



Associations urged to send delegates to upcoming KSBA meetings Nov. 8-9

Regional and local beekeeping associations are asked to send a representative to the upcoming fall meetings of the Kentucky State Beekeepers Association (KSBA) board of directors Friday evening, Nov. 8, at the Holiday Inn Express in Hillview, and to the KSBA general membership the following day, Saturday, Nov. 9, at Bullitt Central High School in Shepherdsville. Featured speaker Saturday is labeling authority Leslie Cobb. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn. Full details, page 3.

Reserve by Oct. 1 for fall pollinator meeting

Reserve attendance by Oct. 1 for the Oct. 8 fall meeting of Kentucky pollinator stakeholders. The meeting in Upton focuses on Roundstone Native Seed Co. and updates to the state pollinator plans. Full details, page 3.

Harrison named new hivekeeper at UK



James Harrison.

James Harrison is the new research assistant to **Dr. Clair Rittschof** at the University of Kentucky. He maintains UK's North Farm and campus apiaries, and helps students set up and run their experiments concerning "pollinator health, brains and behavior, and genomics," Harrison said.



In last issue's list of annual Beekeepers of the Year winners, we did not correctly list Larry Stone as 2018 co-honoree with Dorothea Morgan (both above).

2019 State Fair Honey Booth report

Total revenue	\$67,803.96
Total pounds of honey sold	4,177
Total pounds of candy sold	870
Total honey straws sold	26,000
Total candles sold	2,727
Beekeepers who sold honey.	35
Revenue paid back to beekeepers.	\$40,152.55
Smallest amount paid to a beekeeper	\$100.10
Largest amount paid to a beekeeper.	\$10,210.70
Local associations volunteering.	17
Revenue returned to local associations.	\$5,400.00
average \$300 per association	
Total gross profit	\$22,251.41

NOTE: West Wing honey booth setup costs were already programmed from current revenues, except for replacement of a few items. The AgLand honey booth was primarily funded through KCHP KADF grant promotional funds and Kentucky Proud grant support.

2019 State Fair honey sales by package type

1 lb.	1,862
2 oz. bear	324
2 lb.	253
8 oz. bear	249
various comb	237
pint jar	210
12 oz bear.	205
8 oz.	119
16 oz.	92
1.5 lb.	76
13 oz. hex	48
3 lb.	43
6 lb.	44
quart jar.	25
16 oz. bear	7
handle pint jar	6



For Nov. 9 fall meeting

Vendors reminded to pre-file Bullitt insurance information

Vendors wanting to sell to beekeepers attending the Nov. 9 **Kentucky State Beekeepers Association (KSBA)** fall meeting must submit insurance paperwork in advance.

Each vendor is required to file a certificate of insurance with the Bullitt County Board of Education. The certificate must list the vendor as an Additional Insured. Certificates should be mailed or emailed to Michael Mabry at Bullitt County Central High School in time for him to have them on file the day of the event.

Information tables for KSBA, the Kentucky Certified Honey Program, and the Kentucky Queen Bee Breeders Association will be set up with the vendors, but no insurance certificate is needed for information tables. The groups will sell memberships and T-shirts.

More meeting information, page 3.

Mike Mabry, Bullitt County Central High School,
1330 Highway 44, Shepherdsville, KY 40165.
Email: michael.mabry@bullitt.kyschools.us.

Kentucky State Beekeepers Association (KSBA) Financial Update - Aug. 31, 2019

Prepared By David F. Shockey, Secretary/Treasurer

KSBA general operating account

Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2019	\$28,099.94
Ending Balance Aug 31, 2019	\$18,876.92

KADF grant account

Beginning Balance Feb 1, 2019	\$64,404.00
Ending Balance Aug 31, 2019	\$33,594.27

KSBA Kentucky State University grant and State Apiarist account

Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2019	\$ 4,579.27
KSU Grant Funds 2/5/2019	\$15,000.00
Ending Balance Aug 31, 2019	\$16,000.35

KSBA State Fair and Honey Booth account

Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2019	\$19,051.36
Ending Balance Aug 31, 2019	\$74,436.38

Memberships -- KSBA and KCHP As of 8/31/2019

292 KSBA memberships - **\$3,939** in dues received
96 KCHP memberships - **\$3,717** in dues received

KSBA and KSU support to bee schools As of 8/31/2019

12 local associations received **\$3,850**
in KSBA grant support funds
8 local associations received **\$3,100**
in KSU grant support funds

KSBA Executive Board Members and the Kentucky Certified Honey Program (KCHP) manager have visited and/or promoted KSBA and KCHP at:

- 11 bee schools
 - 50 local associations — some more than once
 - 24 counties
 - 6 Kentucky State Parks
- Conducted a general spring meeting in March and a summer meeting in Ashland
- Conducted 3 called business meetings with local association presidents plus KCHP members in June, August, and September.

Award recipe of the month

Honey pecan baklava

This recipe was honored with the 2019 Kentucky State Fair **Barbara Horn Award**, which is given to a recipe that is unique and a step above. Congratulations to **EllenAnn Meier** of Lexington!

1 package phyllo dough	1/4 c. sugar
1 lb. chopped pecans	1/4 c. water
1 c. butter, softened	1 c. honey
1 t. cinnamon	1 t. vanilla

Toss chopped pecans with cinnamon and set aside. Unroll phyllo dough and cut whole stack in half to fit a 9x13-inch pan. Cover phyllo dough with a damp towel. Place 2 sheets of dough in a greased pan and butter thoroughly. Repeat until 8 sheets of dough are in place. Sprinkle 3 T. nut mixture on top, then top with 2 sheets of dough, butter, and nuts, layering as you go. The top layer should be 6-8 sheets deep. Using a sharp knife, cut into diamonds or squares all the way to the bottom of the pan. Bake at 350° for 50 minutes until golden and crisp. While baking, boil the sugar and water until the sugar is dissolved; add honey and vanilla and simmer for about 20 minutes. Remove baklava from oven and immediately spoon sauce over it. Allow to cool before serving.

Yield: About 24 servings.

FALL/WINTER EVENTS

KSBA fall meeting Nov. 8 highlights late 2019 calendar

- **Oct. 1.** RSVP deadline for **State Pollinator Stakeholders fall meeting** set for **Tuesday, Oct. 8**, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. CDT, Roundstone Native Seed, 9764 Raider Hollow Road, Upton. Topics will include history and ongoing work of the native seed company, harvesting process for pollinator seeds, and updates to the monarch and pollinator protection plans. RSVP requested, including dietary restrictions.

RSVP Tammy Potter, tammy.potter@ky.gov.

- **Oct. 19. Louisville Fall Bee School**, sponsored by HoneyBear Farms. Location: Cedar Ridge Retreat Center, 4010 Old Routt Road. Speakers: Eastern Apicultural Society Certified Master Beekeepers **Kent Williams** and **John Benham**, KSBA president **Chris Renfrow**, **Kevin Hale**, and **Dr. Deborah Davis** from the Kentucky Honey Testing Laboratory. Kentucky Department of Agriculture Chief of Staff **Keith Rogers** will provide insight to the latest programs and initiatives affecting beekeeping in Kentucky, and **Lani Basburg** will discuss insurance options. The Kentucky State University autoclave will be available to sterilize hive equipment. Doors open 8 a.m. EDT. \$35 per person, children under 10 free. Food provided. Bring bee veils; weather permitting, some classes will be in apiary.

Pre-registration: honeybearfarmsky.com/
Joel Gonia / HoneyBear Farms, (502) 212-6228, (502) 235-0727 cell,
email honeybearfarmsky@gmail.com.

- **Nov. 8. KSBA Board meeting.** 6 p.m. EST, Holiday Inn Express, Hillview. **County and regional associations, please send a representative** so that KSBA will have a quorum to conduct business.
- **Nov. 9. KSBA fall meeting.** Featured speaker: **Leslie Cobb**, Kentucky Department of Food Safety food label specialist. Break-out sessions. Bullitt Central High School, Shepherdsville. Free to members, lunch included.

A block of rooms is reserved for beekeepers on Nov. 8 and 9 at \$129.99 per night at the Holiday Inn Express, Hillview.

Holiday Inn Express, 365 Benton Way, Hillview, KY 40165. (502) 955-4984.
Bullitt Co. Central H.S., 1330 Highway 44, Shepherdsville, KY 40165.

- **Nov. 16. Queen and Drone Workshop.** Kentucky Queen Bee Breeders Association. Featured speaker: **Brock Harpur, Ph.D.**, Purdue University Entomology. Kentucky

State University (KSU) research farm, 1525 Mills Lane, Frankfort. Free to members. Lunch included. Agenda below. Certification test offered after the workshop. Kentucky State University's autoclave will be available to sterilize hive equipment.

Queen and drone workshop agenda



Dr. Brock Harpur.

- 8:00 a.m. Tom Webster: Welcome
- 8:15 Dr. Brock Harpur, Purdue University: Drones
- 9:10 Tammy Potter, Kentucky state apiarist
- 10:00 Thomas Webster: Nosema
- 10:50 Sarah Preston: impact of queen temperature stress on workers
- 11:35 Autoclave
- 1:15 p.m. Dwight Wells: Building nucs, queen banks and traveling nucs
- 2:05 Dorothea Morgan: 48-hour cells, building them, preparing for pick-up introduction, and making big queens
- 2:55 Neil Hunt: Building starters and finishers
- 3:45 Larry Young: Care and introduction of virgin, open bred, and inseminated queens
- 4:45 Certification test offered
- **Jan. 18, 2020. Eastern Kentucky Winter Bee School**, Perry County High School, Hazard. Keynote speaker: **Clare Rittschoff, Ph.D.**, University of Kentucky Entomology. Topic: Robbing behavior, its triggers, and how to prevent.
- **Jan. 25, 2020. Kentucky Queen Bee Breeders Association General Meet.** Keynote speaker: **Larry Connor, Ph.D.** Kentucky State University Farm, 1525 Mills Lane, Frankfort.

Sign up now to manage some risks during 2020

It's "crop insurance" against yield loss, or too little rainfall.

By Lindsey New
USDA Farm Service Agency

The U.S. Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers yield protection for honey producers through the **Noninsurable Crop Disaster Assistance Program ("NAP")**.

NAP is like crop insurance for honey yield.

The program reduces financial losses when eligible natural disasters cause a loss of honey production. Basic NAP coverage offers 50 percent yield protection.

A \$325 fee (per county) applies to cover honey in the NAP program, but the fee can be waived for Socially Disadvantaged, Beginning, Veteran or Limited Resource producers.

Deadline to enroll in NAP is **Nov. 20** for the 2020 coverage year.

Policies require advance report of number of colonies

To be covered under these honey-yield or rain-based insurance programs, you are required beforehand to report your number of colonies to your local FSA office on **Form FSA-578**.

The report is due by **Jan. 2, 2020**, if you enrolled in NAP for the current year, or want to be eligible for ELAP in case of an eligible disaster-related loss.

You should also report within 30 days of the date colonies of bees are acquired, brought into, or removed from the county.

This is a very important step to ensure eligibility for participation in FSA programs.

Rainfall policies offered

USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) now offers **Apiculture Rainfall Index policies** through insurance agents.

The United States currently produces about 163 million pounds of honey each year. The following insurance programs utilize various indexing systems to assess plant growth and vigor, which correlates to honey production.

The coverage is indexed to NOAA's Climate Prediction Center Rainfall Index, which compares precipitation received to the long-term average for a specified area and time frame.

For more information regarding this program, contact a qualified Crop Insurance Agent.

Kentucky's deadline to enroll in **Apiculture Rainfall Index Policy** is **Nov. 15**.

Contact your local FSA office to learn more.

Find an agent: rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html.

Apiculture Pilot Insurance Program fact sheet:
rma.usda.gov/en/Fact-Sheets/National-Fact-Sheets/Apiculture-Pilot-2017.

Lindsay New is FSA executive director for Pulaski and McCreary counties. Find your local FSA office at offices.usda.gov.

Beekeepers asked to report honey production as of Oct. 1

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture is updating its information on honey crops within the Commonwealth in accordance with state law. Beekeeper participation is voluntary. Please mail, fax, or email the information to

Tammy Horn Potter, State Apiarist
Kentucky Department of Agriculture
109 Corporate Drive, Frankfort, KY 40601
Fax: (502) 573-1020 Email: tammy.potter@ky.gov

Your prompt participation is greatly appreciated.

Beekeeper name:

Pounds of honey by Oct. 1, 2019:

County:

Total colonies as of Oct 1, 2019:

- ___ Hobbyist, 1-30 hives
- ___ Sideliner, 30-99 hives
- ___ Commercial, over 100 hives

USDA-NASS resumes collecting colony loss data

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will resume the Colony Loss Survey with the Oct. 1 reference date, the agency has announced. The survey had been suspended due to budgetary constraints.

The survey results, which include quarterly data on honey bee colony numbers and death losses, will be released in the August 2020 "Honey Bee Colonies" report, with one quarter of data missing.

This report allows USDA, researchers, beekeepers, and other interested parties to compare quarterly losses, additions, and movements. The data can be analyzed on a state-by-state basis.

More information about USDA-NASS survey programs, including the bees and honey program: nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Guide_to_NASS_Surveys.

The above press release of Sept. 13, 2019, was issued by the Agricultural Statistics Board of USDA-NASS.

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(Source: CNN) The report gathers data on the number of honey bees per state each year by quarter, including those being lost with symptoms of colony collapse disorder, an issue that's made honey bees a focus of environmentalists and climate activists.

The USDA report is one of two national surveys that track honey bee loss, and the only one overseen by the federal government.

The other survey, by the **Bee Informed Partnership**, has been tracking data longer and relies on grant funding, including from the USDA, to support its work.

The USDA **Honey Bee Health Survey** is considered more statistically accurate, since it has access to a list of all registered beekeepers in the U.S., but it has been gathering data only since 2015.

Beehive loss reached its highest winter levels this past year, said the most recent BIP report.

The two surveys complement each other because the BIP study includes demographic data, such as number of women involved, how many beekeepers are over age 50, and other such data, said Kentucky State Apiarist **Tammy Potter**.

BIP makes this demographic information available on its website.

The USDA survey focuses on physical details such as hive health, viruses, pathogens, and spores, Potter said.

BIP website: beeinformed.org.



Kentucky helps USDA, BIP conduct their surveys

The USDA funds the Honey Bee Health Survey and pays for State Apiarist Tammy Potter (above) to travel and take samples, and pays for the follow-up analyses of the samples. Potter furnished the following overview:

"The BIP operates more as a support team for the state apiarists who take the samples. The BIP team also receives USDA funds toward providing the web framework to display the results.

"The BIP team will also do some basic analysis, but the USDA Bee Lab in Beltsville, Maryland, does the more complicated and expensive tests, such as the pesticide analysis found in beeswax samples."