

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc.

P.O. Box 1445 – Jesup, GA 31598 – Ph. 912-427-4018

Available via e-mail: Request to info@honeybee preservation.org

May 9, 2011

Essayists Ask: 'Is My Community Bee-Friendly?'

For the 2011 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest, the essayists were asked to investigate the local/regional honeys of the United States and see how they differ in taste and color. The 23 state-winning essayists took varied approaches to this task.

The top essayist, Rachel Ricchiuto, 14, of Gold River, Calif., assembled five honey samples and invited 25 people from age 7 to adult to judge the honeys on color, smell and taste.

"I chose clover honey and 4 others with very distinct color and taste differences that I thought people wouldn't have tried before," she reported, "these were orange blossom, sage, buckwheat and eucalyptus.... I had them rate on color first, then smell and finally taste. I found that some people rated a honey high in color and smell but when they actually tasted it, they didn't like the flavor very much. I tallied up the results and was surprised to find that in overall scores more people preferred sage."

Rachel concluded: "In researching this topic I learned a lot about different types of honey that I didn't know and I had a lot of fun watching the expressions on people's faces when they judged my honeys.... With over 300 honey varieties in the United States, there is definitely a honey for everyone's taste preference."

Her first place prize is a cash award of \$750.00.

Second place essayist, Kayla Ackerman, 11, of College Station, Texas, receives \$500.00 for her efforts. She identified the various factors that determine a particular honey's color and taste. "Americans delight in many varieties of honey from mild, light flavors, to rich, strong tastes," she wrote. "Honey is delicious whether from one flower or many, whether whipped or liquid, and whether raw or pasteurized. From the table to baking, honey is enjoyed day to day."

- continued

4-H Beekeeping Essay Release

Page 2

There was a tie for third place. Mikayla Ockels, 12, of Milton, Del., and Seth Fuchs, 14, of Santa Rosa, N.M., each receive \$250.00. Mikayla detailed the varieties of regional honey. Seth explored the physical properties of honeys.

Each state winner, including the national winners, will receive a copy of a book about beekeeping.

The essay topic for 2012 is **"The Results of Honey Bee Pollination in my Community."** The 4-H'ers are encouraged to investigate the plants in their communities that benefit from honey bee pollination and determine the results of that pollination. Students interested in writing should contact their local 4-H offices for contest details. The state selection must be done through the 4-H system.

+ + + + +

The Foundation for The Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc.

SPONSORED BY THE AMERICAN BEEKEEPING FEDERATION, INC.

Troy H. Fore, Jr. — Executive Director
P.O. Box 1445 — Jesup, Georgia 31598-1445
Ph. 912-427-4018 — Fax 912-427-8447
Email: info@honeybeepreservation.org

2012 4-H BEEKEEPING ESSAY CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT AND RULES Sponsored by The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc.

- AWARDS:** Cash Prizes to 3 Top Winners:
•1st Place -- \$750.00 •2nd Place -- \$500.00 •3rd Place -- \$250.00
Each State Winner, including the national winners, receives an appropriate book about honey bees, beekeeping, or honey.
- TOPIC:** For the 2012 essay contest, the essay topic is:

“The Results of Honey Bee Pollination in my Community”

Honey bees pollinate a wide variety of plants. The food crops that benefit from honey bee pollination have been said to contribute one-third of the American diet. In addition, many non-food plantings and natural environmental plants benefit from honey bee pollination. The 4-H'ers are encouraged to investigate the plants in their communities that benefit from honey bee pollination and determine the results of that pollination.

The scope of the research is an essential judging criterion, accounting for 40% of your score. The number of sources consulted, the authority of the sources, and the variety of the sources are all evaluated.

Personal interviews with beekeepers, farmers and others familiar with the subject are valued sources of information and should be documented. Sources, which are not cited in the endnotes, should be listed in a “Resources” or “Bibliography” list.

Note that “honey bee” is properly spelled as two words, even though many otherwise authoritative references spell it as one word.

NOTE: FOR 2012 ONLY ESSAYS SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY WILL BE ACCEPTED.

-- RULES on reverse/next page

2012 4-H BEEKEEPING ESSAY CONTEST

The Foundation for The Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc.

Page 2

- RULES:
1. Contest is open to active 4-H Club members only. 4-H'ers who have previously placed first, second, or third at the national level are not eligible; but other state winners are eligible to re-enter.
 2. Requirements (failure to meet any one requirement disqualifies the essay) -
 - Write on the designated subject only.
 - All factual statements must be referenced with bibliographical-style endnotes.
 - A brief biographical sketch of the essayist, including date of birth, gender, complete mailing address, and telephone number, must accompany the essay.
 - Length – the essay proper: 750 to 1000 words.
 - The word count does not include the endnotes, the bibliography or references, nor the essayist's biographical sketch – which should be on a separate page.
 - Preparation for National Judging: ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS ONLY. Prepare your essays double-spaced, 12-pt. Times or similar type style, following standard manuscript format. Submit as a Microsoft Word compatible document.
 3. Essays will be judged on (a) scope of research - 40%; (b) accuracy - 30%; (c) creativity - 10%; (d) conciseness - 10%; and (e) logical development of the topic - 10%.
 4. **Individual essayists should not forward essays directly to the Foundation office.** Each state 4-H Office is responsible for selecting the state's winner and should set its deadline so state judging can be completed at the state level in time for the winning state essay to be mailed to the Foundation office before March 1, 2012. No essay received after March 1 will be considered.
 5. Each state may submit only one entry.
 6. Final judging and selection of the National Winner will be made by the Foundation's Essay Committee, whose decision is final.
 7. The National Winner will be announced by May 1, 2012.
 8. All National entries become the property of the Foundation and may be published or used as it sees fit. No essay will be returned. National winning essays will be posted at: <http://honeybeepreservation.org>.
 9. Email the winning state entries to: info@honeybeepreservation.org. In the subject line: Beekeeping Essay. All entries received will be promptly acknowledged; if you have not received an acknowledgment after 3 business days, please resubmit.

#

2011 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest State Winners

Rachel Ricchiuto, California
NATIONAL WINNER

Kayla Ackerman, Texas
SECOND PLACE

Mikayla Ockels, Delaware
THIRD PLACE (tie)

Seth Fuchs, New Mexico
THIRD PLACE (tie)

STATE WINNERS

Grace Costello , Arkansas	Meaghan Page , New Hampshire
Rianna Campagne , Arizona	Grace Sayward , New York
Chad Schlagel , Colorado	Evan Avery , North Carolina
Grace Schultz , Connecticut	Ezra Holben , Ohio
Amanda Rosauer , Florida	Taylor Fogle , Oklahoma
Murphy Doran , Georgia	William Ellinger , Pennsylvania
Hannah Wheeler , Indiana	Marissa Hines , South Carolina
Kayleigh Jowers , Louisiana	Emma Allish , Tennessee
Tiffany Jo Bystra , Michigan	Morgan Carlson , Washington
Katelin Wallace , Mississippi	