

Improving Survival Success Rates with Honey bee Colonies through Supportive Cohorts

Meeting #10 Organization & Legislation with Mark Gingrich

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1



Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

SARE made funding possible.

SARE is a branch of the United States Department of Agriculture with funding through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

The NIFA fund research and education projects to support sustainable agriculture; funding projects that help farmers, ranchers, and educators develop new ideas and strategies.

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"Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Department of Agriculture."

2



Mark Gingrich
Guest Presenter

Mark Gingrich is a commercial sideline beekeeper and the owner of Gingrich Apiaries, LLC in Dover, PA where he manages in excess of 320 colonies for pollination, honey production, and queen rearing. The operation produces an average of 300 mated queens annually sold across the US. He is the President of the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association and is a founding member and Co-Chair for the Pennsylvania Queen Bee Improvement Project. Mark is certified as an EAS Master Beekeeper, member of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture apiary advisory board, State Director for EAS, State Director for the American Beekeeping Federation, stake holder in the COMB and CARE projects, long-time participant in numerous USDA-funded SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education) grants focused on bee genetics.

www.keystoobees.com

3

PA State



Beekeepers

- President - Mark Gingrich
- Vice President - Frank Ruthkosky
- 2nd Vice President – Eric Smith
- Treasurer – Dominic Bruzese
- Secretary - Regina Rhoa

4



- Promotion
- Ag Progress Days
- Farm Show
- Pa Honey Queen and Princess
- Advisory Board
- Meetings and Banquet
- Publishing
- Research

5

#1 - 2 Cs and a Bee Beekeepers' Association	#19 - Lackawanna Backyard Beekeepers
#2 - Allegheny Mountain Beekeepers Association (A.M.B.A.)	#20 - Lancaster County Beekeepers Society
#3 - Beaver Valley Area Beekeepers Association	#21 - Lehigh Valley Beekeepers Association
#4 - Beekeepers of ABCI (Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, and Indiana)	#22 - Luzerne County Beekeepers Association
#5 - Beekeepers of Susquehanna Valley	#23 - Lycoming County Beekeepers Association
#6 - Berks & Schuylkill Counties Beekeepers Association	#24 - Monroe County Beekeepers Association
#7 - Bucks County Beekeepers Association	#25 - Montgomery County (Pa.) Beekeepers' Association (MCBA)
#8 - Burgh Bees	#26 - North Central PA Beekeepers Association
#9 - Capital Area Beekeepers Association	#27 - Northeastern PA Beekeepers Association
#10 - Central Counties Beekeepers Association	#28 - North Western PA Beekeepers Association
#11 - Central Western PA Beekeepers Association	#29 - Perry County Beekeepers Club
#12 - Centre County Beekeepers Association	#30 - Philadelphia Beekeepers Guild
#13 - Chester County Beekeepers Association (CCBA)	#31 - Susquehanna Beekeepers Association
#14 - Country Barn Farm Beekeeping Club	#32 - Tri-County Beekeepers Association of Southwestern Pennsylvania
#15 - Franklin County Beekeepers Association	#33 - Wayne County Beekeepers Association
#16 - Harrilton House	#34 - Westmoreland County Beekeepers Association

6



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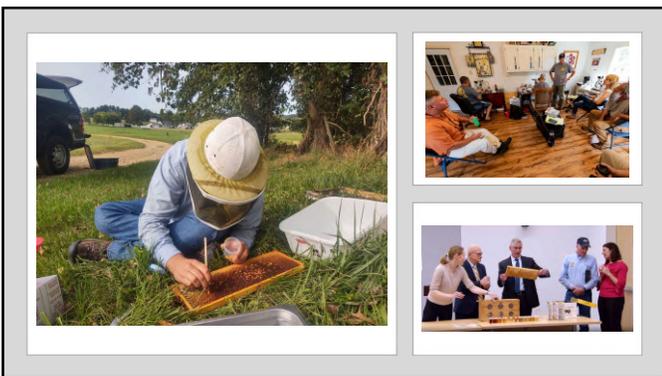
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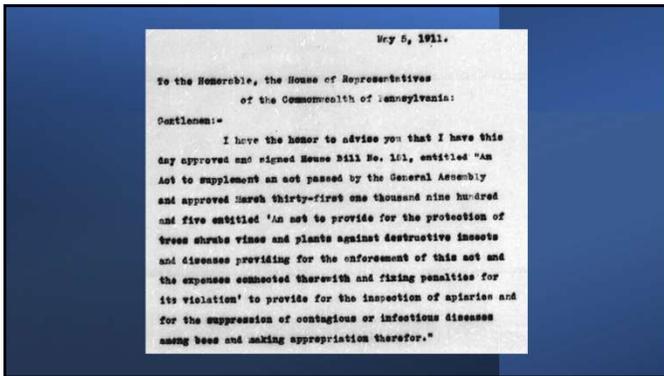
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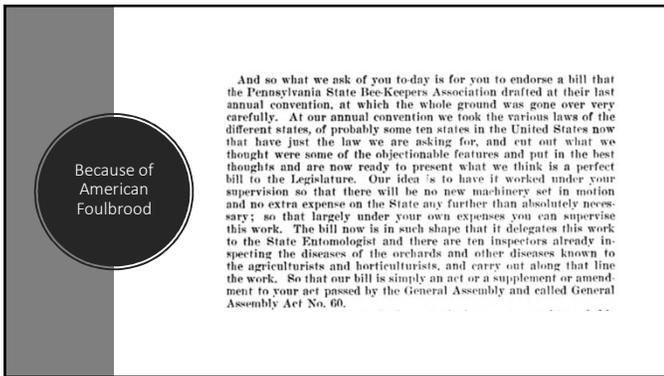
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16



17



18

PA Bee Law: 1921

Response to AFB outbreak

Goal to change to movable frame hives.

Pennsylvania Beekeeping Law
 Pennsylvania has passed Bill No. 865, for the prevention, control and eradication of diseases among bees. This law permits the Secretary of Agriculture to establish quarantines to control shipment of bees into or within the State. The Chief Apiary Adviser is to examine all queen-rearing apiaries twice each summer. Every beekeeper rearing queens for sale must apply for inspection.
 Besides, Section 9 orders that, after July 1, 1922, it will be unlawful to keep bees in any other than a modern movable-frame hive, which permits every comb to be examined to determine the presence of bee disease. The attention of those of our friends in Europe, who still support and recommend the use of skeps or box hives, is called to this regulation, which already exists in several countries. The day is not far distant when they will realize themselves that it is as good a measure as that of compulsory vaccination or inoculation against contagious diseases in human beings.
 The text of the Pennsylvania law may be secured by those interested, by addressing the State Chief Apiary Adviser, Chas. N. Greene, Harrisburg, Pa.

19

§ 2103. Chief apiary inspector

The secretary shall appoint a chief apiary inspector to be in charge of all apiary inspections and shall appoint such additional apiary inspectors as may be necessary. The inspectors shall be attached to the bureau and shall be furnished with official badges or other insignia of authority. The secretary and the bureau are charged with the enforcement of the provisions of this chapter

Establishes the position of PA "State Apiarist"

Establishes the inspection program as part of Bureau of Plant Industry

Karen Roccasecca Maggie Murphree Kirstie Housner Randy Sickler Bonnie Hall Andy Jones Rob Dawyer Jeff Eckel

20

§ 2105. Registration of apiaries

(a) **General rule.**-- The owner of an apiary located in this Commonwealth shall register the apiary with the department.

Makes registration of apiaries mandatory

(a) **Application.**-- The application for registration of an apiary shall be made on a form provided by the department and shall include all of the following:

(1) The name and complete mailing address of the owner of the apiary and the name and complete mailing address of the person primarily responsible for maintaining and caring for the apiary if different from the owner.

(2) The exact location or locations of each apiary.

(3) The number of colonies contained in the apiary. Such other information as the department may require

Establishes information requirements for registration

21

§ 2104. Quarantines

The department may establish, modify and maintain such quarantines as may be necessary to control the shipment into or within this Commonwealth of any bees, queen bees, hives or appliances capable of transmitting any bee disease for such periods and under such conditions as may be necessary in order to control and eradicate any bee disease or to prevent its introduction, spread or dissemination in this Commonwealth and for such purposes may make and promulgate such rules, regulations and orders relating thereto and to the general enforcement of the provisions of this chapter as may be necessary.

Gives authority to establish quarantines

Bee disease is defined, and vague:

"Bee disease." Any American or European foul brood, sac brood, bee paralysis or other disease or abnormal condition of eggs, larval, pupal or adult stages of the honeybee.

22

(c) **Fee.**-- The apiary registration fee shall be \$ 10 for each applicant. No fee shall be charged for temporary relocation of a hive or hives for crop pollination from an apiary yard properly registered as an apiary under this chapter.

(d) **Registration term.**-- A registration under this section shall be valid for a period of not more than two calendar years and shall expire on December 31 of the year following the initial year of registration.

(e) **Relocation.**-- The department may by regulation require apiary owners to report the relocation of an apiary from its original location as reported at the time of registration to another location in this Commonwealth. The owner of an apiary yard which is properly registered as an apiary under this chapter shall not be required to report the temporary relocation of a hive or hives for crop pollination as long as proper records of hive locations are maintained by the owner at a location available to the department for inspection

- Sets the fees
- Sets the term and dates
- Currently, \$10 for up to 2 years, expiring on Dec. 31

23

Relocation.-- The department may by regulation require apiary owners to report the relocation of an apiary from its original location as reported at the time of registration to another location in this Commonwealth. The owner of an apiary yard which is properly registered as an apiary under this chapter shall not be required to report the temporary relocation of a hive or hives for crop pollination as long as proper records of hive locations are maintained by the owner at a location available to the department for inspection

Requires the update of registration if an apiary location is changed.

Does not require an update if the change is temporary.

24

§ 2106. Inspection

The department through the inspectors shall at least twice during each summer season, inspect all queen apiaries. If from the inspection it appears that any bee disease exists in the queen apiary, the apiary inspector making the inspection shall immediately notify in writing the owner or person in charge thereof, and thereafter it shall be unlawful for that person to ship, sell or give away any queen bees from the apiary until the disease has been destroyed and a certificate of that fact has been obtained from the chief inspector. If upon inspection it is found that no bee disease exists in the queen apiary, the chief inspector shall issue a certificate of that fact and a copy of the certificate shall be attached to each package or shipment of queen bees transported from the apiary. The certificate shall be valid for one year from the date of its issue unless revoked for cause.

Establishes the inspection program.

Queen producers should be inspected twice a year

"Queen Apiary" Any apiary or premises in which queen bees are reared or kept for sale or gift.

Stops queen (and nuc) producers from distributing diseased bees

25

§ 2107. Diseases

(a) General rule.-- The department through the inspectors shall, as far as practicable, inspect all apiaries in this Commonwealth. If upon inspection it is found that any bee disease exists in the apiary, the inspector making the inspection shall immediately notify in writing the owner or person in charge of the apiary, stating the nature of the disease and whether the disease may or may not be successfully treated. If the disease may be successfully treated, the inspector shall specify and direct the necessary treatment, which shall be administered by the owner or person in charge within 14 days.

(b) Service of notices.-- The written notice required by section 2106 (relating to inspection) and this section may be served by handing a copy thereof to the owner or person in charge of the apiary or by leaving a copy thereof with an adult person residing upon the premises or by registered mail addressed to the owner or person in charge of the apiary at his last known or reputed address.

All apiaries should be inspected

Apiary owners will be notified if disease is found

Inspector shall direct necessary treatment for disease

Copy of inspection record is provided to apiary owner.

26

§ 2108. Infected shipments

Infected shipments, apiaries where the existing disease cannot be successfully treated and apiaries which are affected by disease amenable to treatment but which have not been treated within a period of 14 days after the owner thereof has received notice of the necessary treatment are hereby declared to be a public nuisance and a menace to the community, and the director of the bureau or his authorized agent may destroy by burning or otherwise, without any remuneration to the owner, any infected bees, hives, honey or appliances found therein.

If treatment for disease does not occur within 14 days, apiaries are considered a public nuisance and may be destroyed.

(Already in place in 1921 law)

27

2109. Prohibitions

- (a) **Infected colonies, hives or appliances.**-- No person shall knowingly keep in his possession without proper treatment any colony of bees affected with any bee disease or expose any diseased colony or infected hive or appliance so that flying bees may have access to them.
- (b) **Infected bees.**-- No person shall sell, barter or give away, accept, receive or transport any bees affected with any bee disease.

It is illegal to possess colonies that are "diseased"
 It is illegal to distribute colonies that are "diseased"

28

(c) **Hives.**-- No person shall keep or maintain honeybees in any hive other than a modern movable frame hive which permits thorough examination of every comb to determine the presence of bee disease. All other types of hives or receptacles for bees which are in use are hereby declared to be a public nuisance and a menace to the community, and the secretary, the chief apiary inspector or any apiary inspector may seize and destroy the hive or receptacle without remuneration to the owner.

Hives with movable frames are required.
 Hives without movable frames are a public nuisance and may be seized or destroyed.

29

§ 2110. Free access

The department, the chief apiary inspector and any apiary inspector shall have free access, ingress and egress to and from any apiary, premises, building or other place, public or private, in which bees, queen bees, wax, honey, hives or appliances may be kept or stored. No person shall deny to such duly authorized officer or agent access to any such place or hinder or resist the inspection of the premises.

PDA inspectors must be granted access to apiaries and equipment storage facilities.

They strive not to enter a property without notice or contact, unless an absolute necessity or an emergency.

30

§ 2111. Transportation

No person shall transport bees, hives or appliances into this Commonwealth unless they are accompanied with a certificate of inspection signed by the chief apiary inspector or corresponding inspection official of the state or county from which the bees are being transported. The certificate shall certify that actual inspection of the bees was made within 30 days preceding the date of shipment and that the bees, hives and appliances contained in the shipment are free from bee diseases. It is the duty of any officer, agent, servant or employee of any person, firm or corporation engaged in transportation, who shall receive a shipment of bees consigned to a point in this Commonwealth and not having attached thereto a certificate as required, to immediately notify the department and to hold the shipment subject to its orders for a period of 15 days.

Bees being transported into PA must be accompanied by an inspection certificate.

31

§ 2112. Imported bees

No person shall import any living insects belonging to the genus Apis from any foreign country except Canada for any purpose without written permission from the department.

Bees cannot be imported from anywhere except Canada without permission

32

§ 2113. Penalties

(a) **First violation.**-- A first violation of this chapter or any order or regulation promulgated under this chapter constitutes a summary offense punishable by a fine of not less than \$ 100.

(b) **Second violation.**-- A second violation of this chapter or any order or regulation promulgated under this chapter constitutes a summary offense punishable by a fine of not less than \$ 300.

(c) **Subsequent violations.**-- A third and subsequent violation of this chapter or any order or regulation promulgated under this chapter constitutes a misdemeanor of the third degree punishable by a fine of not less than \$ 1,000.

Sets penalties for disobeying this law

33

§ 2114. Civil penalties

Assessment.--The department may assess a civil penalty of not more than \$ 1,000 upon a person for each violation.

Contest.--If a civil penalty is assessed against a person under subsection (a), the department shall notify the person by certified mail of the nature of the violation and the amount of the civil penalty and that the person may notify the department in writing within ten calendar days that he wishes to contest the civil penalty. If within ten calendar days from the receipt of that notification the person does not notify the department of his intent to contest the assessed penalty, the civil penalty shall become final.

Hearing and appeal.--If timely notification of the intent to contest the civil penalty is given, the person contesting the civil penalty shall be provided with a hearing in accordance with 2 Pa.C.S. Ch. 5 Subchapter. A (relating to practice and procedure of Commonwealth agencies). Appeals may be taken in accordance with 2 Pa.C.S. Ch. 7 Subchapter. A (relating to judicial review of Commonwealth agency action).

Sets civil penalties and related procedures

34

§ 2115. Injunctions

The Attorney General at the request of the department may initiate in the Commonwealth Court or the court of common pleas of the county in which the defendant resides or has a place of business an action in equity for an injunction to restrain any violation of this chapter or any order or regulation promulgated under this chapter. The Commonwealth shall not be required to furnish a bond or other security in connection with this proceeding.

Further procedures for violation of this law

35

§ 2117. Disposition of funds

Moneys received from registration fees, fines and civil penalties shall be paid into the State Treasury and shall be credited to the general government operations appropriation of the Department of Agriculture for administering the provisions of this chapter.

Details use of funds collected from registration fees

36

CHAPTER 117. BEE SHIPMENTS

Sec.
117.1. Notice of arrival of bees.
117.2. Markings on equipment in shipment.
117.3. Bee disease in unidentified colonies.
117.4. Exemption of package bees.

The 1994 Bee Law has one "regulation"
Must give notice when bees are entering PA
Equipment must be marked
Unidentified bees and equipment may be destroyed
Package bees are exempt if they have a certificate of inspection

37

Establishes a state apiarist and inspectors

Gives authority to establish quarantines, direct necessary treatment for disease, and destroy colonies if they become a public nuisance.

PDA inspectors have free access to apiaries and equipment storage facilities

Apiary registration is mandatory; there is a set fee

Colonies must be kept in hives with movable frames

38

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39

THANK YOU

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