

Prairie's Got the Goods Week!

Beyond the Bees' Tongue

Wednesday March 18th, 2020 at 12:00pm MST (GMT-06)

Presenter: Graham Parsons MSc. PAg, Pollinator Biosecurity Specialist, Saskatchewan Agriculture

Register for Free: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/809789618884945155

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Presentation Summary:

Summary of my work/presentation: The bulk of my time is primarily spent with honey bees and support of that industry through inspection, education, and extension. I deal with honey bee disease, production management and provincial regulations regarding honey bees. I also work with the leafcutter beekeepers of the province and managed bumble bees. My work broadly covers regulation and management of pollinators as well as efforts to help all pollinators. These efforts include habitat creation, responsible pesticide use, and general awareness of pollinators to producers and the public. My Presentation today covers broadly the value of all bees besides the honey that one introduced species produces. We will cover what pollination is, the differences and abilities of pollinating insects, the economic and ecosystem values of those pollinators, and simple things that can help those pollinators to live and thrive.

About Graham Parsons:

I was introduced to honey bees early as the son of a commercial beekeeper. Besides spending my summers beekeeping in Saskatchewan, I spent 7 months beekeeping in New Zealand after graduation. With an interest in nature and the outdoors I took a diploma in Integrated Resource Management from SIAST (now Sask Polytechnic), spent 4 years doing environmental consulting covering soils, plants and wildlife surveys in Saskatchewan and Western Canada including soil surveys to wolverine tracking in the Arctic. I went back to school at the U of S and got a degree in Renewable Resource Management, then did a Master's degree at the University of Manitoba while doing honey bee research for the Saskatchewan Beekeeper's Development Commission. I've worked for Saskatchewan Agriculture since 2016. When not working my time is spent outdoors with cycling, photography and family activities.