

AGRICULTURE

The humming of bees is the buzz of sweet honey

Glenn Wollman, who made a career out of bees, continues his love as a hobbyist

DAWN RYE

THE NEW ERA/PARKER

Honeybees are very important for modern agriculture, as they are the pollinators for many fruiting trees and plants. According to Amanda Bachmann, SDSU Extension Pesticide Educations & Urban Entomology Field Specialist, hive losses continue to be attributed to factors including high loss of queen bees, extreme weather, hive parasites, pathogens and poor bee nutrition caused by changing land use patterns. Overall the total reported annual honey beehive losses for 2015-2016 was 44.1 percent, which is higher than the 40.6 percent losses reported in 2014-2015.

This doesn't stop one of the registered beekeeper enthusiasts listed in South Dakota.

Traveling north on Highway 19 out of Parker for about five miles on the west side is a secluded area with miles of trees and fields. Buried at the bottom of the private driveway you can catch a glimpse of 30-40 beehives. This climate and soil conditions in this valley are just right for the alfalfa and sweet clover to produce this premium quality nectar for Glenn Wollman's bees to

collect.

Since 1965, Wollman, who is a bee lover and a honey extraordinaire, once had 1,200 hives but is no longer making it a career but more of a sweet hobby. Moving from commercial beekeeping to a hobbyist, Wollman has been on both sides of the beekeeping world.

"Some of the finest honey in the world comes from South Dakota's Vermillion Valley," stated Wollman.

He explained the main difference between "regular" honeybees, or drones and worker bees is that a worker bee gathers nectar

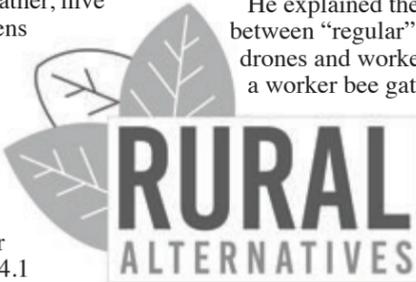
and produces royal jelly for the colony to eat and wax to build the honeycomb, while the drone's only

job is to breed the colony's queen. Honeybees love the miniature daisy flowers that the common yarrow produces. Varieties of sunflowers are classic favorites of honeybees because of the large and colorful blooms they produce each summer. Once the honey is made, the hive bees seal the honeycomb cells with wax, so the honey can be used later.

For most beekeepers, the harvest is the busiest time of the year and most exciting. In the best interest of the beekeeper harvesting the honey in the first two weeks of August is crucial in order to get the best



"Some of the finest honey in the world comes from South Dakota's Vermillion Valley," says Glenn Wollman, a bee enthusiast who has between 30 and 40 hives north of Parker. COURTESY OF THE NEW ERA



quality.

Wollman pointed out a person applying hairspray or perfume brings an odor that can agitate the bees. Wearing white (or light) clothing is wise, as bees sting darker areas. Swatting at bees buzzing around makes them more aggressive. Smoking the hive calms the bees down, making the approach easier. Finally, always putting on a veil and hat is crucial because stings

in the eye and face can cause more permanent damage.

If you happen to be stung by a bee the best advice to remove a bee stinger without using tweezers, apply ice, then place tape over the skin, and pull it off. If this does not work, daub the stinger with hot wax, and wiggle it out.

Honey World Farms, which is located at 165 N. Main Ave. in Parker, is where he sells his honey

products that are also available at Pomegranate Market in Sioux Falls.

This monthly feature is facilitated by Rural Revival, a local non-profit established to support local agriculture and its role in sustaining rural communities. Glenn Wollman is a member. This story was originally published in *The New Era* (Parker) and is reprinted with permission.

Rollag, Zachariasen win purple at horse show

On June 25, Turner County 16 4-H members participated in the Turner County 4-H Horse Show held at the fairgrounds in Parker.

Mount Vernon native Eric Kobernusz was the judge and 4-H alum Lacey Thompson was the ring steward. Deanna Gall was the mistress of ceremonies for the day and kept the event on track.

Showmanship

The objective of these classes is to show the horse at its best advantage without drawing attention to the showman. These classes also teach proper maneuvers for showing in other classes.

Senior Western Showmanship: Purple – Tiffany Rausch (1st purple), Kayla McAreavey (2nd purple), Emily Randall (3rd); Blue – Grace Kock, Becka Hoffman, Alex Kock; Also participating – Ashley Dickerson.
Junior Western Showmanship: Purple – Andrea Brandner (1st purple), Rylee Yoshino (2nd purple); Blue – Lydia Randall.
Beginner Western Showmanship: Purple – Megan Rollag (1st purple), Braylon Hostetler (2nd purple); Blue – Katie Simmermon, Lane Deutsch, Grace Dressen, Torrie Zachariasen.
Senior English Showmanship: Purple – Tiffany Rausch.
Junior English Showmanship: Purple – Andrea Brandner.

Equitation/performance

This class judges the ability of the rider and horse to work together to complete a pattern. Some points taken into consideration are proper seating in the saddle, position of hands, legs and feet and proper execution.

Senior Hunt Seat Equitation: Blue – Tiffany Rausch.
Junior Hunt Seat Equitation: Purple – Andrea Brandner.
Senior Hunter Equitation over Fences: Purple – Tiffany Rausch.
Senior Stock Seat Equitation: Purple – Tiffany Rausch, Kayla McAreavey; Blue – Becka Hoffman, Alex Kock, Emily Randall, Grace Kock; Also participating – Ashley Dickerson.
Junior Stock Seat Equitation: Purple – Andrea Brandner; Blue – Lydia Randall, Rylee Yoshino.
Beginner Stock Seat Equitation: Purple – Braylon Hostetler, Torrie Zachariasen, Grace Dressen, Katie Simmermon, Megan Rollag, Lane Deutsch.
Senior Ranch Riding: Purple – Emily Randall, Tiffany Rausch, Kayla McAreavey; Blue – Grace Kock, Alex Kock; Also participating – Ashley Dickerson, Becka Hoffman.
Junior Ranch Riding: Purple – Andrea Brandner; Blue – Lydia Randall, Rylee Yoshino, Braylon Hostetler; Also participating – Lane Deutsch, Grace Dressen.
Senior Trail: Purple – Kayla McAreavey;

Also participating – Tiffany Rausch, Becka Hoffman.

Junior Trail: Blue – Braylon Hostetler; Also Participating – Megan Rollag, Grace Dressen.

Senior Reigning: Blue – Kayla McAreavey, Tiffany Rausch; Also participating – Becka Hoffman, Grace Kock.

Junior Reigning: Participating – Megan Rollag, Torrie Zachariasen, Rylee Yoshino, Braylon Hostetler.

Two Year Old Training Class: Participating – Tiffany Rausch

Senior Barrel Racing: Purple – Kayla McAreavey, Becka Hoffman; Blue – Alex Kock, Grace Kock; Also participating – Emily Randall, Tiffany Rausch, Ashley Dickerson
Junior Barrel Racing: Purple – Rylee Yoshino, Lane Deutsch; Blue – Lydia Randall; Also participating – Megan Rollag, Braylon Hostetler, Katie Simmermon, Torrie Zachariasen.

Senior Pole Bending: Purple – Kayla McAreavey; Blue – Alex Kock, Becka Hoffman, Grace Kock; Also participating – Emily Randall, Tiffany Rausch, Ashley Dickerson
Junior Pole Bending: Purple – Lydia Randall, Rylee Yoshino; Blue – Braylon Hostetler, Katie Simmermon, Megan Rollag; Also participating – Lane Deutsch, Torrie Zachariasen.

Beginner Flag Race: Purple – Lane Deutsch, Katie Simmermon; Blue – Megan Rollag; Also participating – Braylon Hostetler, Grace Dressen, Torrie Zachariasen.



Freeman's Torrie Zachariasen and Megan Rollag both excelled at the Turner County 4-H Show in Parker June 25. COURTESY PHOTO