

Kid's Korner

September Is Honey Month

BY LOU ANN GOOD
 EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) — September is honey month. Honey, one of the sweetest gifts from the busy honeybee, is growing in popularity. Perhaps, you use it in place of sugar.

If you do, you realize, honey is sweeter than sugar. In fact, studies show it is 33 percent sweeter and contains fewer calories than sugar.

Honey is good for you. It contains trace amounts of vitamins, minerals and acids not found in refined sugars.

There are many different kinds of honey. These taste different and smell different. The most popular is clover honey. "Watch your toes, when you go barefoot in the yard. Bees are often busy doing their job and they don't like to be stepped on. Clover honey is a sweet tasting, light to golden honey with an aroma of clover blossoms. Another kind is tulip poplar, a dark, reddish honey with mild sweetness that tastes like molasses.

The honey bee helps the farmer. Many farmers pay beekeepers to rent their bees because they pollinate fruits and vegetables such as watermelons, pumpkins and cucumbers.

Bees also pollinate flower gardens and make flowers beautiful.

In order to produce one pound of honey, honeybees must tap the

nectar of two million flowers and fly more than 55,000 miles. No doubt the bee's hard work inspired the saying, "Busy as a bee."

There are approximately 211,600 beekeepers in the U.S. They tend to more than 4 million beehives.

Bar-coding is used to check foods out of the supermarket. According to National Geographic News, researchers are using bar codes to learn more about bees. Bar codes show what time individual bees leave the hive and when they return.

The bees wear the world's smallest bar codes. They are glued to the backs of worker bees between their wing bases. The miniature black-and-white labels are one tenth of an inch square and are read by a laser scanner. The information is stored in a computer.

The computer keeps track of the bees. How busy are bees? How far do they fly? How many pollen-gathering trips do they make each day. When do they wake up? When do they go to sleep? What kind of flowers or fruits do they like best?

This may help bee keepers to predict their honey yields more accurately.

While researchers learn more about the busy bee, why don't you enjoy a piece of toast topped with honey?



A bee flies more than 55,000 miles and visits two million flowers to produce a single pound of honey.

Readers Write

Hello,

My name is Mary Stoltzfus. I am 10 years old. My parents names are Joseph B. and Mary R. Stoltzfus.

I live on a dairy farm. We have 3 horses and 5 mules: Judy, Helen, Robert, Jane, Pat, Kate, Karen, Dianne. We milk 25 cows. We have 2 goats, 30 hens, 2 dogs, 14 kittens, 4 ducks, 6 geese. I guess that's all the farm animals we have.

I have three brothers and four sisters: Ruth, 18; Amos, 17; Emma, 16; Katie, 14; John, 12; Mary, 10; Joseph Jr., 7; Lydia, 1.

I am going to be the fifth grade when school starts again. Our school starts September 4. My teacher's name is Emma Stoltzfus.

Well, I have to quit. Bye, Bye.
 Mary Stoltzfus
 Kirkwood

Hello Readers,

My name is Lamar Zimmerman. I am 8 years old and my birthday is September 19, 1980. My parent's names are Abram and Mary Ellen Zimmerman. On August 2, 1989, a baby brother arrived. I have three sisters and two brothers: Carolyn, 11; me, 8; Jodene, 6; Mary Lou, 4; Linford, 1; Kevin, 2 weeks old.

I go to Farmersville School. I will be in third grade.

I help my daddy clean off pig trucks. And I am tired of cleaning pig trucks and bagging shavings. I like to mow yard and drive tractor.

Lamar Zimmerman
 Ephrata

Hello,

My name is Sadie Mae Stoltzfus. My parents' names are Steve and Lydia Stoltzfus. I have three brothers and two sisters: Levi, 10;

Me, 9; Elam, 8; Steven, 6; Mary Ann, 3; and Kathryn, 1. We live on a farm. We have 26 cows, some heifers, 6 calves, 4 dogs, and a lot of cats. We have five work horses: Bill, Bud, Betty, Lady, and Lore. We have one drive horse, Catchy.

My birthday is January 7, 1980. My favorite hobby is reading books. Guess I'll close now. Good-bye.

Sadie Mae Stoltzfus
 Gap

Dear Kid's Korner,

My name is Sara. I am 5. I will start kindergarten at Shartlesville. We are moving to our farm in September. We have 10 cats and 5 calves. There is a horse at our farm named Champagne Time. We have three tractors. I have a sister.

Sara Dissinger
 Reading



"Woofler," a mixed border collie and sheepdog, eagerly ran the restored dog-powered treadmill, on display as part of Old Tyme Days at the Blaine Rentzel farm in York County. The treadmill was sold by Sears Roebuck and Co. for about \$14, and favored by housewives who used the dog power to operate washing machines. Woofler and the treadmill were displayed by Jason Bange of Hanover. Old Tyme Days, a salute to the past by the South Central Penn Historic Lifestyle and Power Society, featured a wealth of historic agricultural and household artifacts.

