MARYLAND STATE BEEKEEPER'S ASSOCIATION

THE BEELINE

Founded 1908

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President's Message

by David G. Smith

Perhaps the most disturbing event for Maryland beekeeping in the past year was the loss of about half of our colonies during the past winter (as announced by the State Bee Inspector). Some individuals attributed the cause to the cold winter temperatures. That might suggest that in Canada they lose many more of their colonies each winter, considering how much colder it is during their winters. However, I would tend to disagree with the "cold winter theory" as the primary cause. Could it be that Maryland beekeepers are doing something wrong, or something insufficient, in the management of their colonies? For example, have you read Steve Sheppard's article on page 15 of the September 2004 issue of *Bee Culture*? If not, please grab your (or a friend's) copy and read it carefully. He presents some interesting information on the impact of mite infestation and the effect on colony health - especially winter survival. Also, I would ask that you commit to a management approach that will result in greater survival, recognizing that a number of our beekeepers do not lose any of their colonies during the winters.

At a recent EAS meeting, Dr. Otis of the University of Guelph commented on the three "pillars" to successful beekeeping: proper hive management, good locations that provide abundant nectar and pollen and **good quality queens**. In a similar fashion, George Imirie recently commented that he is "reminded of Dr. Hambleton's teaching where he said: "FORGET THE SUPERS, examine only the brood chamber where all the good and the bad are created, and if your skill and knowledge of bees can properly MANAGE your brood chamber, the SUPERS and honey production will "take care of themselves". Accordingly, our speakers at the November meeting will address several aspects of queen quality as they relate to the health of a colony and its survival traits. Dr. David Tarpy is Assistant Professor and Extension Apiculturist at NC State University. His experience at the University of California, Davis, and later at Cornell has provided him with a wealth of knowledge that he will share with you as he talks about "The Connection Between Queen Mating and Colony Disease Resistance." Dr. Tarpy is a very capable speaker and this is a "must hear" presentation.

Since many of you have opted to start using Russian queens in an effort to achieve mite resistance for your colonies, Charlie Harper will be talking to us about the unique characteristics of the Russian breed and some of the management techniques appropriate for Russian bees. Mr. Harper has been involved in several Russian bee research projects with the USDA Bee Lab in Baton Rouge, LA. With his experience in managing almost 1,000 colonies he should be able to answer all of your questions.

Cont. on p. 10.

MSBA Fall Meeting, Elections
&
Annual Honey Show

November 13, 2004

Maryland Department of Agriculture,
Annapolis, MD

Program information

News from the Apiary Inspection Office

By Jerry E. Fischer, Office of Apiary Inspection, Maryland Department of Agriculture

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APIARY INSPECTION: This year to date, there are 957 registered beekeepers, with 7,771 colonies in 1311 apiaries. Not in the total are 320 beekeepers with approx. 539 colonies that have not re-registered for the year 2004. To date, Apiary Inspectors have inspected 3,105 colonies in 539 apiaries. AFB has been diagnosed in 46 colonies of 30 apiaries. This is a percentage of **only** 1.4% per colonies inspected. The Apiary Inspections primary goal (controlling AFB) is to examine 1/3 of the colonies each year. The above numbers show that this goal has been achieved with inspections still to do this year. There were two additional contractual inspectors hired this year, which accounts for the increase of inspections to date. It is still recommended that beekeepers inspect their colonies spring and fall. For apiary inspection request, contact State Apiary Inspection Office. Phone: 410-841-5920.

COLONY CONDITIONS; With the high percentage of colonies lost this past winter (due to starvation), beekeepers have brought our numbers up to par with packages, nuc's and swarms. It has been reported the surviving colonies produced record amounts of honey this season. With the earlier than normal regular nectar flow, packages purchased this spring were not able to take advantage of this crop. Also reported was a good flow well after the Black Locust & Tulip Poplar. One of our best honey yields for many years. Swarming was above normal this past May and June. Many indicating swarms from new, just introduced packages. Good rain falls and floral sources, indicated that our fall honey should help our colonies build up a heavy surplus stores for winter. Check colonies, and, if there are inadequate stores, feed till you have at least 60 # for winter.

VARROA & TRACHEAL MITES: The two mites are still a concern for our colonies. Inspections show that Varroa mite infestations have been low. This is no indication of your infestation level. Regular surveys are recommended to determine if treatment is necessary. Controls are available through your supply dealers. It is also recommended to use the controls as per label. The MDA has received approval (for your use) for CheckMite+ and API LIFE VAR, under SPECIAL EXEMPTION (Section 18). This will be renewed in year 2005.

SMALL HIVE BEETLE: The small hive beetle (SHB) was detected in packages this past year. There have not been any reports of larvae or damage to the established colony. If during your routine inspection, you detect SHB, contact the Apiary Inspection Office.

ETO- FUMIGATION: The Maryland Department of Agriculture will be operating its fumigation chamber during the coming winter months. The fumigation chamber is used to decontaminate beekeeping equipment that is confirmed or suspect to be infested with AFB. It is recommended that all equipment, confirmed or suspected of AFB, or of unknown origin be treated with ETO prior to use. To request service, contact Apiary Inspection Office: Jerry Fischer 410-841-5920

INSPECTION ENHANCEMENT FUND; $4,449.00 was contributed from 163 persons and Bee Associations. This played a roll in the additional contractual inspectors that were hired. These contributions are greatly appreciated.

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Saving Bees: Fungus Found To Attack *Varroa* Mites

Since 2000, scientists in the ARS Beneficial Insects Research Unit (BIRU) at Weslaco, Texas have been looking for a disease-causing agent, or pathogen, that can stop *Varroa* mites. The mite has developed resistance to the only approved chemicals—fluvalinate and coumaphos—now used for control, and coumaphos is on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "hit list" for possible removal from the market. So the researchers have looked at various disease agents, tried different dosages and application methods, and conducted toxicity tests. Finally, they selected a strain of the fungus *Metarhizium anisopliae* that was highly pathogenic to *Varroa* mites. This potent fungus, which also kills termites, doesn't harm bees or affect their queen's production. To test it, the scientists coated plastic strips with dry fungal spores and placed them inside the hives. Since bees naturally attack anything entering their hives, they tried to chew up the strips, spreading the spores throughout the colony.

In field trials, once the strips were inside the hives, several bees quickly made contact with the spores. Within 5 to 10 minutes, all the bees in the hive were exposed to the fungus, and most of the mites on them died within 3 to 5 days. The fungus provided excellent control of *Varroa* without impeding colony development or population size.

"We tried to find a pathogen of *Varroa*, and we did it!" says ARS entomologist Walker A. Jones, research leader of the BIRU. Tests showed that *Metarhizium* was as effective as fluvalinate, even 42 days after application. "Commercial beekeepers are very edgy about using fluvalinate and coumaphos and are eager to see this natural control get to market," Jones says.

This research was begun by Rosalind James, formerly with the Weslaco unit. Lambert H.B. Kanga, former BIRU research associate and now chair of the Entomology Department at Florida A&M University at Tallahassee, continues to collaborate on the project. "While *Metarhizium* doesn't kill as fast as fluvalinate and coumaphos, the result is the same," Kanga says. "*Metarhizium* gets the job done, and we won't have to worry about *Varroa* becoming resistant to the fungus."

The scientific team is now fine-tuning the strategy for transfer to producers. —By **Alfredo Flores,** Agricultural Research Service Information Staff.

Reprinted in part from the ARS website.

George Imirie on Medication Timing

The TIME that you install either Apistan of Checkmite to kill Varroa mites is CRITICAL if you expect to get a good treatment! I cannot OVER-EMPHASIZE that fact! Why? The ONLY place that a female varroa mite lays eggs to produce more varroa mites is in a honeybee LARVAL cell just a few hours before that cell is capped by the bees for that bee larva to become a pupae and emerge as a worker bee 12 days later..

That last sentence is the most important sentence in this letter. If the queen bee has dramatically reduced her laying, or STOPPED laying, there are very few bee larvae or NO bee larvae present, and hence the female Varroa mite has No place to lay Varroa eggs!

In our Central Maryland area, most queen bee egg laying is either dramatically diminished or over before November 1st. Hence, if you install Apistan of Checkmite on October 1st - October 15th, follow the written directions of leaving the strips in place for 6 weeks but never longer than 8 weeks (which will create RESISTANT mites), your colonies will enter December with essentially zero mite population, and generally you will not have to treat again until NEXT October.

This means that you must remove those strips after 6-8 weeks which will be sometime between Nov 15th and Dec 15th. So many people pay no attention to proper TIMING, and install mite strips at their convenience in September, and then wonder why they find Varroa mites on their bees next spring or next July, and treat them again. To be successful, you must learn to do things at the PROPER time, not at a time that is CONVIENT TO YOU.

Excerpts from George Imire's July 2004 letter referenced in the Midnite Bee website Articles menu.

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Mark your calendars:

COMING EVENTS

The following events were announced at the MSBA Board meeting. Details will be announced when they are finalized. Please note that the dates may be tentative and subject to confirmation of location approvals:

13 Nov 2004 - MSBA Fall Meeting
MDA, Annapolis

19 Feb 2005 - MSBA Winter Meeting
Howard Co. Fairgrounds

Upcoming Local/ National / International Meetings:

American Beekeeping Federation's 2005 Convention
Jan 12-15, 2005 Reno NV

EAS 2005
Aug 1-5, 2005 Kent State University

Apimondia 2005 Conference
Aug 21 - 26, 2005 Dublin Ireland

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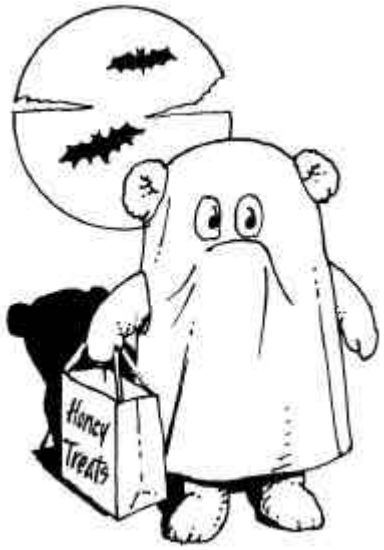
Fall Meeting

Lunch / Refreshments

Refreshments will be provided during Breaks at the Fall Meeting.

A lunch menu will again be available, providing sandwiches & lunch items for purchase. MSBA is negotiating with a local vendor to provide this service. Please be sure to ask about this service immediately upon your arrival to the meeting as there will be a mid morning cut-off for ordering.

There will not be a Pot Luck dinner this year.



MSBA FALL MEETING
November 13, 2004

7:30–9 Honey Show Entries are accepted

8:30 Coffee & Donuts

9:00 Presidents Message

9:10 MSBA Business – Election, Treasurers Report, Directors Report

9:30 Charlie Harper - History of Russian Bee Program & Russian Queen Breeding Operation

10:20 Break

10:30 Dr. David Tarpy – Queen Mating & Disease Resistance

11:30 Lunch

12:30 MSBA Awards

12:45 Jerry Fischer – Maryland State Bee Inspector Report

1:00 Charlie Harper - Management of Russian Colonies

1:50 Break

2:00 Dr. David Tarpy – The Basics of Bee Anatomy (and why beekeepers should know it)

3:00 Announce Honey Show Results & adjourn to the Honey Show area

4:00 Honey Show Entries are released

Meeting Location:

MD Department of Agriculture
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401

Directions:

Route 50 to Annapolis, Take either Rt 450 (West St) or Rt 665 (Aris T. Allen Blvd) south to Riva Road, then west on Riva Rd to Harry S. Truman Pkwy. Right on H.S.Truman Pkwy to MDA.

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Annual Honey and Honey Cookery Show Rules and Premium List

General Rules

1) Entries will be accepted at 50 Harry S. Truman Pkwy, Annapolis, Md., from 7:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. on the day of the show, Nov. 13, 2004. Entries must remain in place until released by the show chairman.

2) Entries will be accepted from anyone attending the MSBA meeting (MSBA members and non-members). Entries from exhibitors not present at the MSBA meeting (entries brought to the show by someone else) will only be accepted if the exhibitor is a MSBA member.

3) Only one entry will be allowed in each class from any household, partnership or beekeeping establishment.

4) The exhibitor will select the class for his/her entry. (Assistance will be provided in selecting the correct class when making entries). The chairman of the show reserves the right to make a final determination and change, if necessary, entry classes. Classification of sweet and dry mead may be changed by judges (correct classification may be determined by chemical tests after the bottles of mead are opened).

5) No exhibitor's name or label will be allowed on any entry except in designated classes.

6) The decisions of judges are final. Judges may withhold prizes for insufficient merit or award a lower prize at their discretion. Entries that do not comply with the rules or class description may be disqualified.

7) The show chairman reserves the right to adjust any class and/or premiums offered. (For example: if sufficient entries are made for one stated color class for extracted honey to create two color classes, then two separate classes would be created with appropriate ribbons and cash awards).

8) Competition between local bee clubs is encouraged. An award will be presented to the local bee association who's members earn the highest number of points based on the number of quality products entered in the show. The following point system will be used: 1st prize - 3 points, 2nd prize - 2 points, 3rd prize - 1 point. If clubs are tied, the 1st place winner will be the club with the most 1st place awards in the show. If a tie still exists, the club with the most exhibits in the show will win.

Premium List

Individual Classes: Ribbon and Cash Award
Division Champion: Ribbon and Cash Award
Best in Show: John V. Lindner Award
Best Club Showing: I. Barton Smith Award

Premium Cash Awards:

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
$12	9	6	4	2

Division I HIVE PRODUCTS

9) All entries must be the product of the exhibitor's bees and have been produced within a 12 month period prior to entry.

10) All honey exhibited must have been gathered and ripened in a natural way by honey bees.

11) An entry consists of 1 jar, container, frame, block, etc.

12) All extracted, chunk and finely granulated honey, and pollen pellets must be exhibited in 1 lb. glass or clear plastic jars, except Class 1. Beekeepers entering the first time in class 1 only may exhibit honey in 1 pint glass canning jars or 1 lb. glass or plastic honey jars.

PREMIUMS

Beekeepers entering for the first time

Class 1 - Extracted Honey

Beekeepers with 10 colonies or less

Class 2 - Extracted Honey - Water White thru Extra Lt.
Class 3 - Extracted Honey - Lt. Amber
Class 4 - Extracted Honey – Amber thru Dark Amber
Class 5 - Extracted Honey - Dark

Beekeepers with 11 colonies or more

Class 6 - Extracted Honey - Water White thru Extra Lt.
Class 7 - Extracted Honey – Lt. Amber thru Amber
Class 8 - Extracted Honey – Amber thru Dark Amber
Class 9 - Extracted Honey - Dark

Open to all

Class 10 - Comb Honey - Square Section
Class 11 - Comb Honey - Round Section
Class 12 - Cut Comb Honey in clear plastic box
Class 13 - Chunk Honey in wide mouth 1 lb. Jar
Class 14 - Finely Granulated Honey in regular or wide- mouth 1 lb. jar
Class 15 - One Shallow or Full Depth Frame Honey - must be protected with plastic wrap or suitable container
Class 16 - Beeswax Block 2 lbs. minimum
Class 17 - Dry Pollen Pellets in 1 lb. honey jar

Division Champion: Ribbon $10
Division I Total: $571.00

Division II ARTS AND CRAFTS

13) All entries must have been made or produced by the exhibitor.

14) Label for Honey Container - One marketable container of honey, any size, any form, WITH LABEL designed by the exhibitor and affixed to the container. The container, unless opaque, must contain honey. Commercial stock labels are prohibited. Apiary and/or exhibitor name is permitted on the label.

15) Creative or artistic endeavor in Class 23 must prominently feature the honey bee, beekeeping or pollination. (Formerly the "Presidents Prize")

16) Photography - A single black and white OR color print 5" x 7" minimum, suitably framed or mounted, pertaining to beekeeping.

17) Equipment or Gadget - Any original tool or equipment useful in beekeeping. A written description giving details of construction, materials, cost and labor MUST ACCOMPANY THE ENTRY.

18) Honey Wine - Entries must be a least 12 months old and shall be exhibited in unlabeled standard 750 ml. or "fifth" wine bottles. Exhibitor must state whether entry is straight (honey-and-water "must" only) or augmented (honey-and water "must" plus fruit juices, herbs, spices, etc.) Allowed ingredients in all classes - sulfiting, yeast nutrients/energizers, tannin, citric acid or acid blends.

19) Gift arrangements/packs must include one or more products of the hive but may also include other items that enhance the appeal or promote the use of hive products. Personal gift arrangements should be suitable for personal gift use regardless of commercial applications, and should be in a box, basket or other suitable container. Mailable gift packs should be suitable for commercial applications and will be judged on mailability.

PREMIUMS

- Four Molded Beeswax Candles
- Four Dipped Beeswax Candles
- Four Rolled Beeswax Candles
- Artistic Beeswax - candles, figurines or other forms, at least 1½ lbs.
- Label for Honey Container
- Artistic creation or Craft featuring the honey bee, beekeeping or pollination.
- Photography
- Equipment or Gadget
- Honey Wine - Sweet Mead, one bottle
- Honey Wine - Dry Mead, one bottle

PREMIUMS

- Honey Wine - Augmented Mead, one bottle
- Personal Gift Arrangement of honey bee products
- Mailable Gift Pack of Honey Bee Products

Division II Champion: Ribbon $10
Division II Total: $439.00

Division III YOUTH DIVISION

PREMIUMS

Exhibitors age 18 or under

- Extracted Honey (As in Div. I)
- Bee Crafts (As in Div. II)
- Honey Cookery (As in Div. IV)

Division III Champion: Ribbon $15

Division III Total: $81.00

Division IV HONEY COOKERY

20) Entries in all classes must use honey as the majority sweetener with the following exceptions: frostings, fillings, glazes, dusts and meringue may contain up to 100% sugar. Honey used in entries does not need to have been produced by the exhibitor. Non-beekeepers are encouraged to enter honey cookery..

21) Mixes and packaged prepared foods are not permitted.

22) Each honey cookery entry must be accompanied by TWO copies of the recipe for the entry. The ingredients in the entry must match the recipe. Recipes must not contain the exhibitor's name or other personal identification. Please identify the origin of the recipe (e.g. "personal", "National Honey Board")

23) Plates and protective covers must be supplied by the exhibitor.

PREMIUMS

- Cake - One unsliced cake that may be unfrosted, frosted, filled, glazed or dusted.
- Cookies - 12 drop, refrigerator, rolled or filled cookies that may be unfrosted, frosted, glazed or dusted.

- Cookies - 12 bar or sheet cookies (brownies, date
- bars, baked granola, etc.). May be unfrosted, frosted, glazed or dusted.
- Pie - One unsliced pie.
- Candy - 12 pieces. May be cooked, uncooked, or may be candied peels and candied fruits.
- Yeast Bread (Non Sweet) - One unsliced loaf or 9 rolls.
- Yeast Bread (Sweet) - One unsliced loaf, coffee cake, tea ring, or 6 Danish or sweet rolls.
- Quick Bread (Sweet) - One unsliced loaf. Examples are: banana bread, nut bread, etc.
- Quick Bread (Other) - One unsliced coffee cake, tea ring, 6 doughnuts or 6 muffins.
- Jellies, Jams, Preserves or Conserves - 1/2 pint or 1 pint in a jar, sealed with lid or paraffin.
- Condiments, Salad Dressings, Barbecue Sauces - One half-pint or one pint in glass jar. Examples are: catsup, pickles or relishes.
- Any other entry - honey cookery

Division Champion: Ribbon $10
Division IV Total: $406.00

Grand Total: $1,497.00

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NOTICE

Entries for the Honey Show must be received before 9am on the day of the meeting, Saturday, November 13, 2004.

Entries for the Honey Cookery category must use honey for the majority sweetener – see the above rules for exceptions . None-Beekeepers are encouraged to participate in this category.

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Recipes from the Central Beekeepers Alliance, New Brunswick, Canada:

Baked Rice Pudding

1/3 cup rice
5 cups milk
1/3 cup honey
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. nutmeg
3/4 cup raisins

Place rice, milk, honey, salt and nutmeg in a covered dish and bake in slow oven (300°F) for 1 1/2 hours. Stir pudding every 20 minutes to prevent rice from settling. Add raisins and bake a half-hour longer without stirring.

For a richer pudding, add 1 or 2 eggs (well beaten) with the raisins.

Elinor Campbell
Chipman, NB

Honey Pineapple Bread

3 cups flour
3 tsp. baking powder
3/4 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. salt
1/2 cup white sugar
3 eggs
1/2 cup liquid honey
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1 10-oz can crushed pineapple, drained
1/3 cup water
1 tsp. vanilla
3/4 cup chopped walnuts

Bake in 9x5x3-loaf pan in 350°F oven for about an hour, then reduce heat to 325°F for another 15 minutes or until done.

Cool before removing from pan.

Mae Richards
Rusagonis, NB

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***Speaker for the Fall MSBA Meeting*:**

Dr. David R. Tarpy

Perhaps it was Sigmund Freud who once said that there are two important things in life: love and work. Some of us are blessed with having them be one in the same.

Although Dr. Tarpy has been working with bees for over ten years, he has been interested in biology for far longer (an interest that was cultivated while growing up in rural Pennsylvania). Having obtained his bachelors degree in biology at Hobart College, he decided to work with Dr. David Fletcher at Bucknell University, where he received his Master's degree in Biology. This decision was prompted by his fortuitous readings of several texts on bee biology and apiculture, and it was then that he realized he wanted to do nothing else for his career. Dr. Fletcher is a South African transplant who had come to the United States to help with the Africanized bee "crisis" in the late 1970's. He helped Dr. Tarpy learn not only to appreciate honey bees as a biologist, but also to realize their importance to agriculture and society, and therefore the need to address many issues that concern the apiculture community.

In 1995, Dr. Tarpy moved on to the University of California at Davis under the guidance of Dr. Rob Page, who many may recognize as the leading authority on honey bee behavioral genetics. It was there that he honed his scientific skills, particularly in areas of honey bee management, bee breeding, and other genetic techniques - receiving his Doctorate in Entomology. His experience there enabled his to addresses a wide variety of issues in honey bee science, including pollination, queen rearing and breeding, and pest management.

For the last three years, he worked for his Postdoc at Cornell University with Dr. Thomas Seeley. His research at Cornell focused on the benefits of multiple mating by queen bees. In particular, he tested how queens that are mated with many drones produce colonies that are less susceptible to chalkbrood infections. A USDA grant was recently awarded to continue this collaboration for the next few years, testing the potential benefits of mating number on, among other things, AFB and parasitic mites.

Most of Dr. Tarpy's previous research has focused on various aspects of queen bee biology, especially concerning the functionality of their many fascinating behaviors. He has published papers on how colonies rear emergency queen cells, how virgin queens kill each other during the requeening process (including spraying fecal matter at each other!), and how queens fly from the hive to mate with many males. Many of these issues have significant, practical implications to honey bee management. As such, his future research will attempt to address important questions in apiculture with the goal to help produce healthy, high-quality queens and colonies.

Dr. Tarpy is now Assistant Professor and Extension Apiculturist at NC State University. The Entomology department and the College of Agriculture and Life Science at NCSU have significantly re-invested in the Apiculture program. The new on-campus facility is located in Gardner Hall, the main building of the department. This five room, 850 square-foot space will house several offices and a genetics lab. The new off-campus facility, a 4000 square-foot house that was recently donated to the university, is located only a few miles south of campus on the Lake Wheeler Experimental Farm. The building includes several laboratories and offices, a large conference room in which to hold beekeeping workshops (a fundamental component of my extension program), and a public library/display room dedicated to honey bee literature and paraphernalia.

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It's all the Buzz!

WANTED: POLLINATION
Delaware is in need of more beekeepers interested in providing pollination services for their crops. Any beekeepers interested should contact the DE State Inspector, Robert Mitchell, at Robert.Mitchell@state.de.us

SILENT AUCTION
During the Fall Meeting on November 13, don't forget to check the silent auction. A couple of rather interesting items will be auctioned off to the highest bidders. Proceeds will be donated to the Inspection Enhancement Fund to support the Maryland inspection program. Thus, the price paid for the items will be Tax Deductible - **so bid high**!

FREE TRAVEL
Interested in a paid trip to West Africa? Opportunities Industrialization Centers International (OIC) of Philadelphia is looking for volunteers to travel to the countries of Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal to provide advice to their beekeeping industry. OIC is a nonprofit organization that serves to improve the quality of life of low-income, disadvantaged individuals by providing training and technical assistance. OIC pays for international travel, in-country transportation, health insurance and pre-departure costs. The minimum time of service in-country is 15 days. Any beekeeper interested in providing training in Africa should contact David Smith at 410-556-6222.

FORMIC ACID PAD REGISTRATION BEING PROCESSED
According to the Speedy Bee, NOD Apiary Products Ltd. (http://www.miteaway.com/) of Stirling, Ontario, is pursuing registration of its formic acid mite treatment, Mite-Away II Single Application Formic Acid Pad. The firm's registration application has been accepted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and is working its way through the regulatory process

DO YOU REALIZE?
While a one-year membership to MSBA costs you $10, if you mention your membership when subscribing to *American Bee Journal*, your two-year subscription cost is reduced from $43.65 to $32.75, **a savings of $10.90!** What a deal!!
If you want a subscription to *Bee Culture*, the one-year, regular subscription cost is reduced from $21.50 to $17.00, and the two-year subscription cost is reduced from $41 to $32.00 - a savings of $4.50 or $9.00 respectively.
So, if you are a member of MSBA, be certain to take advantage of the offer - **AND** find a local beekeeper that is not a member and encourage him/her to join MSBA.

CUT DOWN ON SNAIL MAIL — SIGN UP FOR BEE-MAIL!

The National Honey Board's new electronic newsletter will provide you with up-to-date information on everything from market opportunities to industry data.

Simply send an e-mail with your name, company name and address to honeybuzz@nhb.org. You'll begin receiving regular Bee-Mails within a month.

Come out of your shell and see how easy it is to get information online with Bee-Mail! *It's all the Buzz!*

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Presidents Message: *(cont. from p.1.)*

Both of these speakers will be providing considerable information that should assist you managing your colonies for winter survival and better honey production.

In late September, your Executive Board met to discuss a number of issues relating to MSBA. Among those issues was the plan to develop a course on Advanced Beekeeping. Although the content of the course will focus on many of the subjects related to an individual being certified as a Master Beekeeper, other subjects will address the specific needs of Maryland beekeepers. You are encouraged to send me an e-mail/letter expressing your desires/comments on such a course.

Finally, with Christmas approaching I would remind all members of the opportunity to contribute a colony of bees to aid depressed areas of the world. HEIFER International will accept your donation and in exchange will provide a colony to a needy family. You can contact them at www.heifer.org or (800) 422-0474.

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Speaker for the Fall MSBA Meeting:

Charles Harper

Charles Harper, born in Lafayette, LA, began his beekeeping career in the 1970's when he inherited a couple of hives from his paternal grandfather. He gradually built up his colonies, quit his full time job at a power plant, and became a full-time beekeeper, operating approximately 1000 colonies. In the late 1990's, Charlie became involved in the Russian bee project. He has participated in several Russian bee research projects with the USDA Bee Lab in Baton Rouge. In 2003, he became the CRADA holder for the production of Russian breeder queens and has given several talks on this subject at various beekeeper conferences, one of them in New Zealand, another at the American Honey Producers conference in 2004.

Charlie is also vice-president of the Louisiana Beekeepers Assn. and the president of the Acadiana Beekeepers Assn.

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EAS 2004 Hambleton Award

Each year the Eastern Apicultural Society presents the James I. Hambleton Memorial Award to recognize research excellence in apiculture. This year's award recognized the accomplishments of **Dr. Jeffrey Pettis** of the Beltsville Lab.

Dr. Pettis has been a frequent speaker at the MSBA meetings and has always been well-received by our members. He earned both undergraduate and M.S. degrees from the University of Georgia and then a PhD at Texas A&M University. He remained at U Georgia after his masters to conduct studies on coastal dune pollination and worked with the Africanized bee biology project. He held a post-doctoral position at Simon Fraser University before joined USDA Beltsville as a research scientist in 1996. He continues to research the mite infestation of our colonies and at the EAS 2004 annual meeting he presented the current status of some of his research.

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MARYLAND STATE BEEKEEPER'S ASSOCIATION

2004 MSBA OFFICERS & DIRECTORS:

President: David Smith (410) 556-6222
1ST Vice President: Lloyd Snyder (410) 329-6671
Secretary: Allen Hayes (410) 489-2835
Treasurer: Christine Goldsmith (410) 635-2867
MD EAS Director: Barry Thompson (301) 947-4652

Directors:		Past Presidents:	
Jody King	(410) 875-2332	Barry Thompson	(301) 947-4652
Nancy Troup	(301) 223-9662	Dean Burroughs	(410) 546-2910

COUNTY VICE PRESIDENTS:

Anne Arundel: vacant
Allegeny: Harry Mallow (301) 724-2191
Baltimore: Jerry Fischer (410) 682-3251
Baltimore City: Bob Crouse (410) 265-7999
Calvert:: Bob Corey (301) 855-8431
Caroline: Paul Dill (800) 573-1713
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THE BEELINE

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