

# What's the Buzz about Honey?

## *Get the facts about producing safe honey*

Production of safe honey requires a safe environment. The inappropriate use, handling and storage of agricultural chemicals may result in chemical contamination of honey. Residues of agricultural chemicals above the regulated limits are considered violations of the federal Food and Drugs Act. This is a serious matter that could affect the marketability of all Alberta honey and the industry's reputation internationally.

The Beekeepers Commission in partnership with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development is offering a series of workshops across the province to inform beekeepers about the safe use of agricultural chemicals. Five one-day workshops will be held from Lethbridge to Peace River.

All sessions are from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Select the date and location that suits you best. **Register now as seating is limited.** Call the Registration Line at 1-800-387-6030. Deadline for registration is 5 (five) days prior to each workshop.

- **Lethbridge** on February 2, 2012 at the Lethbridge Centre, 100, 5401 – 1 Avenue South
- **Peace River** on February 16, 2012 at the Sawridge Inn, 9510 – 100 Street
- **Edmonton** on February 22 at CDC North, 17507 Fort Road NW
- **St. Paul area** on February 28, 2012 at the St. Lina Community Hall
- **Westlock** on March 1, 2012 at the Westlock Inn at 10411 – 100 Street

Cost is \$25 per person which includes coffee, lunch and a copy of A Field Guide to Honey Bees and Their Maladies published by Penn State. Please pay at the door. Cheques should be made out to Beekeepers Commission.

### **Workshop speakers include:**

- **Dr. Medhat Nasr** on identification of bee pests and diseases and non chemical control methods
- **Kenn Tuckey** on the safe handling and storage of agricultural chemicals including vet drugs
- **Norine Best/Tom Thompson** on everything you wanted to know about chemical residues in honey but didn't know who to ask
- **industry members and inspectors** who will speak about their own success stories and what they have seen in apiaries around the province

### **For more information contact:**

Sam Muirhead at 780-643-0702 OR  
Medhat Nasr at 780-415-2314 OR [bee@gov.ab.ca](mailto:bee@gov.ab.ca) OR  
Betty Vladicka, 780-427-0840 or [betty.vladicka@gov.ab.ca](mailto:betty.vladicka@gov.ab.ca)

**Attend one of these workshops if you are interested in learning more about the safe use of agricultural chemicals in your apiaries and ensuring the marketability of your honey.**

***These workshops are being funded by Growing Forward, a Federal/Provincial/Territorial Initiative.***