



# GREAT PLAINS GROWERS CONFERENCE

www.greatplainsgrowers.org

St. Joseph, Missouri

***On Thursday choose between ONE of FIVE workshops: High Tunnel, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), Fruit Grower's Tree Fruit Workshop, GAP/Food Safety, and new this year – Basics of Beekeeping in the Midwest!***

**January 5, 2012**

## The Basics of Beekeeping in the Midwest

Union Hall "Blum" 222/223

*There are lots of good reasons to keep bees. Their honey taste great, and selling it can add another source of revenue to your farm. If you are a grower, many of the crops you grow require bees to insure good pollination. Finally, bees are simply fascinating, and caring from them is a rewarding experience. You will learn the basics that you need to get started, including equipment, hive construction, where to get your bees, bee care, and more. Our workshop instructors will take you through step-by-step management of your bees, and what to expect in that first year. You will also learn of reference sources, and how to find local bee clubs and beekeepers that can help you get started. Our instructors will also assemble a hive during the workshop. As a bonus, one workshop participant will walk away with that hive, which will be given away as a door prize.*

8:00 Registration

8:45 **Welcome, Introductions and Program Overview**

9:00 **All About the European Honeybee**

- Parts of the bee & their function
- Members of the hive
- Society inside the hive

10:00 **Break**

10:30 **Equipment You Will Encounter – Show & Tell**

- Parts of a typical hive
- What to wear
- What to use

12:00 **Lunch**

1:00 **Hands-on "Building of the Hive"**

- Construction of a hive to give away as a door prize

2:00 **Break**

2:30 **Getting Started: What to Know Your First Year**

- Where to set-up
- How to install
- What to do to keep bees alive

3:30 **Questions & Answers and Information for Further Education & Research**

4:00 **Evaluation & Meeting Adjourn**

5:45 **Thursday Association Meetings for members only:**

**Missouri Horticulture Society Meeting** in Spratt 214/216 &

**Kansas Fruit Growers Association Meeting** in Spratt 205

### **WORKSHOP INSTRUCTORS/FACILITATORS:**

**Jim & Valerie Duever** have been keeping bees for about 10 years on their farm in Bachelor, MO. Jim is the President of the Boone Regional Beekeepers Association and Valerie is their Secretary and maintains their Facebook and website pages (time permitting). They raise bees, primarily for honey production, but mostly because this creature is just fascinating. The majority of their honey sales come from the local FFA annual fundraising program and each year, Valerie donates a day to help educate the High School students on the benefits of honey and the basics of the honeybee. Both are graduates from the University of Missouri-Columbia, with degrees in Horticulture. **Boone Regional Beekeepers Association**, Columbia, MO. **W:** [boonebees.org](http://boonebees.org) or find them on Facebook. **Jim 'n' I Farms, Inc.** P:(314) 402-4841. **E:** [jimandifarms@ktis.net](mailto:jimandifarms@ktis.net) **W:** [jimandifarms.com](http://jimandifarms.com).

Come enjoy refreshments & snacks in the Trade Show Area during breaks and also a special wine reception from 4-6:30 pm.