted only at the event.

**Registration:** Online registration only at the following:  
<https://texasbeekeepers.org/texas-honey-show-2022/>

**Drop-off Show Entries:** All entries must be dropped off at the event venue and will be accepted on November 3<sup>rd</sup> (Thursday 10:00 am to 6:00pm) and November 4<sup>th</sup> (Friday 8:00am to 10:00am). Remember entries dropped off the day of judging must be received by 10:00AM to be eligible.

**Honey Show governing document and how to enter an exhibit.**

The Texas Honey Show highlights good marketing of Texas beekeeping products and helps beekeepers share techniques with each other. The goal is to include beekeepers statewide. All are encouraged to enter in the following classes:

**CLASS**

**Class 1:** Extracted Honey, two jars of (0 mm to 85mm)  
 LIGHT/AMBER

**Class 2:** Extracted Honey, two jars of (86mm to 114mm)  
 MEDIUM/AMBER

**Class 3:** Extracted Honey, two jars of (115mm and above)  
 DARK/AMBER

**Class 4:** Creamed Honey, two jars

**Class 5:** Chunk Honey, two jars

**Class 6:** "Black Jar" Honey, two jars (The winner will need to have a total of 3 jars, this is the requirement to be sent on to the next level that is out of state.)

**Class 7:** Comb Honey – Ross Round, two matching

**Class 8:** Comb Honey – Halfhog, two matching

**Class 9:** Comb Honey – Cut Comb, two matching

**Class 10:** Wax Plain Block (no fancy mold) weight between 1 lb. and 2 lbs.

**Class 11:** Beekeeping Arts and Crafts

**Class 12:** Photography Close-up

**Class 13:** Photography Scenic

**Class 14:** Photography Portrait

**Class 15:** Beekeeping Gadgets

**Class 16:** Candles

**Class 17:** Deep 10 Frame Super Art Contest (Painted exterior surfaces of the bee box.)

**Class 18:** Video Short

**\*\* Mead** – Mead has its own unique classes and rules. For mead entries, please see the separate Mead Rules Document

**Auction**

\*All entries become the property of TBA. Some winning entries will be included in the THBEA Auctions. No entries will be returned unless specifically worked out with the Honey Show Team. (\*With the exception of Gadgets and Art.)

**General Rules**

The Honey Show judging criteria are designed to reflect exhibitor skill, shine a favorable light on Texas beekeeping, and create a learning experience. Items over which one has no direct control are de-emphasized. In the extracted, creamed and chunk honey classes, a judge's personal taste of the natural flavor or color of honey will not affect scoring. However, alteration of either color or flavor in handling or preparation of the entry by the beekeeper will adversely affect the score (such as smoke or repellent.) Manufacturing defects in glass jars and bottles will not affect scoring, but surface dust, smudges, scratches, chips or other handling alterations on entry containers will affect the score.

Registration is online only at

<https://texasbeekeepers.org/texas-honey-show-2022/>.

Complete the 2022 Texas Honey Show Entry Form during the registration before delivering your entries to the Show Secretary at the registration table. Please see Mead Competition Rules for mead entry forms. By entering the competition, you agree to be bound by the rules. Please read them carefully.

1. The Texas Honey Show is affiliated with and hosted by the Texas Beekeepers Association (TBA). All are welcome to submit entries so long as those entries were produced and made in the state of Texas by the entrant.



2. Registration is online only, so access <https://texasbeekeepers.org/texas-honey-show-2022/> on the TBA Website to registration before delivering your entries to the Show Secretary at the registration table.
3. Texas Honey Show Entry Fees: \$5 flat fee per entry class submitted.
4. An Individual can submit only one entry per class. All entries must have been produced/harvested/created in the state of Texas within the last 12 months by the individual submitting the entry.
5. Entries can be hand-delivered on behalf of a qualified entrant by another person so long as all online registrations and fees are current at the time of drop-off at the designated location at the event. Entries dropped off the day of judging must be received by 10:00AM to be considered for the competition.
6. Mead Competition has separate drop off rules detailed in the Mead Rules Document.
7. At the time of registration, the Show Secretary will assign an internal tracking number and code each entry accordingly.
8. At time of receipt all entries become property of the Texas Beekeepers Association (TBA), and may be included in auctions to benefit the Texas Honey Bee Education Association (THBEA). *\*With the exception of Gadgets and Art*
9. Extracted honey must be submitted in two standard 1-lb glass queen-line or Gamber Classic jars, with a plain metal or plastic lid. **(No labels affixed.)**
10. Creamed honey must be submitted in two 1-lb. round chunk honey jars (has small shoulder) or straight cylinder glass jar. **(No labels affixed.)**
11. Chunk honey must be submitted in two 1-lb. round chunk honey jars (has small shoulder) or straight cylinder glass jar with standard lid. **(No labels affixed.)**
12. The "Black Jar" entry will be obscured by the Show Secretary when received.
13. Do not label products in any way before arrival. If you would like to include your personal/business label for display and photo purposes, each extracted honey entry should be accompanied by the producer's own labels, which will be attached to the entries after judging. Put the labels in a blank white envelope that accompanies your entry so it can get included with your assigned tracking number. **DO NOT AFFIX THE LABELS TO ENTRIES PRIOR TO COMPETITION OR YOU WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.**

14. After submitting entries to the Show Secretary, competitors must leave the registration area and are not permitted entry into the judging area for any reason.
15. Judging will take place Friday with results announced initially at the Banquet that night and then posted on the TBA Facebook Page.
16. The Show Secretary and assistants are disqualified from competition. Judges are disqualified from the class/classes they are judging. (Honey judges are not allowed to submit honey entries, Mead judges are not allowed to submit mead entries, Art judges are not allowed to submit art entries, etc.)
17. Participants can enter either individually or as a group, in the case of group projects.
18. All entries will be judged according to the official scoring criteria guidelines. Judges fill out a score card for each entry. If an entry is disqualified, the reason for disqualification must be stated on the score card. Judges make comments on score cards in order to help exhibitors improve. If you want your score card, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope with each entry.
19. Any complaint or issue must be presented in writing to the Show Chairman. All Complaints need to be accompanied by two suggestions on how matters could be improved for future competitions.



## Honey Show Judging Criteria for maximum of 100 points:

**1-3 Extracted Honey:** Extracted honey must be submitted in a standard one-pound queen-line type or Gamber Classic glass jars with plain metal or plastic lid. **No labels affixed.**

**10 points:** DENSITY (water content above 18.6% is disqualified; below 15.5% will be docked points.)

15.5-17.0 % is 10 points

17.1 – 18.0 is 9 points

18.1 – 18.6 is 7 points

**20 points:** ABSENCE OF CRYSTALS

**40 points:** CLEANLINESS

Without lint – 10

Without dirt – 10

Without wax – 10

Without foam – 10

**10 points:** FLAVOR (points reduced ONLY for honey flavor adversely affected by processing); disqualified if fermented.

**10 points:** CONTAINER APPEARANCE (dust, dirt, smudges, honey, or other foreign material on the rim or outside of the container will result in point deductions.)

**10 points:** ACCURACY OF FILLING (jars filled to the top of the bead, molded on the jar, no visible gap between bead and lid, not over 3/8 inch from top of jar.)

**4. CREAMED HONEY:** 1-lb. round chunk honey jar (has small shoulder) or straight cylinder glass jar. **No labels affixed.**

**30 points:** FINENESS OF CRYSTALS

**25 points:** FIRMNESS

**20 points:** CLEANLINESS AND FREEDOM FROM FOAM

**15 points:** FLAVOR points reduced if affected by processing; disqualified if fermented.

**10 points:** ACCURACY OF FILLING

**5. CHUNK HONEY:** 1-LB round chunk honey jar (has small shoulder) or straight cylinder glass jar. **No labels affixed.**

**20 points:** NEATNESS AND UNIFORMITY OF CUT (Upgrade for parallel, 4-sided cuts, Downgrade for ragged edges)

**20 points:** ABSENCE OF WATERY CAPPINGS, UNCAPPED CELLS AND POLLEN

**20 points:** CLEANLINESS ABSENCE OF TRAVEL STAINS, FOAM, WAX FLAKES & CRYSTALLIZATION

**20 points:** UNIFORMITY OF APPEARANCE COLOR, THICKNESS OF COMB, ACCURACY OF FILL

**10 points:** DENSITY (water content above 18.6% is disqualified)

**10 points:** FLAVOR (reduced points if adversely affected by processing); disqualified if fermented

**6. BLACK JAR HONEY:** Entries are to be submitted in one jar of any type. Show Secretary will obscure honey upon entry into the show. 1<sup>st</sup> place ribbon only. Not eligible for Best in Show Honey Award. Class Judging Criteria: Solely on the merits of its taste.

**7-9 COMB HONEY:** Honey comb that has been built in a container by the bees in either (Ross Round – Class 7) round plastic, (Halfhog – Class 8) square wooden or plastic boxes with clear removable lids and no labels. Cut Comb (Class 9) should be 4 inch by 4 inch sections of honeycomb with the edges drained and placed in a clam shell container with no loose or dripping/leaking honey. The foundation (if used) should be 100 % bees wax with no metal wire supports in it. Comb honey should not contain any uncapped cells; it should be completely filled from top to bottom and side to side. Points are taken off for open cells. Comb honey should have pure white cappings and there should be uniformity in color.

**20 points:** ABSENCE OF UNCAPPED CELLS

**20 points:** UNIFORMITY OF APPEARANCE

**15 points:** UNIFORMITY OF COLOR

**15 points:** UNIFORMITY OF CUT (Cut Comb) - or -

CLEANLINESS OF FRAME/CONTAINER (Ross Round/Halfhog)

**10 points:** ABSENCE OF WET/WATERY CAPPINGS

**10 points:** ABSENCE OF POLLEN & GRANULATION

**10 points:** UNIFORMITY OF WEIGHT (honey in both sides for Ross Round and Cut Comb)

**10. BEESWAX BLOCK:** Beeswax entries must be natural, unbleached, 100% beeswax. Weight range of 1-lb. - 2-lb. only. Wax to be smooth and can be block, square, round, or rectangular in shape, no fancy mold, and no indentations of letters from mold. Wax block must be wrapped in transparent plastic wrap (such as Cling Wrap). Entry label will be affixed to the plastic wrap.

**35 points:** CLEANLINESS

**20 points:** UNIFORMITY OF APPEARANCE

**15 points:** COLOR

**15 points:** AROMA

**15 points:** ABSENCE OF CRACKS & SHRINKAGE

**11. BEEKEEPING ARTS AND CRAFTS:** This category includes any type of art. It can include batik, encaustic painting, collage, mixed media, quilts, painting, knitting, embroidery, and so forth. Exhibitors' names must not be shown.

**25 points:** ARTISTIC MERIT

**25 points:** ORIGINALITY

**25 points:** SKILL INVOLVED

**25 points:** DESIGN

**ALL PHOTOGRAPHY:** Photograph must be size of 8"x10", horizontal or vertical. Photographer submitting an entry retains all legal copyrights. The first-place photo entries may be featured as 2022 TBA Journal covers and the cover of the TBA brochure. All photos may be used in the calendar to be sold at the following year's convention. Please ensure you have the permission of any individual featured in photos prior to submitting entries. Each of the photography classes will be judged using the following point system...

**35 points:** COMPOSITION

**35 points:** TREATMENT OF SUBJECT MATTER

**30 points:** QUALITY AND PRESENTATION

**12. SCENIC:** Must be a photo of a honeybee yard, truck transporting bees, installing packages, doing a hive check, beehive removal, swarm trap, or other bee activity.

**13. PORTRAIT:** Must be a portrait of a person, or group of people doing something involving beekeeping.

**14. CLOSE UP:** Must be a close up of a bee or bees (anywhere).

**15. BEEKEEPING GADGETS:** Beekeeping gadgets accompanied with written description of the use and function of the gadget. Exhibitors' names must not be shown.

**25 points:** EXPLANATORY TEXT

**35 Points:** PRACTICALITY

**15 points:** EASE OF REPRODUCTION

**10 points:** HELP TO BEEKEEPING

**15 points:** ORIGINALITY

**16. CANDLES:** You must submit **3 identical** candles.

Candles will be judged on cleanliness and uniformity in size and shape. Candles must have a flat base and will be displayed upright. Wicks must be trimmed to 10mm in length.

**35 points:** CLEANLINESS/ORIGINALITY

**20 points:** UNIFORMITY OF APPEARANCE

**15 points:** COLOR

**15 points:** AROMA

**15 points:** ABSENCE OF CRACKS & SHRINKAGE

**17. Deep 10 Frame Super Art Contest:** An artistic design of your imagination painted on a deep super 10 frame box. Only the outside of the box will be judged. Do not paint the inside.

**25 points:** ARTISTIC MERIT

**25 points:** ORIGINALITY

**25 points:** SKILL INVOLVED

**25 points:** DESIGN

**18. Short Film "What I Love About Beekeeping!":**

1.) The film must not run longer than two (2) minutes and that includes the title and credits.

2.) The film will need to be turned in on a USB drive.

3.) By entering this Texas Honey Show category, you will be giving the rights to have your film posted on any TBA Website, Facebook page, or advertisement. Your video may also be aired at any TBA event such as the "Summer Clinic" and "Fall Convention".

**35 points:** COMPOSITION

**35 points:** TREATMENT OF SUBJECT MATTER

**30 points:** QUALITY AND PRESENTATION

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# Texas Beekeepers Association

Serving beekeepers since 1880.

## Mead Amateur Division Competition Rules

By entering the competition, you agree to be bound by the rules.

Please read them carefully. Only one entry per each Mead Subcategory.

This is our fifth year doing the judging in house and we want to be sure we have enough judges. We will take new entries on registration day, but PLEASE, PLEASE email us at [MeadJudge@texasbeekeepers.org](mailto:MeadJudge@texasbeekeepers.org) no later than October 25th with all the information from the entry form so we can get an idea about how many entries to expect. Our judges can only review so many meads. It is important to have enough judges to get the best results.

1. Only home-produced amateur meads may be entered.
2. All meads are required to have Texas honey. The source(s) of the honey or beekeeper name must be declared in the entry description. Entries made with non-Texas honey, or entries without the source(s) of honey disclosed, will be disqualified. All entries become property of the Texas Beekeepers Association. Entries will NOT be returned to entrants under any circumstances.
3. Entry Fees: a \$5 entry fee applies per Subcategory.
4. Two 12oz or larger bottles are required for evaluation. If entering smaller bottles, three bottles are required to qualify for Best of Show in the Mead Category.
5. Bottles MUST be accompanied by the registration entry form titled "Texas Beekeepers Association Mead Submission Form" and declared BJCP style category. It is requested that you print the form from the registration website (<https://texasbeekeepers.org/texas-honey-show-2022/>) and affix a completed form to each bottle using rubber bands. (We recommend you put the form in a gallon zip lock bag to protect the document and then use rubber bands to attach it to each bottle.) PLEASE DO NOT USE TAPE TO AFFIX LABELS OR DOCUMENTATION!!
6. The competition is Friday, November 4th, 2022. Entries will be accepted November 3<sup>th</sup> (Thursday 10:00 am to 5:00pm) and November 4<sup>th</sup> (Saturday 8:00 am to 10:00 am). Entries must be dropped off during the designated time. Entries dropped off the day of judging must be received by 10:00 am. Entries are to be dropped off at the Frank Mayborn Civic & Convention Center 3303 N 3rd St, Temple, TX 76501.
7. Texas Beekeepers Association is not liable for lost or misplaced drop-off entries.
8. Entries will be judged against the Beer Judge Certification Program (BJCP) style guidelines for the category entered. (See #10 for more information.) The competition chairman/secretary, head judge/judges, and stewards will not re-categorize your entry for you. If you enter your mead in the wrong category, it will be judged in the wrong category which will affect your score. If you are unsure what category to enter a mead into, contact the Honey Show Committee at [MeadJudge@texasbeekeepers.org](mailto:MeadJudge@texasbeekeepers.org).
9. Be sure to have all your paperwork filled out and attached to each bottle.
10. Helpful information: <https://www.bjcp.org/mead.php>
11. If you would like to volunteer for the Texas Honey Show send an email to [vp@texasbeekeepers.org](mailto:vp@texasbeekeepers.org)

Categories M1. Traditional Mead	<i>Subcategories</i> <i>Honey, water, yeast</i> M1A. Dry Mead M1B. Semi-Sweet Mead M1C. Sweet Mead
M2. Fruit Mead	<i>Honey, fruit, water, yeast</i> M2A. Cyser – apple and honey M2B. Pyment – grape and honey M2C. Berry Mead M2D. Stone Fruit Mead – fruit with a pit and honey M2E. Melomel – any other fruit combinations not in A-D
M3. Spiced Mead	<i>Honey, spices, water, yeast</i> M3A. Fruit and Spice Mead M3B. Spice, Herb or Vegetable Mead
M4. <i>Specialty Mead</i>	<i>Honey, fruit and/or spices and/or grains, yeast</i> M4A. Braggot and Honey Beer M4B. Historical Mead Recipes M4C. Experimental Mead
<b>Max Points: Judging Criteria for a maximum of 50 points</b>  10 BOUQUET AND AROMA 6 APPEARANCE 24 FLAVORS 10 OVERALL IMPRESSION	



# Texas Beekeepers Association Mead Individual Submission Form

Serving beekeepers since 1880.

Please fill out a form for each bottle of mead submitted. Put the completed form in a zip-lock bag, and use rubber-bands to attach it to each bottle of mead before you get to registration.

---

## Vintner(s) Information .....

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (H) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (cell) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

## Entry Information .....

Name-of-Vintner (Mead Maker) \_\_\_\_\_  
Category (No. M1-M4 found in Mead Rules) \_\_\_\_\_ Subcategory (A-E found in Mead Rules) \_\_\_\_\_  
Category/ Subcategory (print full names) \_\_\_\_\_  
Sweetness level (Dry, off dry, semi-sweet or sweet) \_\_\_\_\_  
Honey Varietal \_\_\_\_\_  
Location Produced (County in Texas) \_\_\_\_\_  
Apiarist Who Produced/Harvested the Honey \_\_\_\_\_  
Start Date (When did you make the must and pitch the yeast) \_\_\_\_\_

----- Cut here -----

---

## Vintner(s) Information .....

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (H) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (cell) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

## Entry Information .....

Name-of-Vintner (Mead Maker) \_\_\_\_\_  
Category (No. M1-M4 found in Mead Rules) \_\_\_\_\_ Subcategory (A-E found in Mead Rules) \_\_\_\_\_  
Category/ Subcategory (print full names) \_\_\_\_\_  
Sweetness level (Dry, off dry, semi-sweet or sweet) \_\_\_\_\_  
Honey Varietal \_\_\_\_\_  
Location Produced (County in Texas) \_\_\_\_\_  
Apiarist Who Produced/Harvested the Honey \_\_\_\_\_  
Start Date (When did you make the must and pitch the yeast) \_\_\_\_\_





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*from Dodie Stillman*

## **Cleaning up wax capping**

I've been using this super inexpensive solar wax melter method for the quite a while now and it's still working like a charm to give me super pretty wax.

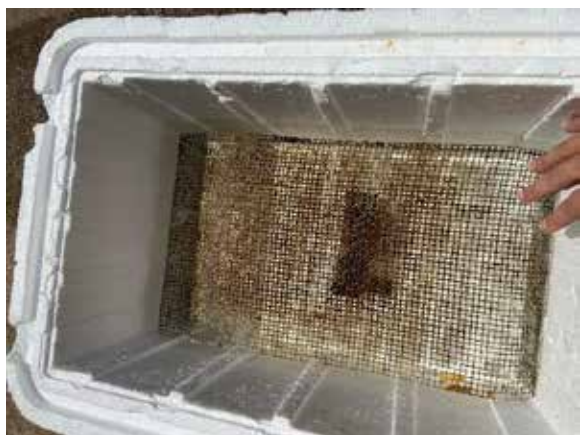
I got my styrofoam ice chest from a friend, being able to reuse this is a positive for me!



Because I have a length of #8 hardware cloth cutting some to fit the ice chest is pretty easy.

I don't want the wax cappings to sag so I have a small wood block I place in the middle of the hardware cloth.

I have bent the edges of the hardware cloth into a sort of a "U" shape.



At this point, you need to add some water to the bottom of the ice chest. The wax will drip down and float on the water.





We need a little filter, so I use a paper towel. Add that on top of the screen. And you really only need one layer of the inexpensive towels.

After a trip to the second-hand store and picked up an old image with a glass frame. Make sure to measure your ice chest.

Place the glass frame over the ice chest and close it tight. Make sure it's in full sun and let the sun do the work for you for the next 3-4 hours.



The wax will melt through the paper towel and drip into the water. It should float there on the water for you to retrieve after it cools down.

Keep the used paper towels. Cut them into small squares and use them to light your smoker.

After the sun does most of the work, you should have a bunch of beautiful wax for your next projects.







## Texas Honey Queen Report

*from Marie Yanchak*

Hello everyone! I have enjoyed getting to meet many of you at the Central Texas Beekeepers 12th Annual Bee School, the New Ulm Honey Bee Jubilee, and BuzzFest.

As it heats up in Texas and schools are out for the summer, I am proud to say that five high school students have taken on an exciting role in the Texas Beekeepers Association. As you all may know, I am the first Texas Honey Queen since the COVID-19 Pandemic, and in the absence of a Honey Queen last year, I saw the need for a program that allowed more young people in our industry to become involved in TBA and serve as active voices for us in their communities.

Thus, the Texas Honey Queen program and the Texas Beekeepers Association created the Texas Beekeepers Association Youth Ambassador Program, a new initiative for boys and girls from ages 13-18. The Youth Ambassador Program is an opportunity for young people to become involved with the Texas Beekeepers Association, and also to raise youth awareness and involvement at both the local and state levels. Additionally,

this program empowers young people to plan and implement a honey bee related service project in their communities, and impart basic beekeeping knowledge among its participants.

The inaugural group of TBA Youth Ambassadors were selected amongst a very competitive application pool, and were introduced at the TBA Summer Clinic. There they were able to meet so many of you, and gain beekeeping education from a diverse group of perspectives. These young people have already attended their Ambassadorship Training, and have begun planning their Capstone Community Projects, which will allow them to make large positive impacts on their communities through honey bee education and outreach. I know that each of them will do amazing things in our organization this year, and far beyond. Keep an eye out for the Ambassadors on our social medias, as well as at TBA Convention in November!

I enjoyed seeing you all in Conroe at Summer Clinic, and hope you all are staying cool in this Texas heat!!

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The easiest way to contact us is via mail. We can call you if desired. You can try calling and leave a message with whoever answers the phone and I will return your call. Often I return calls late Evening. We look forward to doing business with you and we appreciate your patronage.

	1-24	25-99	100-up
Five Frame Nuc	\$185	\$170	\$150

	1-9	10-24	25-99	100-up
Queens	\$29	\$25	\$22	\$21
Virgins	\$10	-	-	-

Queen  
Cells \$3

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# Come One, Come All!

*from Kim Townsend*

Announcing the Texas Beekeepers Association Texas Honey Booth Exhibit and Honey Competitions at the great State Fair of Texas!

September 30<sup>th</sup> - October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

The 2022 State Fair of Texas season is rapidly approaching and we want YOU and your honey (not your sweetheart, but the tasty golden stuff you harvested) to participate!

Not only are you encouraged to enter the various contests related to honey and beekeeping, but we want to invite you to proudly represent the fruits of your (and your bees') labor by submitting a jar of your delicious liquid gold for display throughout the entirety of the State Fair of Texas at the Texas Beekeepers Honey Booth Exhibit - where your apiary/honey label will be in full view of all visitors to the TBA Honey Booth and participation is FREE!

Fun fact: The TBA Honey Booth is one of THE *most visited* booths in the entire Food and Fiber Pavilion. Why is it so popular? Aside from the gorgeous, attractive and colorful array of honey bottles on display, one of the reasons that it gets so much attention is because visitors get to interact with actual beekeepers who are eager to share their passion for bees with the general public! On any given day or hour, there is at least one or more beekeepers actively engaging with interested fair-goers, and there's no other exhibit booth in the building that attracts folks to come look at the honey (and sometimes live bees in an observation hive), or that reaches out and shares such fascinating information like the beekeepers do.

Thankfully, these days both honey bees and honey are on the minds of many conscientious consumers and nature lovers. While many are rightfully concerned with the plight and decline of these cute little pollinators, others are equally curious as to the authenticity of the contents in their store-bought jars of honey. We, as Texas beekeepers, are eager to help educate and inform the public on these and other topics, not to mention that we get to share with them the wonders and joy of beekeeping!

One popular misconception that many folks have is that "honey is honey"; that it all looks and tastes the same. Hoo, boy! Nothing could be further from the truth and we can help to set the record straight by explaining the hows and whys honey has a multitude of colors and tastes. Rather than simply posting signage with facts and figures regarding honey and honey bees, we instead man the TBA Honey Booth with member volunteers who are Texas beekeepers eager to greet the public and chat with them one-on-one... and that's why *we need YOU!!*

How can you help, you may be asking? Let me count the ways!!

- 1) We need YOU to volunteer at the Texas Beekeepers Honey Booth Exhibit! All you have to do is contact Mr. John Talbert to sign up for a day and time to meet and talk with visitors to the TBA Honey Booth.

To volunteer for the TBA Honey booth, contact John Talbert at: [john@sabinecreekhoney.com](mailto:john@sabinecreekhoney.com)



- 2) Showcase your honey! A bottle of your honey can join in the vast array of sizes, colors and labels that stretch across the width of the TBA Honey Booth and vividly illustrate the variances of the honey from all across our great state! This enticing exhibit helps to reinforce that there really IS a variety of flavors and tastes from local honey producers!

Please send a labeled jar of your honey for display. After the State Fair, all of the honey bottles will be donated to Happy Hill Farm near Granbury, Texas - which is a residential school for children.

To donate a jar of your beautiful honey for display at the State Fair of Texas, please send it to:  
John Talbert  
P.O. Box 6  
Josephine, TX 75164

Or, if shipping via UPS or FEDEX, please send to:  
John Talbert  
22326 CR 638  
Josephine, TX 75189

***Note: Please pack all glass securely.***

Now, on to the challenge level!

Are you feeling especially proud of the honey that your bees made this year? Is it exceptionally tasty? Do you think your honey could go toe-to-toe in competition against other honey entries from across the state?

If so, how about taking things up a notch by entering some of your honey from this year's harvest in one of the three honey contests sponsored by the Texas Beekeepers Association at the State Fair of Texas:

- Black Jar Honey Contest (judged exclusively by taste only)
- Polished Jar Honey Contest (judged on several criteria - including presentation of the bottle itself)
- Honey, the Magic Ingredient (a.k.a. cooking with honey contest - where honey must be a key ingredient in the recipe)

Or, if you were unable to harvest, BUT you've taken some outstanding photos out in your bee yard... how about entering one of your best shots in the TBA sponsored Honey Bee Photo Contest?! There's a \$50 cash prize for both the junior and adult color photo winners where the subject is honey bees!

Registration and contest rules can be accessed for all contests at the following links:

### Photography Contest

Click on the link to download the 2022 State Fair of Texas Creative Arts and Crafts Handbook

- Photography information is on page 42.
- **Note:** The photography submissions must first be registered and entered prior to the Fair.

<https://bigtex.com/get-involved/creative-arts-competitions/arts-crafts-pre-fair-competitions/>

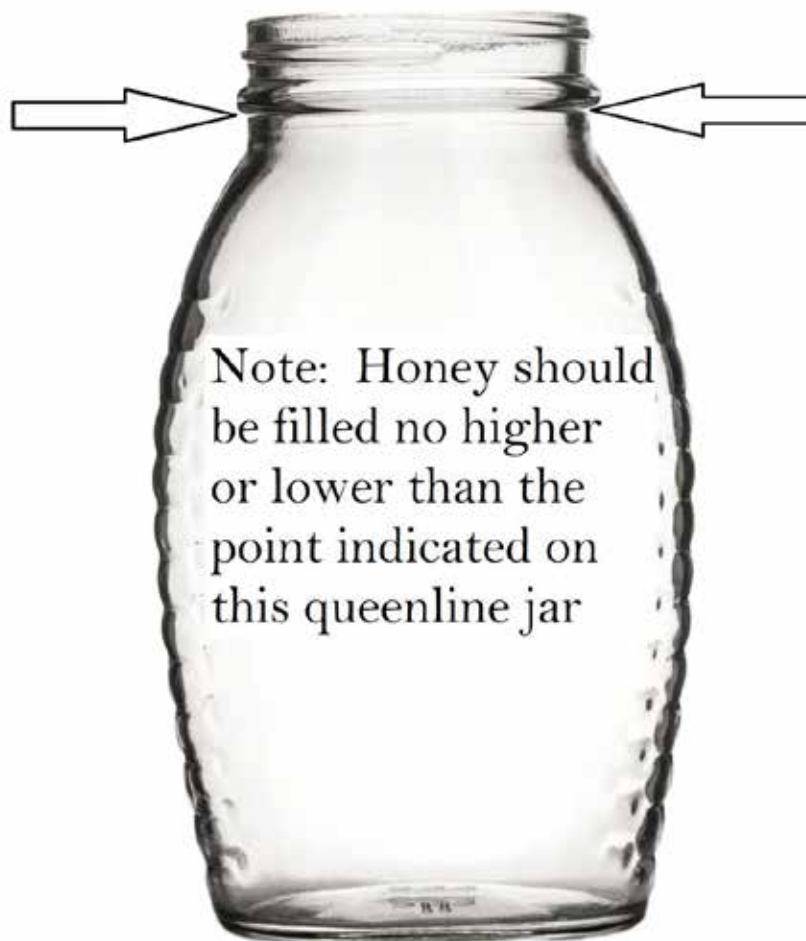
### Honey and Cooking Contests

Click on the link to download the 2022 State Fair of Texas Cooking Contests Handbook.

- *Honey, the Magic Ingredient Contest* (a.k.a. cooking with honey) is on page 22
- *Black Jar and Polished Jar Honey Contest(s)* are on pages 23-24

<https://bigtex.com/get-involved/creative-arts-competitions/cooking-contests/>

Regarding the Polished Jar Honey Contest, please note: Below is a diagram to demonstrate the appropriate honey fill-line in the queen-line jars.



On Monday October 3, both the Polished Jar and Black Jar Contests will be held simultaneously along with the "Honey, the Magic Ingredient" Cooking Contest in the Creative Arts Building within the State Fairgrounds. Ribbons for first, second and third place winners will be awarded the same day, following the contest judging. Photos of the winners will be taken within the contest area.

If you're unable to be one of the active participants during the State Fair, please consider sending a donation to help cover expenses associated with the TBA Honey Booth and the prizes given in the Creative Arts Department. We gratefully welcome your donations to be sent to:

TBA  
400 CR 440  
Thrall, TX 76578

Good luck, God bless, and let the contests begin!!



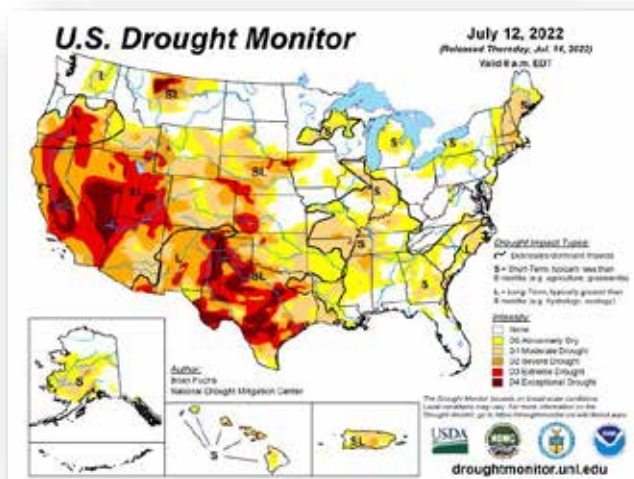
2022 State Fair of Texas  
Sept 30th - October 23rd



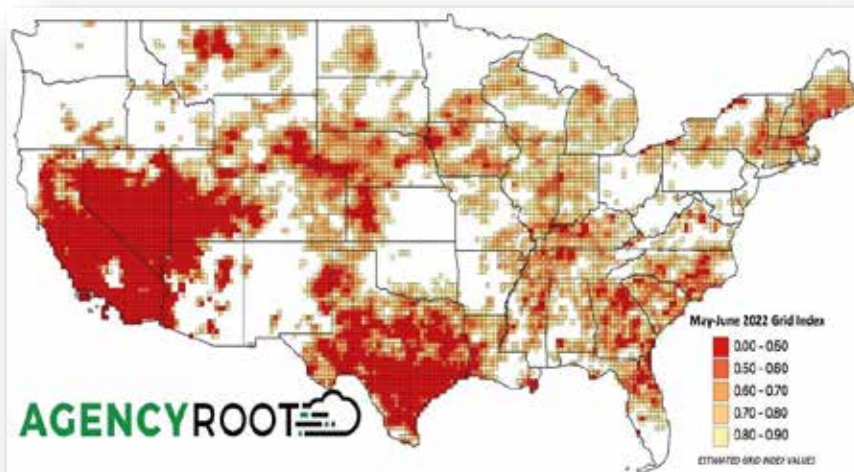
### **Beekeeping and the Ongoing Drought: Can Crop Insurance Help?**

While everyone agrees that reduced honey productivity can be attributed to a several weather-related factors (including too MUCH rain at the wrong time like we experienced in Central Texas in 2021), there is no denying that the ongoing La Nina drought pattern is going to have a negative impact on hive strength, hive products and honey production. Forecasters expect La Niña to continue throughout the summer and into the fall and early winter. What happens next year is yet to be determined but according to Dennis Todey, USDA Midwest Climate Hub director, we are amid a back-to-back La Niña weather pattern with the potential to enter a third year of this extremely dry situation. As of July 12, the U.S. Drought Monitor reports 21% of Texas in exceptional drought; 30% in extreme drought; 24% in severe drought; and the remaining 22% in dry to moderate drought conditions.

One risk management option that sideliners and commercial beekeepers should be aware of to help manage increased costs and reduced hive revenue is a Rainfall Index crop insurance program offered by the USDA Risk Management Agency which specifically pays out in drought situations. In fact, the only covered peril is a lack of expected precipitation in a pre-determined 17 x 17-mile grid. First of all, you'll need to work with your crop insurance agent to find the appropriate grid(s) where your hives are located. Next, you'll need to work with your agent to choose the appropriate intervals and percentages in which to place your risk (two-month periods spanning January to December). Finally, you can customize your protection by selecting coverage levels and productively factors that fit your needs.



If this seems daunting, not to worry; agents should have the ability to utilize quoting software that analyzes average historical precipitation data for each grid and can help you optimize coverage based on when precipitation is most important. Who determines whether the grid got enough rainfall you ask? That would be the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center. This program is not interested in whether you, as an individual producer got enough rain; it is going to pay all producers located in the grid if the final grid index falls below your “trigger grid index”. That means no individual loss adjustment and no tedious recordkeeping or reporting requirements; now that is good news! For example, the Risk Management Agency recently released expected payout areas for the May – June interval with the red areas paying out at all coverage levels; the lightest areas paying out at 90% coverage level; and white areas receiving no payout. The payout amount is determined using NASS data: state average for yield and national average for price.



The bad news is that with crop insurance you can only sign up once per year. For those who had the foresight to enroll in this program last year, kudos to you! For those who did not, unfortunately, it is too late to do much about the remainder of 2022, but it is not too late to start thinking bout 2023. The sales closing date (fancy term for deadline) for the program is

December 1 but you need to start talking to your agent at least 90 days in advance to make sure everything is in order. They can also provide you a free quote, so you'll know how much this is going to cost and work it into next year's budget. One last bit of information: you don't have to insure all of your colonies, but you can't insure more than the total number of colonies you own.....so ask yourself, are you worried about continuing drought for 2023 and if so, would it be helpful to have some protection in place in case it does? Only you can decide but a professional can help!

Nicole Gueck, an Insurance Agent with Specialty Risk Insurance, lives in Franklin, TX and is a hobby beekeeper herself. She spent the last 17 years working in the crop insurance industry developing new products for the USDA Risk Management Agency with most of her work involving specialty crops. Feel free to call Nicole to discuss crop insurance and/or other types of insurance options for your bee business at 979-777-3479 or email her at [nicolegueck@prevent-risk.com](mailto:nicolegueck@prevent-risk.com).



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

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



Dear TBA members,

I started my last column in May with the words "It is H.O.T.!" but, what was I thinking? May's temperature was a breath of cold air compared to the scorching temperatures and 100+-degree days that we've had to endure this past month. Yikes! Hopefully you guys are staying relatively cool... however possible that might be. I also can't believe that in my May column I was writing about how the spring semester was over and I was looking forward to having more time to work on writing and research. Where, oh where, has that time gone? It is now the end of July and the start of the academic year is upon us. I have to admit I am not looking forward to classes starting in August... only because I like the peace and quiet of College Station without the thousands of extra vehicles on the roads. But I look forward to interacting with students and, most importantly, the mirage of cooler weather ahead. Anyway, here is my mid-year update on lab-related activities. As usual, we have been quite busy!

On 11 June I was the invited speaker for the Summer Conference of the Colorado State Beekeepers Association Summer Conference in Rifle, CO! My trip was quite short, but I thoroughly enjoyed meeting everyone in that beautiful state and hope to be back really soon. More information can be found at <https://coloradobeekeepers.org/.../summer-bee-college-2022/>

Jordan Twombly Ellis and I were co-organizers of a very successful symposium at this year's conference of the International Union for the Study of Social Insects (IUSSI) on 3-7 July in San Diego, CA. The title of the symposium was "The high cost of communal living: Evolution and mechanisms of social immunity in eusocial insects." We had over 15 speakers from all over the world (including Jordan and myself) that presented on their work on social immunity in honey bees. For more information about the meeting visit <http://burkclients.com/IUSSI/meetings/2022/site/>

I joined Dr. Garrett Slater on 18 July as the speakers for the July 2022 Mini Conference of the Western Apicultural Society. Garrett talked about his work with drones ("Why are there so many 'dud' male honey bees?") and I talked about our lab's work with queens. The presentations were held via Zoom. Garrett Slater is a PhD student at Purdue University. He has 16 years of beekeeping experience, including working for a large commercial beekeeper in North Dakota for 8 years. Prior to taking on a PhD, he did a masters on nutrition and queen quality. He also worked as a scientist and technician with the Bee Informed Partnership at the University of Minnesota for two years, where he worked directly with 30 commercial beekeepers in ND. His current thesis focusses on using genomic techniques to understand drone fertility issues in commercial operations. In October, He is

starting a postdoctoral

fellowship at the  
USDA-ARS Bee

Breeding lab in

Baton Rouge, where

he will be applying

modern genetic tools to honey bee breeding. [https://www.](https://www.westernapiculturalsociety.org/events-1)

[westernapiculturalsociety.org/events-1](https://www.westernapiculturalsociety.org/events-1)

On 20 July our lab got really busy extracting this year's crop of Aggie Honey!! After a two-year hiatus due to a lack of sizeable crop near the lab, we finally had time (and honey!) to extract. I want to thank all the Rangel Lab staff who helped with this endeavor, including Eric Zylman (apiary manager and grill master who fed us delicious burgers at the end of the event), Dr. Tonya Shepherd, Taylor Reams, Jordan Twombly Ellis, Myra Dickey, Sarah Jendresky, Caleb Rodriguez, Ashyaa Brown and Marcela Martinez. THANK YOU. Aggie Honey will be back in stock this August at the Rosenthal Meat Center of Texas A&M University, and all proceeds from its sale will go toward funding our ongoing research projects.

Our lab participated once more in the annual Wish Upon a Butterfly fundraising event at the Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History on Saturday, 23 July. There were hundreds of people at the event, many of whom purchased a monarch butterfly and released it outdoors, along with their wishes. We had honey for tasting (always a hit with the crowd!) and sold a bit of Aggie Honey, so overall it was a great day!

Now for some upcoming events. The next session in the At Home Beekeeping Series will be Tuesday, 26 July 2022, from 6:30-7:30 PM CST. Our speaker this month is Jack Rowe, Beekeeping Specialist at Alabama Extension. His topic will be 'Beekeeping in the Extreme: Dealing with Mother Nature.' 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://fb.me/e/3lXYkI86X>. The event can also be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/LawrenceCountyextension>. Information for the entire series can be found here: <https://www.aces.edu/.../bees.../at-home-beekeeping-series/>

Finally, I will be attending this year's Eastern Apicultural Society Summer conference at Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY, 2-6 August. I will be doing two workshops with children and presenting our work on pollen diets for honey bees. I cannot wait to go back to my old stomping grounds, and hopefully see my Ph. D. advisor, Dr. Tom Seeley, as well as other familiar faces during the meeting. Speakers include Dr. Seeley, Professor of Biology Emeritus in the Department of Neurobiology and Behavior at Cornell University, as well as Dr. Scott McArt and Emma Walters from Cornell University. These folks will



participate in both the short course and the main conference providing the latest in research, extension work and beekeeping. More information can be found at: <https://easternapiculture.org/conference/eas-2022/>

That is all for now. Do me a favor: try to stay cool!! And 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>.



Memorial service held for Dr. John G. Thomas and his wife Janice Thomas at the A&M Methodist Church on 16 July. In attendance were (from left to right) Drs. Rangel and Shepherd from the TAMU Honey Bee Lab, and representing the TBA were Shirley and Chris Doggett, and John Talbert.



Members of the Rangel Bee Lab were busy on 20 July harvesting, extracting, bottling, and labeling our beloved Aggie honey. Stay tuned for when this year's crop will be available for sale!



FINALLY!!! Aggie Honey is back on sale at the Rosenthal Meat Center of Texas A&M University!



Dr. Adrian Fisher II (former Rangel Lab member) presented his work at the International Union for the Study of Social Insects Congress in San Diego, CA.



From left to right: Dr. Rangel, Former Rangel Lab members Drs. Adrian Fisher II and Pierre Lau, current student Jordan Twombly Ellis, and former NCSU postdoc, Dr. Jonathan Shik, having dinner during the IUSSI Congress in San Diego, CA.



Research Experience for Undergraduate (REU) students (from left to right) Eli, Marcela, and Ashyaa, during the Wish Upon a Butterfly event at the Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History.



## **Texas Honey Bee Education Association**

### **Fundraiser in Memory of Janice Thomas**

The Nevin Weaver Fund was established in December of 2009 with an original endowment of \$75,000 from donors Dr. John and Janice Thomas and their daughter Valerie Hamilton under the administration of the TAMU Foundation. A guaranteed rate of 4% per annum of the endowment value is available to be used by Dr. Juliana Rangel to cover expenses and projects in her department. Only the interest on the endowment can be used, ensuring funds for the future.

**Mr. Stanford Brantley has generously offered \$5,000 in matching contributions to the Nevin Weaver Endowment Fund, in memory of Janice Thomas (1937-2022)**

**Please make your generous contributions to  
Texas Honey Bee Education Association**

**There will be a Donate button on the THBEA website at THBEA.com, or send checks payable to THBEA to Shirley Doggett, 400 County Road 440, Thrall TX 76578**

**Email: [sdoggett@mindspring.com](mailto:sdoggett@mindspring.com)**





# At Home Beekeeping Webinar

## 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. Speakers include university researchers and extension specialists from across the SE US as well as USDA ARS researchers. Each event will bring participants up to date on timely beekeeping topics with time for Q & A included.*

**All are welcome!! Join us for this free event!!**

- July 26: Beekeeping in the extreme: Dealing with Mother Nature, with J. Rowe (ACES)
- August 30: Planting and managing wildflowers for forage, with K. Parys (USDA-ARS)
- Sept. 27: Behavior, chemical ecology, and genetics of *Varroa*, with T. Reams (TAMU)
- Oct. 25: Breeding and performance of bees with *Varroa* Sensitive Hygiene, with F. Rinkevich (USDA-ARS)

Last Tuesday of the month

6:30 – 7:30 pm  
Central Time

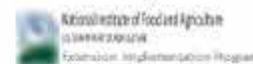
Watch via Zoom Webinar

<https://auburn.zoom.us/j/904522838>

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

Questions? Email Allyson Shabel [ams0137@aces.edu](mailto:ams0137@aces.edu)

Our institutions are equal opportunity educators and employers. Everyone is welcome! Please let us know if you have accessibility needs.







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of the Beekeepers  
in the program  
Nationwide.*

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- \* **American Beekeeping Federation**
- \* **California State Beekeepers Association**
- \* **Michigan Commercial Beekeepers Association**
- \* **Montana State Beekeepers Association**
- \* **South Dakota Beekeepers Association**
- \* **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](mailto:Buzzus@beekeepingins.com)**  
**[www.beekeepingins.com](http://www.beekeepingins.com)**  
**888-537-7088**

# 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](mailto:execsec@texasbeekeepers.org)

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## **Alamo Area Beekeepers Association**

Rick Fink - (210) 872-4569

[president@alamobees.org](mailto:president@alamobees.org)

[www.alamobees.org](http://www.alamobees.org)

**Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday on odd # months

San Antonio Botanical Gdn, 555 Funston Place, San Antonio

## **Austin Area Beekeepers Association**

Brittany Fetterman - (512) 525-9473

[austinareabeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:austinareabeekeepers@gmail.com)

[facebook.com/groups/Austin/AreaBeekeeperAssociation](https://facebook.com/groups/Austin/AreaBeekeeperAssociation)

[www.meetup.com/Austin-Urban-Beekeeping/](http://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 Farmer Lane, Austin

## **Bastrop County - Elgin Area Beekeepers Association**

Joseph Hakkinen - (713) 408-1260

[president@elginareabeekeepers.org](mailto:president@elginareabeekeepers.org)

**Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm

Various Locations

## **Bees in the East Club**

Mark de Kiewiet (210) 863-8024

[beesintbeeast@att.net](mailto:beesintbeeast@att.net)

**Meetings** 4th Saturday of each month at 10am

Water Garden Gems, 3230 Bolton Road, Marion,

## **Bell/Coryell Beekeepers Association**

Charles McMaster (703) 624-1337

[bellcoryellbeeclub@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:paniolobee@icloud.com)

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

1502 South Treadway Blvd, Suite B

Abilene

## **Blanco County Beekeepers Association**

Teri Albright - (512) 636-9900

[blancocountybeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:blancocountybeekeepers@gmail.com)

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

Blanco United Methodist Church - Social Hall, 61 Pecan St., Blanco

## **Brazoria County Beekeepers Association**

Steve Brackmann - (832) 884-6141

[stevenbrackmann@yahoo.com](mailto:stevenbrackmann@yahoo.com)

[bcbba@brazoria-county-beekeepers-association.com](mailto:bcbba@brazoria-county-beekeepers-association.com)

[www.brazoria-county-beekeepers-association.com](http://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**

Justin Russell - (979) 492-4114

[info@bvbeeks.org](mailto:info@bvbeeks.org)

[www.bvbeeks.org](http://www.bvbeeks.org)

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

Bryan High School, 3450 Campus Dr. Bryan from 6pm

## **Caddo Trace Beekeepers Association**

Dale Vanhooose - (903) 573-6954

[dcv836@gmail.com](mailto:dcv836@gmail.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](mailto: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**

Karl Cottrell

[CentralTexasBeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:CentralTexasBeekeepers@gmail.com)

[www.centraltexasbeekeepers.org](http://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](mailto:scott@zirger.us) or [chisholm-trail-beekeepers@googlegroups.com](mailto:chisholm-trail-beekeepers@googlegroups.com)

**Meetings:** Last Monday of each month

Burleson Bible Church, 260 South Hurst Road, Burleson

## **Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.**

John (Skip) Talbert (706) 761-7893

[president@cchba.org](mailto:president@cchba.org)

[www.cchba.org](http://www.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](mailto:coloradocountybeekeepers@gmail.com)

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

316 Spring Street, Columbus

## **Comal County Beekeepers Association**

James Cobarruvias (210) 858-9011

[jacobarruvias@att.net](mailto:jcobarruvias@att.net)

**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](mailto: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](mailto:ellenswartz@sbcglobal.net)

San Augustine Chamber of Commerce Building  
611 West Columbia Dt., San Augustine

**Denton County Beekeepers Association**

Gary Barber - (972) 768-5505

[board@dentonbees.com](mailto:board@dentonbees.com)

[www.dentonbees.com](http://www.dentonbees.com)

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

Please see club website for location

**Dino-Beekeepers Association**

Chip Hough (817) 559-0564

[dino-beeclub@hotmail.com](mailto:dino-beeclub@hotmail.com)

[www.dino-bee.com](http://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**

Jim Biles (281) 451-6069

[www.etba.info](http://www.etba.info)

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

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

**Bastrop County - Elgin Area Beekeepers Association**

Joseph Hakkinen - (713) 408-1260

[president@elginareabeekeepers.org](mailto:president@elginareabeekeepers.org)

**Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm

Various Locations

**Elm Fork Beekeepers Association**

Jan Hodson - (940) 637-2702

[janrhodson@gmail.com](mailto:janrhodson@gmail.com)

**Meetings:** 3rd Thursday of each month

The VFW Hall, 3332 North Grand Ave, Gainesville

**Fayette County Beekeepers Association**

Bruce Ford

(713) 818-7348

[rosscreekhoneybees@gmail.com](mailto:rosscreekhoneybees@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](mailto:info@fortbendbeekeepers.org)

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

Bud O'Shieles Community Center

1330 Band Rd, Rosenberg 77473

**Harris County Beekeepers Association**

Jim Orr - (713) 213-7080

[rjfarmandapiary@gmail.com](mailto:rjfarmandapiary@gmail.com)

[www.harriscountybeekeepers.org](http://www.harriscountybeekeepers.org)

**Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm

Golden Acres Center, 5001 Oak Ave., Pasadena

**Hays County Beekeepers Association**

Georgia Miguez 512) 827-6239

[hayscountyba@gmail.com](mailto:hayscountyba@gmail.com)

**Meetings:** 3rd Wednesday of each month at

Suds Monkey Brewing, 12024 US-290, Dripping Springs at 6:30pm

**Heart of Texas Beekeepers Association**

Gary Bowles (254) 214-4514

[gm.bowles@yahoo.com](mailto:gm.bowles@yahoo.com)

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

Contact club to confirm meeting location

**Henderson County Beekeepers Association**

Kathi Murphy-Boley (972) 467-5092

[kdbmurphy@gmail.com](mailto: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**

Linda Williams (830) 688-0560

[texashillcountrybeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:texashillcountrybeekeepers@gmail.com)

**Meetings:** 4th Wednesday of odd months at 6:30pm

Schreiner University, 2100 Memorial Dr., Kerrville

**Hopkins County Beekeepers Association**

Jon Dalzell - Secretary, (214) 395-1730

[dalzelljon@aol.com](mailto: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**

Sandi Murray (713) 594-9273

[info@houstonbeekeepers.org](mailto:info@houstonbeekeepers.org)

[www.houstonbeekeepers.org](http://www.houstonbeekeepers.org)

**Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm

Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonett, Houston

**Houston Natural Beekeepers Association**

Therese Ramirez - (832) 908-5017

[houstonnaturalbeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:houstonnaturalbeekeepers@gmail.com)

**Meetings:** Second Saturday of the month at 10 am

4466 Billy Street, Houston TX 77020

**Johnson County Beekeepers Association**

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

[bruce.jr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bruce.jr@sbcglobal.net)

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

2099 W FM 917, Joshua

**Kaufman Area Beekeepers Association**

John Guthrie - (214) 686-8585

[kaufmanbeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:kaufmanbeekeepers@gmail.com)

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

Kaufman United Methodist Church, 208 S Houston St, Kaufman

**Lamar County Beekeepers Association**

Randall Childres - (903) 249-9105

[lamarcoba@gmail.com](mailto:lamarcoba@gmail.com)

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

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

**Longview Beekeepers Association**

Myra Smith (903) 639-2910

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

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

**Magnolia SWARM Beekeepers**

Andy Knight - (281) 305-4072

[magnoliaswarm@gmail.com](mailto:magnoliaswarm@gmail.com)

<http://www.magnoliaswarm.org>

**Meetings:** 1st Tuesday of the month

Various Locations (go to website)

**Metro Beekeepers Association**

Russ Killingsworth - (817) 751-9513

[president@metrobeekeepers.net](mailto:president@metrobeekeepers.net)

<http://www.metrobeekeepers.net>

**Meetings:** 2nd Monday of each month 6:30 - 8:30

Southside Preservation Hall, 1519 Lipscomb St. Ft. Worth

**Marshall Beekeeping Association**

Beth Derr - (936) 591-2399

[marshallbeekeeping@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:mocobees@gmail.com)

[www.mocobees.com](http://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

[contactnetba@gmail.com](mailto:contactnetba@gmail.com)

**Meetings:** 2nd Monday of each month at 5:45 pm

Canton Baptist Church, 303 South Athens St.,

Canton, TX 75103

**Palo Duro Bee Club**

Paige Nester - (806) 678-8048

[nesterpaige@gmail.com](mailto: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

[tadmcfall@hotmail.com](mailto:tadmcfall@hotmail.com)

**Meetings:** 3rd 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](mailto: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](mailto:jes.stewart@gmail.com)

**Meetings:** Last Thursday of each month at 6 pm

Church of the Nazarene, 906 W Main St, Henderson

**San Jacinto County Beekeepers**

Andy Knight - (281) 305-4072

[sanjacbeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:sanjacbeekeepers@gmail.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/SanJacintoCountyBeekeepers>

**Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of each month

Calvary Baptist Church, 65 Petroleum Rd., Coldspring 77331

**San Marcos Area Bee Wranglers**

Gay Fraser (512) 264-2021

[smabeevranglers@gmail.com](mailto:smabeevranglers@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

**Temple Area Beekeepers Association**

Jim Billings (254) 760-2053

[holly21351@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:texashillcountrybeekeepers@gmail.com)

[facebook.com/TXHillCountryBKAssn/](https://facebook.com/TXHillCountryBKAssn/)

**Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of odd months at 6:30 pm

Hill Country Veterans Center, 411 Meadow View lane, Kerrville TX 78028

**Travis County Beekeepers Assn.**

Tanya Phillips - (512) 560-3732

[traviscountybeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:traviscountybeekeepers@gmail.com)

[www.TravisCountyBeekeepers.org](http://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](mailto: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

[tcclub16@gmail.com](mailto:tcclub16@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](mailto:walkercountybeekeepers@gmail.com)

**Meetings:** Last Thursday of each month at 7 pm (not Nov or Dec)

Walker Education Center, 1402 19th St., Huntsville

**Williamson County Area Beekeepers Assn.**

Gillian Mattinson - (512) 961-9955

[gillmatties@gmail.com](mailto:gillmatties@gmail.com) [www.wcaba.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:woodcountybeekeepers@gmail.com)

**Meetings:** First Tuesday of every month at 7 pm

Winnsboro Civic Center, Hope Ln, Winnsboro

## Directors -at-Large

### Director 1

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### Director 5

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### Director 3

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### Director 6

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## Texas Beekeepers Association

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*Picture from Kirk Kirksey*