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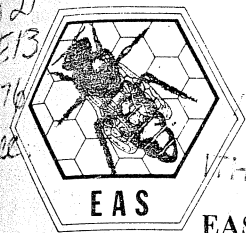
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EASTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA, INC.

DEC 29 1976

DECEMBER, 1976

XXVI THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF APICULTURE CONGRESS REPORTS AND PAPERS

The National Organizing Committee for the 26th International Congress of Apiculture will be pleased to receive papers for the Congress to be staged in Adelaide during the 13th-19th October, 1977. The paper must conform to the following requirements:

1. The paper must be no more than 1,600 words (10,000 letters).
2. The paper must be typed in double spaced lines at least 7 mm apart.
3. Only one side of the paper must be used.
4. Illustrations, graphs, tables and photographs must be in clear style and suitable for reproduction.
5. Five complete copies of the paper must be presented.
6. One of the five Official Apimondia languages must be used.
7. The complete papers must arrive at the Office of this Congress Secretariat by 15th August, 1977.

Every page of the paper must be headed with the title of the paper and the name of the Author.

A precis (abstract or summary) of the complete paper must arrive at the Office of this Secretariat by 1st April, 1977. The precis must conform to the following requirements:

1. The precis must be no more than 200-250 (1200-1500 letters).
2. The precis must be typed in double spaced lines at least 7 mm apart.
3. Only one side of the paper must be used.
4. The precis must list the number and type of photographic aids that will be used with the address to the Congress.
5. Five copies of the precis must be presented.
6. One of the five Official Apimondia languages must be used.
7. Authors must indicate on the precis whether or not they will attend the Congress to personally present their papers.
8. Every page of the precis must be headed with the title of the paper and the name of the Author.

Papers for the Congress must conform to the Themes and Details for the Standing Commissions.

Authors invited to present their papers at the Congress will have 10-15 minutes for their presentation.

Any aids which authors may wish to use in connection with their presentation must conform to the requirements for Customs and Quarantine. A statement which clearly lists such aids should be included with the precis so that facilities can be made available for the easy admission of these items. Every effort will be made to enable the Author to use whatever type of aid he chooses but at this stage no guarantees can be given other than the use of 35mm slides in 50 mm x 50 mm mounts.

The Address of the Secretariat is:
The Apimondia Secretariat,
Box 2609 G.P.O.
Sydney, N.S.W. 2001, Australia.

Authors and Associations should always use AIRMAIL. No responsibility can be accepted for lost or late submissions.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Australian beekeepers send a warm and friendly welcome to all who are interested in and associated with Apiculture in any way to be with us in Adelaide to celebrate the most important event in the calendar of International Beekeeping.

Beekeeping in Australia is a young and vigorous industry in an ancient land. The high potential for honey production of our unique native flora, the diversity and variability of climate and the great distances beekeepers must often travel with their bees has led to the development of a distinctive system of Australian Beekeeping. We will follow the traditions established at previous Apimondia Congresses but the Adelaide Congress will reflect the friendliness and informality that are characteristic of the Australian people.

With the agreement of the Executive Council of Apimondia we have decided that all social functions will be optional and will not be included in the registration fee.

The Mid-Congress tour will take the form of a beekeeper's Field Day. A traditional activity among Australian beekeepers. We believe this will be one of

the most exciting events of the Congress. This, and the post-Congress tours will provide an unrivalled opportunity to become acquainted with Australian beekeepers and beekeeping systems and our Country.

We look forward to welcoming the beekeepers of the World to Adelaide in 1977.

K.M. Doull,
President,
National Organizing Committee
Adelaide

CONGRESS REGISTRATION FEE

The registration fee for this Congress will be \$60.00 for participants and \$35.00 for each accompanying person. This fee will enable the participants and accompanying persons to receive:

Summaries of reports; A Congress bag; A daily bulletin; A free mid-Congress tour; Free attendance to API-EXPO '77; A volume of full congress reports to be forwarded after the Congress (one copy for participants only).

Participants must note that registration fees and all other costs are listed in Australian Currency. They must arrive at the Office of this Congress Secretariat complete and free from all exchange rates, bank charges, etc..

REGISTRATION AND ACCOMMODATION

A registration form and booklet explaining all the details required for registration and booking accommodation will be distributed in January, 1977

EAS JOURNAL Eastern Apicultural Society of North America, Inc.

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18 South Parkway, Newark, Delaware 19711

First Vice President Dr. Charles Mason
University of Delaware
18 South Parkway, Newark, Delaware 19711

Second Vice-President John Root
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E.A.S. Journal \$2.00; Member \$3.00*; Joint membership \$4.00*; Family Membership \$6.00*; Commercial Membership \$50.00*; Life Membership \$100.00*; Association Membership \$25.00*.

*Of which \$2.00 is subscription to Journal.

from the Office of this Congress Secretariat. These should be studied and filled in carefully so that you clearly make your needs known. The various standards of accommodation and costs are fully explained in the booklet. A large number of Hotels, Motels and Caravan Parks in the City and surrounding suburbs have been reserved for Congress visitors.

From now until the 12th October, 1977 the office of this Congress Secretariat is:

XXVI International Congress of Apiculture, Box 2609 G.P.O., Sydney. N.S.W.2001.

All correspondence to the Secretariat should be forwarded by AIRMAIL. The Secretariat cannot be responsible for late correspondence by Surface mail or other delays.

During the Congress the Secretariat will be located at:

The Grosvenor Hotel, North Terrace, Adelaide, 5000, South Australia.

A "Congress Club" will be established in the Grosvenor Hotel to enable all Congress visitors to informally meet each other.

MEALS

These can be taken by arrangement at your Hotel, etc. Midday meals are also available from the Restaurants nearby. A number of Restaurants throughout the city cater for special national dishes. Details of these are available when you arrive in Adelaide. Most restaurants are sited within 400 m of the Festival Theatre.

TRAVEL AGENTS

Congress visitors are reminded that the Committee for the 26th Congress have appointed QANTAS as Official travel carrier for all International travel to and from the Congress. TAA - Trans Australian Airlines have also been appointed Official agents for travel within Australia and the Congress Tours. For information about travel please contact the Secretariat or a QANTAS office in your country who will assist you to make arrangements.

CONGRESS REPORTS

Persons wishing to deliver reports at any Congress session are required to conform to the following conditions:

Reports must be sent through National Associations.

All reports and other materials must be sent to the Congress Secretariat (address above).

All reports must arrive at the Secretariat by 1st April, 1977.

The abstracts (summaries) must be: Typewritten; Double spaced lines 7 mm apart No more than 1500 signs (200-250 words) long; in one of the Official Apimondia languages.

Five copies of the report must be received.

A complete list of photographic and other aids (see note QUARANTINE) to be used and a notation of where they must be presented in the report.

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Address the Secretariat will be 100 North Terrace, Adelaide,

A room will be established in the building to enable all Congress visitors to

MEALS
Arrangements for meals can be made by arrangement at your hotels. A number of Restaurants are available for special national dishes. Restaurants are sited within 400 m of

TRAVEL AGENTS
Travel agents are reminded that the 1977 Congress have appointed travel agents for all International travel to the Congress. TAA - Trans Australia also been appointed Official Travel Agent in Australia and the Congress Secretariat about travel please contact the nearest ANTAS office in your country for travel arrangements.

REPORTS
Reports to deliver reports at any time required to conform to the Secretariat should be sent through National Secretariat. Other materials must be sent to the Secretariat (address above). Reports must arrive at the Secretariat by 1st

summaries) must be: double spaced lines 7 mm apart (200-250 words) long; in English and non-English languages. Reports must be received. Photographs and other aids (to be used and a notation presented in the report.

Preference in the selection of reports to be delivered to the Congress will be given to Authors who attend as participants.

CONGRESS PAPERS

Authors will be allowed 10-15 minutes to present their paper to the Congress.

The paper should be limited to approximately 1,600 words (10,000 letters), double spaced and typewritten on one side of the page.

Five copies of the paper must be presented.

Papers must arrive at the Congress Secretariat by 15th August, 1977.

API-EXPO '77

Beekeepers, Manufacturers and other persons interested in staging exhibitions at API-EXPO '77 are invited to submit an application. Ample space is available for indoor and outdoor exhibitions. No applications will be accepted after 28th February, 1977.

API-EXPO will be staged adjacent to the main hall where the Congress will be held. Some facilities for outdoor exhibitions for very large machines, vehicles, etc., are being negotiated and interested exhibitors should make their needs known to the Secretariat.

Indoor Exhibitions will have to pay \$25.00 per square metre for floor space. Wall space will also be available with three shelves provided up to about 2

metres high at \$10.00 per lineal metre of wall.

Costs cover electricity and public risk insurance. Persons erecting, operating and dismantling exhibits are not covered by insurance and this will be the responsibility of the exhibitor.

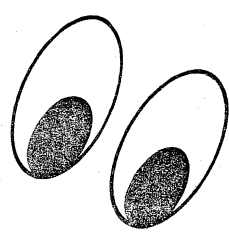
Exhibitors may provide their own stands or use the Exhibition Contractor who will supply materials and erect the exhibitors designs. The whole costs of the Contractor must be met by the Exhibitor. Electricians and signwriters are also available for the exhibitor.

Exhibition must be erected 13th October, 1977 and taken down 20th October, 1977 Exhibitors who wish to include imported bees, hives, flora and other material must declare this on their applications (see QUARANTINE).

Arrangements will be made for Exhibition material to be received and processed through Customs and Quarantine and delivered to the Exhibition.

MID-CONGRESS TOUR

The Cost of the Mid-Congress tour is included in the registration fee for participants and accompanying persons. The tour will visit Tanunda in the famous Barossa Valley. This Valley is the center of the wine growing area of South Australia and one of the most important wine areas of Australia. Tanunda is approximately 80 km North-East of Adelaide.



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The tour will travel by an historic steam train from Adelaide and pass through some beekeeping country.

A traditional Australian field day will be held at Tanumda. At the field day beekeepers from all States will demonstrate their equipment and methods of working.

A demonstration of boomerang and spear throwing by aborigines will also be featured. Lunch will be provided.

OFFICIAL RECEPTIONS

A welcome reception will be held in the evening of Friday 14th October.

OPTIONAL ENTERTAINMENTS

A Corroboree (aboriginal dances) and show by aboriginal artists of their cultural life will be staged in the Festival Centre on Saturday 15th.

A film evening of Australian wildlife and native flora will be staged on a night to be selected.

LADIES PROGRAMME

A Special programme for the ladies is being arranged by a sub-Committee. Details on the programme will be available in a later issue.

ONE DAY TOURS

1. Kangaroo Island. An Airtrip will visit the 100 year old sanctuary of the Kangaroo Island Ligurian bees. Other wildlife native to the Island (seals, geese and Koala bears) will also be seen on the Island's nature reserves.

Lunch will be included in the cost of the tour.

2. Adelaide: One day coach tours of Adelaide and environs will include; Southern Farmer's new honey packing plant; the Arboretum at the Waite Research Institute with over 300 species of Eucalyptus and the Cleland Wildlife reserve where visitors can walk amongst wildlife in their natural surroundings.

3. Many other one day visits will also be available through the normal tourist facilities and details of these can be obtained at the Congress.

The cost of One-day Tours will be published in a later issue.

POST CONGRESS TOURS

Four tours are being arranged. Tours will be for approximately the time periods indicated. Costs will also be notified at the time when final arrangements have been completed.

All tours are designed to cover local beekeeping areas, visits to beekeepers extracting plants and on some tours visits to honey packing plants and manufacturers of beekeeping supplied will also be available.

International visitors taking Congress tours should check with their travel agent for their entitlement on their world ticket for travel in Australia before and after the Congress.

1. Commencing Adelaide and concluding at Sydney - 9 days.

Taking in beekeeping areas in South Australia, New South Wales (inland and North Coast), Brisbane and the Gold Coast.

2. Commencing Adelaide and concluding at Sydney 8-9 days.

Taking in beekeeping areas in the South West of South Australia, Western Victoria, Melbourne, the North-East of Victoria, the Snowy Mountains (Spring season) of N.S.W., Canberra (the National Capital) and the South Coast of N.S.W.

3. Flight to Tasmania and concluding at Melbourne (4 days) or Sydney (8-9 days).

This tour will fly direct from Adelaide to Tasmania and spend 4 days touring the beekeeping areas and leatherwood country. It will then fly on to Melbourne to conclude there or tourists may join tour No. 2 through the above listed districts.

4. Western Australia (4-5 days).

This tour will be a coach tour of 4-5 days taking in beekeeping areas in the vicinity of Perth and Karri and Jarrah Forests of the South West districts of Western Australia. The tour will include flight to or from Adelaide as required. This tour may be offered as a pre Congress tour if there is sufficient demand.

Visitors to the Congress are reminded that a minimum number of persons are required for each tour to be implemented. The programme for each tour may be slightly altered due to climatic or other circumstances.

QUARANTINE

All participants at the Congress are reminded that quarantine restrictions apply to the importation of bees, hives, honey etc., into Australia and most states have laws governing their entry. A concise statement of these restrictions will be published soon.

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Hobbyist photographers who are also beekeepers associated with the beekeeping industry and Scientists or other Authorities engaged in Apicultural Research or honey marketing are invited to submit entries for this competition.

Section 1. Films (Cine) Standard 8, Super 8, 16mm or 35mm.

Section 2. Slides (Diapositive or transparencies) 35mm.

Section 3. Prints (Photographs).

All Sections monochrome or colour.

Entry forms and conditions of entry are available from the Secretariat and must be obtained before 31st. May, 1977. Entries close at the Secretariat on 31st August, 1977.

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MORE ABOUT BEE RUSTLERS

In this day and age when most anyone can get away with almost anything, does not exclude the rascals who resort to stealing hives of bees for a quick turnover in cash, or maybe relocating the stolen hives to another part of the country where they are run for honey.

And you ask, "Why are the thieves so bold and how do they get by with it?"


Rollin Moseley, in a recent article in Gleanings, gives us a hint. "The guy that ran that ring in Palm Beach County was making \$50,000 a year off stolen bees and honey, and after being caught and convicted the judge only gave him six months in jail." Bailey said. "That's ridiculous!" We had 30 hives stolen from Oscala Nat. Forest one night recently," Bailey said. "Later that night, the Police reported a stalled truck carrying bees near Palatka, but they didn't even write down the license number. It could have been the thieves. Ray Bailey is President of the Central Florida Chapter of the beekeepers Association. He believes rustling will not be stopped until Judges begin handing down more severe sentences against the thieves.

The Florida Beekeepers Association estimates that loss to the beekeepers through rustlers amounts to around \$500,000 per year. All members have been asked to brand their hives. This does not

always help as the rustlers chisel the brand name off.

A \$500.00 reward is offered for the conviction of any rustler, but that doesn't seem to solve the problem either.

One beekeeper, in Bartow, said he had personally lost \$20,000 worth of honey and bees to rustlers in the past five years, and admits that he's ready, almost, to advocate vigilante justice for the thieves. "If I ever run into any of them, I'm afraid I'm going to leave them laying there on the ground." he said. "They make me so mad. Why I even had hives stolen from right next to the Sheriff's department pistol range. Can you imagine that?"

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HONEYBEE POSSIBLY ENDANGERED SPECIES

Remember the old saying about how a horse and rider were lost because somebody neglected to tend to a small matter like a missing horse shoe nail?

Some scientists and agriculturists are worried that the same sort of ballooning consequences may stem from what many people probably consider to be a minor irrelevancy; The nation's honeybees slowly but steadily are being exterminated.

Not on purpose, of course. But as the honeybees forage for pollen and nectar they increasingly are gathering poison also - pesticides that farmers apply to protect their crops from destructive insects.

So there are 205 fewer honeybee colonies in the U.S. today than there were 10 years ago-about four million versus five million. (A colony contains between 25,000 and 60,000 bees.) In California, the leading bee state, as much as 20 percent of the state's honeybees have been killed in recent years - mortality rate double that of the early 1960s.

"All the indications are that it's going to get a lot worse," says Ward Stanger, an apiculturist at the University of California at Davis. "It's a serious situation," Mr. Sanger says - so serious that he's seeking to have the honeybee declared an endangered species.

It is even more serious in another respect; Nearly 100 crops with a farm value of \$1 billion annually depend on honeybees for pollination; another \$3 billion worth benefit from bee pollination in terms of higher and better-quality yields. Among these crops are apples, cherries, plums, broccoli, cucumbers, cabbage, melons - indeed, virtually all fruits and berries, as well as many vegetables and even some livestock-forage crops such as alfalfa.

Thus, at a time when boosting food production is becoming a global priority, the fate of honeybees takes on some of the significance of the proverbial horseshoe nail.

Floyd Moeller, research leader at the North Central States Bee Laboratory at the University of Wisconsin, says that the economic value of honeybees as pollinators is twenty times their value as honey makers. Far from being an esoteric ecological concern, the dwindling number of honeybees bodes ill for the nation's food supply. "You just can't pollinate as efficiently with fewer bees," Mr. Moeller says.

(Bees pollinate inadvertently by dropping bits of pollen, which they gather for food, as they fly from plant to plant. This cross-pollination, which is also performed by other insects, the wind and hummingbirds, produces crops genetically superior to those produced by self-pollination. Nectar, the bee's other main food is the one they make honey from.)

Some crops already are threatened by a lack of bees. Most notable is the California almond. Each of the state's 200,000 acres requires two colonies of bees for pollination, but there are only 300,000 colonies in the entire state--

Researchers almost routinely are uncovering more evidence attesting to the honeybee's contribution. For example, Mr. Moeller and his colleagues at the University of Wisconsin discovered a few years ago that cranberry production could be tripled with efficient bee pollination - whereupon Wisconsin cranberry growers rushed out and rented 2,000 bee colonies and increased the cash value of their crop by \$4 million. (Rental fees since have doubled to \$30 per colony currently.)

An even more dramatic and significant breakthrough may lie in the potential effect of bee pollination of soybeans, the country second most important feed crop and a critical source of protein.

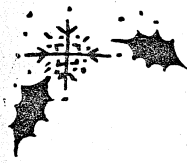
In a way, it's surprising that honeybees are declining in numbers because they in effect have been a protected species for years. Their protectors have been the dedicated practitioners of the art of beekeeping, a form of animal husbandry whose beginning are lost in antiquity.

But the economics of beekeeping have taken a turn for the worse in the last 10 years or so, largely because of the sharply increased possibility that a beekeeper's bees could be wiped out by pesticides. Changed farming practices (such as using chemicals for fertilizers instead of plowed-under legumes) which while in blossom are excellent sources of nectar and the continuing spread of suburbia into what used to be open fields also have contributed. "The bee just doesn't have enough flowers she can visit," says John Root, whose family has been in the beekeeping supplies business in Medina, Ohio since 1869. Another factor, until the last couple of years, has been a depressed honey market.

"There's just been no incentive for a guy to stay in the business," says Robert Banker, secretary-treasurer of the American Beekeeping Federation in Cannon Falls, Minn. The result, he says has been "a steady decline" of full-time beekeepers to about 3,000 and of all beekeepers, including those with one or two colonies, to about 150,000. A rise in honey prices in the last two years appears to be attracting more people into beekeeping, though so far apparently not in substantial enough numbers to reverse the decline of either bees or beekeepers.

Researchers have suggested various protective measures to beekeepers, such as keeping bees in hives and feeding them pollen supplements when nearby sprayed crops are flowering, installing pollen traps that knock the poison-tainted pollen off the bee when she returns to the hive and even draping

(continued on page 8)



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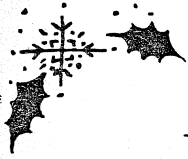
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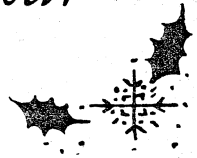
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Merry Christmas



Happy New Year

colonies with wet burlap when pesticides are being applied.

But there isn't a simple solution to the poisoning problem. "It's a complicated situation." Mr. Banker says, "We want to protect our bees but we fully recognize that a grower has a right to protect his crops" from legitimate threats. "Something's got to be done, but we're not sure what," says a spokesman from the National Wildlife Federation in Washington, D.C. He recalls that "last summer bees were dropping off like flies in Virginia."

All this doesn't mean that the honeybee faces extinction however. They no doubt will be around as long as there are people who are intrigued by them. "I have several observation hives mounted to windows," says Mr. Root, the Ohio supplier of beekeeping equipment. "I can sit and watch them for hours."

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THE WORLD HONEY MARKET

UNITED STATES

Good fall flows in several areas probably will boost earlier total honey crop estimates slightly. Heavy late flows surprised beekeepers in a number of East Central and West Central states who had earlier been predicting below normal crops. These crop prospect revisions should put the total U.S. Crop up in the neighborhood of 193 to 198 million pounds, very close to last year's 197 million pounds.

A recent Commercial Production report released by the USDA Statistical Reporting Service states that, "Honey production from commercial apiaries with 300 or more colonies in the 20 major honey producing states is expected to total 106 million pounds in 1976, about 1 per cent below last year, but 5 per cent more than the 1974 production."

The report goes on to say that: "The colonies of bees held by the commercial apiaries in 1976 are estimated at 1.8 million compared with 1.7 million a year ago. Partially offsetting the increased colony numbers from last year was a decrease in the per colony production. Yield per colony is expected to average 57.6 pounds, 7 per cent below the 1975 average and 4 percent below 1974." (For further information on individual states see graph.)

NORTHEAST

Crop conditions are little changed from our last report. Correspondents in New York, Pennsylvania and Vermont continue to report average to good fall flows. Fall flows were spotty in most other area states. State honey crop estimates have changed somewhat, although the final area crop should not vary greatly from our original estimate. The wholesale market is holding up well with small-lot white honey prices between 45 and 50 cents and 40 to 48 cents for amber. Retail movement is generally good. Winter stores are adequate.

MIDEAST

Most area reports were from Virginia this month. The crop is still rather spotty although the state as a whole should end up with about a normal crop. Fall flows have been helped by scattered rainfall. Other states reporting indicated no significant honey crop changes. Wholesale movement is fair to poor with prices varying greatly on small lots. Increased small-scale localized packing is reported among beekeepers. Retail sales are expected to increase as winter comes on. Winter colony stores are generally good at this time, although some beekeepers report above normal honeydew stores.

SOUTHEAST

Fall flows have been average to good in much of this area. Florida correspondents said a good Brazilian pepper flow had occurred and in Mississippi, goldenrod was producing. About 10 to

20 per cent of this uncommitted at pre fair to poor with whi 36 and 42 cents in cents elsewhere in ti are still between 30 cents elsewhere. Re Winter stores are ade

Only scattered month, however, estimates have not beekeepers are now cent of average crop. some states, but to wholesale market has white honey range fro cents for amber. E unsold or uncommitt per cent. Some rep amounts of importec shelves. Winter stores

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KEY MARKET STATES

Several areas probably will report crop estimates slightly below normal crops. These would put the total U.S. Crop of 193 to 198 million last year's 197 million.

Official Production report from the Statistical Reporting Service indicates a decrease in the per cent below last year's 1974.

That: "The colonies of bees in 1976 are compared with 1.7 million colonies in the 20 major states is expected to total 106 million, about 1 per cent below last year's 1974." (For further details see graph.)

THE EAST

Little changed from our last report in New York, Pennsylvania and other areas. The report average to good fall crop estimates have changed in most other areas. The final area crop should not be far from original estimate. The fall crop is holding up well with small-lot sales between 45 and 50 cents and 40 cents. Retail movement is generally adequate.

MID-EAST

Reports were from Virginia this fall rather spotty although the crop should end up with about a normal yield. The crop has been helped by scattered reports indicating no crop changes. Wholesale prices are down or with prices varying greatly. Increased small-scale localized crop changes. Retail sales are as winter comes on. Winter movement is generally good at this time, beekeepers report above normal.

SOUTHEAST

Reports are between average to good in much of the area. Correspondents said a good crop had occurred and is now producing. About 10 to

20 per cent of this year's crop remains unsold or uncommitted at present. Wholesale activity is only fair to poor with white honey prices holding between 36 and 42 cents in Florida and between 39 and 45 cents elsewhere in the area. Amber prices in Florida are still between 30 and 36 cents and 34 to 40 cents elsewhere. Retail movement is fair to good. Winter stores are adequate.

SOUTHWEST

Only scattered reports were received this month, however, it would appear that crop estimates have not changed greatly. Some Texas beekeepers are now estimating as high as a 90 per cent of average crop. Fall flows were just starting in some states, but to date have been spotty. The wholesale market has been only fair lately. Prices for white honey range from 42 to 45 cents and 33 to 37 cents for amber. Estimates put the amount of unsold or uncommitted honey at between 20 and 40 per cent. Some reporters have noticed increased amounts of imported honey appearing on grocer's shelves. Winter stores are adequate.

EAST CENTRAL

The fall flows have been spotty in much of the area with crop estimates varying greatly among correspondents. White honey prices are varying between 42 and 45 cents and amber between 35 and 40 cents. Wholesale movement is fair to good. A large portion of the crop remains unsold or

uncommitted. Retail sales are reported good throughout the area. Winter stores are generally adequate.

WEST CENTRAL

Fall flows were surprisingly good in a number of states thus increasing total crop estimates significantly. Correspondents in South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska all report increased crops. The wholesale market is fair to good with prices for white honey varying between 42 and 45 cents and 39 to 42 for amber. Prices are based primarily on large lot sales. Under 50 per cent of the crop remains unsold or uncommitted. Winter stores are presently fair to good. Retail sales are brisk.

INTERMOUNTAIN

Montana and Wyoming correspondents report bumper honey crops, while Nevada, Colorado and Utah beekeepers are having a somewhat below average season. The wholesale market is fair to good with large lots of white honey selling from 43 to 45 cents. There doesn't seem to be a market for amber honey at this time. Retail movement is mostly good. About 10 to 30 per cent of the crop is still unsold or uncommitted. Winter stores are fair to good.

WEST

No significant fall flows had taken place when this report was compiled. Beekeepers blame pesticides and erratic weather. Winter stores are fair



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to poor in most areas indicating that some feeding probably will be necessary. Wholesale activity is described as fair. White honey is selling in the 39 to 43 cent range, while amber is receiving anywhere from 36 to 38 cents. Reports on retail sales are mixed.

CANADA

Conditions are basically unchanged from our last report. Honey estimates continue to vary greatly from area to area indicating a spotty crop. Sources in western Quebec and eastern Ontario say that a fairly good goldenrod flow did occur this fall, this helping colony averages in that general area. Other province correspondents blame erratic weather for below normal fall flows. Wholesale movement of honey has been slow with prices remaining stable in most areas. Most sales have been on large lots. In most cases 50 per cent or over of the crop listed as still unsold or uncommitted. At this time winter stores are adequate.

AUSTRALIA

Queensland - Our last reports still indicated poor moisture conditions. In late September bees were in fair condition. Demand for honey continues to be fair.

New South Wales - Bees have not wintered well and moisture conditions were only fair in late winter. Domestic and foreign demand for honey is described as fair to good.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Going into spring, colony winter losses were low and bees were in good condition. Honey plants are in fair condition. Presently, exportable bulk honey stocks are low, with only bottling stock now held.

TASMANIA

Although bees have been wintering well, dry weather is still going to be a big problem for beekeepers this season. The clover crop, for example, is likely to be affected by the drought. Foreign and domestic demand for honey remains strong.

NEW ZEALAND

Early spring winter losses were low and colonies are in generally good condition. Honey plants, too, are doing well thus far. For the period ending May 31, 1975 there was a total of 3,250 beekeepers owning 15,396 registered apiaries and 204,191 hives. Of the commercial group, 168 beekeepers owned 9,642 apiaries and 165,142 hives. Smaller units continue to be absorbed by larger ones. Some large commercial enterprises that have come onto the market recently have not found buyers when offered as going concerns; they have been broken up and sold piecemeal to neighboring beekeepers.

A recent price freeze directed by the government prevents any change in price on the domestic honey market. This will be in effect until January 1977.

SOUTH AFRICA

The aloe crop has been below normal and the citrus crop was earlier than expected. Presently, conditions are dry and not much honey is expected. Highveld Eucalyptus was damaged by cold wind in August. However, the trees seem to be recovering well and buds indicate a reasonable flow. Beekeepers have been squeezed by a heavy inflationary trend and the price of honey is slowly creeping up.

WEST GERMANY

Ample supplies of domestic light and dark honey are available as a result of the bumper crop. Wholesale buyer demand is good. Despite the heavy domestic crop, large amounts of foreign honey continue to be purchased. During the period from January to July, 1976, 28,420 tons of foreign honey passed through West German customs. This compares to 24,760 tons in 1975. As usual, Mexico was the main supplier with 6,500 tons; Argentina 5,185 tons, Republic of China 4,500 tons and USA 1,079 tons.

ARGENTINA

Colony and honey plant conditions continue to be fair to good as spring progresses. About 20 per cent more colonies will be working next season, but due to heavy nuc selling and increased sown acreage of wheat and corn, honey yields are supposed to be lower.

CHILE

Bees are wintering well and moisture conditions are mixed. Central Chile is suffering from lack of rain, while rainfall is near normal in the southern portion of the country. Both export and domestic demand for honey is good.

HONEY PLANTS

French Pussy Willow

Extra large pussy willow flowers from this superior variety offer quantities of pollen which bees gather easily for early spring brood rearing, also furnishing some of the first honey of the season.

A fast growing plant, it makes an attractive background shrub for the beekeeper's garden. Salix Caprea may be cut back to the ground each spring after blooming, or let grow naturally to attain a height of up to 15 feet. The bees hum a steady tune over these trees on warm days.

SEI FATA

A new treatment myth may offer Americans who would a dose of researcher said rec

Each year reactions to insect serious although no

Dr. Martin Ba John Hopkins Hosp made from ins anaphylactic person to bites.

"We are conv minority right now, his team must p conventional vaccin of bees, wasps and

"It's just like you get bitten ofte anymore," he said, other vaccine treat booster to maintain

"Our trick is th a bee can't, so a affected by a bee st

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SERUM MAY END FATAL INSECT BITES

A new treatment not unlike an old beekeepers myth may offer protection for the eight million Americans who must fear an insect's sting as they would a dose of deadly poison, an immunity researcher said recently.

Each year 100 persons die from allergic reactions to insect bites. Thousands of others have serious although not fatal reactions.

Dr. Martin Balentine and a team of four other John Hopkins Hospital researchers believe a serum made from insect venom can immunize anaphylactic persons - those who are hypersensitive to bites.

"We are convinced but we are just a vocal minority right now," said Valentine who added that his team must prove the serum superior to a conventional vaccine made from the crushed bodies of bees, wasps and other stinging insects.

"It's just like the old beekeeper myth that if you get bitten often enough, it won't bother you anymore," he said, noting the method is much like other vaccine treatments that use an occasional booster to maintain immunity.

"Our trick is that we can regulate the dose and a bee can't, so a person who would be seriously affected by a bee sting may not feel any discomfort

at all from an injection."

Valentine, an allergist and immunologist, said the treatment starts with injection of minute doses of bee venom. The dosage is increased as quickly as the patient can accept larger quantities of venom in his system.

"We build up a patient until he can withstand a dose twice as potent as the amount of venom he would receive from an ordinary bee sting. After that they have to have boosters to maintain the immunity."

Valentine said that in preliminary tests 10 persons treated with the new vaccine were completely immunized while "we had a number of patients who were absolute failures on the whole insect immunizations."

Valentine plans tests of the new serum with 40 volunteers 12 or older. He hopes to gain wide acceptance of the new technique and make it available around the country, possible by next summer.



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**NOTICE TO ALL
INTERESTED PERSONS**

After a number of months of work by the organization committee the new Maine State Beekeepers Association became a legal non-profit incorporated organization on July 23, 1976.

Many of you have been interested and wondering what has happened since last winter. The fact is it has taken this long to become organized with a committee for incorporating.

Membership is open to all individuals and also for County Chapters to be formed under the by-laws of MSBA, Inc. The Penquis Beekeepers Association (Penobscot-Piscataquis County Area) will become our first organized chapter and their members assisted us in forming the by-laws and incorporation papers.

Benefits to members will be varied but the two most pressing matters are bee diseases with adequate inspection and pesticide problems. These can be controlled by an effective and active membership to work with the State Department of Agriculture on legislative needs for beekeeping interests in Maine. Also we need your help and hope you will join us.

Plans have been made for a display booth and our first annual meeting during the 1977 Agricultural Trade Show for January in Augusta, Maine.

Many of you have talents other than beekeeping that will help us build a strong and active membership. Copies of our by-laws will be mailed to each new member.

Present officers for 1976 are: William Rich, President; Peter Gordon, Vice-president; Joyce Rich, Secretary; Paul Wilson, Treasurer. Committee of Organization: Matthew Scott, Chairman; William Rich, William Nolet, Harold Swan, Paul Szott, Roger Marshall, William Jordon, Paul Wilson, Gilbert

Levesque, Leroy Harlow - Penquis, Francis Wood - Penquis, Stephen Turner - Penquis, Arthur Christie - Penquis.

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