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THE BEE LINE



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Set some aside

July: The homemaking month

Well, it's July, the month a swarm may not be worth a fly. But it is the month, in Oregon, at least, in which beekeepers can expect to make honey.

While your bees are busily gathering it, think about setting some honey aside for the fair.

We mean, particularly, the Oregon State Fair, Aug 26, to Sept. 4 at Salem. However, you should plan to exhibit at community and county fairs, too.

We don't have dates and entry information for those, but we do have a State Fair premium book. A copy can be obtained by writing Oregon State Fair, State Fairgrounds, Salem.

Marge Ehry of Dundee is serving as chairman for the association. She can use help and ideas to set up the exhibit; wants people to let her know if he or she or both can man the booth for a day, and of course, urges you to enter your products in the fair.

According to Marge, the fair board has announced several changes in how and what to enter. Some suggestions came from the association.

One of the changes is not listed in the fair book — and it is quite important. Extracted honey no longer can be exhibited in two-pound jars. Entries must be in three one-pound jars.

One good reason for doing this is that the same honey can be entered in the National Honey Show sponsored by the American Beekeeping Federation.

Another change is in beeswax. You no longer have to come up with 10 pounds. Five or more pounds will do, but it must be at least five.

Honey vinegar and honey butter are no longer eligible, but honeymead has been added. Also, chunk honey and creamed honey should be exhibited in wide-mouth pint jars.

The new Family Apiary classification is based on the Family Farm exhibit. It is designed for the backyard or part-time beekeeper and should give the family who keeps bees an opportunity to show off their products and creativity.

The exhibit must show three main exhibits from an apiary — extracted honey, comb honey

and beeswax, with a minimum of 12 pounds total products.

The design may include tools used in beekeeping, honey and products of the honeybee. Varieties in texture, shapes, forms and color can add interest.

An enticement may be a \$20 prize offered to the winner. The beekeepers association offers a rotating trophy to the sweepstakes winner. The fair gives the same winner a rosette.

Prize money ranges from \$3 for a third award to \$7 for a first. Sweepstakes is based on points, five for a first, three for a second and one for a third.

Entrants should return entry forms to the state fair office by Aug. 15. Entries must be taken to the fair between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Aug. 25.

If you live a distance from the fair, you may want to ship your honey in advance, or get together with another beekeeper.

Anyone who can help Marge or wants to sit with the booth can contact her at P. O. Box 112, Dundee, 97115 or phone 538-4289.

—Connie Petty

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

More picnics . . .

Portland beekeepers meet at 1 p.m. July 16 at Blue Lake.

Mid-Willamette Beekeepers hold the annual picnic at 6 p.m. July 21 at Gateway Park in Salem.

Picnic time again

Oregon State Beekeepers Association will picnic at 1 p.m. Sunday, August 13 at Sarah Helmick State Park, just off Highway 99W, about six miles south of Monmouth and north of Corvallis.

This is a lovely, wooded park with green lawn. The Luckimute River runs through the park, but picnic areas are not too close. Swimming is possible, depending upon the weather.

Bernice and Bill Palmer have agreed to go early and set up the tables and stay with them.

The meal will be served potluck style. Bring food to share - a hot dish and a cold dish and a beverage and your own table cloth, table service and lawn chairs (optional). Ice cream will be provided by the association.

This is our social meeting of the year. There will be some business, but it should be brief to allow everyone a chance to have a good time. Bee talk, of course, is part of that good time.

Fall conference

Mark the dates, if you haven't: Pacific Northwest Beekeepers annual fall conference, Oct. 19 to 21, Oregon State University in Corvallis.

The school is expected to attract beekeepers from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and British Columbia, and perhaps, our

Pesticide hearing pending

The state association has petitioned the Oregon Department of Agriculture for restriction in the use of encapsulated pesticides (i.e. Pennacap M.). Washington passed a similar regulation last year and many feel these restrictions prevented bee losses.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture will hold a formal public hearing on this request. No date has been set as yet, but the hearing will probably take place during the next month.

According to Michael Burgett, beekeeping specialist at Oregon State University, the encapsulated pesticides now on the market are extremely hazardous to honeybees. To assist in receiving a favorable ruling, as many beekeepers as possible should plan on attending this meeting.

Somehow - you will be notified of this meeting, either by letter or, if the date is not known soon enough, as many as possible will be contacted by phone.

How to solve the pesticide problem:

Register your colonies with the Oregon Department of Agriculture in Salem, as required by law. Also register your apiary locations with the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service office (ASCS) in your area. This federal agency is handling the voluntary registration and notification program.

1. If sprayed contact your local county extension office. Although the county agent has no regulatory function, beekeepers are an important part of agriculture and the agents should know of agriculture problems in their respective areas.

2. Contact the plant division of the department of agriculture. This branch is charged with pesticide regulation. The inspection service is not responsible for the investigation of pesticide damages. From the plant division, request the form "Report of Alleged Loss Out of Use of Insecticides, Herbicides, Fungicides and Other Pesticides." The division then will conduct an investigation. The investigation cannot fix the blame, but the report they provide can be very useful.

3. Contact the person or agency who applied the pesticide. Determine what pesticide(s) was used and what was the pest insect being controlled and on what crop.

Supplied by M. Burgett, OSU

neighbors to the south.

Beekeeping specialists and leaders from throughout the U. S. and Canada will conduct sessions.

The OSU extension service will handle registration. More news in the July newsletter.

Mid-Columbia beekeepers

Mid-Columbia Beekeepers meet the first Monday each month at Wahntonka High School in The Dalles. Dennis Radford is president; Orman Gildow, vice president, and Joy Slaughter, secretary-treasurer.



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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
(Includes subscription to The Bee Line)

Send to: Oregon State Beekeepers Association
1033 Gibson Hill Road
Albany, Oregon 97321

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Phone _____

Type of membership _____ No. of colonies _____

American Beekeeping Federation (optional) _____

Dues: 0 to 5 colonies, \$5; 6 to 24, \$10; 25 to 99, \$15; 100 to 299, \$20; 300 to 499, \$25; 500 or more, \$30.

Affiliate members: Commercial, \$25; individual, \$5, youth, \$3.

American Beekeeping Federation:

0 to 199 colonies, \$10; 200 or more, 5 cents per colony.

Pollination: Sign a contract!

If you recall, the last Bee Line requested beekeepers share their rates, information, policies, etc. concerning pollination practices.

The only response came from Dirk Olsen, 250 Ewald Ave. S.E., Salem, 97302. Olsen also sent a copy of the contract he has clients sign:

First, I require the grower to complete the contract. I have used this contract dozens of times and have yet to have a grower refuse to sign it or have the least bit of reluctance to do so. It protects both the beekeeper and the grower.

For the past two years, I have received \$12 per hive for fruit and \$15 a hive for everything else. Next year I plan on at least a \$3 per hive increase on all rentals.

Many beemen, I feel, are slitting their own throats by trying to drum up business for themselves by lowering their pollination fees. This just hurts everybody. To survive as an industry, we must charge adequately for our services and unite together.

—Dirk Olsen

The following requirements appear in Olsen's contract:

1. The beekeeper agrees to place (number) of grade A bees on the grower's property and to manage the bees while there.
2. Dates of placement and removal are given.
3. The grower agrees not to allow any pesticides harmful to bees be used unless 48 hours' notice is given the beekeeper. The grower also names the pesticide to be used.
4. The grower agrees to pay \$100 per hive for a total kill of a hive. If the kill is less, the grower will pay a percentage.
5. If the beekeeper moves the bees because of the use of pesticides or at the request of the grower, a \$4 fee per beehive is paid the beekeeper in addition to the rental fee.
6. The contract also lists the fee and a payment schedule.

**Deadline for
information for
July newsletter
is July 15th**

If you read nothing about your branch association in this newsletter, it may be that no news is good news. However, the true story is that we did not receive news.

We know groups are having interesting meetings and have news to share. But so far, I have not found a way to convince people to share that news.

I believe the newsletter can be a means of communication between the branch organizations. But it is up to the individual group and members to keep in touch. Long distance phone calls to obtain such information are prohibitive.

I do plan to send a form letter to secretaries again. Last year that brought two responses from two groups, however.

Deadline for the next newsletter will be July 15. Send news to The Bee Line, 1033 Gibson Hill Road, Albany, Ore. 97321.

First meeting

The year-old Western Apiculture Society meets Aug. 21 to 25 at the University of California at Davis. Make reservations with Dr. Norman Gary, Department of Entomology at the Davis campus, 95616.

HONEY COOKING TIPS

Two tablespoons of honey added to your favorite cake mix will make the cake wonderfully tender and less crumbly. (For best results, add the honey in a fine stream to the batter as you beat.)

When using honey in cooking, moisten the measuring spoon or cup first with water or oil, then measure the honey. This will eliminate sticking.

◆ ◆ ◆
Foods sweetened with honey will have a better flavor if kept until the day after baking before serving.

◆ ◆ ◆
Store honey at room temperature, not in the refrigerator. Keep container closed and in a dry place.

Cappings

Heins Oregon Trail Honey is packing more than honey these days.

Rich Heins, son of Paul and grandson of the late Ralph Heins, founder of the honey packing business in Albany, and Kenneth Ramsey of Brooks, have joined hands to form "Heins Oregon Trail Bee Supplies."

The firm offers a full line of bee supplies at 2100 S. Jackson St., Albany, Oregon.

We receive several exchange newsletters and share the news:

Ohio State Beekeepers Association is hosting the Eastern Apiculture Society Aug. 9-12 at Wooster.

Such a varied meeting is planned: Square dancing, singing, organ recital, slide shows, movies, workshops on installing package bees, making candles and inspection and identification of bee diseases.

No details are given, but Lebanon, Ohio holds its annual Ohio Honey Festival Sept. 7 to 9. Sounds like a sweet one.

If you're tempted, we have a registration form, or write, Ohio State Beekeepers Assn., Box 479, 35 E. Chestnut St., Columbus 43216.

Mt. Bakers Beekeepers Association will hold the annual

picnic July 12 at Donavan County Park on old Highway 99 near Alger, in Washington.

Don't know if it is a new organization or exactly what it offers, but invitations are being circulated by the North American Beekeepers Association with headquarters in Dearborn, Mich.

Membership dues for the remainder of the year are \$1. Membership is open to professional, part-time beekeepers, honey producers, queen breeders, etc.

The organization offers a newsletter, a stronger voice in legislative matters and members are promised a 10 per cent discount on supplies.

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