

Environmental Health

ABOUT THE COVER



Pesticide residue in honey is becoming a growing concern because of the potential human health effects and negative impacts on beehives. Urban beehives can be subject to increased pesticide use from spraying

of commercial, park, and residential locations. This month's cover article, "Pesticide Contamination in Central Kentucky Urban Honey: A Pilot Study," tested honey and beeswax honeycomb samples for pyrethroid pesticides, organochlorine pesticides, and heavy metals. The study found that 72% of honey samples tested exhibited levels of pesticides exceeding U.S. Environmental Protection Agency tolerable daily intake levels. Of the samples tested for lead, 56% exceeded daily intake limits. These results indicate the need for regular monitoring programs to assess the potential risk to consumer health.

See page 8.

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ADVANCEMENT OF THE SCIENCE

Pesticide Contamination in Central Kentucky Urban Honey: A Pilot Study..... 8

Compliance With Mandated Testing for Lead in Drinking Water in School Districts in New Jersey 14

International Perspectives: *Acute to Chronic Malnutrition: How Significant Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Factors Change With Health Outcomes and Geographies in the Western Highlands of Guatemala* 20

ADVANCEMENT OF THE PRACTICE

Direct From CDC/EHS: *Insights Into the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's Emergency Preparedness and Response Program*.....30

ADVANCEMENT OF THE PRACTITIONER

EH Calendar 34

Career Opportunities 35

JEH Quiz #1..... 36

Resource Corner..... 38

JEH Corresponding Author and Subject Index: Volume 81..... 40

YOUR ASSOCIATION

President's Message: *Introducing NEHA's New President* 6

NEHA Organizational Members..... 44

NEHA 2020 AEC..... 45

Special Listing 46

Tribute to 2018–2019 JEH Peer Reviewers..... 48

NEHA News 50

DirecTalk: Musings From the 10th Floor: *The Hallmark of Competence*..... 54

ADVERTISERS INDEX

American Chemistry Council..... 37

American Public Health Association..... 5

HealthSpace USA Inc..... 56

IDEA EH Program 33

Ozark River Portable Sinks 55

SansWrite 29

Sweeps Software, Inc. 2

Vector Control Tools & Resources (VeCToR) 33