

The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association

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October 2012



Marjie Ehny

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Image above: A beekeeper shares how honey made it into the jar he holds at the Oregon State Fair. His contribution of time and enthusiasm—along with that of many others—is what made the OSBA booth succeed in its work this year. May we all continue to learn and share what we know as fall ushers in quieter time for reading and attending conferences, including WAS and the OSBA event at the Coast!

OSBA WEBSITE: www.orsba.org
WEBKEEPER: Thom Trusewicz
ccbees@gmail.com

OSU FINDS OREGON'S FIRST HONEYBEE INFECTED BY 'ZOMBIE' FLY

Tiffany Woods, 541.737.2940, tiffany.woods@oregonstate.edu

Source: Ramesh Sagili, 541.737.5460, sagilir@hort.oregonstate.edu

CORVALLIS, Ore. – A researcher at Oregon State University has reported Oregon's first documented case of a "zombie" fly infecting a honeybee, but he doubts that the parasite at the moment poses a threat to the already beleaguered bee, which is a vital pollinator of some of the state's key crops.

Ramesh Sagili, a honeybee specialist with the OSU Extension Service, stumbled upon a belly-up bee on a sidewalk under a street light on campus in Corvallis one morning in late July. He placed it in a vial in his lab, and four days later seven maggots crawled out of the bee's neck. Almost three weeks after that, one matured into an *Apocephalus borealis* fly, commonly called a zombie fly because of the disoriented behavior it is suspected of causing the bees to exhibit at night.

The finding comes amid rising concern about the health of honeybees, which have been hit by a mysterious phenomenon called colony collapse disorder in which adult honeybees disappear from a hive, either entirely or in large numbers. It came to light in late 2006 when beekeepers on the East Coast began to see their honeybee colonies dwindle. The disorder has since spread to other states. A cause has not been determined, but suspects include mites, viruses, malnutrition, pesticides, a lack of genetic diversity, and stress that results from commercial hives being trucked around the country to pollinate crops.

Sagili doubts that the fly is playing a role in the widespread die-off of honeybees, which are crucial pollinators for various Oregon crops, including blueberries, pears, cherries, apples, clover, cranberries and vegetable seeds.

"It's a stretch to say the fly is correlated to colony collapse disorder," he said. "At this point, I don't think it's a threat. I don't think it's at the level where it can depopulate hives in large numbers."

Earlier this year in a journal article, researchers in California became the first to document that the fly attacks honeybees. They discovered the parasite in honeybees in California and South Dakota, the only states besides Oregon where fly-infected honeybees, or ZomBees, have been reported.

The fly is known to parasitize bumblebees but little is known about its impact on them in Oregon, said Sujaya Rao, an entomologist at OSU who studies them.

Sagili hypothesizes that the fly is just now being found in honeybees because it may be trying to branch out from its other hosts when they're not available. He added that although honeybees are widely studied, it's possible that scientists just never saw the parasite because they usually preserve their collected bees in alcohol, which would kill the larvae and keep them from popping out.

Continued on page 10

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope that your bees are looking great for overwintering and you are looking forward to some time to rebuild equipment and machinery and relax during the winter months. I also hope that you have already registered for our upcoming Oregon State Beekeepers Association Fall Conference at Seaside, Oregon, on November 1–3, but if you have not, here are some very good reasons to attend.

We are planning lots of great presentations, some return speakers like Sue Cobey and Dr. Steve Sheppard from Washington and our own Drs. Sagili, Caron, and Burgett from Oregon as well as some new and renewed friendships like Clint Walker, a Texas Bee-Slinger, David Hackenberg, a Pennsylvania Bee Dude, and Dr. Frank Eischen, Dr. James Tew, and Dr. Larry Connor, too! What a lineup. There will be some serious research information as well as some fun talks to keep you buzzing along.

We will also have an OSU Honey Bee Lab set up again with those very capable lab techs to show you how to identify Nosema on a slide, and how to remove the head of your honey bee and find out where the tracheal mites reside. Got your attention! Also, Marge Ehry is planning another Honey Show, so bring your honey along for judging, the sticky kind, and any photographs that you might have taken of honey bees in action during the year. We would like to see a huge amount of entries in the Honey Show in 2012.

As always, we will be placing some emphasis on what the Honey Bee Lab is doing these days and ask for your support for another year of research. My good friend Pam Schulz has again volunteered to make a quilt for this year's conference raffle, and we will have other surprises as well. I invite you to bring along an item for the auctions, either the Silent Auction run by Debbie Morgan or the Banquet Auction managed this year by Jordan Dimock.

There are so many amazing beekeepers who work hard on an annual basis to make the OSBA fall conference the best in the West, so if you haven't registered, please join the fun and I'll see you at the Coast in November for another incredible conference.

Beyond the conference, as many of you know, Chuck Sowers had a major heart attack on September 8. Many of you have contacted me for information and I know that the beekeeper grapevine has been keeping many of you informed of his progress, but for those not on the direct grapevine here is an update of his condition. Chuck is progressing slowly through the healing process. We know that Chuck has lots of spirit, and I am sure that will help him to get through this serious challenge.

Jan



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OREGON STATE FAIR 2012

Marjie Ehry

Another fun year at the fair!

It started slowly, with a few fair glitches and without an observation hive, but Richard Farrier, WVBA President, soon came to our aid with his Ulster observation hive. Can you imagine a bee booth without bees! Then Dick Temple of Stayton unexpectedly showed up with a great display of a swarm complete with beautiful hanging combs. He had carefully cut it out of the branches in a tree about 20 feet in the air. Dick built a display box and mounted it inside for all to enjoy. Many fair-goers said they had “never seen anything like it.” We want to thank Dick and Richard for making the 2012 OSBA Oregon State Fair booth such a big success.

Richard Farrier's Ulster observation hive (**below**) together with Dick Temple's bee tree hive (**right**; see also page 11) could do no less than “wow” visitors to this year's state fair!



Richard Temple

Marjie Ehry

Prize-winning honey was entered by Paul Andersen and Sheryl Russell, and both entries received Blue Ribbon awards. Thank You! That's right folks, only two entries. We need to work on this. I know your honey is prize-winning honey, too. On the other hand, we are grateful to all the beekeepers who took the time to take care of the booth and entry honey during the eleven-day fair. First, I want to mention Fritz Skirven, who stores the display cases each year and sets them up for us... no easy job! Fred Mann was on hand to run in and take care of the booth whenever needed. On my list I have him down for five shifts, but I expect he was there far more than five. Again, I must mention Dick Temple, who on his own came in to tend to his display but then stayed many hours talking to the crowds who were always gathered around. And, of course, there is Dewey Caron, who out-does himself helping with set up, display items, taking care of the booth, and is a wonderful source of information. Also, not to forget

Ruhl Bee Supply, who loaned a small extractor along with John's new extracting bucket and uncapping knife for display. In addition, GloryBee donated handouts of recipes and catalogs.

We were lucky to have beekeepers from up and down the Valley and even from Washington state. One of the days I was working, I looked up to see man with a crowd of people around him demonstrating how an extractor works and showing one of the bottles of prize-winning honey. He and his wife were visiting Oregon from another state, he said, and “as a beekeeper, I couldn't help myself.”

Now...to thank the beekeepers who took care of the 2012 Bee Booth: Dennis Robbins, Fritz Skirven, Mike & Diane VanDyke, Art Martinak, Phyllis Shoemake, Brandy Rogers, Basselm family, Michael Hendershot & father-in-law, Erma Hamilton, Bev Koch, Todd Bartlem, Gus Arzner, Sheryl Russell, Randy & Tamara Blair, Tom & Bobbie Kromer, Bunny Carter, Nancy Vallereux, Suzi Maresh, Paul Maresh, Mike & Donna Rodia, Paul & Mary Andersen, and Eric Walls. I know there are a few names we may be missing, but we thank everyone and hope you will be on the list next year!

GUIDELINES and CATEGORIES for the 2012 FALL CONFERENCE HONEY SHOW

Minimum Quantities

Comb honey—three lots of three rounds
 Extracting frames—three frames
 All other honey—three 1-pint jars
 Extracted honey—three standard, 1-pound queenline jars

Comb Honey: Class #1

1. Comb honey, any one variety (three round sections).
2. Comb honey, any one variety (three square sections).
3. Chunk honey in a jar (three wide-mouth 1-pint jars).

Extracting Frames

4. Full depth, any one variety (three frames).
5. Shallow, any one variety (three frames).
6. Western, any one variety (three frames).
7. Semi, any one variety (three frames).

Extracted Honey: Class #2

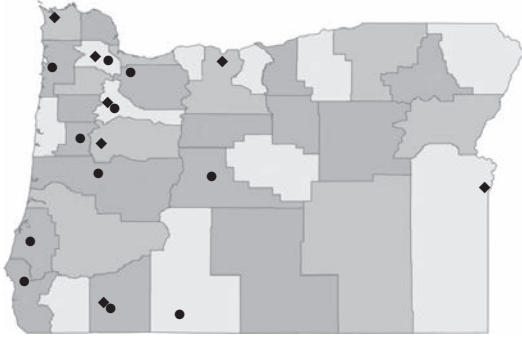
8. Creamed honey (three 1-pint jars).
- All other extracted liquid honey, three 1-pound queenline jars.*
9. Alfalfa and/or sweet clover. 10. Clover. 11. Vetch. 12. Blackberry. 13. Any other fruit—state the source on entry. 14. Any other wildflower—state the source on entry. 15. Any other mixed flowers—state the sources on entry. 16. Any other source—state the source on entry.

Beeswax: Class #3

17. Natural or sunbleached (2 pounds, one piece).

Continued on page 11

Oregon State Beekeepers Association EXECUTIVE BOARD AND ASSOCIATIONS



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541.942.6479; beetanical@q.com

• OSBA REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Central Oregon Beekeepers
Meets 6:30 PM, third Tuesday
63211 Service Rd, Suite 130, Bend
President: Bindy Beck-Meyer
Treasurer: Allen Engle
For information, please contact John Connelly—
johncobka@gmail.com

Coos County Beekeepers
Meets 6:30 PM, third Saturday (except December)
Ohlsen Baxter Bldg, 631 Alder St, Myrtle Point
President: John Gardner—541.572.3847
Vice President: Shigeo Oku—541.396.4016
Secretary: Bobbi Gardner—541.572.3847
Treasurer: Jane Oku—541.396.4016;
janeoku1958@gmail.com

Klamath Basin Beekeepers
Meets 9:00 AM, last Saturday (except Nov/Dec)
OSU Extension, 3328 Vandenberg Rd, Klamath Falls
President: Tom Chester—541.850.8384; tlc1@well.com
Vice President: Chris Kerns—541.884.8664;
ker664@charter.net
Secretary: Donna Schmerbach—541.891.3066
Treasurer: Kathy Nelson—541.882.3141
Website: www.klamathbeekeepers.org

Lane County Beekeepers
Meets 7:30 PM, third Tuesday, Trinity United
Methodist Church, 440 Maxwell Rd, Eugene
President: Judy Scher—541.344.2114;
judyscher@gmail.com
Vice President: Rita Ostrofsky—541.685.2875
Secretary: Barbara Bajec—541.767.9086
Treasurer: Nancy Ograin—541.935.7065;
woodrt@pacinfo.com
Website: www.lcbaor.org

Linn-Benton Beekeepers
Meets 6:30 PM, fourth Wednesday, South First
Alternative Co-op Meeting Room, 1007 SE 3rd, Corvallis
President: Linda Zielinski—541.929.4856;
llz50@peak.org

Vice President: Zach Welch—541.754.3069;
zw@superlucidity.net
Secretary: Marie Laper—541.760.9838; mlaper@peak.org
Treasurer: Suzi Maresh—541.967.9607;
sjomaresh@msn.com

Portland Metro Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 PM, second Thursday, Clackamas Community College, Clairmont Hall, Room 118, Oregon City
President: Nancy McFarlane—503.260.3930;
mcfarlanebees@gmail.com
Vice President: Jim Barlean—503.659.9718;
jbarlean@msn.com
Secretary: Kat Yeager—503.452.5010;
peace.is.purple@gmail.com
Treasurer: Rex McIntire—503.720.7958;
remcintire_5@msn.com

Portland Urban Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 PM, first Wednesday, Calaroga Terrace Rtmt Comm, Terrace Auditorium, 1400 NE Second Ave, Portland
President: Tim Wessels—503.380.9381;
mrjwessels@gmail.com
Vice President: Melissa Kerry—785.331.8003;
mkerry@cu-portland.edu
Secretary: Mike Card—503.702.9250;
mikecard02@gmail.com
Treasurer: Frank Barley—fbarley@yahoo.com

Southern Oregon Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 PM, first Monday, Southern Oregon Res & Ext Ctr, 569 Hanley Rd, Central Point
President: John Jacob—541.582.BEES
john@oldsolenterprises.com
Vice President: Floyd Pawlowski—541.482.4797;
fmpawlowski@ashlandwireless.net
Secretary: Michele Bashaw—541.512.0155;
hapistitch@earthlink.net
Treasurer: Ron Willing—541.582.9694; rwilling@charter.net

Tillamook County Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 PM, second Tuesday, Art Space Hwy 101 & 5th St, Bay City
President: Bob Allen—503.322.3819
Vice President: Terry Fullan—503.368.7160;
tfullan@nehalem.tel.net

Tualatin Valley Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 pm, last Tuesday
Cameron Public Svcs Bldg, 155 N First Ave, Hillsboro
President: Mike Van Dyke—503.642.5338;
mvand581@gmail.com
Vice President: Andrew Schwab—503.538.7545;
beesbuzzin@gmail.com
Secretary: Paul Andersen—503.649.5089;
paulande@easystreet.net
Treasurer: Jerry Maasdam—503.648.7906;
jmaasdam@mac.com

Willamette Valley Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 PM, fourth Monday, Chemeketa Community College, Building 34, Room A, Salem
President: Richard Farrier—541.327.2673 Vice President: Harry Vanderpool—503.399.3675;
shallotman@yahoo.com
Secretary: Mike Rodia—503.364.3275; drodia@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Patricia Swenson—pkswenson@gmail.com
Website: www.wvbatoday.com

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Dr. Ramesh Sagili—541.737.5460;
sagilir@hort.oregonstate.edu

REGIONAL NEWS

Regional Representatives

South Coast

The bees are flourishing on the South Coast, and the beekeepers are getting along pretty well, too. Blackberry blooms are declining. Dandelions still seem to be a staple for pollen collection. Many local beekeepers report average-to-below-average honey yields. Black bears continue to be a problem resulting in heavy losses for some. Their plundering has affected both honey yield and equipment. South Coast Beekeepers Association (Curry County) had an interesting meeting with Laurie Fletcher presenting “Safety First.” She deftly led the participants through a discussion to answer the question, “Why do bees sting?” and set the stage for her remaining topic, “Using EpiPens.” Beekeepers were encouraged to carry two EpiPens and not to work alone. Her practical experience in emergency response endeavors enhanced a lively discussion with participants. The South Coast group plans to organize certification training for the use of EpiPens during the winter season. The Coos County Beekeepers Association held their annual picnic at the regular September meeting. Coos County also plans a bee school, scheduled for November 17 from 10:30 AM to 3:30 PM at the OSU

facility in Myrtle Point. For more information, call 541.396.4016 or 541.249.0160. —*Del Barber*

North Willamette Valley

Honey crop per hive averages were up for most beekeepers around the North Willamette Valley this year by 30–50 percent from last year. That is the good news. The bad news is that those averages range from 20 to 42 pounds, which is still 50 percent shy of the 65 percent averages that are supposed to be the mean average for the Willamette Valley.

The main flow was actually a very good flow this year, but unfortunately the first half was rained out. While the honey crop was on the lower side, beekeepers are very happy with the condition of their bees and all report very heavy stores going into fall.

Fall treatments and supplemental protein feeding began on time, and it seems everyone is using a different strategy for Varroa control this year. It has been interesting comparing notes with all of the different methods and products. As usual, the main focus, discussion, is related to preparing the hives for almonds...and the short break away from bees for a couple of months. *Harry Vanderpool*

Regional Associations

Lane County Beekeepers

LCBA members showed their products of the hive in the 2012 Lane County Fair. Fair judging was done by Brandt Weaver; Nancy and Ken Ograin set up the big LCBA display as well as the judging table display. Winners were:

Category	First	Second	Third
Water White Strained	Kelly Goodwin		

Light Strained	Max Kuhn	Polly Habliston	Doug Habliston
Medium Strained	Kelly Goodwin	Judy Scher	Lester Leavitt
Dark Strained	Ken Ograin	Nancy Ograin	
Chunk Honey	Judy Scher	Kelly Goodwin	
Honey in Frame	Kelly Goodwin	Jonathan Loftin	
Beeswax	Nancy Ograin	Ken Ograin	Judy Scher

Last month Judy Scher gave a talk on fall and winter hive management to a group of about 70 members. September's meeting will be a brand new talk by Morris Ostrofsky entitled, "Unbelievables: Incredible behaviors and abilities that bees display."



Nancy Ograin

—*Judy Scher*

Portland Metro Beekeepers

President Nancy McFarlane announced that next month bee club members may put their name in a hat for a drawing. The prizes will be two registrations for the upcoming Oregon State Beekeepers Association conference in Seaside this November. There is a proposal on the table to change our club name. About 80 percent of our members live in Clackamas County. It will take a vote of two-thirds of our members to make a change. The vote will

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be taken in November by email, after discussion of name choices continue this month and next. If you have name ideas, please send them to Nancy.

Vice President Jim Barlean was the featured speaker today with mite control and fall feeding being the main two topics. He mentioned that a hive consumes about 50 pounds of honey through the winter. He brought a variety of homemade and commercial feeders. His favorite is the 2-quart plastic juice bottle, which is sturdier than the plastic pop bottles often used. For winter ventilation, he also likes raising the top cover end about 5/16th of an inch. This allows cross-ventilation, and the bees will fill in the space with propolis to suit their own hive's needs.

Next month's meeting will feature Dr. Ramesh Sagili on "The State of the Bees."
—Paul Jarrett

KEEPING BEES IN OCTOBER

Harry Vanderpool



As the leaves change color in October, so does our bee work change in the fall.

Our goal is to have hive work done before the 15th, if possible.

We still have time in early October to make some last-minute decisions affecting our colonies.

- ❖ Light colonies can be fed syrup saturated syrup until daily temperatures drop into the 40s.
- ❖ Mite sampling in hives randomly selected is a wise utilization of time. In some years, a fall "mite clean-up" is required after evaluating these last-minute tests. One clean-up method, preferred by many, is to feed syrup that has had its pH lowered slightly.
- ❖ No reason at this time for pesticides or miticides, just feed, prepared in the same manner as your tea when you add a squeeze of lemon. This syrup is fed to the bees by trickling a measured amount onto the bees between each frame. While the bees get fed, the mites in the phoretic stage rinse off the bees and perish instantly. This method is safe, clean, affordable—and green. There is no residue and nothing to remove from the hive. For more information: www.scientificbeekeeping.com. Click on *Varroa Management*, and then scroll to material on *Oxalic Acid*.

❖ We believe that hives overwintered in Oregon fare much better with adequate ventilation. Our last look under the

lids in late October is when we pop each lid, scrape the propolis ring from the lid and top box, and then lay a couple of twigs on top of the upper box to the inside of the pallet. With the lids back in position, the pallet is covered with a sheet of 35# roofing felt to shed the rain, snow, and frost for the cold, cold winter ahead.

❖ All entrance reducers are removed and replaced with ½-inch hardware cloth mouse guards. This increases ventilation and reduces the incidence of blockages at the entrance.

❖ If you find a need to make combines, remember to safely store the remaining equipment and treat with paradichlorobenzene moth crystals. Do not use naphthalene moth balls!

With the bees safely tucked away for winter, we finally can turn our focus to us as beekeepers:

❖ We give each and every piece of equipment its due time on rainy days for a complete overall inspection, cleaning, and maintenance. Trucks, trailers, forklifts, tractors, bee blowers, syrup pumps; they all need attention. Similar to bees, they need to be prepared properly to overwinter. This time is as important as anything we do. Roll each piece of equipment into the shop, and go over each with a fine tooth comb.

❖ Don't get in a hurry!

So how about you? How are you doing? After a long hard year (again), you are overdue for a recharge.

It's time to sign up for the OSBA fall conference. Please do not put this off for another day. Go to www.orsba.org, click on *upcoming events*. There you can download the registration form and agenda. Do this today; you deserve it!

The conference is greatly improved by your attendance and by registering as early as possible to assist in planning.

We look forward to seeing you there!

QUESTION OF THE MONTH ? ?

Question

I have a colony with American foulbrood. Because it is a "no burn" season here in Oregon right now, what are my options for disposing of the hive? Is it feasible to torch out the hive body and save the equipment?

Continued on page 9

WELCOME, NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS!



Karen Andruss
Bert Boehm
William Carter
Jonathan Christie
Harry Clark
Blake Cordell
Richard Csuk
Charles Dallmann
Tami Dean

Larry Edwards
Richard & Jessie Farrier
Joan Frey
Rebecca Gilbert
Karen Girard
Dan Holt
Micah Hozen
Alvin James
Torey Johnson

Melissa Kerry
John Kraus
T Max & Clara Kuhn
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Karessa Torgerson
Kenneth Tschiegg

Judith Wible
Jimmy Zamora

Question—Continued from page 7

Response

Dewey Caron: Because we seldom see AFB, get a lab confirmation before destroying the hive. IF bees are still present, adults should be killed with soapy water at night. The frames and bees need to be burned or deposited in landfill, which is best option in Oregon right now. Honey can be extracted, but not fed to bees (AFB is not harmful for humans). Thoroughly clean extracting equipment and utensils after the honey processing. The larger pieces (boxes, bottoms, and tops) can be scraped with hive tool (discard this material in trash) and then charred with a portable torch on the inside, paying attention to hive body rabbet and corners and places not scraped well. On establishing a new colony into the same apiary or scorched equipment, a prophylactic treatment with terramycin or Tylan or lincomycin hydrochloride is recommended. Tylan will stay around for a longer time than terramycin.

OVERWINTERING INFO FROM BIP

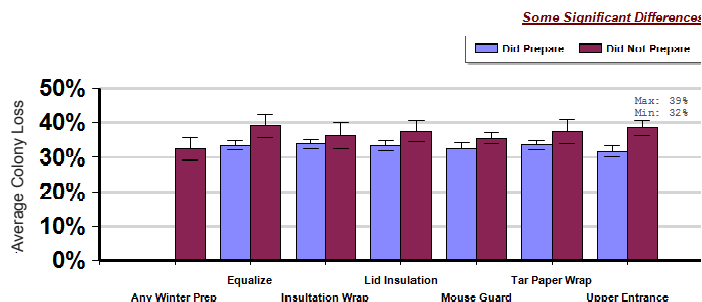
Dewey M. Caron

Beekeepers know that keeping bees healthy and productive is a complicated endeavor. There is no “one right way” to keep bees. Keeping colonies alive is not always about what beekeepers do, but where the bee colonies are located and the resources they can collect and store. Beekeepers actively caring for their bees know timing and how skillfully colonies are managed can make a difference.

The Bee Informed Partnership (BIP) is using an epidemiological approach to identify risk factors associated with bee colony losses. We seek to identify key factors that contribute to bee disease occurrence to determine why some beekeepers are losing fewer colonies than others. Our major tools include the annual BIP losses/management survey and field team generated data, along with analysis of historical loss data.

Our 2012 national management survey included questions regarding overwintering management. Over 80 percent of respondents reported they did some winter preparation of their colonies. Several methods apparently improved overwintering success rates. Practices that were associated with decreased winter losses were: having an upper entrance (31.7 versus 38.5%; a difference of 6.8 additional colonies per 100 exhibiting winter survival);

equalizing colony strength in the fall (33.5 versus 39.1% loss; a difference of 5.6 colonies per 100); placing extra insulation on top of the colony (33.3 versus 37.5%; a difference of 4.2 colonies per 100); and using a mouse guard at the entrance (32.4 versus 35.5%; a difference of 3.1 colonies per 100). All other practices had no measurable effect.



In Oregon, we are aware that moisture is our number one enemy for successful overwintering. Our latest BIP survey confirms pro-active wintering preparations can make a difference.

The Bee Informed Partnership seeks your participation. We thank all beekeepers who have participated in the past and seek greater input to help get a better understanding of the situation in your state and region. We need your input. The BIP website www.beeinformed.org has a great deal of information, and we encourage you to look it over.

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For several years, Maria Spivak has had a vision of helping queen producers select breeder stock to be more tolerant of bee viruses, varroa mites, and nosema disease. The Bee Informed Partnership project was formed, Katie, Rob, and Mike, “The Bee Tech Team” gathers data from our bees. This information will help us select breeder stock that may be more tolerant of bee viruses. This is a long term program that will continue to implement a system that will help keep track of disease and parasite at colony levels. Our beekeeping family’s mission is to make the better always the BEST!

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Zombie fly—Continued from page 1

The brownish-red fly, which lays eggs inside the bees and is smaller than a fruit fly, is native to North America and has been found in Canada and various states that include Alaska, Georgia, Maine, Minnesota, New Mexico and New York, said Brian Brown, the curator of entomology at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and an expert on the parasitic fly.

Brown said the fly has been in Oregon for thousands of years but has just never been found in a honeybee in the state until now. In 1993, he identified a fly from Oregon as being an *Apocephalus borealis*. He doesn't know, however, when it was actually found because it was part of a museum's collection he borrowed. In 1934, a collector found the fly just south of Oregon in Gasquet, Calif., near Crescent City.

Oregon was home to 56,200 commercial honeybee hives last year, according to a report from the OSU Extension Service. About two dozen beekeepers owned 90 percent of them, Sagili said. Every year, Sagili and retired entomologist Dewey Caron survey the state's commercial beekeepers to find out how their hives are faring. Between October 2010 and April 2011, they lost 17 percent of their combined hives versus the same period a year earlier, Sagili said. In 2009–10, they lost about 25 percent, he said.

To find out if the parasitic fly is playing a role in the losses, Sagili has placed traps by hives at two locations on campus and is encouraging commercial and hobby beekeepers to do the same near their colonies. Instructions on making traps can be found at www.zombeewatch.org/tutorial.

People who don't raise bees can also become ZomBee hunters just by collecting dead or dying honeybees they might find under porch or street lights. Sagili recommends placing the bees in a jar with multiple layers of cheesecloth secured over the top with a rubber band to let in air. Collectors should watch for the possible emergence of maggots. If they do find the parasite in the bees, Sagili encourages them to email him at sagilir@hort.oregonstate.edu. They can also submit their findings to www.ZomBeeWatch.org so the fly's whereabouts can be posted on an online map.

Note: Many of us have been told the story of the person who lost their keys and was looking for them under a street lamp. When questioned by a passerby wanting to help, they responded that they had lost the keys elsewhere, but it was nighttime so they were searching under the lamp where they were able to see. I've thought of this over time when the answer to a question wasn't "in sight." Even so, though Ramesh may not have been searching for anything in particular that fine morning in July, this story does suggest the value of looking under street lamps after all.

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HOW THE BEES HITCHED A RIDE TO THE STATE FAIR

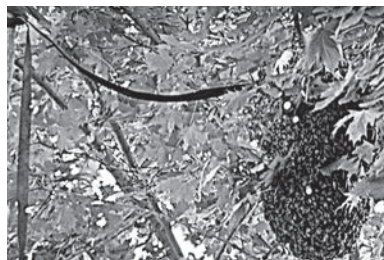
Richard Temple

It all began when honey bees took to a tree. The property owners had a 20-foot extension ladder, and I selected my “path” through the canopy. After securing the ladder on a limb which was within 2 feet of the hive, I sprayed the hive down with sugar syrup and trimmed the path through the branches to be able to bring the hive down without damage.



I trimmed away all the twigs and small branches the bees had “incorporated” into the comb as well as I could, leaving a main branch about 1½ inches and another ½-inch branch, both traveled right through the center of the hive. I put a strap around the main branch supporting the hive and wrapped this around a nearby branch....This thing is going to be about 20 pounds.

At this time it’s about 10:45 AM, getting warm (about 70 degrees), and the bees are getting antsy. I cut the smaller branch, then sawed the main branch and lowered the hive as gently as I could to hang on the aux support branch.



I let the bees settle down and sprayed more syrup on them. Then lifting the hive (I am standing on the ladder about 12–14 feet up), I unstrapped it from the aux support branch and climbed down to the ground. The main branch going through the comb has about a 6-inch extension out the bottom, so I rested it on that. I placed the hive crosswise in the box.

Then, I placed the box in the back of my truck. I sprayed more syrup, turned on the air conditioner, closed the windows, and drove home.



Very little damage was done to the comb and the bees seem to be very happy in their new location at my place. I built the exhibit box the next day with the help of our Secretary [Mike Rodia] and placed the bees in the OSBA State Fair booth the day after that [see page 3]. Since the fair, they now have room to roam. *What’s next?*



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Queens, Bees, Honey & Pollination

Honey Show Categories—Continued from page 3

Beeswax: Class #3 (continued)

18. Beeswax candles, 100% beeswax (2 pounds, dipped large single or several pairs). **19.** Artistic beeswax, 100% beeswax. Entries can be different shades of wax and in several pieces, but fastened together. No artificial enhancements.

Beekeeping Photo: Class #4

Entries must be in an 8 x 10-inch black frame and relate to the theme: “The Joy of Beekeeping!”

Oregon State Beekeepers Association 2012 Fall Conference

↻ November 1, 2, and 3, 2012 ↻

Seaside Civic and Convention Center, 415 First Ave, Seaside OR 97138

Individual and Family Registration

Name: _____ Date: _____

Company (if applicable): _____

Complete mailing address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact phone: _____ email address: _____

Additional names of family members attending: _____

Additional memberships: _____

Event	Cost
Thursday Night Hospitality Room	Complimentary
Full Conference Individual: \$115 Family: \$145	\$
Friday Conference Only Individual: \$75 Family: \$90	\$
Saturday Conference Only Individual: \$75 Family: \$90	\$
Friday Research Luncheon ¹ : \$25 per person	Number attending: _____ \$
Friday Evening Banquet : \$35 per person	Number attending: _____ \$
Saturday Apiculture Endowment Fund Breakfast ² at 7 AM: \$15 per person	Number attending: _____ \$
Annual OSBA Dues : \$25 per person	Number: _____ \$
Exhibitor Fee : \$40 per table	Number of tables: _____ \$
TOTAL Cost	\$

Please make check **payable to OSBA** and mail with this **completed registration form**,
postmarked no later than October 18, to:

Paul Kowash, 5959 SW Taylors Ferry Rd, Portland OR 97219

Note: Hotel reservations are not included in these costs. Special rates are available at the Best Western Ocean View Resort (800.234.8439) and the Inn at Seaside (800.699.5070). Be sure to ask for the *Beekeepers Fall Conference* special room rate when you make your reservation.

¹ The Friday luncheon is limited to the first 150 registrants. For Saturday's lunch, please enjoy your meal at one of the local establishments of your choice.

² The Saturday Apiculture Endowment Fund Breakfast at 7 AM will feature a special presentation by Dr. Frank Eischen and an opportunity to support the endowment.

Oregon State Beekeepers Association 2012 Fall Conference

Seaside Civic and
Convention Center



November 1–3, 2012
Seaside, Oregon

TENTATIVE AGENDA (CURRENT AS OF 9.23.12; UPDATES TO BE POSTED AT: WWW.ORSBA.ORG)

Thursday, November 1

5:00–9:00 PM REGISTRATION
7:00 PM WINE AND CHEESE SOCIAL
8:30 PM FILM: TBA

Friday, November 2

8:00 AM–4:00 PM **SILENT AUCTION**, COORDINATED BY *DEB MORGAN*

8:15 AM–3:00 PM **BEE SCHOOL** (ATTEND ALL OR PORTIONS)
THOM TRUSEWICZ, OSBA WEBKEEPER

8:00–8:15 AM **WELCOME AND PROGRAM OVERVIEW**
JAN LOHMAN, PRESIDENT, OSBA

8:15–9:00 AM **PRESENTATION TBA**
DR. FRANK EISCHEN, HONEY BEE RESEARCH UNIT, USDA-ARS, WESLACO, TEXAS

9:00 AM–4:00 PM **OSU HONEY BEE LAB**

9:00–9:45 AM **PRESENTATION TBA**
SUE COBEY, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-DAVIS AND WASHINGTON STATE UNIV

9:45–10:15 AM **BREAK**

AFTER 10 AM **HONEY SHOW**, JUDGING BY *MARJIE EHRY*

10:15–11:00 AM **PRESENTATION TBA**
DR. LARRY CONNOR, OWNER, BEEKEEPING EDUCATION SERVICE AND WICWAS PRESS

11:00–11:45 AM **PRESENTATION TBA**
DR. RAMESH SAGILI, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, HORTICULTURE, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

11:45 AM–1:00 PM **RESEARCH LUNCHEON**
PRESENTATION TBA
DR. DEWEY CARON, EMERITUS PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

1:00–1:45 PM **PRESENTATION TBA**
CLINT WALKER, TEXAS

1:45–2:15 PM **AMERICAN BEEKEEPING FEDERATION**
GEORGE HANSEN, FOOTHILLS HONEY AND PRESIDENT, AMERICAN BEEKEEPING FEDERATION
OREGON MASTER BEEKEEPER PROGRAM
CAROLYN BREECE, CONTACT, OREGON MASTER BEEKEEPER PROGRAM

2:15–2:45 PM **BREAK**

2:45–3:30 PM **PRESENTATION TBA**
DR. LOUISA HOOVEN, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, HORTICULTURE, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

3:30–4:15 PM **PRESENTATION TBA**
DAVID HACKENBERG, CO-CHAIR, NATIONAL HONEY BEE ADVISORY BOARD

4:30 PM **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

6:00 PM **SOCIAL HOUR**

7:00 PM **BANQUET, PRESENTATION: TBA**
BANQUET AUCTION, COORDINATED BY *JORDAN DIMOCK*

Saturday, November 3

7:00–8:15 AM **ENDOWMENT BREAKFAST**
HOST: *KENNY WILLIAMS*, CO-OWNER, WILD HARVEST HONEY AND CHAIR, NORTHWEST APICULTURE FUND
PRESENTATION TBA: *DR. FRANK EISCHEN*

8:15–9:00 AM **A RECOLLECTION OF ITALIAN HONEY BEES AND NEW RESEARCH ON CONTROLLED ATMOSPHERE WINTERING**
DR. STEVE SHEPPARD, PROFESSOR AND ENTOMOLOGY CHAIR, WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY, PULLMAN
A QUEEN-REARING BEE YARD
DR. LARRY CONNOR

9:00 AM–4:00 PM **OSU HONEY BEE LAB**

9:00–9:45 AM **PRESENTATION TBA**
DAVE HACKENBERG
INCREASES
DR. LARRY CONNOR

9:45–10:15 AM **BREAK**

10:15–11:00 AM **PRESENTATION TBA**
CLINT WALKER
CLOAKE BOARD QUEEN-REARING METHOD
SUSAN COBEY

11:00–11:45 AM **THE ASIAN HONEY BEES: So FOREIGN, So FAMILIAR**
DR. MICHAEL BURGETT, EMERITUS PROFESSOR, HORTICULTURE, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY
CLOAKE BOARD QUEEN-REARING METHOD
SUSAN COBEY

11:45 AM–1:15 PM **LUNCH AROUND TOWN**

1:15–2:00 PM **PRESENTATION TBA**
GEORGE HANSEN
READING FRAMES
MORRIS OSTROFSKY, RETIRED BIOLOGY INSTRUCTOR

2:00–2:45 PM **PRESENTATION TBA**
DR. JAMES TEW, BEEKEEPING SPECIALIST, ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, AUBURN UNIVERSITY AND EMERITUS PROFESSOR, THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
MAKING IT THROUGH THE SECOND YEAR
DR. DEWEY CARON

2:45–3:15 PM **BREAK**

3:15–4:00 PM **PRESENTATION TBA**
DR. FRANK EISCHEN
PRESENTATION TBA
MORRIS OSTROFSKY

4:00 OR 4:45 PM CLOSING

Note: Alternate events and concurrent sessions are shaded. Additional presentation, not yet scheduled:

RECENT ADVANCES IN HONEY BEE GERMLASM PRESERVATION AND APPLICATION IN STOCK RECONSTRUCTION
BRANDON HOPKINS, WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

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WAS Conference: October 4-7. Seattle. Information at: http://ucanr.org/sites/was2/Conference_Information/.




OSBA Fall Conference: November 1-3. Seaside. *The Registration Lines Are Open!* Updates at: www.orsba.org.

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Oregon State Beekeepers Association Membership Form

The **Oregon State Beekeepers Association** is a nonprofit organization representing and supporting all who have an interest in honey bees and beekeeping. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in bees and beekeeping. You do not need to own bees or reside in Oregon to join. Membership includes the ongoing work of the organization on behalf of the honey bee and beekeeping, a vote in OSBA elections, discounts on publications, placement on the swarm call list, and an annual directory and subscription to *The Bee Line*. For new memberships and renewals, please send check made payable to OSBA with this completed form to:

Paul Kowash, 5959 SW Taylors Ferry Rd, Portland OR 97219

Name: _____ **New** ___ **Renewing** ___

Additional name(s) for added memberships at the same address:

Mailing address: _____

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Contact information: The OSBA respects the privacy of members. Please check if you do not want your contact information included in a membership directory sent to OSBA members only: **Do not include contact information** _____

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The Bee Line

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Please send news about your bees and your experiences in keeping them, as well as events, corrections, comments, questions, photographs and stories (both from “old” times and “new”), interviews, recipes, and points of view to: Rosanna Mattingly, *The Bee Line*, 4207 SE Woodstock Blvd Ste 517, Portland OR 97206; email: osba.newsletter@gmail.com.

The next issue to be printed will be the November-December 2012 issue. The deadline for submitting copy is October 10, 2012.

Thank you!

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