

Calendar Contest 2010

The theme for *Bee Culture's* 2010 Beekeeping Calendar is "**All Things Honey**". This somewhat vague theme encompasses almost everything you can think of that has anything to do with the finest product of the hive and the pride of beekeepers everywhere – Honey.

Photos can be of beekeepers in the beeyard harvesting honey, examining frames full of honey in the beeyard or honey house, photos in the honey house uncapping, extracting, bottling, labeling...any of these work if they are photogenic, show beekeepers (or their families) doing the work, and some aspect of the product they work hard to get.

Honey processing equipment being used is a good idea too. Large, or small uncappers, extractors, tanks, storage... honey house rooms, stacks of supers, pails, even barrels that are colorful or otherwise interesting can be good.

Bottled honey...with light behind, honey displays in stores or markets, stacks of bottled honey, beekeepers selling honey, customers tasting honey, kids helping sell honey, honey show displays, judging, comparisons, or different types. Colors of honey, different size jars of honey, different kinds of containers of honey, honey measuring tools being used...moisture or particles...different ways to measure...a refractometer, a torch, a dip stick, or a bubble.

Honey in the comb...cut comb, round comb, square comb in wooden boxes, comb in jars, creamed honey, comb on the end of your finger.

How many ways can we photograph honey? How many beekeepers are there...that's how many.

And don't forget honey on something. On biscuits, honey on pancakes, cereal, your finger, drizzled on almost anything making it better to eat. Or adding honey to recipes...cooking with honey always makes it better, right?

Honey...that's the theme for *Bee Culture's* 2010 Beekeeping Calendar.

All photo entries become the property of *Bee Culture Magazine*.



Put up a sign, make a note, tell your family...this is the year you'll enter the contest, and this is the year your picture gets published. And it'll appear in the nearly 20,000 copies we print...well, that's how many this year (up from the 13,000 we did the first time we did this)...it'll be even more in 2010, so get busy and get some honey.

Hints for the photos you take and enter. Note the photos for this year's calendar, and even previous years if you saved one. The subject is either centered, or off centered but sharing the attention with some other object. If you take a photo that's wide, we'll have to trim it to fit, and too often we have to trim off something that you thought was important, or, it destroys your photo completely because it doesn't fit.

Same goes for tall...keep the important parts of the photo centered, not too tall, not all on the bottom, or left or right. These are almost square photos, and what you see through your lens isn't square. Mentally crop what you see be-

fore you push the button.

Don't stand too far away, or too close, and watch that light...too much light (bright flashes inside a fairly well lit room are always bad) overexposes and we lose color and definition, too little and we can't see what it is you thought was worth shooting. If you can, use a bounce flash, or open a shade or door. Or wait until morning when the light is better. Cloudy day shots outside are best because there's no shadow and even contrast, but then the bees aren't usually happy so it's a tradeoff, but too much contrast ruins the photo, so make sure your object is all in the sun, all in the shade, or it's sunup or sundown so there is no shadow...or, a cloudy day.

Submit your photos as an attached file with an email. Send one photo per email, and include WITH EACH EMAIL YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER. We get hundreds of photos and keeping them all straight when they are not identified gets to be a real difficult task...and there aren't many of us

here to do that. If it isn't identified, it won't even get looked at, so please label each email.

If you send a CD with photos, write ON THE CD (NOT ON THE ENVELOPE OR BOX) YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER. The same rules apply...no information and it won't even get looked at. We're sorry, but we just don't have the time or people to organize a lot of photos and try and keep them all straight if they are not identified.

Also, give a three to five sentence description of the photo – what the subject is or who the subject is, where it was taken, who took it, camera type and model, settings if you can, and anything else that will help other photographers do a better job of taking photos.

Deadline for submissions for *Bee Culture's* 2010 Beekeeping Calendar Contest is October 1, 2009 in our office. So mark your calendars now (Oh, look, it's already marked on your 2009 Calendar!) and get going!