

## TOP JUDGES AND SPEAKERS ATTEND INIB CONFERENCE & HONEY SHOW

The Institute of Northern Ireland Beekeepers (INIB) held its annual Conference & Honey Show on Saturday, and was glad to welcome several top International judges and speakers. Robert Brewer Jnr, from Georgia USA was joined by senior British honey judges, Erica Osborne, and Alan Brown. The show attracted a record entry of 161 exhibits of honey, wax, sections, frames, honey cakes and mead, and the visiting judges were most complementary about the standard of the exhibits, saying they were as high as anything they had judged before. During the judging, assessments were carried out for accreditation to the International Federation of Mead & Honey Wine Judges, as well as the judging examination of the Young Harris Beekeeping College and University of Georgia, all the candidates were successful and later in the day were awarded their certificates.

As the honey show was taking place, the delegates packed the lecture hall to hear two world renowned experts on beekeeping. Professor Tom Seeley from Cornell University, and Dr Jamie Ellis from the University of Florida, delivered two lectures each on honeybees as a Super-organism, and decision making in a colony of honeybees. It was a privilege to welcome such authorities to Northern Ireland and an invitation has been extended and accepted for them to return in the not too distant future. Details of all other events organised by INIB can be obtained at [www.inibeekeepers.com](http://www.inibeekeepers.com)

Honey Show Prize Winners. 6 Jars of Honey for sale: Cecil McMullan (Hillsborough) 2 Jars Light Honey: Walter McNeill (Antrim) 2 Jars Medium: Honey Cecil McMullan (Hillsborough) 2 Jars Medium Honey: Madeline McMullan (Hillsborough) 1 Jar Honey for tasting : Walter McNeill (Antrim) 2 Jars Chunk Honey: Tom Canning (Armagh) 2 Sections: Tom Canning (Armagh) Cut Comb: Elmer Kennedy (Cullybackey) Frame for extraction : Robert Ditty (Castledawson) Cake of Beeswax: Cecil McMullan (Hillsborough) Beekeeping Photograph: Ken Best ( Bangor) Honey Cake: Elmer Kennedy (Cullybackey) Novice Class: Lance Welsh ( Carrickfergus), Sweet Mead : Gail Orr (Hillsborough) Dry Mead : Cecil McMullan (Hillsborough) Bee Artistry : Mary Delaplane (USA) Supreme Run Honey: Cecil McMullan (Hillsborough) Best in Show: Cecil McMullan ( Hillsborough)