



# CAPPINGS

The Official Newsletter of the  
Kansas Honey Producers Association



Promoting Mankind's Most Beneficial Insect – The Honey Bee **Winter 2011**

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***This is an EMAIL newsletter for the people who have signed up for have the newsletter sent by email. PLEASE respond to the following address if you receive this newsletter!***

**hairbender@wbsnet.org**

**Thank you.**

**A quote from the meeting in Great Bend.**

**“To the bee the flower is the fountain of life; to the flower the bee is the carrier of love.”**

## **Building Boxes and Nuc Boxes**

Ponderosa pine— Box Joints— D Handles

Unassembled—Assembled— Painted

All Sizes—Quantity Prices



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## [Feeding Bees over the Winter – Using Fondant or Feed Paste](#)

by [Neil](#) on Oct.07, 2009, under [Articles](#), [Beekeeping](#), [Beekeeping News](#), [Bees](#)

Well its getting to that time of year again when liquid feeds are no longer an option, by the end of October the cold weather should have taken hold rendering the bees unable to cope with syrup feed.

Depending on how much honey has been harvested or the strength of the hive will depend on the required feeding. If you have a strong hive and you have not taken any honey it would be fairly safe to say the bees have stored enough honey to get them through the Winter. Although checks should be made throughout the season to make sure (generally done by lifting the hive to determine weight, if its light feeding must be done).

However lets assume you want to feed your bees anyway. Using fondant or feed paste is the suggested feeding strategy in Winter, however its not, as a lot of people think just ordinary cake fondant (Im sure a lot of people use this successfully though). The fondant can be made up at home or can be purchased from somewhere like Thornes. Thornes supply fondant called Apifonda and it contains extra sugars like fructose and glucose. What you will notice about this fondant mixture is that it is in no way as hard as ordinary cake fondant, its much more malleable and will actually absorb a little moisture when placed in the hive.

This is why I would suggest either making your own fondant or buying something ready made like Apifonda, plus it has extra sugars that will help the bees. Ordinary cake fondant tends to go to hard when left in the air.

So now we have our fondant what exactly do we do with it? Well it is advised to place it on top of the brood frames (if the super is to remain on with honey you could place the fondant on top of these), spread it out and push it down between the frames slightly, so the bees dont need to move far to get it. A pack of Apifonda combined with their honey stores should tide them through until Spring but remember to do the weight check just in case.

When adding the fondant to the hive you should notice the bees hightened aggression, this is to ensure the safety of their stores, so make sure you have all your gear on to prevent stings.



The results of the recipe contest:

1st: Honey Pumpkin Rolls

2nd: Pumpkin Honey Cinnamon Rolls

3rd: Pumpkin Home Butter

4th: Pumpkin Pie Spice Honey Jelly

#### Fall Beekeeping Classes from Highland Community College

BEEKEEPING EQUIPMENT CONSTRUCTION (AB 124) for 1 credit hour will be offered the first weekend of November. The class will go from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 5 and from noon to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 6. Students will learn the skills necessary to make a beehive and will take home a complete starter hive. The class will be held at HCC's Klinefelter Farm facility two miles east of Hiawatha. Instructors will be Wendell Ganstrom and Travis Grossman.

HONEY PRODUCTS DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING (AB 121) for 3 credit hours will be held on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the HCC Perry, Kansas, campus from Oct. 17-Dec. 7. Students will learn how to make value added products from honey and beeswax such as candles and soaps. Instructors will be Joli Winer and Cecil Sweeney.

INTRODUCTION TO BEEKEEPING (AB 120) for 3 credit hours which was originally scheduled to begin in August has been rescheduled for January and has been converted into an online class which will require one weekend of hands-on session with actual colonies. This weekend will be determined by students' availability. Instructors will be Steve and Becky Tipton.

Additional classes planned for the Spring 2012 semester are SPRING APIARY MANAGEMENT, COLONY HEALTH & DISEASES, and APIARY INTERNSHIP.

For more information about enrolling in Highland Community College beekeeping classes, please e-mail Wendell Ganstrom at [wganstrom@highlandcc.edu](mailto:wganstrom@highlandcc.edu).



**JORDY'S HONEY**  
**We carry a full Line of beekeeping supplies.**  
**Hours 8:00 am to 6:00 pm Monday—Friday**  
**Weekends by appointment.**  
**Robert Hughes**

## **HOW TO ENROLL IN HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE BEEKEEPING CLASSES**

1. APPLY FOR ADMISSION- Simply follow this link to our website and complete the online application form. If you are taking this class but are not seeking a degree, check the box that says “non-degree seeking”, and you won’t have to have an official high school transcript or GED certificate sent.

[https://secure.highlandcc.edu/Site/Admissions/Online\\_Application.php](https://secure.highlandcc.edu/Site/Admissions/Online_Application.php)

2. DECIDE WHICH CLASS OR CLASSES YOU WANT TO TAKE- Follow the link below and type in “beekeeping” in the “key word” blank to get a list of all beekeeping classes offered. To see a course description, click on the blue link below the course name.

<https://myhcc.highlandcc.edu/selfservice/Search/SectionSearch.aspx?sort=Courseld&year=2011&term=FALL&advanced=true&num=10&loadcriteria=true>

3. FIGURE YOUR TOTAL COSTS- Follow the link below and use the “Regional” fee section of the chart. This is the tuition cost per credit hour. Some classes may also have an additional fee for supplies and textbook cost. After you have applied and enrolled in a class, our business office will send you a bill which you can pay either by check or credit card (Visa or MC), money order, or cash.

[http://highlandcc.edu/Site/Admissions/Tuition\\_Cost.php](http://highlandcc.edu/Site/Admissions/Tuition_Cost.php)

4. ENROLL IN THE CLASS- Call Wendell Ganstrom to get enrolled.

Office- 785-442-6069

Cell- 785-741-2829

Home- 785-544-6588

## EXPLANATION OF FEES FOR AB 124- BEEKEEPING EQUIPMENT CONSTRUCTION

This is a 1 credit hour class so your tuition will probably range from \$90-103. Although you might find some one-day beekeeping workshops for less money, this class will have 15 hours of contact time. Many one day workshops are only introductory classes. Our beekeeping classes at Highland Community College are very intensive and thorough in what the student learns and should not be confused with other workshops offered elsewhere. At the end of this class the student will take home a complete starter hive and the knowledge to save money by making one's own equipment.

Our \$57 fee for supplies and text covers the following items. The right hand column indicates what these items would cost unassembled and with shipping from Dadant and Sons in Quincy, IL. It is easy to see by comparison that the student gets quite a bargain with our class fee.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Outside cost</u>
1- starter hive kit (bottom, brood chamber, inner cover, telescoping top, entrance reducer	64.25
1- hive stand	12.10
1- frame jig	9.95
10- frames	9.95
10- sheets of foundation	9.95
Shipping & handling for 54 lbs.	56.47
Glue, nails, etc.	free
<u>Bee Hive Construction</u> by Peter Sieling	<u>12.00</u>
TOTAL IF PURCHASED COMMERCIALY	\$174.67
HCC'S FEE FOR ALL OF THE ABOVE	- <u>\$57.00</u>
<b>By making your own, you save \$117.67</b>	

University of Nebraska  
Dr. Marion Ellis  
Offering:

Beginning Beekeeping Workshop - Feb. 18, Nebraska City, NE

Beginning Beekeeping Workshop, Date to be determined (Feb. or March), Hastings, NE

Beginning Beekeeping Field Day - April 21, Mead, NE

Master Beekeeping Workshop - June 28-30, Mead, NE



**Super Kits**

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As Low As  
\$47.95

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- 5 5/8" Waxed Rite-Cell® Foundation or
- 8 or 10 6 1/4" Standard Wax Coated Plastic Frames

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