



BEE AWARE: AFB Prevention

By Lynn Moreau

What Is American Foulbrood? American foulbrood (AFB) is the most serious and damaging brood disease of honey bees. This disease is caused by a spore forming bacteria, *Paenibacillus larvae* specific to honey bees.

It is highly contagious and will weaken and in most cases kill a honey bee colony. AFB also contaminates beekeeping equipment whereby the destruction of the equipment is required to prevent the spread of AFB to additional colonies. There is no cure for AFB. Beekeepers can only take steps to prevent an infection from establishing itself in a beekeeping operation.

If your operation has AFB you will be required to burn the hives and all associated equipment.

Prevention of an AFB outbreak is the best strategy and can be accomplished by vigilant inspection of the brood nest at least twice a year, before treatment with oxytetracycline which can mask some symptoms of disease.

AFB can be spread from hive to hive on hive tools, gloves, smokers and brushes so these items should be scraped free of wax and disinfected using heat between hive visits.

Oxytetracycline is the only registered antibiotic for use with honey bees in Ontario. Other antibiotics are illegal and may not be safe to use. Antibiotics are not a cure or treatment for AFB infections. Best practices include:

- Sterilize equipment well when

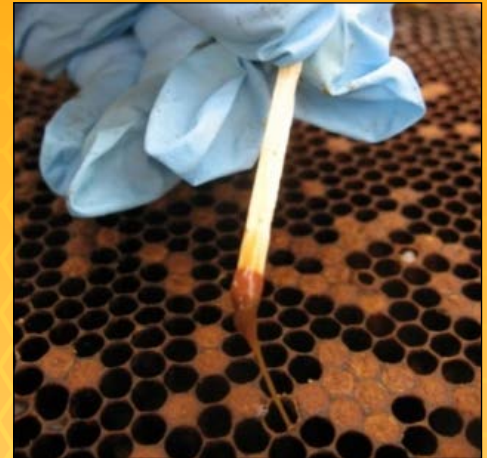
moving on to a new beeyard;

- Do not encourage robbing behaviour in the beeyard;
- Remove dead bee colonies to discourage robbing;
- Keep in contact with other beekeepers and be aware of the risks of shared equipment such as extractors and hive tools;
- Contact your local apiary inspector or the Provincial Apiarist immediately if you think your hive(s) may be infested with AFB.

Honey bee colonies are exposed to diseases at other colonies within a 3 to 8 km radius. Therefore it is important that newly affected beekeepers take immediate steps to eliminate AFB where it is found in the beekeeping outfit and restrict movement of potentially infected material.

Colonies with AFB will be ordered to be destroyed. Colonies in the infected yard may be ordered to be treated with preventative antibiotics. This will depend on the season and conditions in the field.

A beeyard with AFB will have an AFB Quarantine Order issued for a period of two years. During the quarantine, no colonies or beekeeping equipment may leave the site. This reduces the risk of spreading AFB to other beekeepers and/or other beeyards within the same operation. Honey supers from colonies that are not ordered to be destroyed may leave the site but should be returned to the same beeyard where they originated and should be harvested separately from



Larvae affected with AFB may have a mucus-like consistency.



AFB Disease brood characterized by cells that have been partially uncapped and with sunken caps.



other non-infected and quarantined yards.

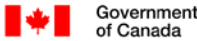
After two years the quarantine is lifted and the beeyard may undergo another inspection by apiary inspectors to validate the disease status.

Additional information can be found at this link: <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/food/inspection/bees/afb-mgmt.htm>



RESOURCES: Agriculture Programs

 <p>Circular Opportunity Innovation Launchpad</p>	<p>CIRCULATE COLAB PROGRAM Application Deadline April 8th https://coil.eco/colab/</p>
	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL CAREERS ORGANIZATION CANADA A variety of wage subsidy programs covering between 80 to 100 % of salary for youth. https://eco.ca/environmental-professionals/employment-funding-and-job-board/apply-for-job-funding/</p>

	<p>JOBS AND GROWTH FUND The Jobs and Growth Fund provides funding to businesses and organizations to help create jobs and position local economies for long-term growth. Eligible applicants include businesses, co-operatives, not for profit organizations and community economic development partners. FedNor may contribute up to 100% of eligible project costs for projects with Indigenous clients. https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/icgc.nsf/eng/07737.html</p>
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<p>RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM The program has two project categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Strategic Economic Infrastructure stream provides up to 30 per cent in cost-shared funding for minor capital projects that advance economic development and investment opportunities. 2. The Economic Diversification and Competitiveness stream provides up to 50 per cent in cost-shared funding for projects that remove barriers to business and job growth, attract investment, attract or retain a skilled workforce, strengthen sector and regional partnerships and diversify regional economies. <p>https://fednor.gc.ca/eic/site/fednor-fednor.nsf/eng/h_fn03899.html</p>	
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<p>COMMUNITY INVESTMENT INITIATIVE FOR NORTHERN ONTARIO Funding is available for small communities or First Nations to hire a qualified individual to help develop the local economy. This economic development professional will work to foster opportunities and partnerships in your region, and help implement strategies that seek to strengthen your community and create jobs. https://fednor.gc.ca/eic/site/fednor-fednor.nsf/eng/h_fn03899.html</p>	
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<p>A new intake of the Local Food Infrastructure Fund is Launched! The Local Food Infrastructure Fund (LFIF) supports community led projects that strengthen food systems and help to facilitate access to safe and nutritious food for at risk Canadians. It was created as part of the Government of Canada's Food Policy for a healthier and more sustainable food system in Canada. This phase of the LFIF is aimed at the establishment and/or expansion and/or completion of local food systems within rural communities, small cities or with Indigenous groups. It has been designed to create or foster connections within food systems by enabling organizations to partner with other communities and other organizations to collectively strengthen local food systems</p>	<p>and address food insecurity in a sustainable manner. Eligible applicants must be capable of entering into a legally-binding agreement and are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Indigenous groups in either urban centres or rural areas (e.g. Indigenous communities, Indigenous organizations); or, ▪ Located in rural communities (population under 1,000) or small cities/municipalities (population between 1,000 to 29,999). <p>These organizations must have a mission to reduce food insecurity by establishing and/or expanding and/or completing their local food system. Eligible Projects must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create, expand or implement two or more new food system components. Projects must be infrastructure specific and 	<p>be community-driven projects dedicated to improving food access;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include funding requests for grants between \$100,000 and \$500,000; ▪ Be completed by March 31, 2024 ▪ Please visit the LFIF website to review the Applicant Guide and learn about the requirements of this new intake. ▪ Please review Annexes A and B to understand what needs to be included in your Application Form. ▪ Please note that the application intake period will start June 1, 2022 and will end July 15, 2022. The application form will be available at that time. <p>https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/agricultural-programs-and-services/local-food-infrastructure-fund/applicant-guide</p>
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Avian Influenza?

By Lynn Moreau

Your backyard chickens and pet birds could be at risk of catching avian influenza, also known as bird flu, when wild birds migrate back to Ontario in the spring. Avian influenza is caused by an influenza Type A virus that can infect poultry such as chickens and turkeys. On rare occasions, some subtypes of the virus can cause illness in humans. The disease is carried by wild birds including ducks, geese and shorebirds. Avian influenza is not a threat to food safety, and poultry and eggs are safe to eat when proper handling and cooking takes place. However, it is fatal to birds that contract it.

On March 21st, 2022, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency reported a case of H5N1 (highly pathogenic avian influenza) in a red-tailed hawk found in the Waterloo Region. The hawk was showing neurological signs of disease and was euthanized. Avian flu has also been observed in Atlantic Canada, British Columbia, and 21 states in the U.S.

Infected birds may show one or many of these signs:

- lack of energy, movement or appetite
- decreased egg production
- swelling around the head, neck and eyes
- coughing, gasping for air or sneezing
- nervous signs, tremors or lack of coordination
- diarrhea
- sudden death

If you have a small poultry flock, you are encouraged to maintain strict biosecurity and follow all public health guidelines. You can help protect your birds by following these five basic rules:

- prevent contact with wild birds and other animals
- frequently clean poultry coops, waterers, feeders, your clothing and your boots
- spot the signs and report early
- limit exposure to visitors
- keep new birds separate when entering your flock

If you suspect your birds have bird flu, call a veterinarian or your nearest Canadian Food Inspection Agency. If you find a sick or dead wild bird, contact the Canadian Wildlife Health Co-operative.

Symptoms of human infection with avian influenza include high fever, cough, aching muscles and sore throat. People who become infected with avian influenza can become ill quite quickly and should see a health care provider immediately if they have travelled within an infected region and are showing symptoms.

For more information check out <https://inspection.canada.ca/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/diseases/reportable/avian-influenza/protect-your-flock/>



EVENTS

HAUDENOSAUNEE SEEDKEEPER SCHOOL

Preference is given to Haudenosaunee citizens but all are welcome to apply.

Event by: Terrylynn Brant and Mohawk Seedkeepers Gardens, Ohsweken, Six Nations

Duration: 6 hr

Registration: 2022 Now Open until FULL

Renown Haudenosaunee Seedkeepers Terrylynn Brant and Archie Bomberry of Ohsweken, Janis Brant of Tyendinega, and Steve McComber of Kanawake are happy to offer their years of traditional agricultural knowledge and sustainable living to the FIRST COHORT of Haudenosaunee

Seedkeepers Mentees: Nurture your connections to knowledge, skills and insights involved with supporting Mother Earth's restoration, through sustainable indigenous agriculture and modern traditional lifestyles.

Tentative topics: food sovereignty, collective agriculture, living and planting in unison with traditional ceremonial and celestial knowledge, food sovereignty, collective agriculture, building local economies, drought resistant ag, seed saving development, cultural teachings, agroforestry, food forests, rotting wood gardens, perennial polyculture gardens, ecological restoration, soil building, food preservation and Indigenous Cuisine taught by Mohawk Chef Tawnya Brant, Owner of Yawekon Restaurant.

Tentative monthly dates and locations:

14 May Sat. @Ohsweken, 10-4; 11 June Sun. @ Ohsweken, 10-4; 9 July Sat. @Tyendinega, 10-4; 13 Aug. Sat. @Kanawake, 10-4; 10 Sept. Sat. @ Ohsweken, 10-4;

Cost: \$400. Deposit \$100 due March 31.

Final Payment: April 15, 2022.

Contact: Terrylynn Brant 1-519-717-4077

Email: terrylynnbrant@live.ca to registration.

We are looking into securing \$200 scholarships for unsponsored indigenous mentees, if interested let us know.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

GREEN THUMBS

Indigenous Program Coordinator
Indigenous Program Leader (Toronto)
Email: jobs@greenthumbsto.org

SUDBURY SHARED HARVEST

Internship and Summer Jobs
<https://sudburysharedharvest.ca/>

FLEMO FARM

Farm Assistant (Toronto) - Email: hr@foodshare.net

BLACK CREEK COMMUNITY FARM

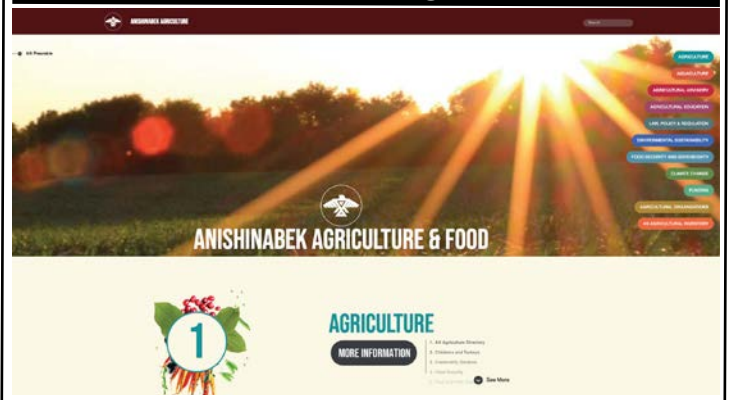
Youth Program Coordinator (Toronto)
<https://www.blackcreekfarm.ca/jobs/>



Congratulations

Garden River First Nation and Mississauga First Nation, who received funding under Round 1 of the Local Food Infrastructure Fund!

www.anishinabekagriculture.ca/



NAMEBINE GIIZIS

(SUCKER MOON) – APRIL

The fourth moon of Creation is Sucker Moon, when sucker goes to the Spirit World in order to receive cleansing techniques for this world. When it returns to this realm, it purifies a path for the Spirits and cleanses all our water beings. During this time we can learn to become healed healers. Another teaching is that the sucker gave up his life for the Ojibwe in the month of February. The previous month, January, is the hardest time of year to get food because of the scarceness of game. In February it is easier to net these fish and it is believed that the sucker is giving his life for the Anishinaabe.



ANISHINABEK AGRICULTURAL ROUND TABLE

April 13th - Northern Superior Region

April 20th - Lake Huron Region

April 27th - Southeast/Southwest Region



If you have any comments or suggestions for things to be added to the website, feel free to contact Lynn Moreau, Program Coordinator.
Email: lynn.moreau@anishinabek.ca



Lynn Moreau
Program Coordinator,
Agriculture and Food
Lands and Resources Department

Anishinabek Nation
1 Migizii Miikan
Nipissing First Nation
P.O. Box 711, 1 Migizii Miikan

North Bay, Ontario PIB 8J8
Tel: (705) 497-9127 ext. 2334
Toll Free: 1-877-702-5200
Website: www.anishinabek.ca