

TEXAS BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

journal

September/October 2023 www.texasbeekeepers.org Issue 23-5



EXPERIENCE INNOVATION:

**Free
Shipping**

**Unique
Supplies**

**Free
Education**

Redefining the beekeeping experience



**FREE
SHIPPING
ON ORDERS
OF \$99**

on most items



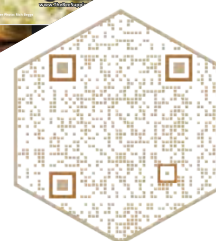
**FREE
TBS
MONTHLY
BUZZ
WEBINAR**

First Thursday
of each month!



**FREE
TBS
MONTHLY
MAGAZINE**

Full of timely
articles that
YOU need to
keep happy,
healthy bees!



CHECK OUT OUR LOCATIONS AT: www.thebeesupply.com/locations

www.thebeesupply.com

| 800.356.4229

| info@thebeesupply.com

contents



TBA JOURNAL - SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2023 ISSUE

4	The President's Report
7	The Vice President's Report
9-23	2023 TBA Convention
24	Honey Bee Factoid Report
28	The Brantley Column
29	Texas Apiary Inspection Service Update
30	The Happy Herbalist
32	The Texas Keeper
34	Texas State Fair Honey Show Rules
36	Youth Education
38	What Should We Teach?
45	TBA Bylaws and Constitution Proposed Changes
46	Local Club Directory
51	TBA Directors at Large



The Texas Beekeepers Association Mission Statement

The Texas Beekeepers Association (TBA) promotes the common interests, the betterment of conditions, and the general welfare of beekeeping.

the president's report



Dodie Stillman
TBA President

As I begin to write this article, we are finally ending what has been a very hot, dry summer. Thankfully, we had a little rainfall in early September that may help our fall flowers to begin blooming. This is important so the bees can forage for nectar and pollen to store up for the winter. Make sure that you are out checking your bees and perhaps trickle feeding them if needed. Sugar syrup and maybe a little pollen substitute are important to help the bees expand to a healthy population so they can make it through the winter. Remember the bigger the cluster of bees, the warmer they can stay. Take the hit now and combine the smaller colonies so they survive. You can always make those splits in the spring. And now is the time to be thinking about and planning for next year. Pre-order your bees and maybe get on the list now for queens for the spring.

The convention is upon us! Byron Compton has done an outstanding job at getting some incredible speakers for us this year! I would encourage you to take a look at the agenda and start making your plans now to be with us in Temple in November. Everyone on the TBA Board has been very busy working towards making the upcoming convention one of the best ever.

We will also have 3 wonderful pre-convention workshops this year. Are you brand new to beekeeping? We have a half day workshop just for you. Remember those queens I was telling you to order, maybe with the information from our other half day workshop on Queen Rearing, you can create your own queens! Looking for advanced beekeeping knowledge with hands on in-hive information, we got you covered there with a full day event! Space is limited so register for these events soon.

As you receive this Journal, the State Fair of Texas will be up and running, the dates this year are from

September 29 through October 22. If you are looking for an opportunity to talk to thousands of folks about honey bees, this could be it!! Honey Donations for the booth can be shipped to: Skip Talbert 22326 CR 638 Josephine, TX 75189. Do not ship glass unless extremely well packed. To volunteer or arrange honey drop off, contact John Talbert, call or text at (214) 532-9241, email at john@SabineCreekHoney.com. We greatly appreciate Skip and John for all their help with the State Fair. And still pretty new to the fair, check out the detail in this issue on the State Fair of Texas Honey Show. Maybe you have some award winning honey you need to show off!

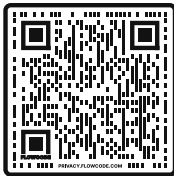
If you are still looking for a volunteer opportunity, the TBA would love to have you, especially if you have bookkeeping or finance skills!! In addition to a Treasurer, we will be holding board nominations during the business meeting in November and would love to invite you to join the TBA Board. If you are interested, or know someone that would be have them fill out the online form here: <https://texasbeekeepers.org/nominations/> and Ashley Ralph, our past president, will reach out to get your information and answer any questions you might have.

In regards to what TBA will be doing for 2024, as a member of TBA you have an opportunity to tell us what you would like us to do. TBA is your association, and the board acts on what you want. Let us know! How easy, fill out the form at the bottom of this webpage: <https://texasbeekeepers.org/resolutions/> and if it's passed at the business meeting, we will add it to our list and work on it next year. Each year the resolutions are used to guide the board in all the tasks they work on during the year. The TBA is here to work for you!



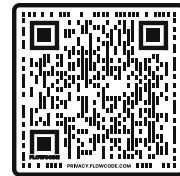
THE SWEETEST COOK-OFF IN TEXAS!

Gather your friends, family, bee club, or coworkers and come to the 3rd annual Honey Cook-Off. Winners take home a coveted plaque and cash money! Or come enjoy an evening of live music, great food, honey, mead, and vote on your favorite dishes!



COMPETE

**September 30, 2023
12 PM - 4 PM**




COME EAT

Scan the QR codes above to purchase your wristband. All wristband sales will go to support Real Texas Honey & Grimes County Animal Shelter. In 2022, we raised \$1,500 for each!



**CHECK OUT INFUZZED: A HONEY & BEE INFUSION EXPERIENCE
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 12PM-4PM FREE! REGISTRATION AT BEEWEAVER.COM**



BEEWEAVER.COM 16481 CR 319 Navasota, Texas 77868 (737)-230-3435 Follow the  signs! @beeweaverhoneyfarm @wildflyermead

Auction

DONATIONS



**Bring your
donations to the
TBA Convention**

- Silent Auction
- Online Auction
- Live Auction

Ideas!

- Overnight stays
- Gear & Tools
- Classes/Lessons
- Bees & Queens
- Home & Gifts

**Have a larger, or
unique donation, or
question? Call Ron!**



512-468-4357

vice president's report



Byron Compton

TBA Vice President

The Annual TBA Fall Convention is upon us! As we come down to the wire this will be a GREAT event with marvelous speakers, and three Thursday Workshops. You will meet the new Texas Apiary Inspection Service Chief Inspector, hear from Blake Shook on the status of beekeeping across the US, and get updated on the Code 131 changes that took effect on September 1st. Details and registration information is on the TBA website – like always...!!!

One thing we need is input for Resolutions for TBA to support in 2024. If you have any suggestions, please head over to the TBA website and let us know what you are thinking and where TBA should lend its weight.

We still have lots of final details surrounding the convention we need to finalize, so I will keep this very short – and save some space in the journal to accommodate all the advertising in this edition. Final thoughts as your Vice President, I am proud to have been able to have this opportunity to support TBA and learn about all the behind the scenes action and avenues TBA is involved in – it is a LOT more than just the Summer Clinic and Fall Convention!

Regards,
Byron Compton
Vice President
Texas Beekeepers Association

TBA Business Meeting

Friday Afternoon, November 3rd, 2023

2:50 pm

TBA Convention, Temple, TX

See page 45 for

proposed bylaw and constitution changes



Each local association whose TBA dues are current is eligible to have a voting delegate on behalf of the association at the Annual Meeting. An officer of your association must designate who your voting delegate will be by notifying TBA's Membership Director, Shirley Doggett at membership@texasbeekeepers.org no later than Thursday, October 26, 2023.



TEXAS
BEEKEEPERS
ASSOCIATION

Annual Convention

*Temple, Texas
November 2-4, 2023
Frank W. Mayborn Civic &
Convention Center*

**REGISTRATION
NOW
OPEN**

**TICKETS: \$125/
MEMBERS**

MORE DETAILED PRICING AVAILABLE ONLINE



Thursday Nov 2

SPECIAL WORKSHOPS:

- Queen Rearing Workshop with Dr. Rangel
- Beginning Beekeeping with James and Chari Elam
- Advanced Beekeeping with Dr. Lamas
- Texas Master Beekeeper Program Testing



Friday Nov 3

- Keynote speakers
- Dr. Zac Lamas
- Educational Sessions
- Beekeeper networking
- Texas Honey Show
- Lunch
- TBA Business Meeting and elections
- Live Auction & Banquet



Saturday Nov 4

- Honey Breakfast
- Beekeeper networking
- Breakout sessions for all interests
- Hands on classes
- Awards lunch
- Texas Master Beekeeper results and awards

Pricing Information

Group	Item	Description	Register by Nov. 1 st	At Convention
Thursday Workshop	Thursday Workshop	Dr Zac Lamas, Vector Biology	95	
		Dr Rangel, Queen Rearing	85	
		Beginning Beekeeping,	75	
TBA Member	Full Conference Adult	Friday, Nov. 3 rd and Saturday, Nov. 4 th (includes Saturday Honey Breakfast and Awards Lunch)	125	160
	Children 12 and under		60	60
	Friday Box Lunch	November 3 rd	15	15
	Friday Banquet	November 3 rd	40	40
	Friday Day Ticket	Friday Only	95	95
	Saturday Day Ticket	Saturday Only (includes Honey Breakfast and Awards Lunch)	115	115
Non Member	Full Conference Adult	Friday, Nov. 3 rd and Saturday, Nov. 4 th (includes Saturday Honey Breakfast and Awards Lunch)	160	160
	Children 12 and under		60	60
	Friday Box Lunch	November 3 rd	15	15
	Friday Banquet	November 3 rd	40	40
	Friday Day Ticket	Friday Only	95	95
	Saturday Day Ticket	Saturday Only (includes Honey Breakfast and Awards Lunch)	115	115
	Saturday Lunch	Saturday Lunch Only	25	25



Best Western Temple Inn & Suites

602 N. General Bruce Dr, Temple, TX 76504
+1 254-742-1122

\$114.99 +tax Queen/King per night

(The deadline for reservations is 10/2/2023.)



Fairfield Inn & Suites – Temple/Belton

1402 SW H K Dodgen Loop, Temple, TX 76504
+1 254-771-3030

\$109.00 +tax Queen/King per night [Book Online.](#)

(The deadline for reservations is 10/2/2023.)



La Quinta Inn & Suites By Wyndham – Temple

1604 West Barton Avenue, Temple, TX
+1 254-771-2980

\$98 +tax Double/King per night

(The deadline for reservations is 10/10/2023.)

TBA Convention Hotel Information

Nominations Open

Nominations for the Texas Beekeepers Association
Board of Directors is now open.

Applications can be submitted online and applicants
will be interviewed by the 2024 nominations committee.

Applications due October 1st

Join our awesome group of leaders and volunteers!

Apply by clicking the link below or going to

<https://texasbeekeepers.org/nominations/>

NOVEMBER 2, 2023
BEGINNER TO ADVANCED
PROFESSIONAL
WORKSHOPS



This session is absolutely packed with information that beekeepers need to know to advance their apiary to the next level. The Thursday workshop is focused on practical beekeeping skills and growth strategies. Our goal is to elevate professional beekeepers within Texas.



DR. ZACKARY LAMAS
Deep Hive Inspections
Workshop on

Vector Biology
\$95
9 am to 5 pm

Classroom and Field

Bee suit required



DR. JULIANA RANGEL
Queen Rearing
Workshop

Queen Rearing
\$85
12 pm to 5 pm

Classroom and Field

Bee suit required



PRACTICAL BEEKEEPING
Beginner Management
Beekeeping Workshop

JAMES AND CHARI ELAM
\$75
9 AM TO 12 PM

Classroom Only



NETWORKING



PRACTICAL CLASSES

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

For more information visit the link

WWW.TEXASBEEKEEPERS.ORG/



PICK YOUR TRACT - ONE DAY WORKSHOP

NOV. 2 ADVANCED WORKSHOP & KEYNOTE SPEAKER



DR. ZACHARY LAMAS VECTOR BIOLOGY

Zac is a postdoctoral researcher under Jay Evans at the Bee Research Laboratory in Beltsville, MD.

He focuses on how Varroa feeding behavior drives viral transmission in a honeybee colony.

His current work uncovered how varroa are actively feeding and switching from one adult bee to another, and that relatively few mites are responsible for a majority of parasitized bees. During his PhD he was the recipient of the Pam-Costco award where he studied the vectorial capacity of Varroa destructor. Zac previously worked for Michael Palmer at French Hill Apiaries in Saint Albans, Vermont. On the side Zac is the owner and operator of RockStar Queens. He produces quality nucleus colonies and queens in central Maryland.



NETWORKING



LUNCH INCLUDED



PRACTICAL CLASSES

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

For more information visit the link

WWW.TEXASBEEKEEPERS.ORG/



PICK YOUR TRACT - HALF DAY WORKSHOP

NOV. 2 ADVANCED WORKSHOP & KEYNOTE SPEAKER



DR. JULIANA RANGEL QUEEN REARING

Born in Colombia, South America, Juliana Rangel, Ph. D. is Associate Professor of Apiculture in the Department of Entomology at Texas A&M University (TAMU) in College Station, TX. Her research program focuses on the biological and environmental factors that affect the reproductive quality of honey bee queens and drones, the behavioral ecology and population genetics of unmanaged honey bees, and the quality and diversity of honey bee nutrition in a changing landscape.

In 2021 she received the James I. Hambleton Memorial Award, which was established by the Eastern Apicultural Society of North America. She received the 2019 Dean's award for Excellence in Diversity and in 2016 for Excellence in Early Career Research.

Only 1 space left! Reserve your seat now!



NETWORKING



PRACTICAL CLASSES

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

For more information visit the link

WWW.TEXASBEEKEEPERS.ORG/



PICK YOUR TRACT - HALF DAY WORKSHOP

NOV. 2 ADVANCED WORKSHOP



JAMES AND CHARI ELAM

MAKING BEES A HOBBY

Join James and Chari Elam, as you travel in to the wonderful world of Beekeeping! You will learn what equipment you need, what bees to start with, basic biology, hive management, plus so much more.



NETWORKING



PRACTICAL CLASSES

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

For more information visit the link

WWW.TEXASBEEKEEPERS.ORG/



NOV. 4 KEYNOTE SPEAKER



DR. FERHAT OZTURK

Dr. Ferhat Ozturk is an assistant professor of practice at the University of Texas San Antonio and specializes in medicinal use of honey with a strong Ph.D. background in gene therapy, molecular and cellular biology, bioinformatics, and biochemistry research. He has taken this knowledge and applied it to the unique biological and chemical makeup of different mono-floral honey from around the world allowing him to unlock the hidden knowledge of age-old wisdom regarding the healing benefits of honey. His current research is helping to identify U.S. based honey sources that contain high bioactivity levels and medicinal properties that can not only compete with but outperform those of current medical grade honeys. Dr Ozturk was recently awarded \$2.8M USDA grant to support the next generation of urban beekeepers.



NETWORKING



LUNCH INCLUDED



PRACTICAL CLASSES

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

For more information visit the link

WWW.TEXASBEEKEEPERS.ORG/



Brandon Fehrenkamp



Ed Erwin



Charlie Agar



Becky Barajas



Les Crowder



Kim Townsend



Tonya Phillips



Justin Russell



Ashley Ralph



Steve Butler



Beth Derr



Myra Smith



Dennis Herbert



James and Chari Elam



Lauren Ward

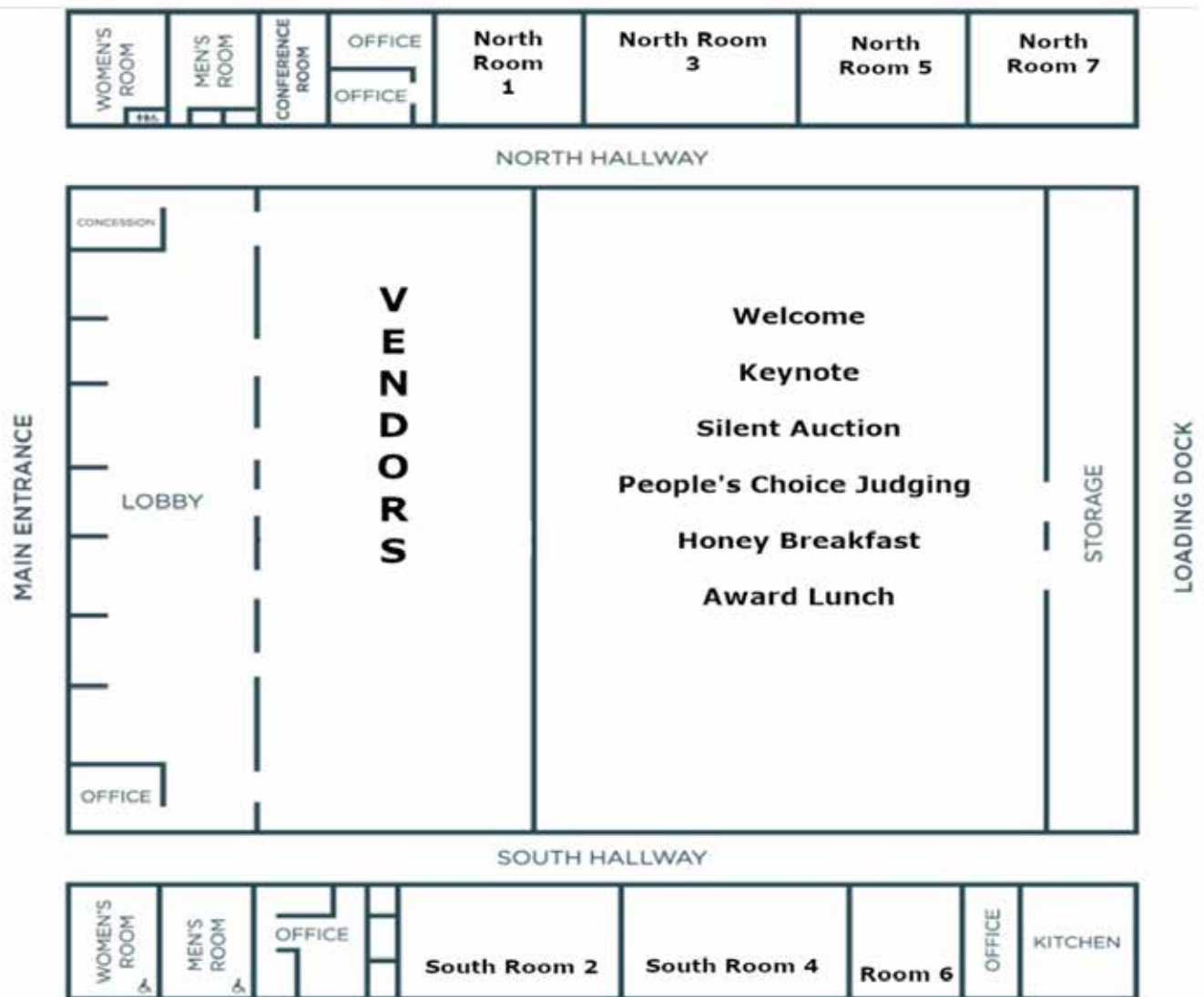


2023 TBA Convention Presenters

Nov 3-4 in Temple, TX

Register at www.texasbeekeepers.org

Frank Mayborn Convention Center Map



TBA 2023

Thursday Schedule

8 am – 5 pm

Texas Master Beekeeping Testing

8 am – 5 pm

Advance Workshops:

- Deep Hive Inspection
- Beginner Management
- Queen Rearing

3 pm – 5 pm

Honey Show Registration

Friday Schedule

Special Events

7:00 am to 8:00 am

Conference Registration

7:30 am to 10:00 am

Honey Show Registration

2:50 pm

TBA Business Meeting & Elections

Black jar Honey Judging for
People's Choice

Vendor Show

Banquet & Live Auction

8:30 am – 5 pm

Keynotes and Presentations

- Hidden in Plain Sight: Mites
- Nutritional Ecology of Honey Bees
- Code 131 Updates and new TAIS Chief Inspector
- Beekeeping/Honey Industry Updates
- TBA Business Meeting and Elections
- Wrap up and Door Prizes

6 pm – 11 pm

TBA Dinner and Live Auction

Convention Schedule

Saturday Schedule

Special Events

Honey Breakfast

Awards Lunch

Vendor Show

8 am

Honey Breakfast

9:30 am – 5 pm

Presentations & Keynotes

- Dr. Zac Lamas
- Dr. Ferhat Ozturk
- From Hobbyist to Hollywood
- Top Bar Beekeeping
- Beginner
- Products of the Hive
- Award Lunch
- Beepocalypse
- Ag Exemptions
- Honey Bee Viruses
- Fun with Wax
- Make Moola with Bees
- Commercial Beekeeping
- Honeybee Communication
- Bee Removals
- Organic Treatments
- Keeping Bees Calm
- A year in review in the life of a Nuc
- Preparing Bees for Winter

Noon to 1:30 pm

Awards Luncheon & Social





Honey Show Rules

CHAIRPERSON: Saundra Smith

ENTRY FEE: \$5 per entry

ARRIVAL TIME: Thursday Nov 2nd from 3 PM until 5 PM; and Friday Nov 3rd, from 7am AM until 10 AM.

LOCATION Mayborn Convention Center South Rm 6.

RELEASE TIME: All entries will remain in the show area for public viewing after the judging. All entries will remain on display until 2 PM, Saturday, Nov 4th for auction pick up. All winning honey and wax entries will be auctioned in the THBEA Benefit Raffle after the Honey Show Award Ceremony. (Arts/Crafts/Gadgets not sold at auction available for pick up 2pm Saturday Nov 4th)

JUDGES: Brutz English

SECRETARY: Jimmie Oakley

GENERAL RULES

1. The honey show is open to anyone who wishes to enter one or more exhibits, except as otherwise specifically provided for herein. The honey show is NOT open to individuals serving as judges, stewards, or show secretaries, nor to individuals who are immediate family members of those individuals serving as judges, stewards, or show secretaries. "Immediate Family Member" is defined as individuals who are spouses, siblings, parents, children, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, first cousins, parents of common children, stepparents, stepchildren, or any individuals residing in the same residence.

2. Entries must be received between **3:00 PM to 5:00 PM on Nov 2nd, 2023**, and between **7:00 AM to 10:00 AM on Nov 3rd, 2023**, at **South Room 6 of the Mayborn Convention Center in Temple, TX** **No entries will be accepted after this deadline.**

3. Each Exhibitor must sign an affidavit stating that each exhibit he or she submits was produced by the Exhibitor in conformity with the rules set forth herein.

4. Each Exhibitor may make only one exhibit per class. More than one individual from a family or household may submit exhibits across different categories; however, family members and individuals from common households may not submit multiple exhibits in the same category.

5. With the exception of Extracted Honey, in instances where the exhibit may qualify for consideration in multiple classes, the Exhibitor shall have the

right to choose which class to enter their exhibit; the Exhibitor's selection will not be overturned by the Judge(s); and, said exhibit will be judged based on the criteria set forth in the class selected by the Exhibitor. The Judge shall have discretion to make the final determination as to proper color designation in regard to all exhibits of Extracted Honey.

6. Double Entries are strictly prohibited. A "Double Entry" is when an exhibitor has more than one exhibit placed in a single exhibition class. As used in this rule, the term "Double" is not limited to two, but also encompasses any number greater than one. The Show Secretary shall not knowingly accept any subsequent exhibit which would create a Double Entry. Whenever a Double Entry is created by the decision of a judge in reclassifying an exhibit pursuant to the rules herein, the following procedure shall apply: Prior to the judging of any other exhibits in the affected class, the exhibits constituting the double entry shall be identified and examined by the head Judge; the head Judge shall make a determination as to which of the exhibits constituting the Double Entry is the best under the criteria listed for the affected class; the best exhibit of those comprising the Double Entry will be returned to the show bench, and the other(s) will be disqualified. Whenever a Double Entry results in the disqualification of one or more exhibits, and after the results are publicly announced or posted, it shall be the responsibility of the head judge to personally inform the affected exhibitor of the determination of the Double Entry and subsequent disqualification of the exhibit(s).

7. Unless specifically otherwise provided for under an individual category's rules, ALL honey, beeswax, propolis, pollen, or royal jelly exhibited, or made part of any exhibit, must be produced by the exhibitor from honeybees owned and kept by the Exhibitor. Any exhibit previously submitted for consideration in any prior TBA honey show, with the exception of mead, is not eligible for this competition.

8. All beeswax items, unless otherwise specifically allowed herein, must be prepared from pure, unadulterated beeswax, free from any additives or enhancements. The use of synthetic, artificial, or adulterated beeswax or drawn honeycomb is strictly prohibited. *Exhibits found to be containing any of the above will be disqualified.*

9. In regard to the requirement of uniformity, items within or comprising any single exhibit should be alike and matching in every way: jars, containers, closures, contents, composition, orientation, placement, presentation, etc., should be identical across all individual items comprising any single exhibit.

10. Once exhibits have been accepted into the competition by

the Show Secretary, they may not be altered in any way.

11. After submitting entries to the Show Secretary, exhibitors may not enter the area where the exhibits have been placed. The Secretary, Stewards or Judges are the only persons who may enter the honey judging area.

12. Judges will enter the honey show area after the close of exhibitor acceptance. This is to ensure as close to a blind judging as possible.

13. Copyright of any submitted recipe, artwork, literary work, or other media remains with the exhibitor, but the TBA has the unrestricted right to publish images of submitted recipes, artwork, literary work, or other media in their newsletters, on their websites, and via their social media outlets, plus unrestricted rights to use the same in any related material for PR purposes.

14. All exhibits submitted in classes containing the designation "Extracted Honey" are to be presented in one-pound, glass (no plastic), "Queen-line" or "Classic" style jars; any exhibits submitted in any other style of jar or container will not be accepted by the show secretary.

15. For all mead, beer, and other honey beverage categories, any Exhibitor may, at their discretion, submit a second bottle for chilled tasting. If the Exhibitor chooses to submit a second bottle for chilled tasting, the Exhibitor must submit two identical specimens, both suitable for judging. After the exhibit is submitted, the show secretary will randomly select one of two bottles to be placed in a cooler or refrigerated container. The show secretary will place the other bottle on the judge's bench. Both bottles submitted will be evaluated for the same criteria as a single bottle exhibit.

16. Exhibits must be unmarked or identifiable in anyway, except as provided herein.

17. The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to each exhibit as provided in the rules for each exhibition class. The Exhibitor shall be responsible for placing the ID labels on each exhibit as directed for each exhibition class, unless otherwise specified herein.

18. Each Exhibitor must affirm the inclusion of any image, likeness, or work of any individual other than the Exhibitor, portrayed in or made part of any exhibit, was done so with the prior, informed consent of said individual, and that each exhibit is submitted with the full consent of all parties.

19. Exhibits and other items not retrieved by the deadline posted for pick-up, shall be deemed abandoned, and shall be donated to the Honey Show Committee for future use or disposal. The sponsoring organization, nor the Honey Show Committee, is not responsible for any items left after the pick-up deadline.

Prizes and Awards

It is the intention that ribbons will be given in all classes even if there is only one entry in the class. Entry into a class does not guarantee an award. In order to receive an award that entry must be worthy of placement. A Judge may, in his or her sole discretion, make or withhold the award of any given prize(s) or placement(s) in any class over which said Judge officiates. The decisions of the Judges are final.

Exhibitors found willfully cheating, or purposefully

altering or disfiguring an entry for the purpose of influencing the validity of judging will be disqualified from the contest, as well as from any future honey shows sponsored by the association/conference for a period of not less than three (3) years.

Ribbons, Prize Cards & Sweepstakes:

Ribbons will be awarded to Best in Class winners, the Ann Harmon Award of Beekeeping Excellence winner, and to First, Second, and Third place winners in each class. **In the Black Jar class, only a First Place prize will be awarded.*

Scoring ranges in First through Third place winners are as follows: Best in Show = highest points in of entries in class; First Place range = 90 - 100 points; Second Place range = 80 - 89 points; Third Place range = 70 - 79. If multiple entries score in the same range, they will be awarded first through third in sequential order. The points awarded via these score cards will be used to calculate the winner of the Ann Harmon award as provided herein. . The Ann Harmon Award of Beekeeping excellence will be awarded to the exhibitor who earns the highest average points in the honey class (H class) and two other categories. To qualify for the Ann Harmon award the Exhibitor must average in a top score from the honey (H) class plus two other entries. Point cards for participants in the TBA Honey Judging Program will be provided after the show.

Appeals

After the announcement of awards, any exhibitor may meet with the class judge to discuss their entry and ask questions. An Exhibitor may appeal the Bench Judge's ruling concerning their own exhibit in instances where the Exhibitor believes the Bench Judge misinterpreted or misapplied a rule in regard to the judging of their exhibit. The Exhibitor must first present their protest to the Bench Judge who judged their exhibit, and calmly and clearly state the basis for their protest. The Bench Judge should hear the Exhibitor out, and then typically should explain to the Exhibitor the basis for their initial decision and discuss the Exhibitor's concerns with them. The Bench Judge, together with the Exhibitor, will then bring the protest to the Presiding Judge. After hearing both sides and examining the rules and the exhibit at issue, if the Bench Judge concedes an error, or if the Presiding Judge decides in favor of the Exhibitor, the Presiding judge may amend the decision, award(s), and/or official record in such a manner as to effect the most just result available. If, after hearing both sides and examining the rules and the exhibit at issue, the Presiding Judge decides the Bench Judge's original decision was correct, the Presiding Judge may uphold the Bench Judge's original decision. The decision of the Presiding Judge is final.

*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.)

Complete Set of Honey Show Rules can be found here:

<https://texasbeekeepers.org/texas-honey-show-2023/>

You Know Bees. We Know Beekeepers Insurance.

Your
TRUSTED ADVOCATE
for
**BEEKEEPING
OPERATIONS**
Large and Small

- ★ Licensed in more than 40 states
- ★ Customized coverage for all areas of your business

National Agent of Choice for the
American Beekeeping Federation

 **Trusted Choice®**
Independent Insurance Agent

**TEXAS INSURANCE &
FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.**

800-541-9849 • www.txins.com

Contact us today to schedule your FREE insurance review.

Honey Show Tips

Preparing Honey for Show

**Note: Bees make the honey and you are not winning on the honey, but your presentation of the honey. Judges look at how you present the honey and taste is a secondary (sometime deciding) factor.*

Make sure you present your honey in the container called for by the contest.

Use the right container: Queenline Jar – 1#, 2# - and good lid!!

Cleanliness is next to...

Make sure your containers are clean. Wash in dishwasher by themselves.

Never touch the jar with your hands after that; use lint free cloth (flower sack towels) or photo gloves.

Pick the Jar Well (blemish free). Look carefully for bubbles or flaws in the glass, even the bottom.

Put Good Honey in your Jars. Honey Quality Check - Choose only fully capped frames (moisture) and taste it for flavor (no bitter weed, leafy spurge, goldenrod).

Filling your Jars: Slowly, holding with a towel, tipped at an angle to prevent bubbles.

Fill Level of Jar: Up to the top screw thread (the first time). Reduce level before entering into the contest. This allows for removing bubbles and/or debris later.

Cover Jar with Plastic Wrap: Judges look under the lid and no honey should be there, remove the plastic wrap before giving to judges.

Bottle Honey Early as Opposed to Late: Give your honey time to settle up and provide opportunity to skim or remove bubbles and/or debris. Remove top layer with a silver spoon to above the inside fill line. You should not see empty space below the lid.

*Honey is judged on three categories, Light, Amber, & Dark, the Appearance of the Bottle (cleanliness of the bottle inside and out, no honey under the lid), the Uniform Fill (up to fill line), Free of Foreign Matter (granulated crystals, bubbles, foam, wax, lint), Flavor, and Brightness (clear, sparkling, transparent).

Hints: You can heat honey slowly and allow bubbles to rise by leaving the jar in a closed, parked car all day (in Texas = 100+ degrees).

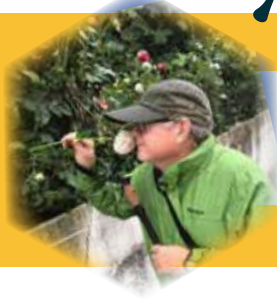
To remove specks, wax, or lint try long wooden squares to move the foreign matter to the top and dip off with silver spoon.

Polish jars with silk cloth.

Use individually cut moist square of lint free cloth (white men's handkerchief) to wipe underside of lid before presentation.

Store honey in room temperature above 57 degrees to avoid granulation.

honey bee factoid article



Why Honey Isn't Bee Vomit

by Kirk Kirksey

Recently while giving a beekeeping presentation I heard a person (\approx fourteen-year-old young man) in the audience loudly “whisper” for all to hear, “Honey is gross because it’s bee vomit”. A few of his compatriots chimed in. “Yeah, bee vomit.” Qualms spread like wildfire. I could see folks in the room (the grownups mostly) glancing uncomfortably at each other. It was clear what they were thinking; “Oh my!! Maybe honey really is bee vomit.” Thus was born the idea for this article.

No. Honey is not bee vomit. Making honey is wondrously complex, but bee vomit is not involved. Here’s a very brief overview of how it works.

BEES AREN’T HUMAN AND VICE VERSA
Regurgitation (a more polite term for “vomit”, the verb) in humans and other similar creatures including fourteen-year-olds, can be a complicated issue. Simply put, regurgitation occurs when the contents of the stomach expand or is irritated; muscle spasms begin, and a sphincter at the end of the esophagus fails. You know what happens next. Partially digested food gets expelled through the mouth. Gross I know, but it had to be said for this article. Upchucking happens because of our anatomy - humans have only one stomach and no fail-proof safety valve. Not so with honey bees.

The honeybee’s digestive system has three parts - a Foregut, a Midgut, and a Hindgut. Simply put, the Foregut - also called the Honey Crop - is for temporary storage only: not digestion. Digestion happens in the Midgut. And just in case you are wondering, the Hindgut makes honeybee poop.

Honeybee anatomy comes with a nifty structure called the proventriculus - a one-way valve positioned between the Honey Crop (nectar storage) and the Midgut (digestion). The honey bee eats by pushing a small amount of food (honey, bee bread, or nectar) through the proventriculus into the Midgut. The

Midgut digests producing nutrients the honeybee can use. The proventriculus prevents partially digested Midgut food from backwashing into the Honey Crop.

NECTAR

Ideally honey starts with nectar - sugar water produced in special plant glands called nectaries. These nectaries can be either floral (located in a blossom) or extrafloral (located on a leaf or stem). The exact chemical and moisture composition of nectar can vary greatly depending on plant species, season, and environmental conditions. Generally speaking, the main ingredients of nectar are water (usually about 70%-80%) and sugars; sucrose, glucose, and fructose.

Fructose and glucose are simple sugars, easily digested by the bees. Sucrose, on the other hand, is a disaccharide - a complex sugar. This means the sucrose molecule binds subunits of fructose and glucose together. Keep this in mind.

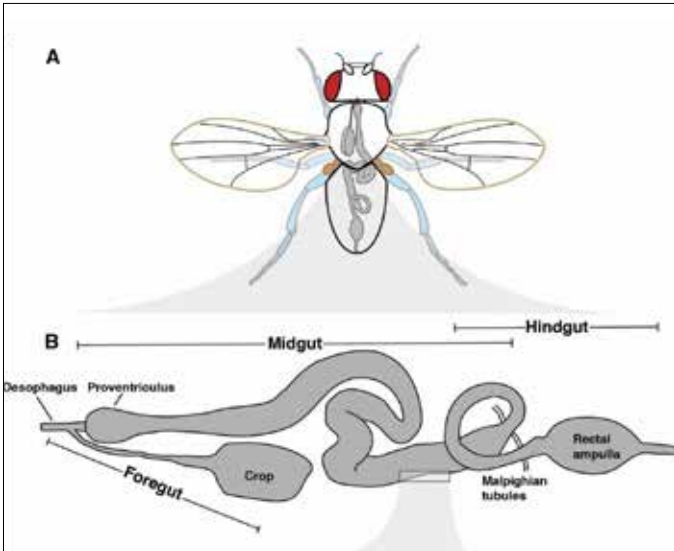
NECTAR AND THE FORAGING HONEY BEE

In ancient times people believed honey was somehow made entirely outside the honeybee’s body. Romans believed honey was produced in flowers and honeybees simply carried honey back to the hive. Ancient Egyptians believed the gods gave bees honey to take back to the hive.

We now know, honey production starts inside the body of the foraging honeybee. Once a forager collects nectar in her honey crop, she will add an enzyme called Invertase. Invertase breaks the sucrose molecular bond to release glucose and fructose - the simple sugars. Now for a surprising bit of new news.

Remember the 70%-to-80% moisture content? We know the bees will reduce this number to about 18% or less before capping takes place. Conventional wisdom states this dehydration process is carried out entirely by house bees once the nectar has been deposited inside the hive. However, a 2022 study

by Nicoloson et.al shows foraging honeybees can start the drying-out process and remove a significant amount of moisture on their trip back to the hive. This evaporation step saves a good deal of house bee energy and reduces in-hive humidity caused by the presence of “wet” honey.



REGURGITATION – NOT!

Once the forager reaches the hive, she will pass the nectar load in her honey crop to a house bee via a process called trophallaxis. Many sources use the word “regurgitate” when describing this process. Call me over sensitive, but this really rubs me the wrong way.

Regurgitation (as defined by Oxford Languages) is “the action of bringing swallowed food again to the mouth.” And to be clear trophallaxis is a honey crop – to honey crop transfer. No swallowed food is involved. Anyway....

Inside the hive, house bees continue the ripening

process. These bees will “chew” the honey adding more enzymes – the good stuff. Once the honey has reached the right composition and consistency, it is deposited (not regurgitated) into a honeycomb cell where the final steps of the ripening take place.

The hexagonal shaped honeycomb cell exposes the maximum surface area of the honey. This greatly speeds the drying process. House bees continually fan the exposed honey until most of the original moisture has been evaporated. Before harvesting a honey frame, Beekeepers often give this exposed (uncapped) honey the “shake” test. If watery liquid shakes out of the exposed honey, it is probably too wet to harvest. Once the bees have dried the honey to a moisture content level of around 18% or less, the cells will usually get covered with an air-tight cap of wax.

The conversion of nectar to honey is a complex bio chemical process. I have only hit the high points here. Allow me to review.

A foraging honeybee collects nectar in her honey crop. The proventriculus valve in the honeybee’s digestive system prevents nectar in the honey crop from mixing with partially digested food. Back at the hive, the forager passes her nectar to a house bee in a honey-crop to honey-crop transfer called trophallaxis. The house bee will eventually deposit her load of honey in a hexagonal honeycomb cell.

Nowhere in the honey-making process is upchucking involved. Therefore, honey is not bee vomit.

References

Nicolson, S.W., Human, H. & Pirk, C.W.W. Honey bees save energy in honey processing by dehydrating nectar before returning to the nest. Sci Rep 12, 16224 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-20626-5>.
 Joe M. Graham (Ed). 2015. The Hive and the Honey Bee. Hamilton Ill. Dadant.

Component	Average
Moisture	17.2
Fructose	38.19
Glucose	30.3
Sucrose	1.3
Higher Sugars	1.4
Gluconic Acid	.57
Ash	.169

Component	Average
Nitrogen	.041
Ph	3.91
Diastase (Enzyme)	20.8

Composition of Honey

www.SweetNesHoney.com



**Beekeeping Supplies
Boxes & Frames
Tops & Bottoms
Treatments & Feed
Suits & Jackets
Honey & Beeswax**



Hi Honey!
**We are beekeepers
helping beekeepers!**



Proud authorized dealer of



MANN LAKE
BEE & AG SUPPLY



SweetNesHoney
BeeYtique

OPEN: TUESDAY - SATURDAY 9AM-3PM
8922 MAIN STREET, NEEDVILLE, TEXAS



MAXIMUM STRENGTH

from the only All-Natural plant polyphenol Honey Bee Food Supplement in the world.



CompleteTM

Maximum Strength
NozevitTM - OptimaTM - ProBeeTM



Feeding stimulant with 17 essential oils, complete vitamins, minerals, and amino acids. Nutrition for Queen breeders, nucs, packages and splits.

www.SweetNesHoney.com



Contact Brent Yaschuk
for more details
832-472-0567

SweetNes  *Honey*
Bee Ytique

TUE-SAT 9am-3PM
8922 Main Street
Needville, Texas
832-303-1595

the brantley column



S. S. Brantley

2016 Life Member Texas Beekeepers Association

2017 Life Member Louisiana Beekeepers Association

September is an important month for beekeepers. Any honey remaining in the hives can be extracted now. Honey in the frames that is not capped will probably be dry enough to be below the 18% moisture level. I am getting reports of honey that is extremely dry, in the 15% range, that will not allow air bubbles to rise to the top of the container even after the honey is heated.

I receive several bee club newsletters. I recently read that a beekeeper had ten hives and was expecting to 150 to 250 pounds of honey. There are so many variables in the world of honey production that it is hard to foresee your crop. It makes no difference if you are a first year beekeeper or have several years under the veil, do not anticipate your honey production until you have it in the jar. Then you can get a total of your hives effort.

After your honey is extracted is a good time to do mite checks. If you need to do a mite treatment to knock down mite loads before winter, check the bee supply publications to get the latest info on applying treatments. Veto Pharma is advertising a new “quick knockdown” product called Amiflex. Veto Pharma calls this a “flash treatment” as it requires only seven days. More information is available at <https://www.veto-pharma.com/products/amiflex/>

I was recently introduced by a local beekeeper to another “new to me” beetle trap. The black plastic trap is a one piece hinged box that folds and snaps shut. Folded, it is about a 3x3 inch square. Inside it has a place to put a bait to attract the beetles. It also has one or more small entrances for the beetle to enter. My beekeeper friend baits the trap with a mixture of apple cider vinegar and diatomaceous earth. It seems to me that these traps would be very effective on the bottom board just inside the entrance. Placing one on the top bars of the top brood box may also be a good location. They are available under various names from several

internet vendors. Amazon lists them as “Rural365 Hive Beetle Trap Beetle Barn Trap Set” and sells a ten pack for about \$11.

ABJ and Bee Culture magazines carry advertisements from some bee breeders who have September queens available. If you are planning to start any Nucs this month, it would probably be best to purchase a mated queen rather than taking a chance on having enough local drones to properly mate a queen raised by a newly made Nuc. In this area, a five frame Nuc started in September with a well-mated queen and two or more frames of honey should be ready to move into an eight or ten frame hive in the spring.

Failing queens, ones with shotgun brood patterns, should be replaced during September to better insure the hive will make it through the winter months. Frames of pollen and capped honey also give the colony a better chance to survive. NEVER remove frames of honey from the brood nest because you were short in the supers. This is the food the colony will use to over-winter.

September is also the month to start feeding hives to grow the “fat bees” that will carry the hive through winter and bring it out alive next spring. This may be particularly important this year because we are in drought conditions in much of the state. The fall Golderod bloom we usually see may be adversely affected by the prolonged heat and dry conditions. Each beekeeper must make a decision about the feed mix you give your bees. I recommend a 2:1 sugar/water mix as the bees will tend to store this mixture better than a thinner one. If you are near a bee supply store you may want to purchase the liquid syrup mix they offer for sale. It is typically sold in bulk to commercial beekeepers but they will also sell the liquid feed in smaller amounts. Some suppliers offer a discount if you provide your own container.





Angela Johnson

Chief Apiary Inspector, Texas Apiary Inspection Service

Greetings to Texas beekeepers from TAIS

How are your colonies doing? Are you feeding your bees? We are seeing lower than normal rainfall amounts across the state, even in the counties that are getting rain. The persistent lack of rainfall across Texas has affected agriculture as a whole, and this includes bees. Beekeepers across the state are concerned about the welfare of their colonies. We are fielding questions such as, 'Should we be feeding our bees?' and 'What is everyone else doing?'

The short answer is, yes, we are feeding our bees. Bill goes out twice a week to fill the in-hive feeders with sugar syrup. He has also provided them with some pollen cake, as the area we keep the colonies in is highly managed, meaning a monoculture of grass. Grasses do provide pollen, but it is of low nutritional value for bees. Bees remain an enigma as far as what their exact nutritional needs are; however, we know that good rainfall and lots of flowering nectar producing plants is a better case scenario than what we provide in the syrup. Having to start feeding bees at this point in the year is not optimal, it is similar to having to feed our pasture grazers hay in August. It gets expensive and the nutritional needs for the animal are not quite met. There are two different recipes for syrup; either a 1:1 or a 2:1 ratio of pounds of sugar to pounds of water. If you don't know kitchen math, I had to look it up, 1 pound of water is equal to 2 cups. The 1:1 ratio is generally used in the spring or flowering months and the 2:1 ratio is generally used in the fall. I am certain no matter what you put out for your bees they will devour it.

We are seeing bees in places where they are not normally seen because of the lack of precipitation. Oak tree galls can produce honeydew and we are seeing lots of bees on the live oaks with galls. We are also

fielding many calls about bees in livestock or pet water sources. Which brings up another topic, being a good bee neighbor! We cannot necessarily control where bees go on their daily rounds, but we know that when they find a resource they will continually return to that resource until it no longer exists. Provide plenty of water sources for your bees closer to the hive than your neighbor's dog water bowl. Or, if the situation becomes more serious, move the colony. In being a good bee neighbor, we must take into account that not everyone shares our affinity for bees.

There is still a great deal of fear in the general public surrounding Africanized bees. There is a litany of sci-fi movies that prey on innate fears and amplify a real undesired behavior to unrealistic levels. You can do a Google search and still find news reports as late as this year warning people about the dangers of Africanized bee swarms. Remember, not everyone has the same information or experiences. There are also many people with legitimate health concerns that warrant their fear of interaction with bees, and they see the insect as a pest. As stewards of this charming creature, it is our responsibility to ensure that we do all we can to provide positive interaction with everyone that our bees encounter to the best of our abilities.

As we look forward to fall, and hopefully rain, we will see some native blooming plants across Texas that will provide much needed resources for our bees. After our limited burst of rain here in Washington County, the sage is ready to burst with blooms. Goldenrod should be prolific in the natural areas as well as some Asters. American beauty berry is another Texas native that we can look forward to blooming this fall, along with Passion flowers. So, wash your car, do your rain dance, and keep praying for rain!

the happy

herbalist



Cocoa Mint Sugar Scrub
By Carolyn Gibson

For those who have been to the Bee Schools, one of my best sellers is the Cocoa Mint Sugar Scrub, also called Avocado Honey Sugar Scrub. This is really simple to make and would be great for Christmas gifts for the ladies, while the men may secretly borrow it.

This recipe uses an emulsifying wax to keep the oils and sugar combined so they do not separate. Although, if kept at warm temperatures they will liquify, and then go back together when cooled off. Then you would need to stir them back together. Transporting them to Bryan, Texas when it was well over 100°F, they definitely became a liquid.

This recipe also uses a preservative. Since the recipe uses all oils, butters and sugar, that by itself would not grow bacteria, viruses and fungi. But you know it will get a little water in it, and water does grow bacteria, viruses and fungi.

Start out by weighing and sifting 595 grams of white granulated sugar. White granulated sugar is safe for the face unless you have rosacea. For those tempted to use raw natural sugar, that would be too rough for the face. Optional: 3 tablespoons of Honey powder. Honey powder can be used in this recipe, but not regular honey. Honey is water soluble so it would not mix well with the oils and waxes.

Weigh & Melt together:

220 grams of your favorite oil, I used Avocado Oil.
120 grams Cocoa Butter
40 grams Emulsifying Wax
7-8 grams Beeswax

Remove from heat and stir until all is well combined.

Whip with electric mixer for 5 minutes.
Allow liquids to cool to 122°F or under.
Weigh and mix in:

5 grams Vitamin E

5 grams Optiphen Plus also known as Sorbic Acid+2PF

7-8 grams of essential oil of Peppermint or I use equal amounts of Eucalyptus, Lavender, Peppermint.

You may be tempted to use more of these essential oils but do not. Remember if you are using this as a facial scrub you will be near the eyes.

Whip with the electric mixer another 5 minutes.

Pour into a large bowl and let cool to 80°F.

At this point you have the option of whipping it again to a pudding constituency, or leaving it as it is. Whipping it will add more air which will eventually deflate.

Slowly whip in the sifted sugar and sifted honey powder.

Pour into plastic jars. You could use glass canning jars, but you risk breaking glass in your bathroom. I find plastic canning jars at Michaels Craft stores.

Do not cap until completely cool. To use, gently scrub on wet skin and rinse.

This recipe is extremely versatile. Use your favorite oils, except for hemp oil or olive oil. Hemp oil is too dry. Olive oil is too greasy. The Cocoa Butter can be replaced with half Cocoa Butter and half Mango Butter, or just use any of the favorite plant butters. I have tried using Lavender essential oil, but everyone seems to prefer the peppermint combination. Be sure when you buy your Cocoa Butter it has its natural scent and has not been deodorized if you want the chocolate aroma.

Use the link below to watch me make it on YOUTUBE.

<https://youtu.be/HNpz7DdWehY>

TBA Convention Memorial List

Please help us to honor those beekeepers
who have left us this year.

Email any honorees to President@
texasbeekeepers.org



Use with or without cap system!

FD840
9 1/8" Pro Feeder
3" Wide (Holds 2 Gallons)

PRO FEEDERS

- ✓ **STRONGER**
The wood cap and interior supports strengthen the feeder.
- ✓ **EASY TO CLEAN**
This is the only feeder available where the entire cap and ladder system is easily removed for cleaning.
- ✓ **NO BURR COMB TO CLEAN**
Sealed feeding tubes deter bees from creating burr comb inside the feeder & prevent the queen from laying brood there.
- ✓ **TEXTURED INTERIOR WALL**
Textured interior walls for those who wish to use the feeder without the cap and ladder system.
- ✓ **REVOLUTIONARY CAP & LADDER SYSTEM**
Sealed feeding tubes are designed to keep bees confined to the feeding area, minimizing drowning.

Use with or without the Cap & Ladder System

Remove bands for easy cleaning!

FD555
6 1/4" Pro Feeder 3" Wide
(Holds 1 Gallon) with Cap and Ladder

FD505
9 1/8" Pro Feeder - 2" Wide
(Holds 1 Gallon) with Cap and Ladder

**Come Visit Our Store In
MARSHALL, TX**

1600 Commerce Street - Marshall, TX-75672
Mon. - Fri. - 8AM-5PM
Sat. - 8AM-12PM



the texas keeper



Eating Crow

By Kirk Kirksey

Beekeeping knowledge constantly moves forward. It's the nature of the beast. Sometimes this forward motion confirms what we already know. On the flip side, new knowledge often challenges long-held conventional wisdom and practices. Therein (as Prince Hamlet might say) lies the rub.

Being challenged about what we have been saying, writing, believing, and teaching for lo these many years is uncomfortable. It's easy to become overly protective and argumentative. Fact is, sooner or later we must either change our ways or end up defending the indefensible. Rational change is the only path to improvement.

Long ago, my granny told me, "Everyone needs to eat a little crow now and then." Her message being; be ready to give up things you think you know when new information comes along. So, Grandmamma, this one is for you. Here are five beekeeping things I thought I knew but didn't.

Feeding Pollen Substitute May Not be Good for Bees

I'm guessing that Pollen Substitute, in its many forms, is a multi-million-dollar industry. Tons of the stuff in the form of powders, patties, and homemade recipes is fed to bees each year.

These products rarely contain real pollen and are commonly made from food manufacturing by products.

Despite claims of those full-page magazine advertisements and YouTube "experts", several studies have questioned the benefits of feeding pollen substitutes to honey bees. For example, one study linked a pollen-less diet with reduced gene expression, reduced infection suppression and more not-so-good-for-bees-things. A University of Florida study reviewed the "health impact" of different pollen substitute recipes on over two dozen colony "Health Parameters". These parameters included things

like "Adult Bee Population", "Royal Jelly Quality", "Antioxidant Status" and more.

The results are mixed with some pollen substitutes having a positive effect on some Health Parameters while having a negative effect on others.

There is still a lot to learn about the dietary needs of the honeybee. I think we can say, emerging evidence points to feeding pollen substitutes to our honey bees has definite pros and cons. Does the good outweigh the bad? So far, the answer is not clear cut.

Bottom line –

Keep a close eye on the growing body of honeybee nutrition research. Know both sides of the story, before deciding to feed pollen substitute to your bees.

SHB Eggs are Continuously Hatching.

I use screened bottom boards with a beetle trap pan underneath. Because of some personal scheduling issues, I was unable to clean out the pans for several weeks. When I did get around to tidying up, I noticed something unusual in the debris; tiny white worms. Under the microscope I could tell these were clearly insect larvae. Small Hive Beetles? Wax Moth? Something else entirely.

After a very nice email from Dr. Jamie Ellis (University of Florida) I learned that Wax Moth and SHB eggs can be continually hatching even in hives that look healthy. These hatchings, called "cryptic low-level reproduction" in one study, can easily go unnoticed by the beekeeper.

The message to me was crystal clear. SHB and Wax Moth mitigation must never be neglected because the pests are ever present and waiting to slime your hive.

Uncured Honey Can Significantly Increase In-Hive Humidity

High in-hive humidity can be a serious wintertime problem. You know - condensation produced by the

respiration of 8,000 bees confined to a small space creates a rainforest like environment where excessive in-hive moisture can drown bees.

High in-hive humidity can also be a problem in the Spring and Summer – but not for reasons you might expect. During the Spring and Summer the amount and concentration of nectar being cured can drive up humidity levels in the hive. One study found that most of the in-hive water vapor during nectar flow “...is a direct consequence of nectar dehydration.”

Laying Workers Can Create a Mean Hive.

I had always heard (and often said) that one cause of overly aggressive honey bee behavior is a queenless colony. It's true, but I never knew why. Were the workers grumpy just because they missed their mamma? Did house bees run out of things to do? Turns out colony nastiness can often be tied to laying workers.

Inside a healthy hive Queen and Brood pheromones suppress the reproductive capabilities of female workers so that only one female – the queen – gets to lay eggs. When a hive becomes hopelessly queenless, these pheromones disappear, and female worker bee reproductive instincts kick in with a vengeance. In a Hail Mary effort to save the colony, workers begin laying eggs – usually multiple eggs in a single cell. Since worker females can't mate, they lay only unfertilized, drone producing eggs. The beekeeper sees frames full of nothing but spotty drone brood. Fierce “Reproduction Competition” in the dwindling worker population fires up, and the bees become aggressive both inside and outside the hive. Reproduction Competition is so fierce, introducing a new queen will not solve the problem. She will be viewed as a competitor and quickly dispatched by the laying worker bees. So...

If your bees are mean?

Look for the Queen.

Not All Honeycomb Cells are Hexagons.

The honeycomb hexagon is a universally recognized shape representing the industry, artistry, and skill of the honeybee. We see this six-sided shape on everything from wallpaper to wrapping paper. When combined in honeycomb, hexagons produce a mysterious tableau of beauty and functionality. Through the ages, honeybees have been lauded as masters of a perfect architecture.

All beekeepers love to look at honey comb. Frames and frames of beautiful, uniform, interconnected hexagons scream “Healthy Hive!! Happy bees!!” Look

closely and you'll see the perfect little hexagons aren't the only thing the bees make. They construct all sorts of shapes, including circles ovals, and even an occasional Heptagon (seven sided).

Honeybees produce different shaped cells for a reason. Differing cell shapes are needed for transitions and connections. For transitions, bees must connect large cells (drone and queen) to normal cells by making odd shaped cells as needed. For connections, odd shaped cells can be found joining two planes of honeycomb.

As fast as things move in beekeeping, I can't wait to see what another year will bring. Whatever happens, I'm sure I'll be sitting down about this time next year to a nice plate of crow. Thanks Grandmamma Sears. I know you're up there keeping all those pesky angels on the straight and narrow.

References

- Powell JE, Lau P, Rangel J, Arnott R, De Jong T, Moran NA (2023) The microbiome and gene expression of honey bee workers are affected by a diet containing pollen substitutes. PLoS ONE 18(5): e0286070. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0286070>
- Noordyke Emily R., Ellis James D. (2021) Reviewing the Efficacy of Pollen Substitutes as a Management Tool for Improving the Health and Productivity of Western Honey Bee (*Apis mellifera*) Colonies. Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems. V5 (2021). <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fsufs.2021.772897/full>
- (NOTE: If you read this article, be sure to look at the supplemental/summary material provided by the authors)
- Sebastian Spiewok & Peter Neumann (2006) Cryptic low-level reproduction of small hive beetles in honey bee colonies, Journal of Apicultural Research, 45:1, 47-48, DOI: [10.1080/00218839.2006.11101313](https://doi.org/10.1080/00218839.2006.11101313)
- Aggressive reproductive competition among hopelessly queenless honeybee workers triggered by pheromone signaling. O. Malka, S. Shnieor, T. Katzav-Gozansky & A. Hefetz
- Naturwissenschaften volume 95, pages 553–559 (2008). <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00114-008-0358-z#citeas>
- Mitchell, D. Nectar, humidity, honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) and varroa in summer: A theoretical thermofluid analysis of the fate of water vapour from honey ripening and its implications on the control of Varroa destructor. J. R. Soc. Interface 16, 20190048. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsif.2019.0048> (2019).
- Nazzi, F. The hexagonal shape of the honeycomb cells depends on the construction behavior of bees. Sci Rep 6, 28341 (2016). <https://doi.org/10.1038/srep28341>

calling TX beekeepers!

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, consider 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
- Creamed Honey Contest – judged on firmness, smoothness of granulation, flavor, etc.
- Honey, the Magic Ingredient (a.k.a. cooking with honey contest) – where honey must be a key ingredient in the recipe

Here are the basic facts:

Who: YOU!

What: The Texas Beekeepers Association Polished Jar and Black Jar Honey Contests

When: Monday, October 2nd, 2023

Where: In the kitchen/cooking area of the Creative Arts building
at the GREAT State Fair of Texas (on the north side of the Cotton Bowl)

Timeline

9 a.m. – all Honey Contests open for accepting entries

10:30 a.m. - ALL Honey Contests closed; no more entries accepted

10:31 a.m. – judging begins

Note: ALL honey must come from Texas honey bees/hives.

There is no charge for entering the Black Jar, Polished Jar, or Creamed Honey Contests, however... there is a \$2 per entry fee for the cooking with honey category: Honey, The Magic Ingredient Contest.

Immediately following the Honey Contest judging, ribbons for first, second and third place winners will be awarded within the contest area, and photos of the winners will be taken!

Honey and Cooking Contest General Information and Rules

Click on the link to download the 2023 State Fair of Texas Cooking Contests Handbook:

[2023 SFT CreativeArts CookingContestGuide 2.pdf \(bigtex.com\)](https://bigtex.com/2023-SFT-CreativeArts-CookingContestGuide-2.pdf)

- Honey, the Magic Ingredient Contest (a.k.a. cooking with honey) is on page 27
- Black Jar, Polished Jar and Creamed Honey Contest(s) are on pages 28-29

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

***Notes on correct fill level:** The correct fill level on a "Queen-line" or "Classic" style honey jar is at the top of the fill ring of each jar. The fill ring is the raised ridge or ring of glass immediately above the shoulder of the jar, and below the threads. It can be distinguished from the threads in two ways: a) the fill ring forms a complete circle, without ends; and b) the fill ring will be completely parallel with the bottom and top of the jar. There should be enough honey in the jar to reach the top of the fill ring, without going over. Liquid honey in a circular shape forms a concave surface sometimes referred to as a meniscus. **For purposes of filling honey jars for exhibition, the edge of the meniscus should meet the top of the fill ring.** A jar of honey being over-filled is preferable to one being under-filled.



REALTEXASHONEY.COM

JOIN
REAL
TEXAS
HONEY

Get Your
Seals

Join Our
Map

Join The
Movement

An advertisement for Real Texas Honey. It features a honeycomb background with a close-up of honeycomb on the right. The text 'REALTEXASHONEY.COM' is at the top left. Below it is a large 'JOIN REAL TEXAS HONEY' text with a mouse cursor icon. At the bottom are three icons: a seal, a map, and a megaphone, with the text 'Get Your Seals', 'Join Our Map', and 'Join The Movement' respectively. A circular logo with 'REAL TEXAS BEEKEEPERS' and 'REAL TEXAS HONEY' is also visible.

youth education



How we started beekeeping

Ally and Sofie Clark

Hi! We are Ally and Sofie Clark, we are both 12 yrs. old (twins!!) and started beekeeping when we were 9, now we have 18 hives, and we are still growing our apiary!

Our mom got into beekeeping because both of our great grandpas on our mom's side were beekeepers in Bulgaria. Originally, it was supposed to be her quiet hobby, with only 2 hives, but then not long after she got the bees we went to the hives and loved it!

But at first when she got bees, we were really scared of them! In fact, about a week after we got the hives, one of us (Sofie), jumped out of a moving vehicle when it was driving on gravel because there was a bee in the vehicle! A bee sting would've hurt a lot less! But after we went to the hives a few times, we both became very comfortable around the bees.

In the beginning and early summer part of our second year, we both got accepted to be a part of the Montgomery County Youth Beekeeping Program. In that year we caught a lot of swarms. We also did a bee removal from the bottom of an old RV trailer.

In November of 2022, we both became the youngest Apprentice Master Beekeepers (through Texas A&M) since we're twins, and also won 3 awards in the 2022 Texas Honey Show- 1st place Light Amber Honey, Best of Small-scale Beekeeping, and Best of Show Honey! Exciting times! This November we are taking

the Advanced level, (we are trying to be the youngest Master Beekeepers in the state), and we are also planning to enter in the TX Honey Show again.

Since then, we have presented at schools, volunteered at the Houston Rodeo 3 times at the bee exhibit, spoken at the Montgomery County Beekeepers Club multiple times, are the official beekeepers for the Woodlands Resort, are both mentors, and have volunteered at two TBA Summer Clinics!

So, why should you start beekeeping? Well, it's a fascinating and unique hobby! It's rewarding, you get exercise (well, kind of – lifting heavy equipment), it's a great way to spend time outdoors, helping the environment by supporting all local pollinators, you get to play with power tools and express your artistic personality by painting your bee boxes! You also get to learn about business, finance and marketing as you design your honey labels and sell

your delicious honey to friends and farmers markets.

And if you happen to have a hive die, that's ok! It happens to everyone, and while it is sad, don't let it discourage you! There are many resources to help you like getting a mentor, videos, articles, and attending bee clubs and events!

In conclusion - our mom is still looking for a quiet hobby! Oh, and that you should definitely start beekeeping and that you're never too young to do it!



We are installing the nuc we received from the Montgomery County Beekeepers Association Youth Program.



This is us last November taking the Apprentice Level of the Texas Master Beekeeper exam.



Here we are at the 2022 Texas Honey Show with our awards!



...and relaxing in the main beeyard.

Share your beekeeping stories with us!
Email your articles to publications@texasbeekeepers.org

what should we teach

new beekeepers?



Roger and Sue Farr

Caddo Trace Beekeeping Association Master Level
Beekeeper - Texas Master Beekeeper Program (Roger)

“The Continuing Journey of Two Ninth-Year Small-Scale Beekeepers”

This is not a normal beekeeping year. Colony losses, heat, queen events, drought, high costs, and declining bee forage make 2023 memorable and unforgiving.

What lessons did we as small-scale beekeepers learn this year that we should pass on to new beekeepers? What changes should we make in our beekeeping practices? What approaches, frankly, did not work in our apiaries? We are still positive about beekeeping, and we still like being in our hives, but we know some things will never be the same as they were before this year.

What should we teach new beekeepers?

Beekeeping is becoming expensive. Costs for bees is only the beginning; nucleus colonies are \$250 and a complete colony with one deep and woodenware is \$430. Tell prospective beekeepers to budget for four medium boxes or two deep and a medium box, 40 (30) frames with foundation, 40 pounds of sugar, and

Apivar or other varroa treatments – all per colony in their first year.

Beekeeping is time sensitive. Yes, it does average about an hour per week to care for a few colonies, but that “hour” will come at inopportune times. Honeybees do not care that it is 106 degrees outside or that it just began to sleet. Queens are ready to mate when they are ready to mate, and weather, beekeeper plans, and unexpected situations do not always jibe. We did not plan to start, re-start, and then re-start Nuc 11, but that’s what was necessary, and that’s what we did – in March, April, and May – as we continually had queen mating and robbing issues.

Beekeeping is solitary. We, Roger and Sue, are usually together in our apiary, as we’re usually together everywhere, but one of us is the decision maker, and



Our eight colonies in their late summer configuration. Yes, those two hives are stacked 6 and 7 supers

the other of us is the knowledgeable assistant. When stuff happens, the beekeeper must assess the situation and do the right thing. When a colony is questionable, the beekeeper must act. When the bees raise a ruckus when we open the top cover, the beekeeper must execute the Rodeo Plan. The knowledgeable assistant is right there, but some decisions are isolated. Likewise, there isn't a great crowd around you when inspecting bees; if anyone is around at all.

Beekeeping is local. It really doesn't matter that

Dallas received six welcome inches of rain last month; we received 0.74 inches in east Texas. Bee forage out here is struggling, and many colonies do not have enough honey stored to survive winter. We fed our bees in June and July so they are fine; some new beekeepers did not and their nucleus colonies are barely in two medium boxes with little or no stored honey. We encouraged these new beekeepers to feed their bees otherwise they will starve this winter.

Beekeeping is managing the "unexpected." This year seems to have more queenlessness and absconding than normal, or that we can remember. New queens from March are suddenly no longer productive and being superseded in September. Healthy and productive colonies with very low mite counts suddenly absconding from their hives. The universe of what can occur in a honeybee colony is limited. We teach to "expect the unexpected" and be ready for it with proper materials and options.

Beekeeping is year-round. We plan family activities and grandchildren-adventures based upon beekeeping requirements. We squeeze Fall vacation between the TBA convention and our Fall honey harvest. We welcome Advent and pull down the Christmas tree

from the attic after we treat colonies with oxalic acid. We drag hoses in summer to keep flowers alive in Fall. Yes, there are breaks and downtime, and yes, it depends upon how we choose to keep bees, but you get the idea. We make queens and nucleus colonies in the Spring and harvest honey in the Fall.

Beekeeping is not a light and fluffy fad. It's hot, hard work handling heavy boxes of sometimes unhappy stinging insects – sometimes over our heads.

Beekeeping is a commitment, a responsibility to keep live creatures, whether we feel like it that day – or not. These are after all "managed" colonies of honeybees, not feral ones, we are keeping. We provide them a home and they provide us with what we desire out of a honeybee colony.

Beekeeping is all about people. Beekeepers share success stories, ask lots of repetitive questions, come up with "original" beekeeping ideas based on the latest

internet craze, call for help at busy times, and decide which advice they will follow – and which they will ignore. Beekeepers give unexpected gifts, donate time and skills, and offer assistance at just the right time. It's all about the beekeepers; they are a part of our friend network.

What should we teach new beekeepers? Teach them that this is a worthwhile avocation, a good way to meet people, and a great opportunity to see and experience, firsthand, how incredible our Creator is.

We'd love to hear what you advise new beekeepers to do in your operation!

Roger and Sue Farr; rdfarr@gmail.com; sue.farr1@gmail.com



New beekeeper Henry learns to raise queens with us



November 2nd – 4th
Mayborn Civic &
Convention Center,
Temple

2023

Local Club Centerpiece Contest



Theme for 2023: "BEE Christmas"

Are your fellow eclectic club members exceptionally artsy, or even crafty?

It's time to show off those skills at the 2023 TBA Annual Convention!

From artistic creations to bountiful baskets filled with your club member's favorite hive products, your local club talent's will shine as the centerpieces of our evening banquet. All entries are to be judged and auctioned benefitting our THBEA educational fund. Will your local club take home the winner's plaque this year? Will your club's entry win the highest bid at the auction? Register today and show us your club's unusual talents while supporting a great cause!



2019 People's
Choice

Rules for Entry:

- The club's total out of pocket expenses will be no more than \$50, all other items are to be from donations.
- Entry height and width not to exceed 18-20".
- The theme is anything regarding bees, but each entry should be a reflection of your regional club (references to famous landmarks, area delicacies, local favorite items). You can proudly display your club's name on your entry.
- Entry must be brought to the annual convention by a club member or representative
- Entries must be submitted at the registration table no later than 10:00 AM on Friday.
- Entries will become the property of TBA.

Best of the Convention and our People's Choice Award:

- Voting will begin Friday at 10:00 AM and run until 5:00 PM
- 5 votes for \$5
- One set of votes per person

Other centerpiece entries can be seen on the TBA Facebook pages.

Contact Myra Smith at myras29@gmail.com or (903) 573-1701



THE BEE SUPPLY
BEEKEEPERS HELPING BEEKEEPERS™

**FREE SUPPORT
AFTER PURCHASE!**

TX5000™ AND GOLDEN CORDOVAN™ BEES

Available for Preorder Now!



TX5000™ COMPLETE HIVE

TX5000™ Bees and Queen
New Equipment
14-Day Guarantee
Bred for VSH
Marked Queens Optional

\$389.00 ea

GOLDEN CORDOVAN™ COMPLETE HIVE

Golden Cordovan™ Bees and Queen
New Equipment
14-Day Guarantee
Bred for VSH
Marked Queens Optional

\$399.00 ea



TX5000™ NUC

5 Frame Pro Nuc Box
Tough as Texas Bees
Flexible Pick Ups
14-Day Guarantee
Bred for VSH
Marked Queens Optional

\$239.00 ea

GOLDEN CORDOVAN™ NUC

5 Frame Pro Nuc Box
Ultra Gentle Bees
Flexible Pick Ups
14-Day Guarantee
Bred for VSH
Marked Queens Optional

\$269.00 ea



TX5000™ PACKAGES

Bee Bus Package
Italian/Carniolian
Hybrids
Bred for VSH
Pick Up or Shipped

\$195.00 ea



MARKED QUEENS

Always Marked
Italian/Carnolians
Flexible Pick Ups
Tough and Gentle
Bred for VSH

\$39.00 ea

**HEALTHY HIVE
ASSURANCE**
14-Day Money Back



CHECK OUT OUR LOCATIONS AT: www.thebeesupply.com/locations

www.thebeesupply.com

| 800.356.4229

| info@thebeesupply.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!!

- August 29: Genetic diversity of *Varroa destructor* in the US, with J. Rangel (TAMU)
- Sept. 26: The science of using pollen substitutes, with J. Ellis (UFL)
- October 24: The interactive impacts of pesticides and poor nutrition on honey bees, with P. Basu (MSU)

Last Tuesday of the month

6:30 – 7:30 pm
Central Time

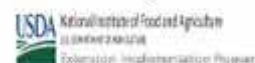
Watch via Zoom Webinar

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

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

Questions? Email Allyson Shabel ams0137@aces.edu

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



GET
YOURS
TODAY!!



\$22 OF EVERY PLATE SOLD

GOES TO YOUTH AND BEEKEEPER EDUCATION PROGRAMS, INFORMATIONAL RESOURCES, & RESEARCH PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE HONEY BEE HEALTH & LONGEVITY



TO PURCHASE THE PLATE
ONLINE GO TO
[HTTPS://WWW.TXDMV.GOV/
MOTORISTS/LICENSE-
PLATES](https://www.txdmv.gov/motorists/license-plates)

2024 Resolutions Committee

Call for Resolutions

It's that time of year again - We're looking at resolutions to guide the 2024 TBA Board.

If you'd like to review our previous resolutions or recommend a new one you can submit them online at our website.

<https://texasbeekeepers.org/resolutions/>

Resolutions

TBA treasurer position

contact Leesa Hyder at execsec@texasbeekeepers.org if interested

Bookkeeper Duties

- * Record all transactions in Quickbooks Online
- * Make cash disbursements and ensure expenditures are approved
- * Reconcile bank and credit card accounts
- * Prepare quarterly sales tax returns

Treasurer Duties

- * Attend (somewhat monthly) Board meetings via Zoom
- * Prepare financial statements for Board (fund accounting)
- * Monitor budgeted vs actual expenses and record changes to the budget
- * Monitor overall current and future cash flow requirements
- * Accumulate data regarding description and FMV of all cash and noncash donations and ensure the IRS required charitable acknowledgements are sent to donors
- * Monitor organization's activities so they remain in line with IRS requirements for tax exempt entities.
- * Prepare annual Form 1096/1099's to nonemployee contractors
- * Work with external CPA for annual Form 990 filings

BORINTRAGER BEE FARM - 2022 PRICES

4036 GAITAN LANE - BEEVILLE TEXAS, 78102

361-362-3283

Our plans are to have Nucs available in April and May, 2023. Please place your orders early to insure availability.

Prices are for pick-up at the Farm
Delivery to AABA Field Day: add \$10 each
\$25 down payment to book orders

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.

David T. Borntreger & Sons

	1-24	25-99	100-up
Five Frame Nuc	\$190	\$170	\$150
Single Starter Hive with five Frames of Bees	\$235	\$215	-

	1-9	10-24	25-99	100-up
Queens	\$29	\$26	\$24	\$23
Virgins	\$10	-	-	-

Queen Cells \$3

Notice of Proposed Change to the TBA Bylaws and Constitution

The Executive Committee plans ask the TBA membership to consider and approve a change to the current Bylaws and Constitution at the 2023 Annual Meeting to be held during the TBA Convention, November 2-4, 2023, in Temple, Texas. This notice is given pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws and Article VII of the Constitution.

The proposed change is to strike the position of Publications Director as an Officer and non-voting member of the Executive Committee. TBA will maintain a Publications Director position with similar duties, but without the responsibilities and liability of an officer of the corporation. If the change is approved, the officers of TBA will be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, which is the typical structure for most corporations.

The specific proposed changes are as follows:

TEXAS BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

ARTICLE II

OFFICERS

Section 1

The officers of this Association shall be: President, Vice President, Executive Secretary, and Treasurer, ~~and Publications Director~~. The President and Vice President shall be elected annually at the annual meeting of the Association. Eligibility for any office shall be restricted to those who paid dues during the current and previous year. In addition, the nominee for President or Vice President must have served a minimum of nine consecutive months as a member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Secretary, and the Treasurer ~~and the Publications Director~~ shall be appointed annually by the President and confirmed by the voting members of the Executive Committee. They shall be under the supervision of the Executive Committee.

Section 4 Duties of Officers

~~5. The Publications Director shall be responsible for the development and production of all publications of the Association. Duties will include publishing six issues of the Texas Beekeepers Association Journal annually; special newsletters as may be directed by the Executive Committee, special publications originated by the various committees and, in general, be the primary printed and electronic media person for the Association. Editorial duties will include the responsibility to edit articles and communications for appropriateness, length and bias to reflect the collective opinions and voice of the Association. Counsel of the President will be solicited for guidance. Publications will include information relative to the beekeeping industry-local, Texas and national. In support of the Publications Director, members of the Executive Committee will be scheduled to provide articles and reports to the membership for publication in the Journal.~~

ARTICLE IV EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1

The voting members of the Executive Committee shall consist of the President and the Vice President, Immediate Past President and six (6) Directors at Large. Non-voting members shall consist of the Executive Secretary, and the Treasurer ~~and the Publications Director~~. One or more of these non-voting offices may be held by one or more persons, so long as all the duties commonly incident to the separate offices are performed in a timely and satisfactory manner.

TEXAS BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

The officers of the Association shall be: President, Vice President, Executive Secretary, and Treasurer ~~and Publications Director~~.

TBA Bylaws and Constitution can be viewed at <https://texasbeekeepers.org/bylaws-and-constitution/>. If there are any questions with respect to the proposed changes, please contact Leesa Hyder, Executive Secretary at execsec@texasbeekeepers.org.

local clubs

TBA member clubs

Austin Area Beekeepers Association

Lester Wetherell - (512) 758-0818
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, TX 78753

Bastrop County Beekeepers Association

Joseph Hakkinen - (713) 408-1260
jwhakkinen@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1511905162469905/>
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm
Bastrop Fire Station #4 1432 North S.H. 95 Bastrop, TX 78602

Bees in the East Club

Mark de Kiewiet- (210) 863-8024
beesintheeast@att.net
Meetings 4th Saturday of each month at 10am
Water Garden Gems, 3230 Bolton Road, Marion,

Bell/Coryell Beekeepers Association

Nan Helmke (254) 289-5802
bellcoryellbeeclub@gmail.com
<http://www.bellcoryellbeeclub.org>
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month (except December) at Refuge Ministries, 2602 S. FM 116, Copperas Cove - 7pm

Big Country Beekeepers Association

Chrissy Ward (325) 665-4045
Chrissyward@gmail.com
Third Thursday of each month 6:30 - 8:00 PM
Ridgemont Baptist Church 4857 Buffalo Gap Road, Abilene

Blanco County Beekeepers Association

Teri Albright - (512) 636-9900
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

Lance Ladewig
ladewigle@gmail.com
www.brazoria-county-beekeepers-association.com
Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month
Brazoria County Extension Office, 21017 CR 171, Angleton @ 6:45 pm

Brazos Valley Beekeepers Association

Justin Russell - (979) 492-4114
info@bvbeeks.org
www.bvbeeks.org
Meetings: 3rd. Tuesday of each month (except Dec. at 6:30 pm)
Bryan High School, 3450 Campus Dr. Bryan from 6pm

Caddo Trace Beekeepers Association

Dale Vanhooose - (903) 573-6954
dcv836@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/818862742106557/>
Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month
Titus County Agrilife Ext. Bldg., 1708 Industrial Rd., Mount Pleasant at 7 pm

Central Texas Beekeepers Association

Karl Cottrell- (979) 645-0832
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

Keith Crow
Keithcrow2000@yahoo.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
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
Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm
316 Spring Street, Columbus

Comal County Beekeepers Association

James Cobarruvias (210) 858-9011
jcobarruvias@att.net

Concho Valley Beekeepers Association

Jeremy Granato (325) 227-7676

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 Angel

Deep East Texas Beekeepers Association

Ellen Reeder - (337) 499-6826

ellenswartz@sbcglobal.net

Not Currently Meeting

Denton County Beekeepers Association

Shane Jordan

board@dentonbees.com

www.dentonbees.com

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

Joseph A Carroll Bldg, 401 W. Hickory St, Denton

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

Jim Biles (281) 451-6069

www.etba.info

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

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

Whitehouse

Elm Fork Beekeepers Association

Tim Branam 903-814-6686

branam@verizon.net

http://www.elmforkbeekeepers.org

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

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

June, August, October and December at 5:30 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 Dec.) at 7:30 pm

Bud O'Shieles Community Center

1330 Band Rd, Rosenberg 77473

Kaufman Area Beekeepers Association

John Guthrie - (214) 686-8585

kaufmanbeekeepers@gmail.com

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

Kaufman United Methodist Church,

208 S Houston St, Kaufman

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

http://www.magnoliaswarm.org

Meetings: 1st Tuesday of the month

Various Locations (go to website)

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

Metro Beekeepers Association

Russ Killingsworth - (817) 751-9513

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

Montgomery County Beekeepers Assn.

Matt Thomas

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

contactnetba@gmail.com

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

Canton Baptist Church, 303 South Athens St.,

Canton, TX 75103

Pineywoods Beekeepers Association

Walter McLendon (936) 632-7099

wem@mail.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

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month (except December) at 7pm

Bolin Science Hall Room 209, Mid West State University,

310 Taft Blvd., Wichita Falls

local clubs

TBA member clubs

San Jacinto County Beekeepers

Andy Knight - (281) 305-4072
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
smabee wranglers@gmail.com
Meetings: 2nd Thursday, 7 pm to 9:15 pm

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

Walker County Area Beekeepers Assn.

Larry Fuchs - (936) 661-0633
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 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
Meetings: 1st Thursday of each month at 6 pm
Decatur Conference Center
2010 US-380, Decatur, TX

Wood County Beekeepers Association

Aubrie Jones
woodcountybeekeepers@gmail.com
Meetings: First Tuesday of every month at 7 pm
Winnsboro Civic Center, Hope Ln, Winnsboro

Please forward any changes or additions to
Leesa Hyder at execsec@texasbeekeepers.org
For Club Meeting info, view club location map
on texasbeekeepers.org

2023 TBA Journal Advertising Rates



6 issues for \$625 full page
6 issues for \$375 half page
6 issues for \$125 business card
\$125 full page single issue
\$75 for half page single issue
\$50 for quarter page single issue

email publications@texasbeekeepers.org to start
your ad in the next issue of the Journal

local clubs

TBA non-member clubs

The following Texas beekeeping clubs are not currently members of TBA but, as we gathered this information from reliable sources, we believe it is accurate.

Alamo Area Beekeepers Association
Rob Holliday
president@alamobees.org
www.alamobees.org

Caprock Beekeepers Association
Victoria Watts - (806) 392-2355
mystique175@att.net

Comal County Beekeepers Association
James Cobarruvias (210) 858-9011
jcobarruvias@att.net

Erath County Beekeepers Club

Fredricksburg Area Beekeepers Association

Harris County Beekeepers Association
Jim Orr - (713) 213-7080
rjfarmandapiary@gmail.com
www.harriscountybeekeepers.org

Hays County Beekeepers Association
Goergia Miguez(512) 827-6239
Hayscountyba@gmail.com

Heart of Texas Beekeepers Association
Gary Bowles (254) 214-4514
gm.bowles@yahoo.com

Henderson County Beekeepers Association
Elizabeth Hudson

Hopkins County Beekeepers Association
Jon Dalzell (214)395-1730
dalzelljon@aol.com

Houston Beekeepers Association
info@houstonbeekeepers.org
www.houstonbeekeepers.org

Hunt County Beekeepers Association
Jay Gilmer, BeeHappyBee@gmail.com

Jacksonville Area Beekeepers Association
jacksonvilleareabeekeepersassociation@gmail.com

Johnson County Beekeepers Association
Bruce Watts, Jr. - (817) 992-2294
bruce.jr@sbcglobal.net

Johnson County Beekeepers Association
Bruce Watts, Jr. (817) 992-2294
bruce.jr@sbcglobal.net

Lamar County Beekeepers Association
Kevin Young - (903) 715-0208
lamarcoba@gmail.com

Liberty County Beekeepers Association

Palo Duro Bee Club
Paige Nester (806)678-8048
nesterpaige@gmail.com

Rio Grande Valley Beekeepers Association

San Marcos Area Bee Wranglers
Gay Fraser (512) 264-2021
smabeevranglers@gmail.com

Texarkana Beekeepers Association
Sarah Clinesmith - (903) 277-2145
sarahaddie@aol.com

Texas Hill Country Beekeepers Association
Linda Williams - (830) 688-0560
texashillcountrybeekeepers@gmail.com
facebook.com/TXHillCountryBKAssn/

Tri County Beekeepers Association
David Huffman
huffmaninsurance@glade.net

Trinity Valley Beekeepers Association
Kirby Carmichael
tvbees.org

Tyler County Bee Club
Scott Martin - (409) 283-4507
tcbclub16@gmail.com

we need your

help

with the Journal

Do you want to help with this journal?

Contact Michelle Boerst

publications@texasbeekeepers.org

Help can include:

- Obtaining suitable articles
- Working with Adobe products to format articles
- Other editorial activities as needed

club info

changed?

New Officers for 2023?

Meeting time/location changed?

Send all club updates to Leesa Hyder at execsec@texasbeekeepers.org

join us or renew your

membership

www.texasbeekeepers.org

(Look for the Honey Locator and Events Calendar)

If you change your address or email, please contact Shirley Doggett

at membership@texasbeekeepers.org or call (512) 924-5051

directors

at-large

Director 1



Charles McMaster
charles.mcmaster@texasbeekeepers.org
(703) 624-1337

Director 2



Barbi Rose
barbi.rose@texasbeekeepers.org
(512) 799-0616

Director 3



Jake Moore
jake.moore@texasbeekeepers.org
(409) 790-5885

Director 4



Monica Siwiak
monica.siwiak@texasbeekeepers.org
(281) 627-7700

Director 5



Gary Barber
gary.barber@texasbeekeepers.org
(972) 768-5505

Director 6



Andy Knight
andy.knight@texasbeekeepers.org
(281) 305-4072

Texas Beekeepers Association

Michelle Boerst
409 S. Magnolia St.
Aubrey, TX 76227

publications@texasbeekeepers.org

Texas Beekeepers Association Officers - 2023

President

Dodie Stillman
president@texasbeekeepers.org
(512) 560-7550

Vice-President

Byron Compton
vp@texasbeekeepers.org
(512) 560-7550

Past President

Ashley Ralph
pastpresident@texasbeekeepers.org
(979) 777-2529

Executive Secretary

Leesa Hyder
execsec@texasbeekeepers.org
(281) 460-0344

Publications Director

Michelle Boerst
publications@texasbeekeepers.org
(940) 231-6831



Membership Director

Shirley Doggett
sdoggett@mindspring.com
400 County Road 440, Thrall, TX 76578
(512) 924-5051



Photo credits

Front cover: Kim Townsend

Rear cover: Michelle Boerst