



The Beeline

Founded 1908 • Volume XLI, No. 151 • June 2017

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*Want to get the e-newsletter instead?
Just send an email to Bob Crouse at
rlcrouse@qis.net and tell us your name
and email address!*



President's Message

by Allen Hayes

Hello MSBA members.

Another atypical Maryland Spring season is upon us. The weather was warm, then it turned cold, then it warmed up again, and was followed by another rainy and cold spell.

My hive scales gained weight, then lost weight, then gained again and, finally, lost again. Not only does this give me cause to become concerned as to what the honey crop will be this year but I am now worried about proper queen mating, as well.

Here's what I mean. Those colonies that swarmed are left with a ripe queen cell. The new queen has to emerge from that cell, and then she only has a small window of time to go on her mating flights. But if the weather keeps her grounded, she may not get mated at all. I recommend that you watch any colonies that swarmed for drone laying queens, and if you find this condition, requeen the colony. Reports are coming in that this is the case in several apiaries.

In spite of a seemingly record number of new bees taking classes this year, nucleus colonies and packages continued to be available for purchase later than I remember being the case in past years. Might we finally be in a time when the supply has finally caught up with the demand?

Please plan to attend the EAS conference in Newark, Delaware from July 31 until August 4. I know you may feel that the value of attending EAS is harped on too much by some of us, but it really is a worthwhile endeavor for all who are interested in the craft of keeping bees. The cost to attend EAS varies from year to year, due in part to the cost of the facility where the event is held. For 2017, EAS is a lot more reasonably priced than some past conferences have been! www.easternapiculture.org/conferences/eas-2017.html

MSBA will be staffing the bee booth at the Maryland State Fair on Wednesday, August 30. We will need 15 volunteers for the day. Participating volunteers receive a free pass to the fair, and MSBA will receive 1/11 of the profits from the booth sales for the *entire* week. Please contact Allen Hayes at thehayeshouse4@aol.com to volunteer. Finally let me leave you with this:

*Spring has sprung,
The grass has riz,
I wonder where,
The nectar is?*

News From the Apiary Inspector

MDA's State Apiary Inspector is Cybil Preston, Phone (410)841-5920, Fax 841-5835, Cell 410-562-3464, email cybil.preston@maryland.gov

Apiary inspections Spring 2017 are in full force! Nuc sales from smaller beekeepers were higher than usual judging by the amount of small beekeeper inspection requests received. We had two openings for apiary inspectors. Southern Maryland and Western Maryland, and some excellent candidates applied. The new apiary inspector for Southern Maryland is Mr. Robert Greenwell. Please get to know your new inspector! The Western Maryland position is currently open.

We are finishing up our National Honeybee Survey for 2016/2017. If you would still like to participate, please let me know. If not for this year maybe for the 2017/2018 survey year! We are also participating in the Giant Asian Hornet/Invasives survey. Our traps went up the first week of May and will be monitored until October.

I am currently looking for another dog to train for AFB detection. Hopefully, by this time next year we will have two detector dogs on staff. Club volunteers are also wanted to help staff the State Fair Honey Sales Booth. MSBA has graciously volunteered for Wednesday August 30th. Any other club wishing to work the booth please let me know.

Medieval Master Beekeeping Quiz?

This is an image from the [British Museum](http://www.britishmuseum.org) (e-subscribers can click to visit online) which a medieval researcher asked a local beekeeper to explain. She eventually found the answer (these were real guesses).

Was it:

- A beekeeper hiding from swarming skeps?
- The same guy collecting comb from a Top Bar Hive?
- Are those flaming balls of poo that are used to smoke the bees?
- A beekeeper taking meticulous notes?
- A beekeeper drumming to make swarms return?

The real answer from a real expert can be found on Page 6.



UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

VA Beekeepers Assoc. Spring Conference, June 16-17, Ferrum College, Ferrum, Virginia. Dr. Diana Sammaturo. www.virginiabeekeepers.org

Maryland State Beekeepers Association Spring Meeting, June 17, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Dr. Jay Evans, University of Maryland/College Park, Biosciences Research Building.

Brushy Mountain Bee Farm Field Day, June 24, New Columbia, PA. \$40, <http://tinyurl.com/y9lqs6qb>.

6th Annual Mid-Atlantic Organic Honey Bee Convention, July 15, 21 J.B. Finley Rd Sandston, Virginia. \$50 ind./\$90 for two, maohbc.com

PSBA Summer Picnic & Queen Swap, July 22, Fisher Bee Farm, Queen Bee Lane, McVeytown, PA. <http://www.pastatebeekeepers.org/picnic2017.htm>

WV Beekeepers Association Fall Meeting, September 23. Registration fee from \$10 (kid) to \$40 (non-member) www.wvbeekeepers.org

Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Annual Conference, November 3-4, Ramada Inn, State College, www.pastatebeekeepers.org/events.php

Maryland State Beekeepers Association Fall Meeting, Elections and Honey Show, November 4, 2017, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM MDA, 50 Harry S Truman Parkway

Other Upcoming Events:

Pollinator Partnership Pollinator Week, June 19-25, online guide to events nationwide including events in Oakland (*Backyard Pollinators*) and Salisbury, MD (*Pollinators Day at the Zoo*) at www.pollinator.org/pollinator-week/

Heartland Apicultural Society Conference, July 13-17, Evansville, IN. Larry Connor, Jim Tew, Jerry Hayes, many others: www.heartlandbees.org.

EAS Conference and Short Course, July 31-August 4, Jennifer Berry, Mike Palmer, Tom Seeley, and many more: University of Delaware, Newark. www.easternapiculture.org

Mother Earth News Institute Basics of Beekeeping, August 26-27, Fletcher, NC. Jennifer Berry, Kim Flottum, Steve Repasky, Shane Gebauer. \$50. <http://www.motherearthnewsinstitute.com>

17th Annual NAPPC International Conference, October 17-19. American Farm Bureau, Washington, DC.

2017 South Florida/Caribbean Bee College, November 1-4 University of the West Indies, Saint Michael, Barbados. \$148.69. <http://tinyurl.com/ycsv7jm8>

American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) Conference, Grand Sierra Resort, Reno, Nevada, January 9-13, 2018, <http://www.abfnet.org>.

Maryland State Beekeepers' Association Spring Meeting, June 17, 2017 Biosciences Research Building at UMD/College Park,

| | | |
|----------|---|---|
| 8:00 am | Refreshments, Coffee, Donuts, etc. | |
| 9:00 am | Opening and Welcome | Allen Hayes, President |
| 9:15 am | Maryland Apiary Inspector's Report | Cybil Preston: Maryland State Apiary Inspector |
| 9:45 am | Bee Diseases and Stress Tests at the USDA Bee Lab | Dr. Jay Evans, Research Leader USDA/ARS Beltsville |
| 10:45 am | Financing the Honey Show, | Logan Yearsley, Exec. Secretary MD Agricultural Fair Board |
| 11:00 am | Update: BIP Loss/Management Survey | Nathalie Steinhauer, BeeInformed Partnership |
| 11:45 am | Lunch | |
| 1:00 pm | Found in Translation: New Frontiers in Bee Research | Dr. Jay Evans, Research Leader USDA/ARS Beltsville |
| 2:00 pm | EAS 2017 "See You in Delaware!" | Tim McMahan, MSBA EAS Director and Master Beekeeper |
| 2:15 pm | BIP Maryland Pollen/Pesticide Testing, Results and Analysis | Nathalie Steinhauer, BeeInformed Partnership |
| 3:30 pm | Ask Expert Beekeepers Your Anonymous Questions | Panel Discussion |
| 4:00 pm | Adjourn | Allen Hayes, President |

Directions to the University of Maryland: Parking Change!

If you are using GPS, please use address 7950 Baltimore Avenue, College Park, MD 20742 and follow directions (below) to the Biosciences Research Building. More info at <http://www.cvs.umd.edu/visitors/maps.html> UMD is located on Route 1 south of the Beltway (I-495). Take exit 25B from I-495 Proceed about two miles south, and follow signs to turn right into Main Entrance (at intersection of Campus Drive with Paint Branch Parkway). Once inside, keep left on Campus Drive until the rotary with the large "M" logo. Take first exit right. Proceed to first intersection; make a left. The Regents Drive Garage is closed: the nearest parking is .25 mile further down on the left, the Union Lane Garage, past the Stamp Student Union. The meeting building is .2 miles back down the road, on your right: you will have to follow the walk around the building to the quad entrance.



- Driving Route
- Walking Route

Spring 2017 Meeting to Feature Dr. Jay Evans

MSBA welcomes Dr. Jay Evans as keynote of our Spring meeting. Dr. Evans joined ARS as a Research Entomologist in 1998. During the ensuing years his research focused on threats to honey bee health, from bacteria to mites, and on the ways bees and beekeepers can reduce these threats. He published



120 research papers from his work. Dr. Evans was an early proponent of the Honey Bee Genome Project and helped recruit and lead scientists interested in applied genomics for bees. He has received the James Hambleton Bee Research Award from the Eastern Apicultural Society (2011), the BA Early Career Scientist Award (2002), and is on the Council of Fellows for the International Bee Research Association. Dr. Evans holds an AB in Biology from Princeton University and a PhD in Biology from the University of Utah. He has served as Acting Research Leader for the BRL since October, 2014.



Tim McMahon is MSBA's Eastern Apicultural Society Director (our representative at EAS) and has been an EAS Master Beekeeper for the past two years. He normally runs 20+ hives and has an observation hive in his home. Mr. McMahon was the president of the Montgomery County Maryland Beekeepers Association (MCBA) for the previous three years. Mr. McMahon

operates the club bee yard for the MCBA where the club does regular demos on hive manipulation, Varroa mite treatments, colony installation, and general hive inspections. Mr. McMahon also does volunteer work for the USGS Native Bee Inventory and Monitoring Lab where he collects native bees in the field, preps the bees for identification and does preliminary identification under the microscope of the bees.

Cybil Preston is the State Apiarist/Chief Apiary inspector for MDA. Starting as a backyard beekeeper in 1997, Cybil became a regional Apiary Inspector in 2004. She is former president of the Susquehanna Beekeepers Association. Cybil became an EAS certified Master Beekeeper in 2013 and in 2014 became MD State Apiarist. In 2015, she trained with the MD Department of Corrections along with her Dog Mack to become certified in American Foulbrood disease detection. Mack is the currently the only certified American Foulbrood detector dog in the United States.



Nathalie Steinhauer is a PhD student in the vanEngelsdorp Lab and part of the BeeInformed Partnership team based at the University of Maryland. She has a Masters in Biology from Université Libre de Bruxelles and a Masters in Research in Ecology, Evolution and Conservation from Imperial College

London. She conducts statistical and epidemiological studies based on the management surveys of the Bee Informed Partnership and analyzing the results for the use of BIP and beekeepers everywhere.

Logan Yearsley is Executive Secretary of the Maryland Agricultural Fair Board, which was established as the State Fair Board in 1937. The Board fosters agriculture by promoting and assisting agricultural fairs and exhibits. It gives financial aid to qualifying organizations for premium awards to exhibitors of agricultural displays. The MD Ag Fair Board provides critical support to MSBA's own Honey Show, as well as the Maryland State Fair, an important venue for sharing beekeeping information with the public.



MSBA Honey Harvest Festival September 26

MSBA has sponsored a Honey Harvest Festival each fall for several years now. We're looking for vendors and volunteers for this year's festival on September 26 from 11 am to 4 pm at Brookside Gardens in Wheaton Regional Park in Silver Spring. It will be held in conjunction with their annual Children's Festival.

Activities include demos of live hives in a screen tent,

lectures on pollinators, extracting demonstrations, and tours of the Montgomery County club's apiary. Vendors will be set up in a busy part of the park, and thousands of people come every year.

Please get in touch with Marc Hoffman at wildwood-flower@gmail.com to volunteer or to sell honey and other hive products at the festival.

Maryland Mosquito Spraying Program for 2017: How to Find Out What's Planned, Learn More, and Opt In or Out

Summer is here, so are mosquitos, and the threat of the Zika virus is still current for many Marylanders. Beekeepers are also worried about the impact of community-wide spraying on their apiaries. Here's some current information to help you plan or take action.

In mid-May, the Maryland Department of Agriculture launched the state's 2017 truck-based mosquito spraying program, starting off in participating communities on the Eastern Shore and in Southern Maryland. These services will continue across the state and throughout this year's mosquito season. MDA's official information release (*see page 7*) says "Each year, the department works with about 2,500 communities in 16 counties across the state to survey and monitor mosquito populations and implement appropriate control activities" in response to the threat of mosquito-borne illness. It also emphasizes backyard efforts to control mosquito breeding areas, and mentions Zika as a driving force for concern.

Not all communities participate, so you check with your local authorities whether this applies to you. If spraying *is* coming to your neighborhood, you can request to opt out, but you should register your apiary to get the best information sent to you on when spraying will happen in your area. MDA is also trying Twitter feeds (@MdAg-Mosquito) with schedule information also posted on its website. You can call them at (410) 841-5870. Any individual can request to opt out: it is not required that your apiary be registered for you to request an exemption.

Tracy Velazquez of the Bowie-Upper Marlboro Beekeepers Association has taken a lead role in seeking and

sharing information about Maryland mosquito spraying, and has met with MDA staff. Her take: "The gist of the message was:"

- "That folks should register their hives, as MDA is going to try to notify registered beekeepers of unscheduled spraying."
- If folks notice either public or private spraying"— she has seen many such commercial signs posted this year— "and [there are] negative hive impacts which appear to be correlated, make a note of it. "

For concerned beekeepers, private spraying may be a bigger problem. Tracy observed that "the property across the street from two of my hives had a guy there in a van ...spraying the backyard at 2:04 p.m. on a sunny afternoon. He couldn't have picked a better time to kill as many bees as possible."

Beekeepers might want to keep one phrase in mind: "The Label Is The Law:" the approved application limits listed on the product must be followed or the applicator has broken the law and may be subject to penalties. Circumstances like applications during foraging periods, spraying when the product will drift (i.e. in the wind), or contaminating water sources either from direct spraying or runoff are illegal. You can find the labels for mosquito control products approved for Maryland at http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/mc_product_labels_material_safety_data_sheets.aspx



Medieval Bees Dealt With Bears, Too!

The British Library Online has many historic, copyright-free (newsletter editors take note!) images of beekeeping, linked to theology, technology, art, and even politics. Nothing much changes. This image is from 15th Cent. Northern Italy. .



Due to Beekeeper Efforts, HB177, “The Bear Bill,” Becomes Law

by Ben Cooper

There was no pomp and fanfare from the Press and Governor’s office. There wasn’t even an actual signing of the Bill. But quietly on June 1, 2017 HB177 became law after a convincing win resulting in the Maryland General Assembly voting 124 to 17 in favor of the Bill. I call this a quiet victory to help put beekeepers on the same level as other livestock owners in being legally allowed to protect your living investment. MD DNR did not testify for or against HB177. In fact, in both the House and Senate subcommittee hearings, there was no opposing testimony presented.

Beekeepers are now included in the exemption from penalty for the shooting or wounding of a black bear that is actively engaged in destroying a managed bee colony. However, there are two important points that have to happen to meet the new exemption:

1. The managed bee colonies must have a first line of defense in place before the shooting is considered legit and MD DNR sees that as an electric fence.
2. Once the shooting or wounding takes place, the beekeeper is to immediately notify MD DNR. An investigation will take place by MD DNR to make sure the incident meets with intent of the law.

This isn’t a license to shoot any bear that lumbers near your bee yard. The scenario should happen something like the following: A black bear breaches the protective boundary of the electric fence system you already have in place and begins destroying your bee hives. You fire your weapon with either the intent to scare, wound or kill the bear. In either of the situation, it would be best to inform MD DNR of what took place as soon as possible (we are talking minutes to an hour here).

MD DNR has also suggested that they would be willing to help beekeepers financially with the cost of fencing at the amount of \$125. These details are still being worked out. Requesting additional funding in these financially challenging times is a lofty goal. But there is a direct way Maryland Beekeepers and local bee associations can help fund this through participating in the annual Bear Stamp program. Each year, MD DNR offers a collectible bear stamp to raise funds to reimburse farmers and beekeepers for losses when they receive agricultural damages.

I suggest that each club consider helping to support the fund by purchasing either a block of stamps at \$5 each or one of the professionally framed prints that cost up to \$70. These framed prints would make a nice end of the year gift to your beekeeper of the year, outgoing president or friend of beekeeper’s awardee. You would be helping to support the reimbursement program for beekeepers that sustain losses in Maryland. You can see more of what the Bear Stamp program has to offer by checking them out on their website at www.shopdnr.com

Professionally Framed Bear Stamp
Proceeds from Bear Stamp Sales support reimbursements to beekeepers who have sustained bear losses in Maryland.



Medieval Quiz Answer

Internationally known entomologist and beekeeping technology historian Dr. Gene Kritsky spoke to the MSBA June 2013 Meeting, so we knew just who to ask. Dr. Kritsky took one look and answered quickly:

I have completed a review paper for the Annual Review of Entomology on Beekeeping during Antiquity and the Middle Ages. As part of that research, I reviewed the image you have linked to in your email.

The illustration is part of the Exultet Rolls written in Italy between 900 and 1200. The illustration shows a beekeeper cutting honeycomb from a beehive made of boards. The beeswax was used to make the Paschal candle, which was used for Easter Mass. Only pure beeswax was to be used for the candle. For that reason, the associated mass often included praise for the bees.

The rolls show a variety of hives from logs, boards, upright and horizontal. Not included in the rolls are any skeps, which for me is rather interesting.

I hope this is helpful.

Cheers,

Gene



Mosquito Control Spraying Underway in Maryland Communities

ANNAPOLIS, MD, May 26, 2016: <http://news.maryland.gov/mda/press-release/2016/05/26/mosquito-control-spraying-underway-in-maryland-communities/>

Residents Encouraged to Reduce Backyard Mosquito Breeding Grounds

The Maryland Department of Agriculture's truck-based adult mosquito control spray operation is underway and will continue throughout mosquito season. The department began spraying participating Eastern Shore and Southern Maryland communities earlier this week. More statewide spraying will begin next week. Each year, the department works with about 2,500 communities in 16 counties across the state to survey and monitor mosquito populations and implement appropriate control activities.

"The primary goal of this program is to prevent the occurrence of mosquito-borne disease in humans, pets and livestock," said Agriculture Secretary Joe Bartenfelder. "With the threat of Zika virus in Maryland, our spraying operations have never been more necessary. This is major public health concern, and it is important for all Marylanders to remember that we are here to help."

Most spraying is done in response to increasing populations of mosquitoes emerging from low lying freshwater wetlands. This emergence of mosquitoes is typical this time of year and coincides with the longer and warmer days of spring.

Concern over local transmission of Zika virus may lead to an increase the department's spray activity. If there is a high risk of Zika virus transmission due to suspect mosquito activity or a human case of Zika, the department, in cooperation with state and local health officials, will spray for adult mosquitoes within 24-48 hours in a prescribed area of concern to kill any adult mosquitoes that may be carrying the virus. Then, inspectors will go door-to-door in the area to inspect properties for mosquito breeding sites and conduct residual spraying that will reduce adult mosquito populations during the infectious period.

All citizens should dump, drain or treat all items in their yard that will collect rainwater, every three or four days. Mosquitoes that could potentially carry Zika breed in these containers. These mosquitoes fly approximately 150 yards in their entire lives. If we eliminate all locations where they could breed, the threat of disease transmission and nuisance complaints can be cut substantially.

Unscheduled spraying is posted on the department's Mosquito Control webpage and on the @MdAgMosquito and @MdAgDept Twitter accounts. Visit the department's Zika website (<http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/Zika.aspx>) for tips on ridding your property of mosquito breeding zones, preventing mosquito bites and more.

Communities Can Sign Up to Participate. Lists of communities participating in the mosquito control program along with their weekly spray night are posted on our website by county and will be posted as they are finalized. The Maryland Department of Agriculture is currently accepting applications to participate in the mosquito adulticide program. Communities interested in participating in the program should call the department's regional offices. On the Eastern Shore, call the Salisbury office at 410-543-6626; Southern Maryland residents can call 301-373-4263; Central and Western Maryland residents can call 301-422-5080. All remaining counties should call the Annapolis office at: 410-841-5870.

Exemption Request Forms Available. Residents in participating communities who want their owned or leased property excluded from nuisance mosquito control spraying must submit the request in writing to the department. **The exemption form is available for download here:** <http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Documents/MosquitoControlExemptionForm.pdf>

Additional Mosquito Control Activities. Typical mosquito control activities include public health arboviral surveillance and testing, mosquito population surveillance, source reduction, biological control, ground and aerial application of insecticides and public education.

In addition to the department's truck-based spray operations, Mosquito Control operates a larviciding-by-air program on the Eastern Shore to control mosquito larvae in wetlands and salt marshes to kill mosquitoes before they develop into adults and fly into populated areas. This reduces the need to spray for adult mosquitoes by thousands of acres, and reduces the risk of transmitting mosquito-borne diseases to people, dogs and horses. In situations where high mosquito populations are prevalent or a threat to public/animal health exists, the department will conduct aerial adulticide applications to control the mosquito population.

In our truck-based spray program, the department uses the insecticide Permanone 30-30, which is a synergized synthetic pyrethroid product that provides effective control of adult mosquitoes in residential and recreational areas.

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MSBA HOME PAGE:
www.mdbeekeepers.org, email: webmaster@mdbeekeepers.org
If your dues are not current, please pay them at the next meeting or mail to: MSBA Treasurer, Robert Crouse, 1606 Dogwood Lane, Bel Air, MD, 21015. Note: we can only accept dues payments for a single year.

THE BEELINE

c/o A. Burnham
318 12th Street NE
Washington, DC 20002



Address corrections requested

Using email saves MSBA more
than \$2,000 per year.
Can we have your address?

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

PLANT PROTECTION SECTION

APIARY INSPECTION

50 Harry S Truman Parkway, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF HONEY BEE COLONIES FOR _____

If blank, print Name and Address Below

PHONE NO. (H) _____ (W) _____ IDENTIFICATION NO. _____

By law, all honey bee colonies in the State of Maryland must be registered with the Maryland Department of Agriculture.

Will you be keeping bees on another persons property this year? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, at least one colony in apiary must be identified as to ownership with an approved name or number.

If an ID number has not been assigned, check 1 or 2 below.

1. Assign me an ID number or
2. Assign me the following name or number ID _____

PLEASE NOTE THE SPECIFIC LOCATION OF EACH APIARY BELOW

| YARD | LOCATION (Street address, road name, town, etc.) | COUNTY | NUMBER OF COLONIES |
|-------|---|--------|-----------------------|
| No. 1 | | | |
| No. 2 | | | |
| No. 3 | | | |
| No. 4 | | | |
| No. 5 | | | |
| No. 6 | | | |

Total colonies _____

SIGNATURE

DATE

SEE BACK

Mandatory information - Please fill out

Have you purchased queens, packaged bees, nucs of colonies form out-of-state during the previous year?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes the MDA may examine your bees for mites. Please answer the following:

_____ Date of Purchase _____ State of Purchase _____ Items Purchased _____

Do you employ one or more persons in beekeeping?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, you must file with the Department a Certificate of Compliance with the State Workmen's Compensation Laws, or you may provide the Department, as evidence of insurance, a workmen's compensation policy number or binder number. POLICY NUMBER/BINDER NUMBER, EXPIRATION DATE: _____

Optional information - You are not required to complete this section

Honey For Sale, Collecting Bee Swarms, Stinging Insect Removal

The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) and the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension Offices (CES) receive calls from the public requesting sources of local honey, and reporting honey bee swarms during the spring swarming season. Occasionally a local beekeeper cannot be found that has honey for sale or to collect these bees (usually collected free of charge). Calls are also received regarding honey bee nests in the walls of houses, and yellow jacket and hornet's nests that homeowners would like someone to come and remove (usually removed for a fee).

If you plan on having honey for sale and you would like your name, town and telephone number included on a list that will be distributed to the public, please indicate this below. If you are seriously interested in collection honey bee swarms and/or removing honey bee, yellow jacket or hornet nests, and you would like to have your name included on a list that will be used by the MDA and CES, indicate this below. Your name will be given out to the public when calls that pertain to the categories you have checked are received.

Please note: If you use any insecticides when collecting stinging insects, Maryland Law requires that you be licensed and certified to use pesticides by the MDA or be employed by a licensed pest control company. Collecting stinging insects without using an insecticide does not require any license.

Check Appropriate Boxes. I want to be included on your list and receive calls for:

- 1. Honey for sale
- 2. Removing honey bee swarms
- 3. Removing honey bee nests in walls of buildings, etc.
- 4. Removing yellow jacket and hornet nests

County or counties in which I am interested in collecting/removing stinging insects:



Maryland Department of Agriculture

Agriculture | Maryland's Leading Industry

Office of Plant Industries & Pest Management Mosquito Control

Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor
Joseph Bartenfelder, Secretary
James P. Eichhorst, Deputy Secretary

The Wayne A. Cawley, Jr. Building
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Internet: www.mda.maryland.gov

410.841.5870 Baltimore/Washington
410.841.5835 Fax
800.492.5590 Toll Free

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – MOSQUITO CONTROL SECTION

MOSQUITO CONTROL POLICY STATEMENT

OBJECTION TO ADULT MOSQUITO CONTROL

The policy of the Maryland Department of Agriculture regarding an objection to adult mosquito control by truck-mounted ultra low volume (ULV) application of insecticides is as follows:

! An individual may have his/her owned or leased real property and a surrounding buffer up to 300 feet on all sides of the property excluded from ground based ULV adult mosquito control.

! Each individual requesting this exclusion must submit the request in writing to the Maryland Department of Agriculture and provide copies to the appropriate community association or city/town. The request must provide the address of the property to be excluded and must be signed by the owner(s) or leasee(s). This request will be acknowledged in writing by the Department.

! If the number of individual objectors and the location of excluded properties precludes an effective mosquito control adulticide service in a community, the service in that community will be suspended. Service may be reinstated upon the written request of the community and approval by the Department.

! A city/town or community association may request the Department to rescind or modify a spray exclusion zone if the local authority believes the exemption unfairly impacts other residents who desire adult mosquito control service. Requests to rescind or modify spray exclusion requests must be made in writing and delivered to the Secretary of Agriculture.

! The Department periodically will verify the continued occupancy/ownership by objectors of properties excluded from ULV ground spraying to determine if the objection continues.

! In the event of mosquito-borne disease or conditions that threaten public health, the suspension of mosquito adulticide service in an area due to objectors will be discontinued and the full range of mosquito control procedures available will be utilized.

PUBLIC INFORMATION NOTICE:

Your **request for exemption from adult mosquito control services** by the Maryland Department of Agriculture **WILL NOT** be processed unless **ALL** of the information requested has been supplied. You have a right to inspect, amend, or correct this information. Under State Government Article, 10-617, Annotated Code of Maryland, this information may be generally available for public inspection. This information is not routinely shared with state, federal, or local government agencies.

Individuals should direct correspondence regarding this issue to:

Maryland Department of Agriculture
Mosquito Control Section
50 Harry S. Truman Pkwy
Annapolis, MD 21401

REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM ADULT MOSQUITO CONTROL SERVICES

This application must be completed by the individual residing within a community participating in the Mosquito Control Program who wishes to have his/her property excluded from adult mosquito control pesticide applications by truck-mounted ultra low volume (ULV) sprayers. The attached statement entitled "Objection to Adult Mosquito Control" explains the Maryland Department of Agriculture's policy on individual objectors. Please retain it for your files.

Please complete all information below. Please read the "Public Information Notice" on the attached policy statement. **Exemptions will not be accepted unless all of the information requested has been supplied. Failure to respond to contact from MDA will result in the voiding of your exception. It is your responsibility to notify MDA should your contact information change.** Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Please print or type:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone No. Day: _____

Telephone No. Evening: _____

Email: _____

Name of your Community Association: _____

Name of the Subdivision in which you reside: _____

Signature: _____

(I have read MDA's Adult Mosquito Control Objection Policy)

Your city/town or community association will receive notice of the scheduled night for surveillance and spraying. It is the responsibility of the city/town or community association to notify the residents of the schedule. Spraying will be conducted only if needed and will be done on the same day (as the above mentioned survey) of each week. Please feel free to contact us if you have further questions at:

- St. Mary's County: 301-373-4264/65
- Charles County: 1-888-523-0256
- Baltimore & Harford: 1-877-425-6485
- Prince George's: 301-422-5080
- Central and Western Maryland: 301-422-5080
- Anne Arundel: 410-841-5870
- Queen Anne's: 410-758-0920 ext. 4140
- Eastern Shore: 410-543-6626

Application should be sent to:

Program Supervisor
Mosquito Control Section
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401

Beekeeping and Entomology News of Interest, Spring 2017

Planting of neonicotinoid-treated maize poses risks for honey bees and other non-target organisms over a wide area without consistent crop yield benefit

Researchers led by C.H. Krupke of Purdue University looked at neonicotinoid seed treatments in part to quantify the spread of residues, including dust and deposition in waterways. 94% of honey bee foragers in the state of Indiana are at risk of exposure. However, they demonstrate that the risk to pollinators and other non-target organisms may be rapidly and dramatically reduced without yield penalties, by aligning use rates of neonicotinoid insecticides with pest incidence. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1365-2664.12924/full>

Beehive Installed at Vice President's Residence

(from Paul Bedard, *Washington Examiner*)

Joining the White House, the vice president's wife, Karen Pence and Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue installed a new beehive on the grounds of their Naval Observatory residence June 6th. All types of pollinators, such as bees, butterflies, birds and bats, are critical to providing our nation's food, fiber, fuel and medicine," Pence said. "However, our beekeepers have been losing colonies for many years. This presents a serious challenge to our ability to produce many of the agricultural products that we enjoy today. The bees at the Vice President's Residence will provide an added bonus to the vegetable and flower gardens by making them well pollinated and taste even better at harvest."

"Most farmers and consumers have no better friends and few harder workers than the honeybee, as more than one-third of all U.S. crop production requires insect pollination," Perdue said. "But our honeybee population has been losing ground at an alarming rate. The problem represents a diverse mix of challenges requiring a wide range of solutions," he added.

Beekeeper Arrested in Theft of Over \$1,000,000 of Honey Bee Colonies

The Los Angeles Times reports that a beekeeper from Sacramento, Pavel Tveretinov, stole over 2,500 beehives



during the past three years, and rented them for pollination of the California almond crop.

While the public saw this as a novelty story, it is not funny to already-struggling commercial beekeepers. He took "every colony of bees that I owned except for one. So I basically at the age of 56

had to start over from scratch. They totally put me out of business," said Montana beekeeper Lloyd Cunniff. He recently flew to Fresno County to recover 622 of his stolen bee colonies and most pallets. The Fresno Police state: "Detectives and deputies with the Madera County Sheriff's Office went to an orchard ... in Fresno and discovered more than 100 hives, which had been reported stolen from Madera County. While on the property, detectives saw person in a protective suit who was tending to the hives."

USDA Bee Diagnostic Service Returns on Short Term Basis

Suspended due to a staffing crisis related to Federal budgeting and staffing orders, free diagnostic services for American Foul Brood have returned as short-term joint collaboration between the Bee Informed Partnership, the USDA-ARS Bee Research Laboratory and USDA-APHIS. They will also offer other pest and disease diagnostics (including Nosema, Varroa, and Trachea Mites) for a nominal fee. As before, diagnostic reports will be transmitted to the individual submitting the samples and to the appropriate apiary inspectors.

Instructions for submitting samples at <https://www.ars.usda.gov/northeast-area/beltsville-md/beltsville-agricultural-research-center/bee-research-laboratory/docs/how-to-submit-samples/>.

Sunflower Pollen Research Includes Beekeeper Participation

Biology professor Lynn Adler at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, an expert in pollination and plant-insect interactions, recently received a three-year, \$1 million grant from a special "pollinator health" program of the USDA to study the role that sunflower pollen may play in improving bee health. In addition to basic research, the grant emphasizes extension outreach to the public and amateur beekeepers, bumblebee producers, vegetable and fruit growers, seed producers and others to make the most useful results and new knowledge available to them. Adler says, "The USDA is in general looking for creative new strategies... We'll work with honeybees and bumblebees to look at how sunflower pollen and plantings affect bee health. There is strong evidence from our pilot studies that sunflower pollen can help bumblebees fight off a common pathogen called Crithidia..." Right now there are no university extension educators in Massachusetts that beekeepers can go to with questions and concerns about their bees' health and well-being, which is something the USDA is interested in addressing."

Maryland State Beekeepers Association

Name: _____

Returning members – please only detail any *changes* in your contact information.

Email: _____ (home / work)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ County: _____

Phone: _____ (home / cell / work)

| Description | Unit Cost | Number | Sub-Total |
|--|-----------|--------|-----------|
| Annual Membership | \$10 | | |
| Or, Lifetime Membership | \$200 | | |
| Donations | | | |
| To MDA's Apiary Inspection Fund** | | | |
| To MSBA, general donation | | | |
| To MSBA, for George Imirie Education Fund | | | |
| To MSBA, donation for Vehicle Plates (Plus MVA Fee) | \$15 | | |
| Grand Total: | | | |

** will be passed on to MDA

Questionnaire

- I am a **new Annual Member**
- I am interested in serving on the MSBA Executive **Board** or a committee
- I am interested in judging or assisting at the MSBA Annual **Honey Show**
- I am interested in giving a **presentation** at a future MSBA event
- I am interested in providing an **article** for the 'Beeline'

Suggestions / Feedback

Do you have any suggestions for the MSBA – topics for future meetings; things you would like to see MSBA doing; improvements to the website etc.?

NOTE: Checks Made Out For Early Membership Payment Will **Not** Be Deposited Until January!!

Please make check payable to '**MSBA**'
Or pay online at www.mdbeekeepers.org/membership.html

Mail check and form to:

Bob Crouse, Treasurer
1606 Dogwood Lane,
Bel Air MD 21015

Phone: (410) 638-0105
email: RLCROUSE@QIS.NET

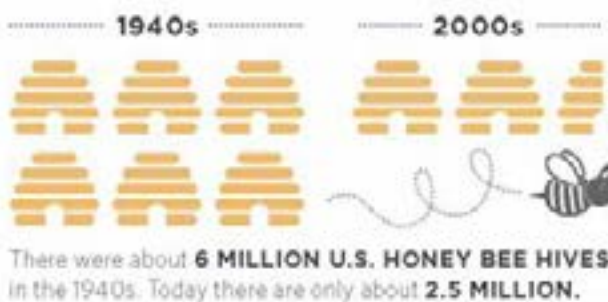
MSBA Use Only
Check Date.....:
Check Num.....:
Check Amt.....:
Details updated:

Check our web site, www.mdbeekeepers.org, for any changes, updates and program details.

USDA Advances Pollinator Health



Insect pollination ensures a plentiful and diverse food supply. Pollinators are crucial to the nation's food security and environmental health, yet they have seen significant declines. The USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) supports pollinator health research, education, and extension through its Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), Crop Protection and Pest Management Program, and the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI).



CALIFORNIA ALMONDS REQUIRE MORE HONEY BEES THAN ANY OTHER INDUSTRY

The **800,000** acres of California almond groves require **1.6M** managed bee hives (2 hives per acre) for pollination—roughly **60%** of all commercially available hives. With honey bee declines increasing hive prices, pollination costs the almond industry roughly **\$320M**.

BEES: OUR PRIMARY POLLINATORS

Many insects and bats pollinate America's crops, though managed honey bees are the primary pollinators. Since 2006, honey bee colonies have globally experienced historically high, unexpected losses caused by colony collapse disorder (CCD). CCD and other stressors, such as parasitic mites, diseases, and transport, hinder commercial beekeepers' ability to meet U.S. agriculture's pollination demands.



FIVE MAJOR CROPS HEAVILY DEPENDENT UPON INSECT POLLINATION



35%
OF ALL
CROP
PRODUCTION
REQUIRES
INSECT
POLLINATION

POLLINATED CROPS
CONTRIBUTE
\$15
BILLION
TO FARM INCOME
IN THE

NIFA INVESTMENTS: FINDING SOLUTIONS

A **Purdue University** project will breed for mite-biting honey bees to combat the Varroa mite, one of the most serious parasites to threaten honey bee health. Honey bees are responsible for pollinating an estimated \$15 billion worth of crops, including more than 90 fruits and vegetables.

A team led by **Michigan State University** researchers is developing sustainable pollination strategies through the Integrated Crop Pollination project, funded by NIFA's SCRI. One project objective is to evaluate the effects of farm wildflower enhancements to increase wild bee diversity and crop yields.

AFRI Advances of Agricultural Crops to Pollinating Bees for the Collection of Nectar and/or Pollen, 2015. www.nifa.usda.gov | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations www.fao.org/food/why/importance/en/ | USDA Economic Research Service www.ers.usda.gov | NIFA invests in and advances agricultural research, education, and extension and seeks to make transformative discoveries that solve societal challenges. | USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and contractor. | June 2017.