

Washington State Beekeepers Association
PRESENTS

PACIFIC NORTHWEST
BEEKEEPING
CONFERENCE



FRIDAY, 10/3 - SUNDAY, 10/5

**EMBASSY SUITES BY
HILTON - N. LYNNWOOD**



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction pg 2

Agenda pg 3-6

Speaker Roster pg 7

Auction Information pg 8

Speaker Bios pg 9-16

Notes Space pg 17-18

Acknowledgments back cover

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST BEEKEEPING CONFERENCE



2025



WELCOME!!!

Welcome to the 2025 Pacific Northwest Beekeeping Conference presented by the Washington State Beekeepers Association!

We are so happy to be with you all in Lynnwood again this year. An extra special thank you to all of those who attended last year - welcome back! This year we are sticking with our single-track format with eight incredible speakers!

General Admission includes Saturday Lunch (new!) and Dinner, plus 1 Mead Ticket for the Washington Beekeeping Awards Banquet on Saturday evening! Get social and as evening kicks off with a Hierophant Mead Bar (FREE Souvenir Glass & 1 Mead Pour Ticket for every attendee!) and the famously fun Dessert Auction, then wrap up dinner with our fun Live Auction! While exploring the Vendor and Club Booths, be sure to cast your vote in our second blind, "No-Rules" Honey Tasting Contest with the Honey Tasting Ticket in your welcome bag (more are available for purchase at the WASBA booth)!

WASBA Serves WA Beekeepers in the Following Areas:

- To help maintain vibrant local beekeeping organizations
- To assist the agricultural community
- To improve relations between Beekeepers, Government Agencies, and the Public
- To promote Beekeeping and bee products in the State of Washington and abroad
- To promote and maintain industry connections at the state, national, and international level
- To collectively represent all Beekeepers of Washington State
- To promote and enhance beekeeping research in the State of Washington

**WASBA
MEMBERS!**

ANNUAL MEETING AFTER CONFERENCE

Sunday, October 5th from 10:30-11:30AM

All WASBA Members are welcome - join now for 2026!

2

PACIFIC NORTHWEST
BEEKEEPING
CONFERENCE



20
25



AGENDA

P M FRIDAY, 10/03

4:00–5:00PM — **Check In**

WASBA Booth

5:00–5:20PM — **Conference Welcome**

WASBA President Alan Woods

South Atrium

5:30–6:30PM — **WA Regional Breakout**

Club Presidents & Area Directors

South Atrium

6:30–7:00PM — **Social & Vendor Break**

Vendor Room

7:00–8:30PM — **Welcome/Speakers Banquet
Honoring Dr. Priya Basu**

*South Atrium *must have prepaid ticket*



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AGENDA

A SATURDAY, 10/04

8:00–9:00AM — **Check In** (*if not already*)

WASBA Booth

9:00–9:50AM — **Dr. Priya Chakrabarti Basu**

Keynote Speaker

Honey Bee Nutrition

South Atrium

10:00–10:50AM — **Dr. Dewey Caron**

PNW Honey Bee Survey Updates

South Atrium

11:00–11:50AM — **Dr. Rogan Tokach**

Tropilaelaps Mites

South Atrium

12:00–2:00PM — **Lunch, Social & Vendor Time**

Vendor Room



LIMITED RAFFLE

WIN AN ELECTRIC EXTRACTOR!

ONLY 20 TICKETS SOLD \$50 EACH

The winner will be drawn at the close of the Conference on Sunday & posted on wasba.org

AGENDA

P M SATURDAY, 10/04

2:00–2:50 PM — Wendy Sue Wheeler

Pesticides

South Atrium

3:00–4:10 PM — Dr. Lewis Bartlett

*Small Hive Beetle & Yellow
Legged Hornet*

South Atrium

4:20–4:45 PM — Taydin Macon & Molly Quade

WSU Scholarship Research Updates

South Atrium

4:45–6:00 PM — Break, Social, Vendor Time

Vendor Room

6:00–8:30 PM — Awards Banquet Dinner*

*South Atrium *must have prepaid ticket*

7:30–8:30 PM — Live Auction

South Atrium



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AGENDA

SUNDAY, 10/05

8:00–8:30AM — **Check In** (*if not already*)

WASBA Booth

8:30–9:20AM — **Dr. Stephen Pernal**

New Compounds for Varroa Control

South Atrium

9:30–10:20AM — **Panel Discussion**

*Moderated by Jeff Ott, co-host of
'Beekeeping Today Podcast'*

— **Conference Closing**

WASBA President Alan Woods

South Atrium

10:30–11:30AM — **WASBA General Meeting**

South Atrium

11:30–12:00PM — **Hotel Checkout/Lunch**



JOIN WASBA!

By joining WASBA you support beekeepers around Washington and help promote best practices in beekeeping.

Get up-to-date news, research, and regulations impacting beekeepers and bees | Network with other beekeepers state-wide | Classes and mentors
Legislative impact | Community | WASBA voting rights

www.wasba.org/membership





SPEAKER ROSTER

Dr. Lewis Bartlett, University of Georgia [BIO PG.9]
Small Hive Beetle & Yellow Legged Hornet [SAT 3PM]

Dr. Priya Chakrabarti Basu, WA State University [PG.10]
KEYNOTE *Honey Bee Nutrition* [SAT 9AM]

Dr. Dewey Caron, Oregon State University [PG.11]
PNW Honey Bee Survey Updates [SAT 10AM]

Tadin Macon, Washington State University [PG.11]
WASBA Scholarship Recipient Update [SAT 4:20PM]

Dr. Steven Pernal, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada [PG.12]
New Compounds for Varroa Control [SUN 8:30AM]

Bri Price, Washington State University [PG.12]
Conference Moderator

Molly Quade, Washington State University [PG.12]
WASBA Scholarship Recipient Update [SAT 4:20PM]

Jeff Ott, Co-Host of 'Beekeeping Today' Podcast [PG.14]
WA Panel Discussion Moderator [SUN 9:30AM]

Dr. Rogan Tokach, North Dakota State University [PG.15]
Tropilaelaps Mites [SAT 11AM]

Wendy Sue Wheeler, Washington State University [PG.16]
Pesticides [SAT 2PM]

Alan Woods, WA Master Beekeeper, WASBA [PG.16]
Conference Remarks [FRI 5PM & SUN 10:20AM]

PACIFIC NORTHWEST BEEKEEPING CONFERENCE

2025



BANQUET & AUCTION INFORMATION

After the presentations end Saturday evening get ready to join in some fun during the **WA Beekeeping Awards Banquet Dinner** including the famous Dessert “Dash” Auction before dinner, Hierophant Mead bar, a delicious Banquet Meal, and closing with a Live Auction!

Each General Admission Welcome Bag has 1 Mead Drink Ticket for use at the bar (*FREE Souvenir Glass to all attendees!*) and Your Dinner Ticket - please have your Dinner Ticket displayed at your place setting Saturday evening so staff knows what meal you have chosen.

Have your sweet tooth ready for our famously fun **Dessert Auction!** Make friends with table-mates and decide on a dessert to pool your money for... the table with the highest amount wins first choice of desserts to share after dinner!

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A subtly sweet, light bodied and off-dry with a creamy sweetness. There are notes of tart apples, green hay, vanilla, and butter that carry into a shorter finish with honey and butteriness predominant. Think of a less acidic chardonnay, and you'll be in the right ballpark for pairing!

FREE!
Souvenir Glass
+ 1 Mead Ticket
for all general admission tickets



8



SPEAKER BIOS

DR. LEWIS J. BARTLETT

University of Georgia



Dr. Lewis J. Bartlett is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Entomology at the University of Georgia (UGA), with a joint appointment at the Odum School of Ecology. He earned his Ph.D. in Biosciences from the University of Exeter in 2019 and holds a B.A. in Natural Sciences (Zoology) from the University of Cambridge. Dr. Bartlett's research focuses on the evolutionary ecology of infectious diseases, particularly in pollinators like honey bees. His work examines how changes in host ecology influence the evolution of pathogens and parasites, with implications for both managed and wild bee populations. He has published extensively on topics such as viral infections, host-parasite interactions, and the impacts of apiculture practices on bee health. Dr. Bartlett is also the Director of the UGA Bee Lab, where he collaborates with beekeepers to develop strategies for improving pollinator health. He has been beekeeping for 13+ years, first learning how to keep bees in his native homeland of Yorkshire, England, before managing colonies across the UK and then further afield in California and Georgia in the USA.

Small Hive Beetle & Yellow Legged Hornet
[SATURDAY 3:00-4:10PM]

HEY
BUSY
BEE!

Join us for the **LIVE AUCTION** following the Banquet Dinner on Saturday! Stretch your card-raising arm and get ready to bid on some unique and exciting items like:

- Heitkam's Queens Packages
- Honey from the Sustainability in Prisons Project
- Complete HivelQ 3-Story Beehive + Stand
- A Handmade Bee-Themed Quilt
- WSU Cougar Gold Cheese & Wine Packages
- Hive Butler Upcapping Tank Set
- Oxalic Acid Vaporizers & **MUCH MORE!**

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20 25



DR. PRIYADARSHINI CHAKRABARTI BASU

Washington State University

**KEYNOTE
SPEAKER**



Dr. Priya Chakrabarti Basu is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Entomology, Washington State University. Priya is also a courtesy faculty at Oregon State University. Priya studies the interactive impacts of multiple stressors on bees, for example poor nutrition, pesticides, climate change and diseases. She uses a wide array of multidisciplinary techniques across fields such as physiology, toxicology, functional biology, multiomics-based approaches and neuroethology to address her research questions. She is currently the Secretary/Treasurer of the American Association of Professional Apiculturists, the Vice-President Elect of the PBT Section of the Entomological Society of America and the North American Chair of the nutrition taskforce for COLOSS, the international bee organization. She was also the past Chair of the Early Careers Professionals Committee of the Entomological Society of America and the Vice-President of Mississippi Entomological Association. In addition to the research community, Priya enjoys teaching and working with stakeholders, policymakers and the general community in protecting bee pollinators and raising pollinator awareness. Priya is also a children's book author to help spread pollinator awareness among young readers.

More information about her lab's research can be found at:
www.priyadarshinichakrabarti.com

The Many Facets of Honey Bee Nutrition
[SATURDAY 9:00–9:50AM]

KEYNOTE



JOIN WASBA!

By joining WASBA you support beekeepers around Washington and help promote best practices in beekeeping.

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10

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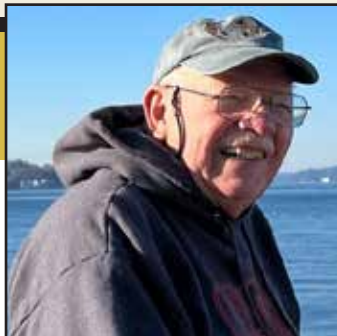


2025



DR. DEWEY CARON

Oregon State University



Dr. Dewey Caron was Professor and Department Chairman at the Univ of Delaware, Newark 1981-2009; upon retirement in 2009. Dewey moved to Portland, OR to be closer to grandkids. In retirement he remains active in bee education, he is the Oregon Delegate ABF, Past WAS Board Member-at-large, current representative to HBRC, and co-chair of NAPPC Honey Bee Health Task Force. Additionally, he has been surveying PNW beekeepers annually for management for overwintering successes. This talk includes survey results from small scale Washington beekeepers for the last 15 years. What does the survey say to help develop a varroa control plan? Dewey will cover feeding, winterizing, sanitation, your equipment and chemical and non-chemical varroa controls using your neighbors responses to the survey to discuss a plan for beekeeping success.

What is Your Plan? Using the WA Annual Loss Survey
[SATURDAY 10:00-10:50AM]

TAYDIN MACON

Washington State University



Taydin Macon is a PhD Candidate, co-advised by Dr. Brandon Hopkins and Dr. David Crowder. His research projects investigate many of the problems faced by commercial, sideliners, and hobbyist beekeepers. Specifically, Taydin has conducted research on novel methods for pest and pathogen detection in colonies, novel varroa mite treatments, and supplemental fungal extracts for promoting honey bee health. Taydin is also interested in statistical analysis for data driven colony management.

Using Environmental DNA (eDNA) for Honey Bee Pest & Pathogen Detection [SATURDAY 4:20-4:45PM]



DR. STEVEN PERNAL

Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada



Dr. Pernal received his Ph.D. in Entomology from the University of Manitoba and was a Postdoctoral fellow at Simon Fraser University. Since 2001, he has been employed by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada as a Research Scientist in Beaverlodge, Alberta where he leads Canada's federal apiculture research program and also serves as Officer-in-Charge. His work has been diverse, and has included the detection, control and management strategies for AFB, chalkbrood, *Nosema ceranae*, as well as emerging parasites of honey bees. Steve has also been an integral member of four successive Genome Canada projects evaluating markers for resistance to bee diseases and Varroa destructor, as well as those examining threats to bee health. He formerly served as President of the Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists and is a contributing member to international bodies focused on honey bee health. In 2019, he served as the Scientific Program Chair for Apimondia 2019 in Montreal, Canada and in 2022 received the Hambleton award from the Eastern Apicultural Society for excellence in apicultural research.

Evaluation of a New Acaricide Against Varroa

[SUNDAY 8:30–9:20AM]

BRI PRICE

Washington State University



Bri is the WSU Bee Program Extension Coordinator and primarily bridges connections between pollinator enthusiasts and the research the WSU Bee Program is conducting. She coordinates educational workshops, presents seminars, manages the program's website and social media, creates informational factsheets about pollinators, manages statewide APHIS National Honey Bee Survey sampling efforts, and more! She is also a part-time entomology Ph.D. student at WSU.

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20 25



MOLLY QUADE

Washington State University



With honey bee health rapidly declining in recent decades, new solutions are urgently needed, particularly for managing Varroa mites, a devastatingly widespread parasite. Molly Quade, a graduate student at Washington State University, discusses ongoing research to develop strains of entomopathogenic fungi to help honey bees manage Varroa mites and other pests associated with beekeeping. *Metarhizium*, an entomopathogenic fungus already implemented in various agricultural pest management products, could be developed into a host-specific strain for beekeepers, benefiting both commercial and hobbyist operations. This exciting collaboration between entomology and mycology holds significant potential for modern agriculture. Molly Quade began working in the Hopkins Lab at Washington State University as an undergraduate, where she assisted with a project in collaboration with Fungi Perfecti, investigating the role of Reishi mushroom extract in enhancing honey bee immune systems. This experience sparked her interest in mycology and insect-fungi relationships. Now a graduate student at WSU, Molly is researching the use of *Metarhizium* and other entomopathogenic fungi in honey bee Integrated Pest Management, focusing on developing fungal strains for Varroa mite management and examining additional hosts for these fungi. She plans to continue her research in mycology, with the long-term goal of advancing the uses of fungi in commercial apiculture.

***Thermal Tolerance in Entomopathogenic Fungi:
Applications for Varroa Mite Management***
[SATURDAY 4:20-4:45PM]



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JEFF OTT

Co-host *Beekeeping Today Podcast*



Jeff Ott's journey with honey bees began in childhood with a fascination for flying and crawling creatures. He first kept an observation hive on his bedroom desk, sparking a lifelong passion for beekeeping. Over the years, Jeff grew from a hobbyist to a sideliner, managing honey bee colonies and providing local pollination services. His involvement with the Medina County and Ohio State Beekeepers Associations, along with his role as president of the Medina association, deepened his knowledge and network within the beekeeping community.

Today, Jeff lives in Olympia, Washington, and is a Master Beekeeper certified by the University of Montana and the Washington State Beekeepers Association. He founded the popular *Beekeeping Today Podcast* with the late Kim Flottum, reaching thousands of listeners each week. Jeff also produces the podcast *Honey Bee Obscura* under his media company, Growing Planet Media. His work continues to educate and inspire beekeepers worldwide.

WA Panel Discussion Moderator
[SUNDAY 9:30–10:20AM]

HEY BUSY BEE!



DON'T FORGET TO EXPLORE THE VENDOR BOOTHS

Learn more about our local clubs & businesses and shop for the beekeepers in your life! PLUS, place your vote in our first-ever, blind **Honey Tasting Contest!**

VOTE NOW! BLIND HONEY TASTING CONTEST

Every attendee gets a vote! Taste them in the Vendor Room!

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20 25



DR. ROGAN TOKACH

North Dakota State University



Dr. Rogan Tokach is a new assistant professor working on applied honey bee research with commercial beekeepers at North Dakota State University. Rogan graduated with his PhD in June from Auburn University where he studied under Dr. Geoff Williams. His research at Auburn focused on developing sustainable parasitic mite management strategies for beekeepers for both Varroa and Tropilaelaps mites. Rogan completed his master's degree at University of Nebraska-Lincoln under Drs. Autumn Smart and Judy Wu-Smart in 2022. Overall, he has 15 years of beekeeping experience at the hobbyist, research, and commercial levels.

The Infamous Tropilaelaps Mite
[SATURDAY 11:00–11:50AM]

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Get up-to-date news, research, and regulations impacting beekeepers and bees | Network with other beekeepers state-wide | Classes and mentors | Legislative impact | Community | WASBA voting rights

Membership is on the calendar year (Jan 1–Dec 31)

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Join NOW and your membership is valid through the end of 2026!



15



WENDY SUE WHEELER

Washington State University



Wendy Sue Wheeler is the Director of the Washington State University's Pesticide Resources and Education Program. She has been a pesticide safety educator since 2012 and part of the program since 2008. She has a keen interest in improving pesticide safety education and pesticide resources in Washington, her region, and across the country. An important responsibility of her pesticide safety education training focuses on pesticide stewardship to protect humans, the environment, and ecosystems. Wendy Sue worked for 13 years for the Washington State Department of Agriculture in the Pesticide Management Division as a Pesticide Registration Specialist in Aquatics. This and prior invasive species work with the Pacific County Noxious Weed Control Board have positioned her to understand stewardship from the user and regulator perspectives.

***From Label to Field: Making
Informed Decisions***

[SATURDAY 2:00–2:50PM]

ALAN WOODS

Washington Master Beekeeper, WASBA



Alan Woods began his life in Texas, moved to Washington and retired after a military career. He is a certified Master Beekeeper in both Washington and Montana and also teaches beekeeping education and certification classes through his business Woods Bee Co. which he owns and operates with his wife Beverly. He currently serves as the President of the Washington State Beekeepers Association (WASBA) where he is working to upgrade the Masters Program alongside WSU and partner with Hives to Heroes, GRUB and other organizations who serve our veteran community.



NOTES

Handwriting practice lines consisting of 15 horizontal lines.

2025



This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

THIS PROGRAM BELONGS TO:

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS THANK YOU TO:

**The WASBA
Conference Committee:**

Alan Woods, Bri Price, Ellen Miller,
Jeff Ott, Margo Buckles, Dawn Beck,
& Martina Schmidt

& WASBA Member Volunteers!



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