

July 14, 2021
2021 Summer Issue



the **Queen City BUZZZZZZ**

Regina and District Bee Club (RDDB)

Special Interest Articles:

Extraction Course	2
Winterization Course	2
Swarming	3 & 4
Beemaid Bulk Order	6
Extractor Rental	6
Mentorship Program	6

Individual Highlights:

President's Report	5
New Directors	5
Fresh Spring Honey Recipes	6
Geoff's Corner	7
About Our Club	7

AGM Report

The Regina & District Bee Club's Annual General Meeting took place on March 13, 2021, online over Microsoft Teams. Unfortunately, Covid limited the ability to have an in-person AGM, which resulted in a lower than normal turn out.

This years AGM began with a presentation from Saskatchewan Apiculturist, Geoff Wilson, who went over all the updates for to beekeeping in Sask. This includes the change in regulations to allow open feeding beginning next year.

Next, we saw a presentation from Dr. Nasr which about beekeeping and stressed the importance of spring treatment for Varroa Mites.

The Club's president, Janine Heinrich, discussed the events she hopes the club will be able to hold in the future, as Covid has had

a severe impact on the in person social events we can hold. Hopefully we will be looking at some changes in the upcoming year and a return to normal.

Three new Directors were voted onto the RDDB Board, Andrew Hamilton, Candy Kludeman, Daphne Murphy and Avril Biggin, each to serve a two year term. Resolutions were passed.

Dedicated member and educator, Andrew Hamilton, was presented with a special plaque thanking him for his hard work and years of volunteering to the Regina District Bee Club.

The AGM ended with an "Open Forum" where questions were asked and answered.



Sam

Upcoming and Ongoing Beekeeping Courses

HONEY COLLECTION COURSE – ZOOM

When: June 26th, 2021

Where: Zoom, 10:00am - Noon

Instruction: Subjects being discussed include bee escapes, tip off method, fume boards, blowing and brushing. Followed by a sample extraction and honey filtering.

Cost: \$10.00 per person. Video will be available afterwards to watch at your convenience.

WINTERIZING COURSE – IN PERSON

When: September 11th, 2021

Where: Hamilton Apiaries (Directions below) or Zoom (In Person Course Dependent on Covid Restrictions)

Instruction: Subjects being discussed include how to prepare your bees for a successful winter: including feeding, wrapping, and testing/treating for varroa mite.

Cost: \$10.00 per person

Directions: From Ring Road drive 9.6 km's (6 miles) North of Regina on highway #6. Turn right (East) on to the #734 (Zehner grid). Drive 3.2 km's (2 miles) and turn left (North). Just before this turn going North you pass an old stone house with a large dugout in front of it on your right side (South side of road). Drive 2 km's (1.25 miles) and turn into the driveway on the left (west side). The road turns into a summer road after this point so you can't go any further. The driveway y's, go straight and skip the first turn.

Contact:

Andrew Hamilton

email: hamiltonhoney1@hotmail.com

phone: 306-526-9277

Did You Know?



All beekeepers are required by law to Register with the Provincial Apiculturalist.



You must have a permit to sell bees and equipment, if you are buying bees and equipment ask to see the permit.



Only hives with removable comb are permitted to be kept. May and June is swarm season, so hives need to be monitored closely.



July and August is honey season so hives need to be monitored for space.

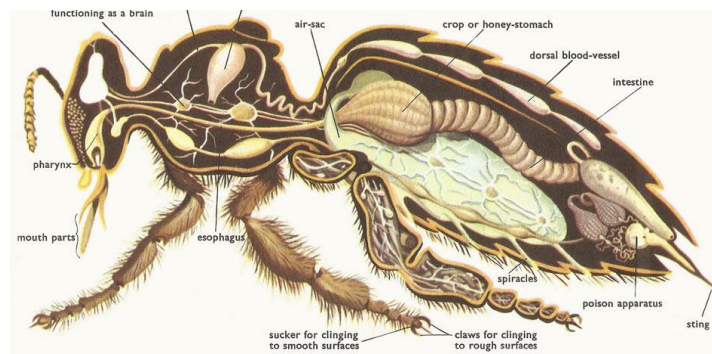


Canola honey granulates quickly so it is important to remove honey from the bees every few weeks and extract it immediately.

Sask Beekeepers Courses

The usual Saskatchewan Beginner Beekeeping courses were moved to virtual courses this year. Instructors included Geoff Wilson, Graham Parsons, and Dr. Medhat Nasr. Courses were held starting May 11th, 2021 and ended June 12th, 2021.

Internal Anatomy of the Honey Bee



Swarming

It is swarm season. Swarming is the natural way for honeybees to reproduce. While swarming is natural, it carries many risks and downsides. Swarming spreads disease, there is a risk the old colony will not re-queen, there is loss of honey production and most often there is death of the original queen and swarm. Swarming also creates bad public relations and there is financial expense to neighbours that need to have swarms removed. This document will discuss will these concerns in more detail as well as how to prevent swarming.

When the colony swarms it takes with it any disease or undesirable genetics it may have and moves them to a new area. The parent colony also stops honey production until it has a new queen and even then, sometimes will not produce much honey if the brood nest is filled with honey (blocked out). If your bees swarm and move into someone's house, that person is now stuck with any expenses associated with removal of the bees or repair of the building. It can be compared to letting your dog run free in city and the dog goes and chews your neighbour's garden hoses. Public relations also need to be considered. While bees are typically presented in a positive light it only takes one negative experience to turn public opinion. Finally there is no guarantee that the swarm will successfully re-home its self and build up in time for winter. In the 15 years I have been in Regina I have only seen 3 feral colony survive over winter.

People often find Swarm control stressful. Actually, swarming is completely manageable. If you're in an urban setting swarm management is even more important. As a bee "keeper" you

have a responsibility to deter swarming. As an example, I own 300 of my own colonies and manage 120 of my father's colonies. If even a portion of those were allowed to swarm I would not be popular with my rural neighbours. I'm not saying I never have swarms, however they are rare.

So the question is how do you manage swarming? Let's start with the spring. Spring feeding is only necessary if your colony is starving, you are building up for splitting, or you are trying to stop your bees from bothering neighbours. If you are running double brood chamber colonies and you fed them 20 liters of 2:1 syrup in the fall, it is unlikely they will be starving in the spring. If you're planning to split and you're feeding to build the colony up then the splitting will be your swarm control. If your spring feeding to keep your bees from bothering neighbours, then you should be using open feeders that make the bees forage and as a result keeps them from foraging at your neighbours. Feed applied directly to the inside of the hive is to prevent starvation and trigger early build-up. If you focus is only honey production, it's unlikely you need in supplemental feeding in spring.

As the spring progresses it's important to keep your eyes open for signs that swarming could be imminent.

Signs of Swarming

- Drone production is a prelude to swarming. What to look for: the colony starts raising drones and you start seeing drone brood on top of the hive between the lid and frame top bars.
- Other indicators are combs being whitened up or comb under the lid filled with honey.
- Seeing fresh nectar in amongst capped brood and a reduced area where the queen can lay eggs also indicates a swarm might be imminent.
- Finding swarm cells on the bottom of frames indicates the hive will likely swarm in the next week. Queen cups on the bottom of frames is not a concern, they are only a concern if they contain an egg or larva. When looking for swarm cells you don't need to pull every frame. A quick check is to tip your super on end and inspect your bottom bars. This often exposes any swarm cells and is quicker than pulling every frame.



Swarming Cont'd – What to do if You Find Swarm Cells

If you find swarm cells, what do you do?

- You can split the colony or make several nucs ensuring a swarm cell makes it into each hive division. If you do not wish to make additional colonies you need to remove the swarm cells and then disrupt the brood nest.
- Reversing the colony (switching the position of the top and bottom brood chambers) will help but often only delays the swarming by a week or two. Reversing works well if honey supers are also added at the same time. This messes up the brood nest and gives the bees extra space.
- Normally we don't want to disturb the sacred brood nest however with swarming that rule is set aside. Old frames can be removed and replaced with new frames of foundation. I will often remove frames of honey and then insert new frames of foundation between alternating brood frames. This puts nice new frames in my brood nest and slows the bees down as they need to draw comb and the brood they need to care for is more spread out.
- You can also re-queen your colony by going in and removing the old queen either to sell, replace genetic traits you do not like, or to insure you have a young queen (typically if they are swarming the queen is in good health).

To summarize: Make sure you regularly check your colony to ensure they have enough space. Something as simple as just lifting the lid to check for burcomb on top of the frames can be enough. This should be done every 2 weeks or even weekly if blossoms are out (carriganas and canola being 2 of the biggest ones). If you find swarm cells deal with them and then check again in a week to ensure your control has worked.

- Andrew Hamilton



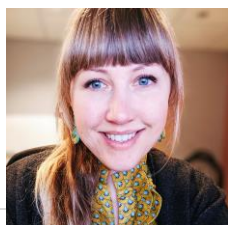
New (and Some Not So New) Additions to the RDBC Board



Andrew Hamilton - I moved to Regina in 2005 and soon after bought my first colony and started splitting it. I operated 16 colonies for a number of years. In 2013 my wife and I bought a farm and started Hamilton Apiaries. I currently operate 300 of my own colonies and assist my father with his 150 colonies. I am an Electrical Technologist and Electrician by trade but quite my job shortly into the start of covid to be more available for my 4 kids. In 2021 I started Hamco Electric and Controls to fill in my time when I am not beekeeping or parenting. I'm an 8th generation beekeeper; my family has been beekeeping in Canada for the last 4 generations. I last served on the club board from 2012 to 2015 and am excited to be back. Check out my webpage hamiltonhoney.ca



Candy Klaudemán works as a medical transcriptionist, contracting from her home in Regina. She comes to the Club board having acquired her well-rounded administrative skills throughout the past 35 years working in various professional office, retail, and call centre positions, as well as wrote and taught her own computer skills courses in the community. She and her husband are hobby beekeepers, going on their 4th year in 2021.



Avril Biggin - I've been a graphic designer for almost 17 years, and a beekeeper for 6. The Regina Bee Club and its members were so supportive during my first few years of beekeeping (they still are) and I'm excited to give back to this amazing community!

New (and Some Not So New) Additions to the RDBC Board Cont'd



Daphne Murphy - My fascination with bees began in grade 6 when I did a school project on them. That summer I spent many hours sitting on the fence watching bees collect pollen in my mother's garden. I've loved them ever since and always said I'd keep bees. Joined the bee club in the early 2000s and got my first hive in 2015! I love being an urban bee keeper. Started with a micro hive and after 2 years expanded to a standard Langstroth. Going into my sixth year bee keeping I love working with the bees and creating bee habitat for both native and honey bees in my yard. Still fascinated by watching them collect pollen all these many years later.



Samantha Millard (Member at Large) - My interest in beekeeping started around five years ago, when I began reading every book I could get my hands on and attending every beekeeping workshop and course I could. I think my interest, like many beekeepers when they first get started, was voracious. I got bees one year later, but I still feel like I am learning new things every season. I now have eight colonies in the Gravelbourg area, one in the City of Moose Jaw, and am slowly expanding every year. The Regina Bee Club was a huge resource for me, between the mentorship program and the social networking. Now that I have the opportunity, it is my wish to give back to the club as much as I can.



President's Report

The bees are looking very strong this year, despite mother nature's attempt to restart winter. Finding lots of drone brood in March and a delayed start to many of the flowers the bees depend on in the spring have been the big surprises for me this year. Every year there is some different challenge or obstacle to navigate. Hopefully the funny spring is the biggest challenge to contend with this year.

Based on the early start to drone brood I am anticipating another bad summer for swarming. Hopefully I am wrong. I am also hoping for more rain. Last year I found honey production was almost non-existent in August. I know a lot of the farmers around me are worried about the current state of moisture levels.

Increasing resistance to Apivar in the mite populations continues to be a growing concern among beekeepers. It's important to know your mite levels pre and post treatment. If you find your mite treatment is not working (whatever it may be) it is important to inform the provincial Apiculturist Geoff Wilson.

I hope everyone has a good summer and your bees do well.

 *Andrew*

Fresh Spring Recipe's made with Honey



Cinnamon Honey Butter

Cinnamon Honey Butter

- 1 part Honey
- 1 part salted Butter
- Cinnamon to Taste

Mix equal parts honey to room temperature butter. Add cinnamon to taste. Mix well.



Raspberry Lime Fizz with Honey Lavender Ice Floats

Goes great on toast, pancakes, waffles, crepes, or anything else you can think of that needs a little sweet!

Raspberry Lime Fizz with Honey Lavender Ice Floats

- For Ice Floats
- 1 tbsp edible lavender
 - ¼ cup honey
 - 3 cups water



Honey Coconut Macadamia Nut + Cherry Bars

- For Raspberry Lime Fizz
- 1 cup raspberries
 - 2 limes juiced & zested
 - ¼ cup honey
 - 1 ½ cups water
 - 4 cups seltzer or soda water
 - fresh raspberries and lime wheels for garnish



Honey Joes



Sautéed Broccoli with Lemon Honey Butter Sauce

In a small saucepan, mix together the lavender, honey and water and bring to a boil. Turn the heat off and let the lavender steep for about 20 minutes or until the liquid is fully cooled. Pour this mixture into ice trays and freeze overnight.

In a small saucepan, crush the raspberries with the back of a spoon, all the lime juice, zest, honey and water. Heat to a low simmer and let it cook for about 10 minutes. Let the mixture cool for about 10 minutes and strain through a sieve to remove the solids.

Fill 4 glasses evenly with the ice cubes and divide the raspberry lime concentrate between them.

Top each glass with seltzer water and garnish with a raspberry and lime wheel, serve immediately.

*add gin or vodka for a refreshing cocktail

Honey Joes

- ¼ cup onions
- ¼ cup celery
- ¼ cup carrots grated
- 2 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 lb ground beef
- ½ cup tomato paste
- ¼ cup honey
- 3 tbsp water
- 1 tbsp vinegar
- 2 tsp worcestershire sauce
- 1 ½ tsp chili powder
- 4 hamburger buns
- Salt and pepper to taste

In a large pan over medium, heat saute onions, celery, and carrots in oil until soft. Stir in turkey; cook 5 minutes, stirring frequently, until turkey is browned and crumbly. Stir in remaining ingredients, except salt and pepper and hamburger buns. Simmer, covered, 3 to 5 minutes. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Divide mixture evenly between hamburger buns to serve.

Sautéed Broccoli with Lemon Honey Butter Sauce

- 1 head of broccoli washed and cut up into florets along with stems
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- ½ tsp kosher salt
- ½ tsp freshly ground pepper
- 2 tbsp butter
- 1 ½ tbsp honey
- Juice and zest of 1 lemon
- 3 tbsp toasted sliced almonds

Place the broccoli along with ¼" of water in a wide nonstick skillet, bring the water to a boil, reduce heat to low and place a tight-fitting lid and let the broccoli steam for about 5 minutes. Be sure not to let the water evaporate fully!

Remove the lid and turn the heat back up to medium-high to evaporate any remaining water. Add the butter and melt, quickly add the honey and lemon juice and toss to coat the broccoli, cook for an additional 2 minutes until broccoli is tender but still firm.

Add the lemon zest and toasted almonds and serve immediately.

TIP Use a vegetable peeler to remove the outer skin from stalks of broccoli for best results!

Honey Coconut Macadamia Nut + Cherry Bars

- 1 ½ cup oats
- ½ cup shredded coconut
- 1/3 cup macadamia nuts, chopped
- 1/3 cup dried tart cherries
- 1/3 cup honey
- 3 Tbsp almond butter
- 3 Tbsp peanut butter

Spray 8x8 baking tray with nonstick spray.

In a bowl, combine dry ingredients: oats, coconut, macadamia nuts, dried cherries. Add the honey, almond butter, and peanut butter and stir until well combined.

Press into baking dish and chill 3 hours. Cut into bars and enjoy!



Club BeeMaid Order

In an effort to minimize the shipping costs members have to pay on orders from BeeMaid the RDBC board has made arrangements for bulk orders to be shipped to Regina from May to September. If you want to participate in a bulk order this is the process:

- RDBC member contacts BeeMaid in Tisdale and submits order with the request to be included in the monthly RDBC bulk order; the member will pay for the order at this time.
- Tisdale bundles all of Regina and District Bee Club orders onto one or more pallets and arranges shipping to Regina.
- **On the third Friday of the month between 5-6:00 p.m. Bee Club members go to Manitoulin Transport located at 385 Henderson Drive in Regina to collect orders.**
- The Program Co-ordinator accepts the shipment and allocates final shipping charges based on actual weight of each order to each person ordering that month. *For example, someone ordering an extractor and supers may pay \$50 and someone receiving an envelop of candle wick may pay 20 cents.*
- Bee Club members pay the Program Co-ordinator the allocated shipping costs by cheque or cash then receive their supply order and a copy of their Beemaid invoice.

It is your responsibility to pick your stuff up. If a Bee Club Member cannot pick up their order on the scheduled date, it is their responsibility to delay their order until the following month or ask a friend to pick up the order on their behalf, or have their order shipped separately. Any items that need to be picked up later will be charged a \$50.00 convenience fee.

Any items not collected by September 30th of the bee season will become property of the Regina and District Bee Club and will be raffled off at the next Annual General Meeting.

Check the RDBC website for more details.

Club Extractor Program

The RDBC has two, four frame extractors and refractometers available for rental. Members can save money by renting the club's equipment instead of purchasing their own extractor.

In order to make the extractor rental easier for everyone, online booking is used. You may find the link on the club website under Members, Club Programs and Services.

www.reginabeeclub.ca

Reservations that are cancelled within 48 hours are charged a \$50.00 cancellation fee.

Please coordinate with Wybo for extractor #1 (yellow) or Chris for extractor #2 (burgundy) to ensure they are available for pick up and drop off dates and times.

Extractor #1 (yellow)

Wybo Ottenbreit-Born
112 Angus Cres, Regina
306-543-0002

Extractor #2 (burgundy)

Chris Oleson
3034 Zaran Cres
306-527-8241

A big thank you to Wybo and Chris for assisting in the extractor rentals!

Mentorship Program

Calling all experienced beekeepers who would like to help new and aspiring beekeepers!

The bee club's mentorship program is aimed at matching new beekeepers with experienced beekeepers.

Since this year is a bit unusual with covid, there is a lack of educational workshops and programs that usually go on throughout the year. This means mentoring is more important than ever.

Anyone interested in becoming a mentor should have successfully overwintered bees for a few years, understand American Foul Brood and Varroa Mite, and pest protection and detection techniques;

AND, be confident and comfortable doing hive inspections, detecting and correcting queen and hive issues, providing supplementary feedings and managing seasonal procedures such as reversing hives, preventing robbing and preparing hives for winter.

Please check the RDBC website for further details and the forms required or contact Andrew to enroll in the program.

Both parties will be conscientious about biosecurity and disease transmission, by wearing clean clothes and shoes, and not using equipment, such as hive tools and smokers, with each other's bees.

Geoff's Corner

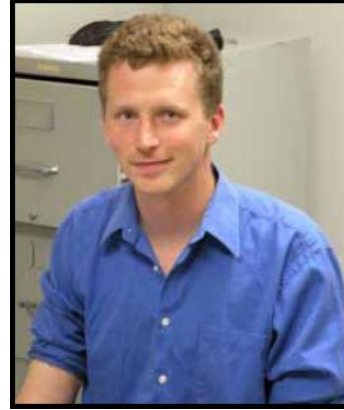
Have questions and need information about beekeeping in Saskatchewan?

Do you want to become a registered Beekeeper in our Province?

Contact Saskatchewan's Provincial Apiarist:

Geoff Wilson (306.953.2304)

Email: geoff.wilson@gov.sk.ca



About Our Club...

The Regina and District Bee Club has been active in the City of Regina for over fifty years as a cooperative for ordering honey bees and as a network for education and information on beekeeping.

It is a priority to inform members about current issues in the beekeeping industry to ensure that a proactive role is taken with all industry issues such as bee diseases, mites and pesticides.

The Regina and District Bee Club participates in the Agri-Ed Show Case at Canadian Western Agribition. The focus is to educate children from Grades 4-6 about agriculture and food. Club members volunteer their time to speak about the

bees and beekeeping to well in excess of 10,000 visitors each year.

The Regina and District Bee Club in partnership with the Saskatchewan Beekeepers Association profile the bee keeping industry as a whole in the Trade Show area in order to:

- Promote and sell products of the hive;
- Inform visitors about the industry and its role in the Saskatchewan economy; and
- Develop a relationship with other Saskatchewan agriculture producers.

Membership Benefits:

- A cooperative for ordering bees;
- At the annual meeting, guest speakers are invited to give presentations on current issues;
- Communication of industry issues to enable members to have a voice in provincial decision making;
- Many programs including bulk shipping, extractor rental, mentorship program and others; and
- Information and support system for fellow beekeepers.



Reminders



Canadian Western Agribition 2021 will be November 22 – 27. If you want to sell honey at the event you should start looking into getting a CFIA number or start going through the Sask Health approval process with Max with the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region.



The RDRC is no longer providing Apivar treatment strips, however they still can be purchased at Tisdale Bee Outfitters or at Hamilton Apiaries.



Remember to check out the clubs website periodically as we post new and exciting things, www.reginabeeclub.ca.

See something you like?

Have questions?

Do you have ideas or feedback?

Let us know!!!

P.O. Box 32033, Victoria Square
Regina, SK S4N 7L2

PHONE:
(306) 526-9277

E-MAIL:
ilovebees@reginabeeclub.ca

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.reginabeeclub.ca

