



**Saskatchewan Beekeepers
Development Commission**

WELCOMES

All Participants

to the

2023 SBDC Annual Convention!

Contents:

- Convention Program
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- Parking Information

2023 SBDC Convention Agenda

All Presentation in Michelangelo Ballroom A

Thursday November 16, 2023	
Time	Presentation
8:00	Registration
9:00	Welcome – Nathan Wendell – SBDC President
9:05	Presentation by WCVM Honey Bee Health Research Lab Moderated by Dr. Sarah Wood & Dr. Elemir Simko
9:05-	Adventures of a research chair in pollinator health. Dr. Sarah Wood
9:20	American foulbrood research: regional and international aspects. Oleksii Obshta
9:35	Surveillance of European foulbrood in western Canada and potential protective effects of propolis against EFB. Thanuri Edirithilake and Monica Andrea Cifuentes Ibarra
9:50	Does antimicrobial therapy eliminate <i>Melissococcus plutonius</i> from adult worker bees? Midhun Sebastian Jose
10:05	Effects of incremental doses of vaporized oxalic acid on honey bee workers and queens. Emilio Enrique Tellarini Prieto
10:20	Coffee Break – Sponsored by: Ridgedale Coop
10:55	Comparison of varroa mite and AFB spore counts in hive debris from live and dead overwintering colonies. Muhammad Fahim Raza
11:10	Effects of chronic drone pupal exposure to amitraz. Marina Bezerra da Silva
11:25	Honey bee hive productivity in Saskatchewan landscapes. Marcelo Polizel Camilli and Erin Baril
11:40	Effects of fumagillin on mixed Nosema species infections. Elemir Simko
11:55	Lunch
Bee Health and Sustainability Session -1	
1:00	Insect issues in 2022 and forecasts for 2023 in Saskatchewan - James Tansey – Provincial Specialist -Insect/Pest, Government of Saskatchewan.
1:30	Effect of feed supplementation with probiotics and postbiotics on bee health. Ernesto Guzman, Professor and Director of the Honey Bee Research Centre, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario.
2:00	Fall and winter management strategies for varroa for indoor and outdoor wintering using oxalic acid and carbon dioxide. Rob Currie, Professor, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, Canada.
2:45	Coffee Break - Sponsored by: Ridgedale Coop
3:15	Progress towards developing effective miticides for varroa control. Medhat Nasr – Saskatchewan Beekeepers Development Commission (SBDC) Tech- Adaptation Program
3:45	Does urban beekeeping kill native bees. Ron Miksha _Western Apiculture Society-Alberta Director, Calgary, AB
4:30	Pollination Activities in Saskatchewan. Graham Parsons. SK Agriculture, Prince Albert, SK
5:00	Day Session Ends
7:00	(Wine and cheese)

2023 SBDC Convention Agenda

All Presentation in Michelangelo Ballroom A

Friday November 17, 2023	
Time	Presentation
	Bee Biology, Health and Sustainability Session-2 Sponsored by ADF Program & Strategic Funds Projects
8:30	Keynote Speaker: The Bee Colony as a Honey Factory. Thomas D. Seeley, The Horace White Professor in Biology Emeritus at Cornell University, where he is a member of the Department of Neurobiology and Behavior. Cornell, NY, USA
9:30	Statistical Overview of the Canadian Beekeeping and Honey Industry. Stephen Page and Farid Makki. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
10:00	International Honey Export. Eric Hubich, Market and Industry Services Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
10:15	Saskatchewan Honey Market Development. Stephen Norgate- SK Agriculture
10:30	Food-specific requirements and guidance – Honey. Dacey Mansiere, Program Specialist, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)
10:30	Coffee Break - Sponsored by: Ridgedale Coop
11:00	Oxalic acid as a tool for control and management of resistant varroa mites. Medhat Nasr – SBDC Tech- Adaptation Program
11:30	The “acid test” and syrup quality. When does syrup quality matter? Robert Currie
12:15	Lunch
1:15	Alternative varroa control: my experiences transitioning away from synthetic mite treatment. Geoff Wilson, Provincial Apiculturist, Saskatchewan Agriculture, Prince Albert, SK.
1:45	Registration to the AGM Coffee Break – Sponsored by: Ridgedale Coop
2:00	Annual General Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Financial Presentation• Provincial Apiarist Report- Geoff Wilson – Provincial Specialist in Apiculture, Government of Saskatchewan, Prince Albert, SK• Director’s Report• Election• Election Results
5:00	Day Session Ends
6:30	Open Bar and Banquet

Saturday November 18, 2023 9:00 a.m.

Time	Topics and speakers
9:00	Biosecurity Course: Geoff Wilson, Graham Parson and Medhat Nasr
10:00	Saskatchewan Agriculture Biosecurity Program. Brynn Jones
10:30	Coffee Break – Sponsored by:
10:45	Keeping Healthy Bees – What Are you Finding in Your Bees? Open Discussion. Geoff, Sarah, Graham, Brynn and Medhat
12:00	Day Session End - Have a Wonderful Break

Speakers Bio

Keynote Speakers: Dr. Thomas D. Seeley,



Dr. Thomas D. Seeley, biologist and writer, is the Horace White Professor in Biology Emeritus at Cornell University, where he is a member of the Department of Neurobiology and Behavior. From 1980 to 2020, he taught courses on animal behavior and conducted research on the behavior, social life, and ecology of honey bees. Besides being a honey bee biologist, Tom is also an avid beekeeper. He began keeping bees

when he was a high school student, in the late 1960s.

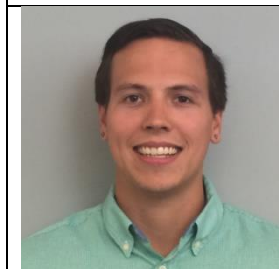
His scientific work is summarized in six books: Honeybee Ecology (1985), The Wisdom of the Hive (1995), Honeybee Democracy (2010), Following the Wild Bees (2016), The Lives of Bees (2019), and Piping Hot Bees & Boisterous Buzz-runners (2024). In recognition of his scientific work, he has been elected a member of the

American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the German National Academy of Sciences. He writes: These honors are gratifying, but for me the most important prizes by far are the discoveries that I have made about the inner workings of honey bee colonies.



Dr. Rob Currie is a Professor and former Department Head in the Department of Entomology at the University of Manitoba. He teaches a wide range of courses in the Diploma, Degree and Graduate programs within the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences. These courses have included, an online and in-person course on beekeeping, Pollination Biology, Pest Management and Farm Insects, Physiological Ecology of Insects, World of Bugs, Advanced Entomology and Advanced Pollination Biology.

His research interests focus on issues related to the biology and management of bees (honey bees, leafcutting bees and native pollinators) and the crops that they pollinate. A major focus of his research relates to how parasites, disease and other stressors such as nutrition interact to bee health and winter survival of honey bees.



Eric Hubich. Eric is Industry Development Officer at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. Experienced Development Officer with a demonstrated history of working in government administration. Seeking to leverage financial background and further contribute to the Federal Government's many initiatives by efficiently and effectively utilizing resources with a focus on serving Canadians. Extremely motivated to contribute within a fast paced and ever-changing environment, while establishing and maintaining value for all involved stakeholders.



Dr. Ernesto Guzman, Professor and Director of the Honey Bee Research Centre, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario. He started to keep bees when he was 17. Former assistant for an introductory apiculture course at the National University of Mexico. Ernesto kept more than 300 hives and produced over 10 tons of honey a year. He got a degree in Veterinary Medicine and obtained M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Entomology from the University of California. After getting his PhD, he conducted research on behaviour and genetics of Africanized honey bees and their resistance to Varroa mites. He is author or co-author of more than 460 publications. He has received numerous honors and awards.



Brynn Jones. Brynn grew up on a cattle farm just north of Prince Albert, where she still lives and farms today. She has over 14 years of experience in agribusiness and ag sales. Brynn has been working with Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture as an agriculture programs specialist. She is specialized in providing needed info on programs and services available to Saskatchewan farmers, ranchers and First Nation Communities through the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership program.



Dr. James Tansey, Provincial Specialist, Insect/Pest Management, Production Technology Crops and Irrigation Branch, Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, Regina, SK. He earned both an M.Sc. and Ph.D. from the University of Alberta. His research has included aspects of leafy spurge biological control, mechanisms of cabbage seedpod weevil and cabbage root maggot resistance, and insecticide resistance in, and cultural and chemical control of the Asian citrus psyllid. His doctoral dissertation was nominated for the Governor General Gold Medal Award. He was also a Regulatory Affairs Manager with Dow AgroSciences Canada Inc. in Calgary, Alberta.



Farid Makki. Farid works as Sector Specialist - Fruit for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. Farid defines competitiveness as the ability to sell a product, meet the demand for it, while ensuring profits from it.



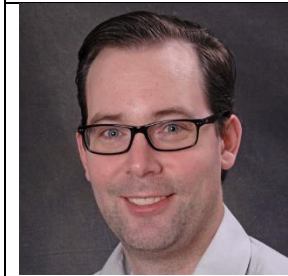
Dacey Mansiere, Program Specialist, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)



Ron Miksha, Ron is a bee ecologist working at the University of Calgary. He is also a geophysicist and does a bit of science writing and blogging. Ron has worked as a radio broadcaster, a beekeeper, and Earth scientist. (Ask him about seismic waves.) His commercial beekeeping spans six decades and five states and provinces. Ron is based in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.



Dr. Medhat Nasr, Saskatchewan Bee Tech Adoption Program Lead, Alberta Provincial Apiculturist (Retired). Medhat has spent decades developing alternatives for mite control (formic acid, Oxalic Acid, HopGuard² and Apivar[®]), managing miticide resistance, evaluating integrated pest management (IPM) programs, and breeding quality bees. Medhat was the president of CAPA from 2014-2018. He is a member of the Varroa Resistance and Treatment Team (VRTT) of the Honey Bee Health Coalition-USA. He received numerous awards for his contributions to apiculture in Canada and USA. Medhat earned his B. Sc. and M. Sc. (Entomology) from Cairo University, Egypt. He earned a Ph. D. in Entomology from University of California, Davis, US.



Stephen Norgate. Director, Market Development - Ministry of Agriculture at Government of Saskatchewan. Stephen and his team are specialized on how we can support marketing Saskatchewan products in Japan. He also can provide market intelligence and share details on our new funding programs for market development.



Stephen Page. Steve is a sector Specialist Beekeeping, Pollination, and Ornamental Horticulture · Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. Steve works with industry, associations and other governments departments and agencies to ensure industry concerns and challenges are understood by governments. Undertake economic analyses of industries and firms to estimate impacts of changing conditions, policies and programs.



Graham Parsons. Graham has been with Saskatchewan Agriculture since January 2016. He originally started as an Apiculture Intern and now is Saskatchewan's Pollinator Biosecurity Specialist. He deals with support of the honey bee industry through regulation, education and extension. As well he supports the alfalfa leafcutter beekeepers of the province. Other aspects of his work include pollination support for crop producers and habitat and management recommendations in support of managed and wild pollinators. Graham was the Lead Researcher for the SBDC from 2011 to 2015, as well as completing his Masters of Science in Entomology studying honey bee disease and overwintering at the University of Manitoba. Graham lives with his wife and two kids near Prince Albert Saskatchewan where he keeps a few honey bee colonies of his own.



Dr. James Tansey, Provincial Specialist, Insect/Pest Management, Production Technology Crops and Irrigation Branch, Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, Regina, SK. He earned both an M.Sc. and Ph.D. from the University of Alberta. His research has included aspects of leafy spurge biological control, mechanisms of cabbage seedpod weevil and cabbage root maggot resistance, and insecticide resistance in, and cultural and chemical control of the Asian citrus psyllid. His doctoral dissertation was nominated for the Governor General Gold Medal Award. He was also a Regulatory Affairs Manager with Dow AgroSciences Canada Inc. in Calgary, Alberta.



Geoff Wilson. Geoff is the Provincial Specialist, Apiculture in Saskatchewan and is based in Prince Albert. His primary roll is to help enhance the beekeeping industry in the province. A combination of working closely with beekeepers, and the rolls of regulation, extension and some research gives Geoff a unique insight to beekeeping issues in the province. Geoff earned his B. Sc. (Agriculture) and M. Sc. (Environmental Biology) from University of Guelph, Ontario

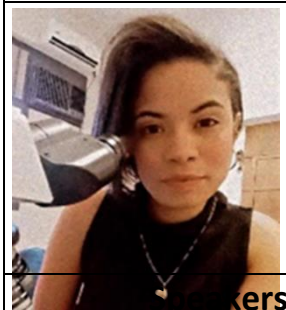
WCVM Honey Bee Health Research Lab



Dr. Elemir Simko, DVM, DVSc, ACVP, Professor, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM), University of Saskatchewan.
Elemir obtained his DVM degree (1990) from the University of Belgrade (Yugoslavia) and Doctor of Veterinary Science degree (1998) from the Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph (Canada). Since 1998, he has been a faculty member in the Department of Veterinary Pathology, WCVM, involved in teaching, diagnostics and research. 6 years ago, he established a Honey Bee Health Research and Teaching Program at the WCVM. He has received three awards for teaching excellence and two awards for research excellence.



Dr. Sarah Wood, MSc, DVM, PhD, DACVP, Research Chair in Pollinator Health, Associate Professor, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan.
Sarah is a co-foundress of the WCVM Honey Bee Health Research Lab. Sarah has worked as a small animal veterinarian and a diagnostic veterinary pathologist, and she is now thrilled to serve Saskatchewan beekeepers in her new role as the WCVM Research Chair in Pollinator Health. Her research interests include infectious disease and toxicology of honey bees and the role of pollinators in sustainable agriculture.



Dr. Marina Bezerra da Silva, DVM, MSc Student, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan.
Marina obtained her DVM from the University Federal of Uberlandia (Brazil) in 2019. Also, she did a residency in veterinary anatomic pathology at the University of Paulista State (UNESP) – Brazil in 2020 - 2021. Her MSc is focused on reproductive toxicopathology in honey bee drones.

Workers Bio. (Cont'd)- WCVM Honey Bee Health Research Lab



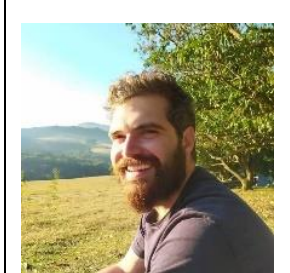
Fatima Masood, BSc, MSc Student, Department of Veterinary Microbiology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan.
Fatima obtained a BSc degree in Immunology and Microbiology at the University of Saskatchewan in 2021. Her MSc is focused on European foulbrood, specifically antimicrobial resistance and whole genome analysis of *Melissococcus plutonius*



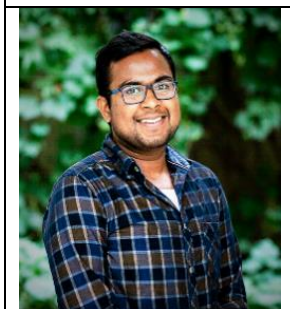
Oleksii Obshta, DVM, MSc Student, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan. Oleksii obtained his DVM from the Bila Tserkva National Agrarian University (Ukraine) in 2020. His MSc is focused on American foulbrood, specifically antimicrobial resistance and whole genome analysis of *Paenibacillus larvae* and molecular epidemiology.



Sofiia Markova (National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine), Mitacs Globalink Research Intern, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan
Sofiia is in her last year of a 6-year veterinary program in Kyiv, Ukraine and her specialization will be "Veterinary hygiene, sanitation and expertise." During her Mitacs Globalink Research Internship in the honey bee health research lab she is performing research about EFB and wild pollinator diversity in SK.



Dr. Marcelo Polizel Camilli, MSc, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan.
Marcelo obtained his MSc and PhD in Animal Sciences at São Paulo State University, Brazil, where he studied Africanized honey bee nutrition. Currently, his research focuses on pesticides, honey bee health and surveillance of wild pollinator diversity.



Dr. Midhun Sebastian Jose, MSc, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan.
Midhun obtained his MSc from the Central University of Kerala, India, and Ph.D. from Mahatma Gandhi University, India. Midhun's research expertise is in Microbiology, Probiotics, and bacterial diseases. Her current research is focused on the persistence, pathogenesis, and prevention of European Foulbrood caused by *Melissococcus plutonius*.



Dr. Muhammad Fahim Raza, PhD, Postdoctoral fellow, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan.
Fahim received his PhD degree (2020) in entomology from Huazhong Agricultural university, Wuhan China. His research expertise includes the role of gut symbionts in insect resistance mechanisms, sterile insect technique, and bacteriology. He joined the honey bee health research lab in December 2021. His current research focuses on the development of enhanced detection of American foulbrood spores in honey.

Platinum Sponsors:



Manitoba Cooperative Honey Producers Ltd. The Bee Maid Bee Supply stores in Winnipeg and Tisdale have been in operation for over 50 years.

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In our Apiary portfolio, Andermatt offers established products such as THYMOVAR, VARROX, VARROX EDDY plus the FAM and LIEBEIG Dispensers for formic acid application. All products offer beekeepers the tools to manage varroa mite in their hives. THYMOVAR provides a long lasting effect while being recognized as a safe product on queens. The new VARROX EDDY brings lithium technology and improved applicator safety to the oxalic acid vaporization method.

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From Hives to Honey Beekeeping (Formally Tony Lalonde Sales PRT)has been providing the beekeeping community with equipment that is essential for a beekeeper's success for nearly 20 years. We are dealers for Cowen Equipment, Hummerbee forklifts, Amish woodenware and Mahurangi frames, and we are a broker for Canadian honey. Whether a beekeeper has one hive or 5,000 hives we are proud to provide them with a quality product at a reasonable price. Our goal is your success.

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SMARTER BEEKEEPING

Information management is now a critical component for business operators in today's demanding farming environment. We have found there is a direct connection between good business management and bee colony health. Through partnering with industry, MyApiary has custom-built and refined a software management platform specifically for commercial beekeepers. This has led to the development of world-leading hive management practices today.

MyApiary's platform now facilitates behavioural change in many beekeeping operations, improving organisational communication and increasing productivity by helping beekeepers make informed, data-driven decisions. Enabling beekeepers to run effect sustainable business, ensuring the future of our global food production ecosystem.



Vita Bee Health (Canada) is a mite control and honeybee health specialist. It is the world's largest dedicated supplier of honey bee health products to the honey and pollination industries.

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Joan's Beeswax Candles is located on my farm 2 km north of downtown Hague, SK. I have worked with beeswax since 2010. I apprenticed with a former beeswax candle maker for one year before buying the business July, 2011. I am a juried member of the Saskatchewan Craft Council. I am proud to say I purchase only Saskatchewan beeswax, directly from the beekeeper. - Gwen Fehr. (Gwen supplies the gift baskets for the SBA convention presenters and fills the air with that heavenly beeswax aroma in the display area!)