

Fontainebleau High School Honey Bees

By Fontainebleau FFA



Ava Blanchard

Owning my own beehive has been a learning experience that I have really enjoyed. I learned that bees were not as aggressive as I thought they were and they also have emotions that they express through different actions. Bees make loud buzzing sounds and quick movements when they are angry. Bees are mainly calm unless you give them a reason to react negatively. I also learned the process of making honey while owning my own beehive. My friends and I all got to bring home a bottle of honey from each of our hives after learning the process.



Apiculture At FHS

By Nigel Battiste

For most people Beekeeping is the maintenance of bee colonies, commonly in artificial beehives. To me and the members of the FFA Apiculture is much more than that is an art and way to understand nature and the world around us. The Honey bees we use are in the genus *Apis* and are the most common ones kept by professionals but other honey producing bees such as the stingless bees are also kept. All in all the experiences and countless documents which have been made helped with the growth and development of the FFA and Agriculture as a whole at Fontainebleau. They gave students something to look forward to in Ag Classes.



Maggie Phelan

Tending to bees at my school has allowed for a passion of mine to begin. Taking care of bees taught me lessons such as patience and that there is no reason to be afraid of honey bees. Knowing how to take care of honey bees at school has allowed me to transfer my knowledge learned here and using it at my grandmother's farm. Learning the importance of bees to ecosystems is very important into understanding life. Being able to apply classroom knowledge of ecosystems surrounded by bees has given me the opportunity to explore future paths I have never thought to be interesting.



Hayden Eiselen

Having the opportunity to work with bees is something I will treasure. Seeing the process of how to harvest honey and watching the bees buzz around me are something I will never forget. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to be able to see how nature and ecosystems work. I thoroughly enjoy watching the hive grow and watching how bees behave with one another. I will forever cherish this opportunity to watch as bees grow and how the hive prospers.



Serenity Kron

While bees might seem alarming to some people, I learned a lot about all they do in their short lifespan. Taking care of my own hive also affected my view on bees and other 'frightening' bugs that are just a part of our function ecosystem. Bees have certain all have tasks just like people, and without these tasks our ecosystem would not flourish. Some tend to to the younger bees, some drone bees tend to the queen while the queen organises the worker bees. But bees, are more than just insects, they have emotions and take care of one another. They get angry when they feel threat towards their colony and also can be really calm depending on how you react.

My favorite memory out of the whole experience is when I didn't have my equipment on and a bee was in my hand eating some sugary sherbert from my lunch!



Peyton Hotard

I learned a lot about bees while owning my own hive at FHS. I think the biggest thing I learned was how bees do during different types of weather and the challenges they have to deal with. I also learned how to get honey out of the hives and bottled it up.

In this picture you can see me and my friend Nigel next to our beehives when we first started this project. I am really happy I got to be a part of this with my friends here at FHS.



Alex Thomas

Learning about Honey bees is something that was a bit of a worry to me at first. Being that I am allergic to bees, I was extremely nervous. Being around the bees and seeing how gentle of a creature they can be was very settling. Growing up I was always afraid of bees, but through this experience, I learned that even though I have to keep my distance, they are great creatures. I also got to experience the collection of honey from the hives and helping to bottle honey. All this taught me how important bees are to our society as we know it.



FEEDING TIME!

To assist our bees during times of low pollen flow, we feed them a patty made from a pollen substitute, sugar, and liquid invert sugar. This allows us to increase brood production, increase their protein intake, and allow for the bees to be healthier and stronger.



Bottle It Up!

Even though we acquired Flow Hives, we still harvest some conventional frames to demonstrate the process of uncapping honey. We were also able to purchase a bottling machine, and even create our own label to be able to market our honey in the community!



Thank you from the FHS Beekeeping Group!

