



SEMBA NEWS

Upcoming Events

June 5 and 12

SEMBA Queen-rearing Workshop, EL Johnson Nature Center, (see below for details).

June 11-12

MSU Queen-rearing Workshop, Michigan State University Apiary, East Lansing, (see below for details).

June 22

Seven Ponds Bee Club Meeting, Seven Ponds Nature Center, Lapeer County, (see below for details).

July 18

SEMBA Summer Picnic, Island Lake Recreational Area, Brighton, (see below for details).

July 27

Seven Ponds Bee Club Meeting, Seven Ponds Nature Center, Lapeer County, (see below for details).

August 11-22

Michigan State Fair

Earl Hoffman, Master Beekeeper and SEMBA vice president, will conduct a two-session queen-rearing workshop (June 5 and 12) at the E.L. Johnson Nature Center on Franklin Rd. in West Bloomfield Township.

The first session is Saturday, June 5th at noon, (lasting one hour or less) for orientation and payment

of \$20 per beekeeper for queen-rearing hand-outs and videos.

The second session is Saturday, June 12, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or longer, to review queen-rearing methods and conduct grafting using the Doolittle method. (It is suggested that each participant bring a lunch.) Queen grafting cups, frames and grafting tools will be for sale on June 12. The cost for tools is in addition to the workshop fee.

Ten days later, the students may either pick up queen cells or help put them in mating "Nucs". Earl says, "We may have some extra queens to sell by the 4th of July at \$5 each."

The maximum class size is 20 and 10 participants have already expressed interest. You may contact Earl Hoffman for further questions and to register by e-mail: honey_farm@earthlink.net (note honey_farm) or phone: 734-427-7649.

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MSU QUEEN-REARING WORKSHOP

June 11-12, 2004

(Friday and Saturday)

Michigan State University Apiary

East Lansing, Michigan

\$60 registration fee

(includes 2 lunches)

Limited to 20 people

The two-day workshop includes:

- 1) Queen biology and behavior
 - a. Caste differentiation
 - b. External and internal morphology
 - c. Mating biology
 - d. Artificial insemination
- 2) Drone biology
- 3) Creating starter colonies

SEMBA QUEEN-REARING WORKSHOP

June 5 and 12, 2004

(Two Saturdays)

- 4) Grafting (hands-on)
- 5) Introducing queen cells to mating nucs
- 6) Mating nuc layout
- 7) Option of picking up you own grafted cells

For more information contact Zachary Huang 517-353-8136 or e-mail bees@msu.edu

SEVEN PONDS BEE CLUB NEWS

The next meeting of the newly formed Seven Ponds Bee Club will be Tuesday, June 22, 2004. Meetings are held at the Seven Ponds Nature Center near Dryden (Lapeer County). Club members will meet at 7 p.m. to examine the club-owned hives located on the grounds of the Nature Center. The meeting (topic to be determined) will be at 7:30 p.m. in the Nature Center Building.

The July meeting will be Tuesday, July 27, 2004. Members will look at the bee hives at 7 p.m. and attend the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Call Nancy Schlieble at 810-395-7379 for additional details.

SEMBA SUMMER PICNIC

Sunday, July 18th, 2004

Potluck 1:30 p.m. at Riverbend located in the Island Lake Recreation Area, 12950 E. Grand River, Brighton, MI. Mark your calendar now. More details will appear in the July/August newsletter.

Judy Forfinski is looking for activities and program suggestions for the SEMBA picnic.

Call Judy at 810-220-1084 or e-mail forfinri@nibusa.com

66th SEMBA BEE SCHOOL CONFERENCE REPORT

Attendance 167
 101 SEMBA members
 18 new SEMBA members
 48 walk-ins
 Income - \$2041.20
 Expenses - \$473.84
 Hive raffle winner- Hank Semczyk

SEMBA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

John Benson – Ypsilanti
 Michael Berels – Fort Gratiot
 Chris Bilinsky – Allenton
 Dave Bittner – Almont
 George/Kevi Chapman – Grosse Pointe Park

Ron Clark – Inkster
 Linda Dunn – Eaton Rapids
 Kristin Frank – Howell
 Glen Goestenkers – Lake Orion
 Mary Goodman – Farmington Hills
 Ed/Sheryl Gould – Canton
 Stewart Hummer – Lapeer
 Bob Jastrzebski – Canton
 Thomas Kanthe – Pinckney
 Mark Kochen – Ypsilanti
 Alfred Lupercio – Chesterfield
 ylan Marshall – Imlay City
 Liz Matthews – South Lyon
 Gina Michels – Augusta
 Rob Newman – Allen Park
 Frederick Paepke – Clinton
 Kristen Rachwal – Plymouth
 Don/Carol Ragan – Grosse Pointe Park
 Phillip Routhier – Walled Lake
 Shawn Shubel – Howell
 Terry Toland – Metamora
 Mary Van de Walker – Ypsilanti
 Barbara Wilson – Ann Arbor
 David Zurek – Northville

HONEY HOUSE REGULATION UPDATE

You may recall that we were notified by the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Food and Dairy Division (MDA-FDD) that all beekeepers extracting honey must be inspected and licensed by MDA-FDD. In the March-April 2004 SEMBA Newsletter, we reported on the most recent developments in working with the MDA-FDD on honey house regulations.

A joint-committee of MBA and SEMBA members developed a proposal to exempt some beekeepers from the licensing requirement and also proposed guidelines for honey house regulations. This proposal was distributed to beekeepers throughout Michigan for information and suggestions. The MBA-SEMBA committee met again to consider these suggestions and finalized a proposal, which was then sent to the MDA-FDD.

We have received a counter-proposal from the MDA-FDD that the MBA-SEMBA committee reviewed at a meeting on May 12, 2004. MDA-FDD and members of the MBA-SEMBA committee will now draft a document that, hopefully, beekeepers will find fair and practical and insure the purity of honey for consumers.

BEEES AND FLOWER GARDEN AT THE ROUGE

After an absence of almost 25 years, tours of the Rouge Ford Motor Company are being resumed. In addition to the tour of the F150

assembly plant, a special tour of the "Living Roof Garden" complete with a colony of honey bees is featured. SEMBA member David D'Agostino was instrumental in setting up the colony.

Tours begin at the Henry Ford (formerly called the Greenfield Village). Participants are then bussed to the Rouge plant. Information is available by calling 313-982-6001 or visiting <http://www.hfmqv.org> on the web.

AMERICAN BEE JOURNALS AVAILABLE

SEMBA member, Freda Howard, has the ABJ from 1980 to 2001 (except for 1988) available free to SEMBA members. Call Freda at 248-363-7933 or her daughter Donna Laws at 248-698-6908, e-mail donnaihlaws@aol.com

ENTRIES NEEDED FOR THE STATE FAIR

For many years SEMBA has maintained a beekeeping booth and entered the honey-beeswax contest at the Michigan Stated Fair. If you wish to enter honey or wax in the SEMBA booth, SEMBA pays the entry fee. If your entry wins a ribbon, you get the premium. You may also enter on your own.

Dyanne Tracy is coordinating the entries and has lined up SEMBA members to enter the following categories:

- Display of bees and queens – Tom Jenkins
- Unfiltered amber extracted honey – Rich Wieske
- Unfiltered white extracted honey – Kynis Maynor
- Beeswax – Dyanne Tracy
- Extracted combs, Langstroth frames – Earl Hoffman
- Extracted combs, shallow/medium – Senad Livadic
- Creamed granulated honey – Dyanne Tracy
- Round section comb honey
- Comb honey – Keith Lazar
- Chunk honey
- Cut-comb in 4"x 4" containers
- Best display at large – Andrea Hoffman

Dyanne would like to have alternates for each of the above categories and volunteers for the three currently nameless.

Contact Dyanne Tracy at 248-370-0929 or e-mail dtracy@oakland.edu for information on how to enter in the SEMBA booth or on your own.

SEMBA AND THE STATE FAIR

The annual Michigan State Fair is coming early this year – AUGUST 11-22.

This is our yearly opportunity to explain to Metro Detroit-area folks what beekeeping is about and to talk about the importance of bees. We get a lot of questions such as, Do you ever get stung? Which one is the queen? How do you get the honey out? It really is a great chance to spread the word about bees, pollination and honey.

As you probably know, each year SEMBA has an educational display booth in the Agriculture Building which is staffed with two or three SEMBA members at a time. These volunteers hand out literature about bees, honey and recipes, answer questions, stamp bees on children's hands and talk about beekeeping. If we have several people scheduled for each time period, they can take turns getting a cup of coffee or looking at some of the fair exhibits. Personally, I like to visit the Michigan State Veterinary exhibit, the birthing tent, and sometimes get to see a calf or lamb being born.

We are asking all SEMBA members to volunteer to work a half-day period for one day during the fair– 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. or 2:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Help is also needed for set-up on August 10th and for take-down on the 22nd or 23rd. SEMBA members working the booth are given free parking and free entrance passes.

You may sign up at the SEMBA picnic on July 18th. Judy Forfinski, Ann Kerwin and Bill SIRR will be there to take your names. Or, you are welcome to call Ann with your time preference at 313-861-5760, or tear off the form below and mail it to Judy Forfinski, 2260 Northwood Place, Brighton, MI 48116.

Ann Kerwin

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State Fair Volunteer Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Day and time period preference \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## FROM HERE TO THERE

Nothing is so simple that it can't get screwed up. It takes about eight cells of honey and pollen to rear a bee from egg to adult. This could be an add for Bounce dryer sheets. I have never tried this. Put a sheet in your back pocket or tie a sheet through a belt loop when outdoors' during the summer to keep bee's, yellow jacket's, and mosquitoes' away. Around your pant legs may help repel ticks also. It will repel mice if spread around the foundation areas or in a trailer. This might even work in a honey house. Place

a sheet near an ant nest and it will chase them away. It helps take the odor out of books and albums that don't get opened very often, like your bee journals. A used sheet will collect sawdust like a tack cloth, help clean your liquid bees wax, and eliminate static electricity from your 'T V' screen. 'O' yes Joyce Guthrie told me this one. If bees are bringing in pollen, chances are they are queen-right.

-- Bill Sirr

### SEMBA Bargain Corner

#### For Sale:

- For Sale: New deep and medium supers, frames, bottom boards, inner and outer covers and New 1 and 5 gallon buckets with lids. Please **call Keith Lazar (H) 248-626-2483 (P) 248-815-5522.**
- For sale: 6-frame motorized extractor, uncapping knife, gates, nylon draining bags, hive carrier, supers (all sizes) w/drawn comb, Queen excluders, bottom boards, covers, hive feeders, hive tools, frame grippers, smoker, bee suits, gloves, new foundation and much, much more. Would like to sell as a package. **Call: Alfred Noall 810-733-0352.**
- Bottom boards, inner covers, hive entrance screens for transport, also new design bottom boards with screens for varroa mite separation and inspection. Varroa mite assembly for converting your present boards. 1/8" grid hardware cloth, 36" wide by the foot or 18" x 16 1/4" pieces also for sale. **Please call Michael Kolodziej at 734-425-1396 or e mail [Mziejwood@aol.com](mailto:Mziejwood@aol.com)**

#### Wanted:


- Wanted: 26 used full-depth supers with frames. **Call David Zurek, 248-344-8842 or e-mail [dizurek@hotmail.com](mailto:dizurek@hotmail.com)**
- George Melcher, 45277 Mile Rd., South Lyon, MI would like bees placed on his property. **Call George at 248-437-6291.**
- Bee's wax, wanted, **call W. Harless at 734-453-2914 or 734-451-9824.**

Note: Ads in Bargain Corner are free to SEMBA members. To place an ad, contact Susanne at [souxiseq2@msn.com](mailto:souxiseq2@msn.com) or phone 248-476-4991 or Roger Sutherland at [rsuther@hotmail.com](mailto:rsuther@hotmail.com). \* **Ads will be run for two consecutive newsletters.**

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Southeastern Michigan  
Beekeepers' Association  
*Organized April 1, 1934*

  
Oakland Beekeepers' Club

  
Schoolcraft Beekeepers' Club



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SEMBA Membership  
5488 Warren Road  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105-9425