

# CAPPINGS

The Official Newsletter of the  
Kansas Honey Producers Association  
[www.KansasHoneyProducers.org](http://www.KansasHoneyProducers.org)



Promoting Mankind's Most Beneficial Insect – The Honey Bee! 1st Quarter 2016

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### EPA's Preliminary Risk Assessment for the Neonicotinoid Insecticide, Imidacloprid

By- **Aimee Code**, Pesticide Program Director, **The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation**

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced a preliminary pollinator risk assessment for the neonicotinoid insecticide, imidacloprid, which shows a threat to some pollinators. The EPA's assessment indicates that the highly toxic, long-lived neonicotinoid imidacloprid "potentially poses risk to hives when the pesticide comes in contact with certain crops that attract pollinators..."

While we are pleased that the EPA released this initial assessment, our review of the documents shows severe shortfalls in the methods and omissions in the evaluation which will allow continued risk to both native pollinators and to honey bees.

Some of the most concerning issues **Xerces** noted in the preliminary assessment are that:

The EPA used managed honey bees as surrogates for native bees even while it acknowledges that native bees face potentially greater risks. By focusing on impacts to honey bees, the EPA's assessment ignores the many peer-reviewed studies that show impact to native bees and butterflies from imidacloprid. Pollination by native bees is estimated to be worth over \$3 billion a year to the US economy. A final risk assessment must assess risk to a full suite of pollinators.

**The EPA failed to address the risks caused when imidacloprid is mixed with other chemicals**, even though bees often experience multiple chemical exposures. For example, while the EPA recognizes that fungicides mixed with neonicotinoids can cause greater than additive effects, it still stated that "...the extent of this relationship is beyond the scope of this assessment." A final risk assessment needs to look at exposure from multiple chemicals.

The EPA disregards the clear risk to bumble bees and other native bees from the use of imidacloprid on tomato production. While harmful residue levels of imidacloprid are expected from tomato production, the EPA determined there was low risk because honey bees are not attracted to tomatoes. In contrast, bumble bees and other non-*Apis* pollinators are regular visitors to and essential pollinators of tomatoes, greatly improving fruit yield. The EPA's justification fails to acknowledge the importance of non-*Apis* pollinators to tomato crop systems, potentially putting several species of important crop pollinators at risk. With more than one quarter of North American bumble bees at risk of extinction, the EPA must be more responsive to the risks to native bumble bees in the final risk assessment.

**The EPA failed to evaluate potential risks of imidacloprid to declining monarch butterflies.** With on-going work from multiple federal agencies to restore monarch habitat, including the EPA's own effort to determine mitigation measures to reduce pesticide impacts on monarchs, the decision to exclude monarchs from this pollinator risk assessment is a lost opportunity. The final risk assessment should evaluate the potential risk to monarchs from imidacloprid use.

Even with these limitations, the EPA's preliminary assessment recognizes significant risks from the legal use of imidacloprid. If these risks are to be reversed, the EPA must suspend the use of imidacloprid until we know if and how it can be used without threatening bees and other pollinators.

It must be recognized that this assessment addresses the impacts of only one neonicotinoid on one group of beneficial insects. Preliminary pollinator risk assessments for -

*Xerces continued on Page 9*

**Remember your Honey on Valentine's Day!**



## 2016 KHPA OFFICERS

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## President's Corner

By: Greg Swob

One thing I look forward to every March is spring break. Not because I get to run off and frolic at some far away beach, but because **Ft. Hays State University** is home to the annual **Kansas Special Olympics Basketball Tournament** that week. I am one of the many volunteers who help put this great event on. The inner rewards from those efforts are boundless. My group primarily works the General Store where we sell T-shirts, caps, and other Special Olympic memorabilia. A few years ago, a coworker and I built a new torch for the opening ceremonies. The old torch was very unsafe, nearly burning and causing injuries to the athletes who lit it.

**Sandy** and our daughters also pitch in at the General Store. This past year, our then 11 year old grandson, **Carter**, wanted to help. While setting up the first morning, he pulled me aside and asked "Papa, do you think I will do Okay with these people?" Then it dawned on me... he's really never been around people with special needs. I gave him some advice that came to mind – 'listen carefully; repeat their order to make sure you both understand it; be very courteous; treat them with sincere respect', etc. Then he hit me with his real concern. "I'm OK with all that... but, I don't know how to make change with money". Then I realized I had failed to follow my own advice—to make sure we both understood what he needed.

### **I don't know how to make change**

Granted, we've all noticed that cashiers making change is a lost art today. I suggested he just take care of the products and let us adults handle the money. Eventually, he did fine making change.

Not all change involves cash... Change is inevitable and we need to learn to work with it. Not all change is good, either. **Varroa Mites** are an example of a very unpleasant change that affected our industry 20+ years ago. That change caused a few bee keepers I know to give up and leave the industry. One of the most promising changes toward controlling that 'Public Enemy #1' is vaporized Oxalic Acid. A number of devices are on the market to deliver those vapor doses. As always, follow directions carefully. One great news is this mite treatment only costs pennies per colony. Research also shows it to be very effective and unlike my own experiences with some

miticides, it does not harm the colony.

Until we better understand **CCD**, it remains another unpleasant change to our industry. General bee and queen health is one major issue that certainly has changed in recent years. I fear more negative changes are yet to come regarding bee health.

A change with the **Kansas Honey Producers Assn.** was you voted for a new Constitution and By Laws at the spring 2015 meeting in Manhattan. A more recent change is our new website. I've taken it for a short test drive on the information highway and it seems to handle pretty well. We plan to be updating it often.

A change I feel our state needs to work on are updates to its **MP3– Managed Pollinator Protection Plan**. Right now the state's MP3 is pretty bare bones. I'm working with **Xerces®** on recommendations to see what our state should be looking into. Do we want only the pest control industry writing programs on how to better protect our bees? I for one, do not think so and they have written the current Kansas MP3.

Help me make sure I perform my job for you as well as possible. If there is something this Association might be able to help with, feel free to bring it to my attention. Example: dialog is beginning with a couple of communities who don't seem to allow bees. As a former code official, I fully understand their concerns. But, as a beekeeper, I have to disagree. This is one example of what your Association can help do for you. My contact information is at the upper left. I will try to help you any way I can.



(Carter with Special Olympics customer)

My wishes are for you all your colonies to survive this winter well and boom later this spring! And, lastly I look forward to seeing you at our next KHPA conference at Pittsburg, Ks. March 4-5, 2016. This one is very busy, full of great sessions! An agenda is in this issue on pages 3–4, with registration form on page 5. **Greg**

# Spring 2016 Kansas Honey Producers Meeting

Friday and Saturday March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 2016

Lamplighter Inn—Pittsburg KS

4020 Parkview Dr., Pittsburg, KS 66762 Phone: (620) 231-8700

The spring meeting of the **Kansas Honey Producers Association** will be held in **Pittsburg, KS** at the **Lamplighter Inn**. Call to reserve your room at 620-231-8700. Our room rates are \$75 plus tax. Reservations should be made by February 2<sup>nd</sup>. We have some great guest speakers lined up—**Dr. Diana Sammataro**, who is currently retired from USDA Honey Bee Lab, **Dr. Diana Sammataro**, co-author of the *Beekeeper's Handbook (4th ed. 2011)*, is now giving talks and lectures on beekeeping and does independent bee research under her new business name, ***Diana Brand Honey Bee Research LLC***. **Dr. Chip Taylor** from **KU** has tentatively agreed to be a speaker—hopefully this isn't wishful thinking on my part! Several of our own association members will fill in as some of the speakers—we are so thankful to have such knowledgeable members who are willing to share their knowledge! The costs of this meeting are being kept to a bare minimum so that as many as possible can attend. To keep costs down members are asked to bring desserts to accompany the Friday night dinner. If you have questions please call me, **Joli Winer**, at 913-856-8356.

**Thursday, March 3, 2016—Executive Committee meeting - Lamplighter Inn 8:00 pm—in Ballroom A**  
**Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> 2016**

## Meeting in the Ballroom

- 8:00-8:45** Registration & Silent Auction Set-Up
- 8:45-9:00** Welcome and Announcements
- 9:00-9:50** Honey Bee Biology-Dr. Diana Sammataro
- 9:50-10:05** Break  
A—Advanced Ballroom ABC \* B—Beginners— Ballroom DE
- 10:05-10:50** B. Equipment Possibilities and Terminology- Steve Tipton
- 10:05-10:50** A. Beeswax— Sharon Rowan
- 10:55-11:40** B. Getting Started: How, When and Where to put them. Installing a Package—Kristi Sanderson
- 10:55-11:40** A. Marketing Your Honey on a Commercial Level- Tim Tucker
- 11:40-12:30** Pollination Biology- Dr. Chip Taylor
- 12:30-1:30** Lunch on your own
- 1:30-2:15** Bugs, Beetles & Bees, etc. —Gary Ross
- 2:15-3:00** Swarm Biology—Managing your Bees- Dr. Chip Taylor
- 3:05-3:50** B. Anatomy and Dance Language- Tim Tucker
- 3:05-3:50** A. Evaluating your Over Wintered Hives, Making Nucs and Re-queening, Kristi Sanderson
- 3:55-4:45** Microbes in Bees-Why Some are Good, Dr. Diana Sammataro
- 4:45-** Meeting of Regional Directors with attendees from their areas
- 6:00** Dinner & Program - Ham and Chicken-(meatless spaghetti for those observing Lent), German Potato Salad, German Slaw, Green Beans. Participants are asked to bring desserts to share—made with honey of course!

# Spring 2016 Kansas Honey Producers Meeting

Friday and Saturday March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 2016

Lamplighter Inn—Pittsburg KS

4020 Parkview Dr., Pittsburg, KS 66762 Phone: (620) 231-8700

Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016

- 8:00-8:30 Registration & Silent Auction Set-Up (Ballroom)
- 8:30-8:40 Welcome and announcements
- 8:40-9:30 Bee Nutrition—Diana Sammataro
- 9:35-10:20 *B.* Growing your package of bees or nucleus from a small colony to a producing colony —  
Candy Vinduska
- 9:35-10:20 *A.* T.B.A.
- 10:20-10:35 Break
- 10:35-11:20 *B.* Fall and Winter Management of your hives—Jim Morford
- 10:35-11:20 *A.* Making Creamed Honey—Cecil Sweeney
- 11:25-12:10 *B.* Supering your hives and Removing Supers— Alex Pantos
- 11:25-12:10 *A.* Giving a Talk to the Public. What should be in your talk and how it should be presented. Brian Patrick— Brian teaches Public Speaking at Johnson County Community College
- 12:15 -12:30 Grant Recipient Presentation
- 12:30-1:30 Lunch on your own & End of Silent Auction at 1:15
- 1:30-2:00 General Business Meeting
- 2:00-2:50 Varroa Diagnosis and Management, Dr. Diana Sammataro

## Concurrent Sessions in the afternoon:

- 2:55-4:20 *B.* Growing Fruit Trees—Chad Gilliland—Chad is an orchardist with over 15 years experience and will talk about the best varieties of fruit trees for our area as well as other tips for successful fruit growing
- 2:55-4:20 *A.* Making soaps and balms-Becky Tipton -(2 sessions)
- 4:20-5:00 *B.* Small Scale Extracting—Robert Hughes
- A.* Pollen Collecting, Cleaning & Preparing it for Sale— John Speckman

Program subject to change

Fall KHPA 2016 meeting- October 29 & 30, 2016— Dodge City

# The Kansas Honey Producers' Association Spring Meeting Friday & Saturday, March 4 & 5 2016 Registration Form

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP+4 \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ write email address clearly

Check here if you would like to receive your newsletter by email

Registration & payment now accepted with PayPal at [www.kansashoneyproducers.org](http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org)

**Pre-registration (must be received by February 22<sup>nd</sup> - after Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> price \$50 per person)**

**Meeting Registration**

Per person if paid before February 22<sup>nd</sup> (\$40.00 X \_\_\_\_\_) = \_\_\_\_\_

Per Person if paid after February 22<sup>nd</sup> (\$50.00 X \_\_\_\_\_) = \_\_\_\_\_

List names of those registered for name tags

Children-please list for a name tags (under 18 free)

Friday Dinner - Chicken Mary's (\$12.00 X \_\_\_\_\_) = \_\_\_\_\_

Children under 12 (\$ 6.00 X \_\_\_\_\_) = \_\_\_\_\_

Ham and Chicken-(meatless spaghetti for those observing Lent)

German Potato Salad, German Slaw, Green Beans

Our wish is that all attendees who are non-members will join, however we welcome everyone to the meeting!

Membership for Kansas Honey Producers Association: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Membership 2016 (18 years of age or under) \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \$ 7.50 \_\_\_\_\_

Membership 2016 Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Assn: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Donation for Grant Project \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Note: No receipts will be sent Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to: Kansas Honey Producers Assn or KHPA and mail to Robert Burns, 7601 W. 54<sup>th</sup> Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202—or email [rburns@kc.rr.com](mailto:rburns@kc.rr.com)*

Registration & payment now accepted with PayPal at [kansashoneyproducers.org](http://kansashoneyproducers.org)

If you have questions please call me, Joli Winer, at 913-856-8356.

# State Fair time!

Kristi Sanderson

This year the Kansas State Fair is September 9th-18th. Our honey booth is located inside the **Pride of Kansas** building on the southwest corner of the fair grounds. Volunteers are needed in Hutchinson beginning on the 7th to help unload trailers, set up the booth, unload storage area, and label honey just to mention some of the preparation it takes to get the booth up and running. If you volunteer on the 7th or 8th you may park in the blue lot on the west and south sides of the building and entry tickets aren't needed those days. Entry tickets will be provided for those volunteering after 11:00 AM on the 9th. If arriving before 11:00 an entry ticket isn't needed.

The 4 hour shifts with 3 shifts per day seems to work out well so we will continue with this. You may sign up on line again this year using Signup Genius. I will have it up and running at the meeting in March. This way anyone who wants to sign up at the meeting may do so. Those who used it said it worked out well and even sent them reminders of when they had volunteered. You may also call, text, (913-768-4961) or email ([sandersonk09@gmail.com](mailto:sandersonk09@gmail.com)) me of your desired times to volunteer and I will put it in signup genius for your you.

This year to encourage more people to sign up earlier a couple of incentives are being offered. First ,if you sign up by June 1 your name will be entered into a drawing for each shift you sign up for. You are then eligible to be reimbursed for 1 nights hotel stay while volunteering for KHPA at the state fair or for those who don't need a hotel room a starter hive consisting of a top and inner cover, 2 hive bodies with frames (no foundation), and a bottom board. Second if you sign up by August 1 you will be eligible for 1 of 2 bug bafflers in the size of your choice. You will only be eligible to win 1 prize . The drawing will take place at the fall KHPA meeting in October. You don't need to be present to win and I will contact you if your name is drawn. Please sign up soon and sign up often.

Kansas State Fair theme for 2016 is: **Year of Commerce**

Kristi



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## Committees:

**Best Practices: (new)** This committee will be responsible for revising a set of “Best Practices” for Kansas beekeepers. The committee would also scan the internet for information on best practices, review recent developments, etc. to help for the crafting of a Ks Best Practices document set. The committee will help create a Ks Best Practices series of reference documents for new and existing beekeepers as well as for the general public. Best Practices may be another helpful tool in the effort to remove community bee bans ordinances. This will be one fun, interesting committee. We already have access to tons of guides to build upon, so we don't have to completely invent this wheel. My plan is to place these guides on the KHPA website for all to access after some editing.

**By-Laws: (new)** This committee will review, study and help prepare recommended Amendments or changes for the Association's Constitution and/or By Laws if needed. These changes can only come about by you members approving Amendments. The successful operation of any association is only as effective as the rules governing it allow.

**I am still looking for a few more members to complete these two new and very important committees. Please contact me if you are interested in helping your fellow Kansas bee keepers— members will be announced in the next issue and website. Greg Swob - [gswob@mwenergy.com](mailto:gswob@mwenergy.com) or call: 785-639-7766.**

**Pollinator License Tag: (new)** This committee is not directly a part of KHPA, but a cooperative effort of individuals and other agencies. The goal is to study legislative requirements, promote among interested organizations and lobby the Kansas Depts. of Revenue and Transportation toward getting a Pollinator Protection License Tag approved for Kansas automobiles. A small royalty payment will be charged to obtain and renew this tag. Those royalty funds will go toward educating the public on protecting, promoting, benefitting and enhancing our native and managed pollinators. Members: **Connie Hopkins— Greg Swob— Sue Boldra—(Ks. House Rep. Dist.# 110) - Will Osborn**

**Nominations: (existing)** This committee is to seek a slate of officer candidates to serve your organization, to be voted upon at the fall meeting. If you are interested in an office or know someone who is, please contact any of the **Region Directors**, who make up this committee. Contact Information for Region Directors is on Page 2.

**Beekeeper of the Year: (existing)** Do you know a KHPA member who is a great steward of this industry? Someone who goes the extra mile to promote, educate, exemplify bee keeping in Kansas? Honor them with a nomination for this award! Please contact any of the **Region Directors**. They make up this committee and will select the recipient to be honored at the fall KHPA meeting. **Greg**

# News from the American Beekeeping Federation

By **Tim Tucker**

The **ABF** just held it's annual conference and trade show in Jacksonville, Florida the first week of January at the Sawgrass Marriott. It is a beautiful place and was perfect for handling the meeting. This year we had over 800 in attendance and there were lots of new friends from all over the country to make the week a time of meeting new folks and visiting with old friends. There's just never enough time to spend with all of those that we would like to visit with more. On Thursday evening we had a trip to the Jacksonville Zoo that was a real treat and many had a chance to view the Jaguars there. I also heard the reptile house was very enjoyable as well. **Norbert Neal** went with me and he enjoyed the reptile house but it was night time and there weren't a lot of things that were too active. The best thing was an opportunity to visit for a few hours and share some great food and drink in a beautiful setting there in the middle of the zoo. It had threatened rain but only a few sprinkles were present at the beginning and fortunately never really dampened the spirit.



We elected a new president, **Gene Brandi** who has served well the past two years. I have so appreciated his help and advice during my term as president. The federation will be in good hands with **Gene** at the helm and **Tim May** who was elected as your new vice-president. **Tim** is a third generation beekeeper from Illinois and serves lots of stores in the Chicago area with honey produced by the operation. **Tim** has served on the board the past several years and has a good appreciation for what goes on at the level he will be operating on so it won't be all new to him.

One of the many other highlights of the conference was having an opportunity to talk again with my friend **Gene Killion** who was there with his son **Mark**. I hadn't seen **Gene** in quite awhile but it was nice that he could be there in Jacksonville. **Gene** 'wrote the book' on competing in honey shows and I don't think there will be anyone who ever surpasses the number of ribbons he has won over the decades that he was actively competing in the American Honey Show. There's an interesting story about **Gene** and his father shipping a train car load of comb honey to New York. I believe he holds the record for producing comb honey and his presentation on producing comb honey was standing room only. **Gene** is 92 and still gets around very well. I think he was moving better than I was during the meeting as I was hobbling around on a pair of new knees. The most wonderful thing about these meetings is seeing old friends and again making new ones so don't miss a chance to be involved in our conferences when you can.

**Norbert** and I have traveled together the past few years to the national conferences and he is a good friend to have a long and share driving time. It was a 19 hour drive home but we did it straight through. We didn't have any issues as we traded off with short naps and frequent stops to keep us on the road. **Norbert** has been competing in the American Honey Show the past three years and has been getting better. This year he garnered two first place ribbons and two second place ribbons for his four entries. His Extra Light Amber honey was chosen for **Best Of Show** which is the best you can do so his efforts and hard work payed off. **Norbert** also had a great chance to judge the wax entries and gift basket sections of the honey show and got some tips on the judging of the honey as well. **Norbert** would like to do more judging at these competitions and is boning up on his skills for doing so.

Our next conference in January 2017 will be held in Galveston, Texas so I hope there will be many Kansans coming down for that. The conference center there is right on the beach and a wonderful place to be at during the winter months. You can find info on the dates at [abfnet.org](http://abfnet.org) and when registration starts around the first of September you can make your reservations. Just like the last time we were there in 2011, this will be a joint conference with the American Honey Producers. We are hoping for around 1,500 people as the Canadian Honey Producers will be joining in and we are hoping to invite beekeepers from Mexico as well. **Tim**



# Pollinator License Tag a possibility?



Attendees at the Fall KHPA meeting in McPherson saw a short presentation on the possibility of a Pollinator license plate available for Kansas autos in the future. The Pollinator License Tag Committee is working to partner with **Monarch Watch**<sup>®</sup> and other pollinator-friendly organizations. State statutes are being carefully studied so all necessary steps are followed to hopefully make this tag a reality. At least 1,000 tags must be ordered the first year they are available, 500 in the second year. Low numbers of orders will result in Ks. Dept. of Transportation & Dept. of Revenue cancelling the tag's issuance. With that in mind, the group plans to promote the tag whenever possible.

The road from idea stage to your rear bumper is a long one. Speaking frankly, without support from other organizations and a friendly Kansas legislator or two, this idea may never reach fruition. The committee is wading through statutory restrictions and requirements and will regularly offer an update to KHPA. This committee is of private individuals and not a direct working committee of KHPA. We intend to utilize KHPA to warehouse and distribute any royalty fees generated by this tag should it indeed become a reality. Funds will be used directly for support, education, promotion and enhancement of native and managed pollinators in Kansas.

Shown above is a sample image to demonstrate how attractive this tag could be! This image will not necessarily be the final product, but shown for visual sake only. For more details or to help with this cause, contact any of the committee members listed on page 6 of this newsletter.

## For Sale:

**10-Hive operation for sale. The whole works: hives, extractor, lots of extra boxes plus 5 live hives. Misc. equipment, including bottles and books. Equipment located in Wichita. Must sell due to health problems. Asking \$3000**

Contact: **Ivan Pechanec** at [ipechanec@yahoo.com](mailto:ipechanec@yahoo.com) Email for a complete list.

## For Sale:

**Surplus hive bodies and supers—downsizing operation. Can bring to spring meeting.**

Contact: **Mark Wood**—[mwood@st-tel.net](mailto:mwood@st-tel.net) Email for more information

## For Sale:

**Plastic Containers without caps or lids—**

**12 oz. bears, clear with label panels— small quantities or cases of 396 (no caps)**

**1 # oval queenline (can be inverted or upright) - cases of 295 (no caps)**

**5# Bulk Jugs— small quantities or a case of 486 (no caps)**

Contact: **Bruce Swob**—620-923-5291 or email [bruces@gbta.net](mailto:bruces@gbta.net) Can deliver to spring meeting at Pittsburg. Call to place order by Feb. 26, 2016





# Around and About



**Norbert Neal**, South East Region Director, resides in North-east Chautauqua County near Elk City, KS.

When he is not working in his orchard or in his woodworking shop you will most likely find Norbert encouraging his honey bees to produce award winning honey. The American Honey Show is held at the American Beekeeping Federation Annual Convention each year in early January. Extracted liquid honey is divided into seven categories based upon color. It starts with Water White and proceeds through Dark. Norbert's honey has won first place and second place in 2014 and 2015. This year he convinced his bees to produce multiple colors of honey. He was able to enter five of the seven categories. The results took him by surprise. He won second place in three categories and first place in two categories. To top it off, one of the first place winners was judged to be Best in Show.

## South Central Region— **Bill Vinduska, Director**

South Central Bee Keepers meet monthly at Great Plains Nature Center 12-4:30 PM, second Saturdays each month with timely programs. Great Plains Nature Center—6232 E. 29th St. N, Wichita, Ks.—316-683-5499. Beginning Bee Keeping classes will be March 19 & 26, also at the Great Plains Nature Center.

The South Central group February meeting will discuss Planting for Bees and of course, the group favorite—Show and Tell. This is where attendees bring in their favorite contraptions, home made or purchased and explain how to use them and why they are favorites.

**For Sale:** 24 oz. Plastic Bear containers—No Lids. Case of 185.

For more details, contact Bill & Candy Vinduska—Vinduska Apiaries— [vinduskaapiaries@yahoo.com](mailto:vinduskaapiaries@yahoo.com)

**Bill & Candy Vinduska**



Jim and Wanda Morford hosted a North Central KHPA group gathering at Morford Lavender Farm, near Kanopolis, Jan. 17. In the photo above, speaking is **Carson Woodworth**. His brother, **Jensen** seated to his right. They are members of the KHPA Youth Grant group at Abilene. They spoke of their experiences assembling hive equipment and are looking forward to their experiences with beekeeping. **Rogan Tokash**, seated mid ground, is the group's representative. **Rogan** was a KHPA youth scholarship recipient four years ago. **Steve & Becky Tipton** mentored **Rogan** then. He is known for his on-going Hives for Heifer project.

## **Xerces** continued from page 1

for three other neonicotinoids, clothianidin, thiamethoxam, and dinotefuran, are scheduled to be released for public comment in December 2016. At that same time, the EPA plans to release a risk assessment on the effects of imidacloprid to birds, aquatic species, and other animals. Despite the fact that neonicotinoids are now widely found in both terrestrial and aquatic habitats, the EPA's piecemeal process does not include an overarching review of the broader interactions and ecosystem effects from the use of these products.

The Xerces Society hopes that the final pollinator risk assessment for imidacloprid will address the deficiencies noted above and that these issues will be adequately addressed in the pollinator risk assessments for the other three pesticides.

*The following Xerces Society staff contributed to this statement:*

**Scott Hoffman Black, Rich Hatfield, Thelma Heidel-Baker, and Sari-na Jepsen.**

The original blog is at <http://www.xerces.org/blog/epa-preliminary-risk-assessment-for-the-neonicotinoid-insecticide-imidacloprid/>

The EPA's Preliminary Risk Assessment for insecticides potentially harmful to bees focused on the risk to honey bees, ignoring the risks to some 3,600 species of bees native to the United States, such as this long-horned bee (genus *Melissodes*) foraging on sunflower. Bumble bees (genus *Bombus*) are important pollinators of tomatoes. Because honey bees are not attracted to tomatoes, the EPA considered the risk to bees visiting this crop to be low, overlooking the impact on native bees. *Reprinted with permission from The Xerces® Society*

**Do you have— Stories? Advertisements? Questions? News? Send them to the Cappings Editor**

**Greg Swob—1569 Toulon Ave.—Hays, Ks. 67601**

**785-639-7766**

[gswob@mwenergy.com](mailto:gswob@mwenergy.com)

# Of Interest

## What's in Your MP-3?

This is not the aging electronic device that stores your favorite music hits, but a development initially from the 2008 Farm Bill from Congress we're talking about here. **MP3** is short for **Managed Pollinator Protection Plan**. Each state was assigned to write a plan to protect managed bee colonies, including honey bees and leaf cutters. These plans are to be reviewed and revised every three years. The primary purpose of a state MP-3 is to establish a framework for open communication and coordination among key stakeholders. These include beekeepers, growers, pesticide applicators, and landowners. Open communication will not only help build relationships and increase mutual understanding, but also ensure peaceful co-existence and allow all parties to operate successfully. Some states have written quite involved plans. In Kansas, the MP3 is —voluntary registration of bee colonies with Drift Watch<sup>®</sup>. While certainly a good first step, this is also pretty basic and offers minimal protection to our bees. With so much land in Kansas devoted to agriculture, much more effort is needed to help protect our pollinators here. More education from the state level down should be available to applicators and even private individual farm chemical applicators. Perhaps crop-specific plans should also be written.

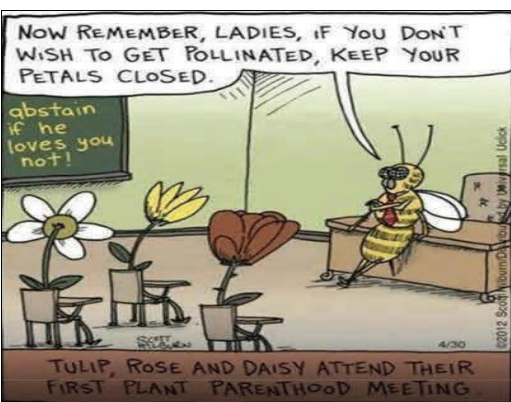
Drift Watch<sup>®</sup> is a clearing house website where commercial pesticide applicators are to visit to see if sensitive crops are located near the fields they may be spraying for pests. They are supposed to make a reasonable attempt to contact the colony owner or manager prior to chemical applications. To help raise local awareness, one can purchase Bee Check<sup>®</sup> signs or flags to help raise awareness of care needed during chemical applications. These bright yellow flags should warn applicators to use caution, be aware of wind conditions and make contact with you to try to relocate or otherwise protect your colonies.

FieldWatch<sup>™</sup> was designed by staff from the Purdue University Agricultural and Biological Engineering and Agricultural Communications departments with input and support from Purdue University Cooperative Extension Specialists. It is now operated by FieldWatch, Inc, a non-profit company created by Purdue in collaboration with interested agricultural stakeholder groups. For more information, visit [www.fieldwatch.com](http://www.fieldwatch.com).

This FieldWatch registry tool is meant to help pesticide applicators and specialty crop growers communicate more effectively to promote awareness and stewardship activities to help prevent and manage drift effects. The data set is overseen by state-appointed stewards who verify each area submitted to the registry. The boundaries on the map are not property lines, but user-submitted specialty site designations. Furthermore, FieldWatch<sup>®</sup> is not intended to be a registry for homeowners or for sites less than half an acre in size.

This site features a powerful map interface that clearly shows applicators the locations of registered specialty sites so they can use the information in their ongoing stewardship activities before they spray.

In addition to user-submitted sensitive crops, the map interface provides other data layers that give further insight into sensitive and protected areas, as well as help identify county/township/section jurisdictions. To register your colonies at no cost — [www.ks.driftwatch.org](http://www.ks.driftwatch.org)



[www.abfnet.org](http://www.abfnet.org) **American Beekeeping Federation** The American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) will act on behalf of the beekeeping industry on issues affecting the interests and the economic viability of various sectors of the industry.

[www.heartlandbees.org](http://www.heartlandbees.org) **Heartland Apicultural Society** Heartland Apicultural Society was founded in 2001 by Tom Webster (Researcher, Kentucky State University) Greg Hunt (Entomology, Purdue University), and Zachary Huang (Entomology, Michigan State University).

**Farming looks pretty easy when your plow is a pencil and you're a thousand miles from the corn field. Dwight E. Eisenhower—Sept. 11, 1956**

## Tidbits



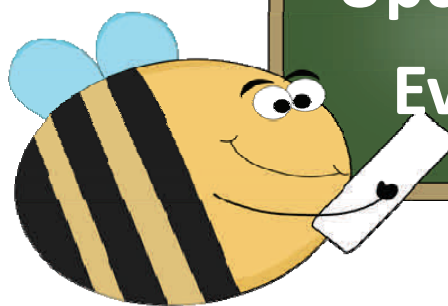
Signs available for purchase from Field Watch to announce hives are nearby.

### ***Backyard Beekeeping Question***

*What should I look for to make sure my hive has a queen? I have trouble finding her- my eyesight isn't quite as good as it used to be. Kansas New-bee*

**BBQ**— New-bee, that is a great question. During your regular hive inspections, you do need to look for queen signs. Carefully check the frames within for signs of bee activity, diseases and pests, etc. during these inspections. Actually seeing the queen herself is one sure sign she is there, but that might not tell you about her viability. Spotting eggs or small larvae in the bottom of brood cells is one sign a queen is present. How is the egg & larvae pattern? Are eggs and brood in most every cell or real spotty? Dense eggs/larvae pattern is your desired goal. Yes, sometimes the queen can be very difficult to spot. Remember, she doesn't like direct sunlight so often she and her contingent will move to the shaded side of the frame out of sight. Seeing eggs can be a challenge for anyone with eyesight issues. They are very small and white in color. If your foundation is newly drawn out, it is more or less off-white, making the background and eggs almost blend in. Small larvae and/or a single egg in the bottom of cells are a signs of a laying queen. But if you see multiple eggs in a cell or what appears to be an awful lot of drone cells you may have a worker who is laying and no queen. No brood is also a sign of no queen or one who is not performing for some reason. Drone cells are much larger and bulbously capped over compared to standard worker larvae cells. Older foundation is darker so spotting those tiny eggs and smaller larvae is somewhat easier. I have used black plastic foundation in the brood frames as an aid in spotting eggs. Try using a pair of 'reading' glasses or a magnifying lens to see the features of your frames more clearly.

If you spot queen cells on the upper half or middle of a frame, those are usually supercedure cells. These peanut-shaped cells are designed to replace a failed or missing queen. Queen cells at or along the bottom edge of a frame usually indicate the colony has a queen but they are likely planning to swarm soon. You have a number of options to deal with these swarm queen cells and we can discuss that at another BBQ. Be careful of one thing – if you use a magnifier to look at a frame, do not allow it to focus sunlight onto the frame. Eggs and small larvae can easily be damaged by the intense heat created. **BBQ**



## Upcoming Events

### From the Land of Kansas

Annual Conference and Trade Show  
Feb. 25-26— Hilton Garden Inn  
410 S. 3rd St., Manhattan, Ks.  
[www.fromthelandofkansas.com](http://www.fromthelandofkansas.com)

### Northeast Ks Bee Funday

June 4, 2016—Douglas County Fairgrounds  
Guest speakers: Dr. Jamie Ellis - Dr. Marion Ellis.  
Dr. Chip Taylor - Jam-Bee-Ree  
<http://www.nekba.org/bee-funday.html>

Kansas State Fair  
**September 9-18, 2016**  
**KHPA booth Pride of Kansas Building**

### 2016 Fall KHPA Meeting

Oct. 28 - 29, 2016 at Dodge City, Ks.  
Details in September Cappings & at:  
[www.kansashoneyproducers.org](http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org)

**Mother Earth News Fair—October 22-23, 2016**  
Kansas Expocentre | Topeka, KS 66612  
<http://www.motherearthnews.com/fair/kansas.aspx#ixzz35Wc1nWwX>

**American Honey Producers Assn. & American Beekeeping Federation 2017 joint conference**  
Jan. 5-9—Galveston, Tex.  
[www.abfnet.org](http://www.abfnet.org) or  
[www.americanhoneyproducers.org](http://www.americanhoneyproducers.org)

Kansas Honey Producer's Association  
*Cappings*  
R Burns  
7601 W. 54th Terrace  
Shawnee Mission KS 66202

## Address Service Requested

### 2015 Kansas Honey Producer's Association Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ *E-mail Address* \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Kansas Honey Producer's Association per year (Jan.-Dec.) \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Additional family members wanting voting rights \$1.00 per person \$1.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Additional family member's names:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Youth Membership (18 years of age or under) \$7.50 \_\_\_\_\_ American Bee Journal 1 year subscription \$21.50 \_\_\_\_\_

Bee Culture Magazine (formerly "Gleanings") 1 year subscription \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Total Due \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: KHPA or Kansas Honey Producer's Association or pay on line at [www.kansashoneyproducers.org](http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org)**

**Mail to: Robert Burns, 7601 W 54th Terrace, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66202— Phone# 913-831-6096 or email- [rburns@kc.rr.com](mailto:rburns@kc.rr.com)**

The Kansas Honey Producer's Association is a non-profit IRC 501(c)5 agricultural-educational organization, run by dedicated volunteers, and supported primarily by membership dues (subscriptions). The IRC status means that the association is a tax-exempt organization. While donations are always welcome, they are not tax deductible as a charitable contribution. However, membership dues and subscriptions may be deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses.