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Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

Sources of Beekeeping Information¹

Malcolm T. Sanford²

Those interested in keeping bees and producing honey should read and study as much information as possible on the nature and habits of bees.

JOURNALS AND NEWSPAPERS

American Bee Journal, published monthly by Dadant & Sons, Inc., Hamilton, IL 62341, 217/847-3324.

Gleanings in Bee Culture, published monthly by A.I. Root Co., Medina, OH 44256, 216/725-6677.

The Speedy Bee, published monthly by Troy Fore, Jr., Box 998, Jesup, GA 31545-0998, ph. 912/427-4018.

BEEKEEPING SUPPLY HOUSES

By no means an exhaustive list; see bee journals and newspapers:

Brushy Mountain Bee Farm, Rt. 1, Box 135, Moravian Falls, NC 28654, ph 1/800-BEESWAX, FAX 919/921-2681.

Dadant & Sons, Inc., Hamilton, IL 62341, ph 217/847-3324, FAX 217/847-3660. (Beginners' book for sale.) Florida branch, P. O. Box 270, Umatilla, FL 32784, ph. 904/669-2622.

Mann Lake Supply, County Rd. 40 and First St., Hackensack, MN 56452, ph 1/800-233-6663.

Randall's Wax Works, Umatilla, FL 32784, ph. 904/669-2441.

The A.I. Root Company, Medina, OH 44258, Ph. 800/289-7668. (Beginners' book for sale).

Rossman Apiaries Inc., P. O. Box 905, Moultrie, GA 31776, ph 1/800-333-7677.

Walter T. Kelley Co., Clarkson, KY 42726, ph. 502/242-2012, FAX 502/242-4801. (Beginners' book for sale.) No branch in Florida.

BEEKEEPING PUBLICATIONS

Beekeeping Education Service & Wicwas Press, P.O. Box 817-1, Cheshire, CT 06410-0817, ph 203/250-7575, FAX 203/621-7325.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Beltsville Bee Laboratory. Dr. H. Shimanuki, Rm. 100, Bldg. 476, BARC-East, Beltsville, MD 20705, 301/504-8975.

Honeybee Breeding and Genetics & Physiology Research Lab. Dr. Thomas E. Rinderer, Research Leader, 1157 Ben Hur Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70820, 504/766-6064.

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1. This document is Fact Sheet ENY-101, a series of the Entomology and Nematology Department, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. Publication date: July 1993. Reviewed: February 1995.
 2. Malcolm T. Sanford, professor, Department of Entomology and Nematology, Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville FL 32611.

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Honey Bee Research. Dr. Anita Collins, Research Leader, 2413 East Hwy. 83, Weslaco, TX 78596, 210/969-4870.

Bee Biology & Systematics Laboratory. Dr. John Vandenberg, Laboratory Leader, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322-55310.

Carl Hayden Bee Research Center. Dr. Eric H. Erickson, Center Director, 2000 E. Allen Road, Tucson, AZ 85719, 602/670-6841.

Honey Market News. Linda Verstrate, USDA-AMS, Fruit & Vegetable Div., 2015 So. 1st St., Rm. 4, Yakima, WA 98903, 509/575-2492.

Price Support Program. Jane Phillips, Commodity Analysis Division, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, USDA, Washington, DC 20250, 202/720-7602.

Extension Service (Federal). Dr. Ricardo Gomez, ES USDA PPMS, RM 3347S, South Bldg., Independence Ave., Washington, DC 20250, 202/720-2471.

Jim Tew, National Program Leader, Apiculture, Wooster, OH 44691, 216/263-3684.

Biosystematics Research Centre. Dr. R. J. T. Trottier, Dir., Rm. B149, K. W. Neatby Bldg., Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0C6, 613/996-1665.

Agriculture Canada. Dr. D. L. Nelson, Dr. T. P. Liu and Dr. T. I. Szabo, Research Sta., Research Branch, Agr. Canada, Box 29, Beaverlodge, Alta., Canada T0H 0C0, 403/354-2212.

BEEKEEPING ASSOCIATIONS

International

International Bee Research Association (IBRA), 18 North Rd., Cardiff CF13DY, United Kingdom. Florida representative, Dr. Malcolm T. Sanford, Bldg. 970, IFAS, Gainesville, FL 32611. Ph. 904/392-1801. The Association publishes Bee World, Journal of Apicultural Research and Apicultural Abstracts. In the UK, ph 0222/372409, FAX 0222/665522, Internet MUNNPA @ Cardiff.AC.UK.

Apimondia, General Secretary, Corso Vittorio Emanuel, 101 Rome, Italy 00186. Every two years

convenes the International Apicultural Congress. Publishes the journal entitled Apiacta (quarterly).

National

American Bee Breeders Association. Fred Rossman, P. O. Box 905, Moultrie, GA 31776, 912/985-7200.

American Beekeeping Federation. Sec-Treas., Troy Fore, P. O. Box 1038, Jesup, GA 31545, 912/427-8447.

Ladies' Aux. of ABF. Donna Ruby, Rt. 3, Box 3, Milnor, ND 58060, 701/427-5263.

American Honey Producers Association. Richard Adee, P. O. Box 368, Bruce, SD 57220, 605/627-5621.

Apiary Inspectors of America, Laurence P. Cutts; FL State Dept. of Agr., Doyle Conner Bldg., Box 1269, Gainesville, FL 32602, 904/372-3505. ext. 128.

Eastern Apicultural Society of North America, Inc. Sec. Loretta Surprenant, Miner Institute, Chazy, NY 12921, 518/846-8020.

Western Apicultural Society of North America. Nancy Stewart, 2400 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95818, 916/451-2337.

National Honey Board. Chairman, Bob Smith, 9595 Nelson Road, Longmont, CO 80502, 1-800-553-7162.

Mid-U.S. Honey Producers Marketing Assn. Gary Reynolds, Box 363, Concordia, KS 66901, 913/243-3619.

National Honey Packers & Dealers Association. Richard Sullivan, 5 Ravine Dr., P. O. Box 776, Matawan, NJ 07747, 908/583-8188.

American Association of Professional Apiculturists. Dr. Keith Delaplane, Georgia Cooperative Extension Service, Athens, GA 30602, 706/542-9034.

Southern States Beekeepers Federation. Dr. John Ambrose, Dept. of Entomology, Box 7626, Raleigh, NC 27695, 919/737-3140.

The Canadian Honey Council. Linda Gane, Box 1566, Nipawin, Sask. S0E 1E0, 306/862-3844.

Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists. Dr. G. Otis, Dept. of Env. Biol., Univ. of Guelph, Guelph, Ont. N1G 2W1, 519/824-4120.

RESOURCES IN PRINT

University, local and regional libraries often have books on beekeeping. Some may be out of print.

ABC and XYZ of Bee Culture, A.I. Root Co., Medina, OH, 1991, 40th Edition, extensively revised, 515 pp.

The Hive and the Honey Bee, Edited by Dadant & Sons, Inc., Hamilton, IL, 1992, extensively revised, 1324 pp.

The Complete Guide to Beekeeping, Roger A. Morse, E.P. Dutton and Co., Inc., New York, 1972, 207 pp.

How to Keep Bees and Sell Honey, Walter T. Kelly Co., Clarkson, KY, 1975, 110 pp.

Guide to Bees and Honey, Ted Hooper, BAS Printers, Hampshire, England, 1976, 258 pp.

The Joys of Beekeeping, Richard Taylor, St. Martins Press, New York, 1974, 166 pp.

The Behavior and Social Life of Honeybees, C.R. Ribbands, Dover Publications, Inc., New York, 1964, 340 pp.

Beekeeping in the Midwest, Elbert Jaycox, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Circular 1125, 1976, 169 pp.

Some Important Operations in Bee Management, T.S.K. and M.P. Johansson, International Bee Research Assn., Hill House, England, 1978, 145 pp.

Beekeeping in the United States, Agriculture Handbook 335, USDA, Science and Education Administration, Revised October 1980, 194 pp.

The Yellowjackets of America North of Mexico, Agriculture Handbook 552, USDA, Science and Education Administration, 1981, 102 pp.

Bees, Beekeeping, Honey and Pollination, Walter Gojermac, Avi. Publishing Co., Westport, CT, 1980, 192 pp.

FLORIDA RESOURCES

APIS, A Monthly Beekeeping Newsletter

A comprehensive program of beekeeping information and a monthly newsletter, APIS. Dr. M. T. Sanford, PO Box 110620, Bldg. 970, Gainesville, FL 32611-0620, ph 904/392-1901 ext. 143, FAX 904/392-0190, INTERNET: MTS@GNV.IFAS.UFL.-EDU; BITNET: MTS@IFASGNV. APIS is available free of charge to Floridians by writing the above address or contacting your County Extension office. The newsletter can also be found on the world wide web (<http://gnv.ifas.ufl/~entweb/apis/apis.htm>)

Manuals and Circulars

The following manuals and circulars have been published by the Florida Cooperative Extension Service:

Sanford, M.T. 4-H Basic Beekeeping Manual, 4-H 427, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, 1982.

Sanford, M.T. 4-H Advanced Beekeeping Manual, 4-H 428, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, 1982.

Sanford, M.T. A Florida Beekeeping Almanac, Circular 537, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, 1983, revised 1995.

Sanford, M.T. Protecting Honey Bees From Pesticides, Circular 534, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, 1983.

Sanford, M.T. Florida Bee Botany, Circular 686, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, 1986.

Sanford, M.T. A Study in Profitability for a Mid-Sized Beekeeping Operation, Circular 722, 1986.

Sanford, M.T. A Profitability Model for a Mid-sized Beekeeping Operation, Circular 692 (IFAS Computer Series), 1986.

Sanford, M.T. Diseases and Pests of the Honey Bee, Circular 766, 1988.

Fact Sheets

Originally the series Hints for the Hive, occasional information sheets are available. The latest listing is in Table 1.

Table 1. Fact Sheets for Beekeepers

ENY-101	Sources of Beekeeping Information	2/95
ENY-102	Honey and its Uses	2/95
ENY-103	Honey Adulteration	2/95
ENY-104	Florida Bee Inspection	3/95
ENY-105	Florida Bees and Beekeeping	8/92
ENY-106	Honey House Sanitation and the Florida Food Law	2/95
ENY-107	Florida Honey Labelling Regulations	2/95
ENY-108	Producing Section (Comb) Honey	3/95
ENY-109	How to Exhibit Honey	3/95
ENY-110	Sample Pollination Contract	3/95
ENY-111	Solar Beeswax Rendering and Hints for Exhibiting Wax Blocks	2/95
ENY-112	Extension Apicultural Visual Aids	3/95
ENY-114	The Africanized Honey Bee	3/95
ENY-115	Good Neighbor Guidelines and Ordinances	7/92
ENY-116	Chalkbrood Recommendations	9/94
ENY-117	Honey Marketing Survey	7/87
ENY-118	Producing Pollen	2/95
ENY-119	Financial Management for the Beekeeper	8/93
ENY-120	Upward Ventilation	2/93
ENY-121	Wax Moth Control	2/95
ENY-122	Bee Stings and "Allergic" Reactions	2/95
ENY-124	Financial Statements and Ratios	7/87
ENY-125	Preserving Woodenware	6/92
ENY-126	Value of Pollination by Honey Bees	12/92
ENY-127	The Varroa Bee Mite	11/92
ENY-128	Infant Botulism and Honey	8/92
ENY-129	Honey Judging and Standards	7/88
ENY-130	Moisture in Honey	2/95
ENY-131	Observation Bee Hives	4/94
ENY-132	Removing Honey Bee Nests	11/92

Contact the Florida Extension Apiculturist or your County Extension office for copies.

State Beekeeping Associations

Florida State Beekeepers Association, Eloise Cutts, Executive Secretary, 2237 N. W. 16th Ave., Gainesville, FL 32605, 904/378-7719. Meets annually; quarterly newsletter.

Local Beekeeping Associations

Broward County Beekeepers -- Mike Venditti, 4111 Stirling Rd. #105, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33314.

Central Florida Beekeepers -- Tom Croft, PO Box 131, Ocoee, FL 32761.

Escarosa Beekeepers Assn. -- Malcolm O. Bullard, 9801 Lyman Dr., Pensacola, FL 32534, ph. 904/478-7690.

Northeast Beekeepers -- Mickel Herrington, 8477 W. Beaver St., Jacksonville, FL 32220.

Palm Beach Co. Beekeepers -- Roy Van Husen, 427 S.W. 6th Ave., Boynton Beach, FL 33435.

Ridge Beekeepers Assn. -- Ralph Russ, PO Box 398, Lake Hamilton, FL 33851.

South Florida Beekeepers -- Juan Garcia, Rt. 2, Box 1166, Clewiston, FL 33440.

Tampa Bay Beekeeper Assn. -- Jim Watson, 701 Washington Rd., Valrico, FL 33594.

Tupelo Beekeepers -- Fred Mellor, PO Box 397, Fountain, FL 32447.

West Central Beekeepers -- Tyrone Parker, 5030 SE Fort King, Ocala, FL 32617.

How To Obtain Bees

Buying bees can often be difficult for beekeepers. There are plenty of sources, however, listed in bee journals and newspapers. Bees can be purchased as a working colony or alternatively in packages (screened cages), which then are installed into the movable-frame equipment, available from supply houses. A good source of bee advertisements is the Florida State Market Bulletin, a free publication available by writing to:

428 Mayo Bldg.
Tallahassee, FL 32301
phone (904) 488-4211

Buying used equipment with or without bees can be disastrous, if bee disease is present. It is against the law in Florida to sell equipment without a certificate issued by the Florida Apiary Inspection Service. Every beekeeper is required to register with:

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
P.O. Box 1269
Gainesville, FL 32602
phone (904) 372-3505 Ext. 128.

Bee Inspection

Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services: Mr. Laurence Cutts, Chief, Bureau of Apiary Inspection, P.O. Box 1269, Gainesville, FL 32602, ph 904/372-3505 Ext. 128.

Pollination

Two fact sheets deal in depth with Pollination. These are ENY-126, The Value of Pollination by Honey Bees and ENY-110, Sample Pollination Contract.

Profitability In Beekeeping

Two fact sheets address this topic. They are: ENY-119, Financial Management for the Beekeeper;

and ENY-124, Financial Statements and Ratio Analysis for Beekeeping Operations. Circular 722 A Study in Profitability for a Mid Sized Beekeeping Operation also covers profitability. In addition, IFAS Computer Series publication 692 is available from IFAS Software Distributing, Bldg 120, Room 203. The model requires MSDOS product Multiplan (R) Version 1.0 to read the files.

International Activities

The extension apiculturist has many contacts worldwide. He is fluent in Spanish and has written a paper concerning resources in apiculture that might be of interest to those in Latin America. The paper is available in Spanish or English from Dr. Joe Conrad, Animal Science Dept., Box 110190, Gainesville, FL 32611-0190, Ph. 904/392-2180.