



The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association

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Pam Leavitt

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www.orsba.org

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www.oregonmasterbeekeeper.org
OREGON MASTER BEEKEEPER PROGRAM
A Joint Venture of OSBA and the
Oregon State University Extension Service
info@oregonmasterbeekeeper.org

Image above: As good as it gets.

The deadline for preregistration for the conference, both by mail and online, is October 18. Registration will be available on site, but at a higher cost.

Notes about pesticide study (page 3) and golden goose award (page 9) taken/adapted from *American Bee Journal's* ABJ Extra.

Varroa and Beetle Alert

Ramesh Sagili

Varroa

I would like to take this opportunity to alert/caution you regarding high mite populations in honey bee colonies this year due to an unusually long bee season similar to past year. We had another long bee season this year similar to past year (2015) due to prevailing warm weather of about seven months. Longer brood cycle (abundance of larvae) usually results in higher mite populations, as the mites get a greater opportunity to breed and increase their populations compared to bees. It has been reported that mite populations could increase exponentially (up to about 50-fold increase) in years when the brood is present in colonies almost round the year (Martin 1998).

We are observing significantly higher mite intensities this year. Our PNW Tech Transfer Team has also reported higher mite intensities in samples of participating beekeepers for the month of July when compared to past two years. Some beekeepers had to treat their colonies three times this year in order to get adequate mite control. If you treated your colonies for *Varroa* on time during July or first half of August, then probably you may have your mite populations somewhat under control, but still I urge you to monitor mites one more time before overwintering to make sure that the treatments that you used were effective and your current mite populations are not at damaging levels. If your mite levels are still high, then please consider using a suitable mite control product immediately before the weather gets cold, and use an oxalic acid treatment if feasible when there is no brood (possibly during November). Oxalic acid is approved by EPA and is available from the bee supplier Brushy Mountain Bee Farm (<http://www.brushymountainbeefarm.com/?gclid=CLzrqIrB98cCFUiEfgods-gJ6w>).

Following are some consequences of inadequate or no *Varroa* mite control this fall:

- Bee population may decline significantly or the colonies might totally collapse.
- Colonies that survive the winter will start upcoming year/season with higher mite loads and hence could reach damaging levels soon by late spring or summer.
- High-mite-infested colonies may contribute to higher mite drifting via robbing bees to other beekeeper colonies and your existing healthy colonies, as your mite-infested dead colonies may be robbed by other strong colonies and aid in greater mite dispersal.

Also, please continue feeding protein to your colonies if pollen stores are not adequate in the colonies. Protein feeding not only helps with brood rearing, but also helps boost the immune system of bees. We have observed colonies to consume protein until October 25 in the Willamette Valley and a few other locations in Oregon when the weather is still okay (temperatures around 55 to 60°F).

Small Hive Beetle (SHB)

I would also like to alert you regarding occurrence of small hive beetle in Oregon.

Continued on page 3

Message from the President



One of my high school jobs back in my youth was as a *hired hand* on a dairy. I worked that job for a year and loved it.

You're probably thinking that I need my head examined for loving one of the hardest jobs a young student could ever have. But I did love it. In that one short year, I was given the "opportunity" to operate almost every single piece of farm machinery ever invented.

Then there were the cows and calves. There was the milking, of course. Milking was at 5:00 am and 5:00 pm every day. There were the round-ups with castrating, de-horning, branding, immunizing, magnet inserting, ear tagging, etc. It went on forever!

I was taught to mend fence, shovel manure, run the generator in case of a power outage, and much, much more.

Although we had a couple of bulls, we had many of our cows artificially inseminated in order to shift our lines. We managed a number of pests and diseases, and called the vet if necessary.

Great memories and great training.

I have a honey yard that is located on a homestead that was a dairy until the 1970s. The family that operated the dairy emigrated from The Netherlands in the 1950s with dairying in their blood. Sometimes when I go there to work bees I stop in for a visit and we talk bees and cows. The conversation almost always ends up with us wrestling with the question, "Which is more demanding, beekeeping or running a dairy?" There is no quick or easy answer. We have been debating this for about 12 years. There are no "sides" in this debate. We just can't seem to decide the final answer.

One thing is for sure, we all have the same 24 hours daily to get all of the work done. If you have thousands of hives (or cows) or a few hives and a job, church, PTA, bee association, we're all busy. Also, there is no "easy money," at least not in agriculture.

I hope that we can all appreciate the different challenges that our fellow brothers and sisters in agriculture face, regardless of specialty or scale. We all share the same 24-hour day.

One last tip for those of you thinking of switching from bees to cows: When you are driving out into the field on a tractor pulling a heaping manure spreader, make sure the wind is blowing in your face before initiating the PTO! That's the first dairy lesson I learned the hard way as a new 15-year-old hired hand!

I look forward to seeing you at the OSBA Conference again this year!

Harry Vanderpool

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Varroa and Beetles—Continued from page 1

This year we have received more reports of small hive beetle than in the past six years and plan to explore this issue in more detail. Todd Balsiger has written a nice article regarding this beetle in a past issue of *The Bee Line* [March 2013].

Current climatic and soil conditions may not be ideal for SHB overwintering/pupation/establishment in most of Oregon, but future changes in climate, such as frequent mild winters, could aid in establishment of SHB populations in Oregon. Early detection, reporting, and control of SHB may help mitigate its establishment in Oregon. Hence, we urge you to keep an eye on this beetle, report its occurrence, and take appropriate control measures when detected.

Further, we suggest you to be cautious when purchasing package bees, nucleus colonies, or queens from locations in the US where SHB is well established. Also, please monitor your colonies for small hive beetles during summer and fall if you regularly transport your bees across state lines for pollination, especially to California (almond pollination). Please refer to our recent extension publication on SHB for more information. Following is the link to access this publication:

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9143>

Sap Beetle (*Brachyepplus basalis*)

Finally, I would like to make you aware of another beetle that has been recently documented in empty honey bee hives in Oregon that were stored outside. These sap beetles have been reported to feed on stored pollen in honey bee colonies. Very little is known about the biology of this beetle. This beetle has the potential to become a nuisance/problem for beekeepers, especially with regards to stored bee equipment (frames). Please watch for this beetle infestation and report its incidence. You can find a picture of this beetle in the above extension publication.

Thank you and good luck.

FALL CONFERENCE HONEY SHOW

Scott Ingles

Show off your beekeeping skills at this year's conference by entering some of your apiary products in the judging event. There are so many great apiary products one can enter, I hardly know where to begin. Honey is a beekeeper's staple product whether in the form of EXTRACTED or CUT COMB. Everyone produces lots of wax so why not show yours off. CANDLES or NOVELTY items made from bees wax make a great entry too. Other items include CHUNK COMB, CREAMED HONEY, POLLEN, and PROPOLIS. For those of you in the creative mode, PICTURES (of you and your bees at work), COSMETICS (made with some honey

and or bees wax), GIFT PACKAGE, EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS, and not to be left out, the infamous GADGET (that unique hive tool you have personally invented to assist in bee keeping).

For ease in judging, please have your entries in the following form:

Extracted Honey – 2–3 queenline style or classic style clear glass jars of the same size (1–3 pounds). No labels on the jars to be judged (bring them to put on the jars after judging).

Comb Honey – two squares of cut comb or rounds.

Bees Wax Articles – Candles, two each or wax molds, two approximately 1 pound each or original design 2 pounds maximum weight.

Cosmetics – three of each item. Includes, but not limited to: Hand cream/lotion, soap, lip balm, ointments, salves, tinctures, etc.

Educational Display and/or **Pictures** – pertaining to bee keeping or hive products.

Honey Gift Package – One basket or box (8 pounds or less) wrapped in a clear cover. Gift arrangements/packs must include one or more products of the hive, but may also include other items that enhance the appeal or promote the use of hive products. One item in the gift package has to be a self-produced product of the hive, the rest should be from local sources.

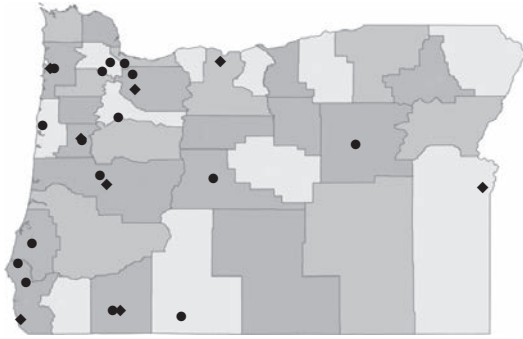
Gadget – One working tool with a written card describing its application and use.

Of Pesticides and Honey Bee Deaths

Honey bee colonies in the United States have been dying at high rates for over a decade, and agricultural pesticides—including fungicides, herbicides and insecticides—are often implicated as major culprits. Until now, most scientific studies have looked at pesticides one at a time, rather than investigating the effects of multiple real-world pesticide exposures within a colony. A new study has found that the number of different pesticides within a colony—regardless of dose—closely correlates with colony death. The results also suggest that some fungicides, often regarded as safe for bees, correlate with high rates of colony deaths. The study (“In-hive Pesticide Exposome: Assessing risks to migratory honey bees from in-hive pesticide contamination in the Eastern United States” by Kirsten Traynor, Jeffery Pettis, David Tarpy, Christopher Mullin, James Frazier, Maryann Frazier, and Dennis vanEngelsdorp) appeared online September 15, 2016, in the journal *Nature Scientific Reports* at: <http://www.nature.com/srep>.

Oregon State Beekeepers Association

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North Willamette Valley

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97351; 503.838.2981

South Willamette Valley

Karessa Torgerson, 541.220.8919; karessat@gmail.com

• OSBA REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Cascadia Queen Breeders

Meets quarterly; contact the secretary for information.
Chair: Paul Maresh
503.283.2060; pmaresh@spiretech.com
Vice Chair: James Hensel
Secretary: Ken Anthony
klanthony1@comcast.net
Treasurer: Tom Chester

Central Coast Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 pm, fourth Wednesday
Newport Library, 35 NW Nye St, Newport
Information: centralcoastbeekeepers@gmail.com
Co-President: Nancy McDowell
541.487.4666; carverranch@gmail.com
Co-President: Anne Schatz
541.418.1156; rapscallion.retiree@gmail.com
Website: www.ccbaor.org

Central Oregon Beekeepers

Meets 6:00 pm (5:30 pm beginners' corner), fourth
Tuesday (except December)
The Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas Ave, Bend
Information: contact@cobeekeeping.org
Co-President: Allen Engle
aengle@bendbroadband.com
Co-President: Patricia Moreland
oregonpat@gmail.com
Website: www.cobeekeeping.org

Coffee Creek Beekeepers

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: Betsy Fleming
Treasurer: Jane Oku
541.396.4016; janeoku1958@gmail.com

John Day River Beekeepers

Meets quarterly
President: Matt Allen
541.934.9101; apricotapiaries@gmail.com
Education Coordinator/Secretary: Liz Lovelock

Klamath Basin Beekeepers

Meets 9:00 am, last Saturday (except Nov/Dec)
 OSU Extension, 3328 Vandenberg Rd, Klamath Falls
 President: Paul Davitt
 president@klamathbeekeepers.org
 Vice President: John Wilda
 vicepresident@klamathbeekeepers.org
 Secretary: Judy Olson
 secretary@klamathbeekeepers.org
 Treasurer: Ray Rutler
 treasurer@klamathbeekeepers.org
 Website: www.klamathbeekeepers.org

Lane County Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 pm (7:00 pm social time), third Tuesday,
 Trinity United Methodist Church, 440 Maxwell Rd, Eugene
 President: Pam Leavitt
 541.344.4228; pamseaver2000@yahoo.com
 Vice President: Max Kuhn—541.997.7390
 Secretary: Jodi Wiktorowski
 Treasurer: Polly Habliston
 Website: www.lcbaor.org

Linn-Benton Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 pm, third Wednesday
 Corvallis Waldorf School, 3855 NE Highway 20, Corvallis
 President: Steve Oda
 541.745.7227; steve@lbba.us
 Vice President: Everett Kaser
 541.924.9214; everett@lbba.us
 Secretary: Laurie Bowman
 541.250.1006; secretary@lbba.us
 Treasurer: Suzi Maresh
 541.967.9607; suzi@lbba.us
 Website: www.lbba.us

Oregon South Coast Beekeepers

Meets 6:00 pm, third Tuesday
 OSU Extension Office, located at the Fairgrounds
 in Gold Beach
 President: Jim Sorber
 Vice President: Curt Sawall
 Secretary: Lynn Sorber
 Treasurer: Barbara Fitts

Portland Metro Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 pm, second Thursday
 Clackamas Community College
 Clairmont Hall, Room 118, Oregon City
 President: Joe Maresh
 503.703.5060; joemaresh@bctonline.com
 Vice President: Rex McIntire
 503.720.7958; remcintire_5@msn.com
 Secretary: Patty Anderson
 503.887.7057; wiseacrefarms@me.com
 Treasurer: Barb Derkacht
 503.631.3063; bderkacht@yahoo.com
 Website: portlandmetro.org

Portland Urban Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 pm, first Wednesday
 Alberta Abbey, 126 NE Alberta St, Portland
 For information, e-mail: officers@portland
 urbanbeekeepers.org
 President: Bill Catherall—503.572.6467
 president@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org
 Vice President: Laren Leland
 vice-president@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org
 Secretary: Simone Miller
 secretary@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org
 Treasurer: Linda Callahan
 treasurer@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org
 Website: portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

Southern Oregon Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 pm, first Monday (6:30 pm demo thru bee
 season) Southern Oregon Res & Ext Ctr
 569 Hanley Rd, Central Point
 President: John Jacob
 541.582.BEES; john@oldsolenterprises.com
 Vice President: Risa Halpin
 rhalpin906@aol.com
 Secretary: Ellen Wright
 541.941.1894; ewright42@gmail.com
 Treasurer: Cheryl Housden
 541.659.6654; chousden@earthlink.net
 Website: southernoregonbeekeepers.org

Tillamook County Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 pm, second Tuesday (except December)
 Fresh Cafe, 9120 5th Street, Bay City
 President: Bob Allen—503.322.3819
 Vice President: Rick Stelzig
 rstelzig@embarqmail.com
 Secretary: Claire Moody
 503.318.9149; claire@vanirmail.com
 Treasurer: Terry Fullan
 503.368.7160; tfullan@nehalem.tel.net

Tualatin Valley Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 pm (6:00 pm social time), last Tuesday
 225 S First Street, Hillsboro
 Contact: tualatinvalleybeekeepers@gmail.com
 President: Jeff Clark
 Vice President: Debby Garman
 Secretary: Dianne Hutto
 Co-Treasurers: Barb Falconer
 Web: www.facebook.com/TualatinValleyBeekeepers

Willamette Valley Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 pm, fourth Monday, Chemeketa
 Community College, Building 34, Room A, Salem
 President: Richard Farrier
 541.327.2673; rfarrierfarms@gmail.com
 Vice President: Mona Kanner
 Secretary: Emily Cross
 Treasurer: Laura Evans
 Website: http://wvbahive.org



BEE EVENTS

October 13–15: 2016 WAS Conference. Honolulu, Hawaii. *Information:* www.westernapiculturalsociety.org.

October 28–30: 2016 OSBA Fall Conference. The Oregon Garden, Silverton, Oregon.

November 15–17: California State Beekeepers Association Annual Convention. Kona Kai Resort & Spa, San Diego. *Information:* www.californiastatebeekeepers.com/events.html.

January 10–14, 2017: North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow. San Luis Resort & Galveston Island Convention Center, Galveston, Texas. Mark your calendar. This is a joint conference of the American Beekeeping Federation, the American Honey Producers Association, and the Canadian Honey Council.

REGIONAL NEWS

Note: For all groups, see pages 4–5 for meeting time and place, website, and/or contact information. All groups welcome visitors to join them at meetings! In addition, regional groups often offer opportunities for learning, many of which are posted on their websites.

Regional Representatives

North Coast

Central Coast Beekeepers would like to publically thank Kenny Williams for his presentation on Harvesting and Extraction at their August meeting. Kenny was also willing to answer questions on many other beekeeping topics. Thank you.

As I write this report we are still having good weather on the north and central Oregon Coast, but the days are getting shorter and the temperature is slowly creeping down. Time to make sure the hives are ready if they are going to survive winter. *Stan Scotton*

South Coast

The yellowjackets! Last year they were especially prevalent, threatening, and destructive. This year they are even more so. Several members whose colonies became queenless suspect those western wasps. Carla Fletcher, OSCBA member, who, along with husband Jesse, has the most experience managing honey bees in this area, says, “Several consecutive mild winters has led to an increase in the predatory wasp populations. Local beekeepers report more of those underground nests than ever. Both yellowjackets and bald-faced hornets have been found inside hives that lost their queen. These marauders will seek out and kill the queen to make it easier to rob out the colony. While

they will take honey and pollen, they are primarily after the protein-rich brood to take back to their own nest.”

Like the “Perfect Storm” of the yellow marauders, on what seemed to be the very day that the last blossoms diminished from the blackberry bushes, several of us noticed that a horde of them were going in and out of one of the nearest, largest, and oldest hives in the neighbor's garden. We hurried to find a board to block the entrance to that Warré hive, and immediately the masses moved over to the next one. We scrambled to cut boards for all the other hives, of several types, including Top Bars and a Lang. By leaving the barrier board just a crack away from the side of the hive, the honey bees could crawl in and out okay, and the wasps apparently didn't dare. Since then, most of us here are reporting that our colonies have become ferocious. One colony that has been so tolerant of management activities sent out several dozens of guard bees on the front lines that all tried their best to sting through the gloves just above the leather. Lots of head bumping, too.

Oregon South Coast Beekeepers, in alliance with the Coos County Beekeepers Association, recently brought queens from Mark Adams' Northwest Queens. Mark has been working with Greg Hunt from Purdue University to introduce the mite-biter trait into his queens. We are monitoring the progress of these queens. Unfortunately, several have been lost to suspected wasp predation. This is a hard time for smaller, younger colonies of honey bees here.

Most plants bloomed earlier than usual this year, including the Himalayan blackberries, the major nectar flow source for South Coast. Oregon South Coast members tended a booth at the Curry County Fair selling honey from members August 24–27. There was considerable public interest, interaction, and signup. *Mureen Walker*

Regional Associations

John Day River Beekeepers

Fall is in full effect in the John Day River Basin. Rabbitbrush is blooming, gumweed, and not a whole lot else. Nighttime temperatures are dropping with some of the higher elevations reporting frosts.

We had an awesome fall workshop on September 17th. The weather was a little sub-par, but eight people braved the conditions and all had a great time. We focused on hive health, hive strength, and hive weight. Everyone got a chance to heft heavy and light hives for comparison. We fed the light ones and talked about various feeding methods. We looked at about a dozen hives and evaluated

cluster size. We talked about what it means to have a healthy cluster and what is big enough to winter. We demonstrated combining weak hives using newspaper and adding a nuc to a queenless hive. All in all, everyone learned a lot and had a nice time. *Matt Allen*

Klamath Basin Beekeepers

The first frost of the year has hit (September 2!) in the northernmost areas of Klamath County ending the long honey season for 2016. It has been a good honey harvest year with an abundance of wildflowers and a great fruit bloom, but the summer was quite dry and the fall bloom of bee staples goldenrod and rabbitbrush bloomed early and are already past their prime. Supers are being pulled and WISE beekeepers in this area are already treating for mites and feeding protein patties for those healthy “FAT” winter bees we hope will make it through the high desert winter.

Our second summer hands-on workshop August 24th was a huge success with many members and mentors attending. Our guests of honor were Dennis and Al (the owners of A&D Bees and the suppliers of our many nucs and packages this year). Over 35 Beekeepers attended with 35 opinions on what to do with Jim Smith's skunk-ravaged beehives full of angry bees. Quite the sight (and not for the faint hearted!), and an excellent way to end the honey season. *Judy Olson*

Lane County Beekeepers

Fall has arrived in the Willamette Valley. The leaves have been dropping off the deciduous trees for quite some time. Some of it is drought related, as we have had a very dry summer, but the trees that have been watered are breaking down the green pigments which allows them to absorb life-giving sunlight, and shuttling the nutrients into the roots for reuse in the spring. This allows us to enjoy the vivid yellow and orange colors that have been there all the time. The red colors are actively made in the leaves by bright light and cold. (A brief chemistry lesson.)

The bees are still visiting the flower blossoms during the warm sunny days. I love seeing the honey bees and the bumblebees sharing the gathering site on the dahlia “Heartthrob” [see photo, page 1].

Lane County Beekeepers will host a booth at the Lane County Master Gardeners Fall Festival at Emerald Park in Eugene on Saturday, September 24, from 10 am to 4 pm. There will be music, fresh-pressed apple cider (apples compliments of pollinating honey bees!),

gardening workshops, and a large selection of fruit trees for sale. We will be emphasizing the need for pollinators to ensure fruit in the future.

The LCBA Board is in the process of nominating individuals for positions on the administrative board for 2017. The elections will be held during the November meeting.

During our August meeting, the question and answer small groups session was well received. We will likely utilize this format again in future years. The small group setting makes it more comfortable for many people to ask their questions.

Take care of yourself as you button down the apiary for winter. In the September issue of *Bee Culture*, James E. Tew has some valuable hints in his Beeyard Thoughts section. He began in August, asking for information from Senior Citizen Beekeepers on the modifications they have found helpful as they are getting older. People have sent in the changes they have found work for them. Over this winter, consider implementing some of these ideas in the spring to help you as age limits your physical ability to safely tend your bees. *Pam Leavitt*

Linn-Benton Beekeepers

Here we are in August, as a myriad of bee species pack pollen in tall forests of sunflowers and hollyhocks. They are also rolling around in calendula, coreopsis, and squash blossoms. This month's speaker will be Dr. Sujaya Rao from OSU speaking on bumblebees. Kenny Williams gave expert instruction in July about honey extraction. September's speaker will be Harry Vanderpool discussing winter preparation. Wishing your colonies strength as we head into fall! *Laurie Bowman*

Portland Urban Beekeepers

In supreme fashion, Bridgetown Bees' Glen Andresen shared his monthly Pollen & Nectar report with his extensive slideshow on current flowering plants. As he does each month, Glen provides information on the many blooming nectar and pollen plants still out there that are keeping our girls busy through October/November. Our featured speaker this month was OSBA President Harry Vanderpool, who shared his best tips and tricks for overwintering nucs. Dewey Caron gave us a presentation on what to do in the apiary in September. He also put together a document outlining 10 things we can do now to help our bees survive winter. [The presentations can be viewed on the PUB website. Once there, go to BLOG.]

An October Bee Venom Therapy class at Zenger Farm will be held on the 15th and taught by Cheryl Savage. If you are curious about apitherapy, and want to learn more and see a demonstration, please contact Lauren Smith at librarian@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org.

Scott Macdonald

Tualatin Valley Beekeepers

Tualatin Valley members wrapped up the 2016 honey harvest and pitched in to clean up the Honey House on September 6/7. We've had substantial membership growth this year, and lots of new beekeepers benefitted from mentor assistance in first-time extraction. We thank Paul Andersen for an excellent September meeting presentation and discussion on colony preparation for overwinter survival.

Our October meeting with Q & A and an expert presentation will take place on Tuesday, October 25th. As our association membership

grows, we are looking to add new members to our board of directors to begin service in January.

We are excited to be working to unveil a new website this fall. Tualatin Valley members are also excited to attend the state conference, and we are underwriting a free conference registration for a member.

Debby Garman

OREGON STATE FAIR HONEY SHOW

Dewey M. Caron and Trevor Riches

The State Fair honey show, although with few entries, had excellent quality. This year fair volunteers Mo Meaut & Mike Sequeira served as show stewards, and we co-judged the show. Winners were:

Extracted Honey

- Light 1st Gene Doyle, Portland + Best of Division
2nd James Hagermann, Tigard
- Amber 1st Mark Minzlaff, Damascus + Best of Show
2nd Shelly Govell, McMinnville
3rd James Hagerman
4th Anni Manley, Portland
- Dark 1st Gene Doyle

Extracted Artisan


- Light 1st Loretta Aggeu
2nd Pam Burke

Youth Extracted

- 1st TIE Beatrice and Aliza Stapleton, Salem

Photograph: Bees at Work

- 1st Amy Jewell, Tigard + Division award
- 2nd Chris Dorn, Terrebonne
- 3rd Shelly Govall, McMinnville



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Photograph: Beekeepers and Bees

2nd Rachael Dorn, Terrebonne

Honey in Comb

1st Shelly Growell, McMinnville

2nd Jeremy Mitchell, Salem

3rd Chris Dorn, Terrebonne

4th Rachael Dorn

Beeswax Block

1st Gene Doyle

2nd Jeremy Mitchell

3rd Anni Manley

KEEPING BEES IN OCTOBER*Harry Vanderpool*

Pacific Northwest beekeepers look forward all year to their bee work winding down in October. Our goal is to have pests and disease measures completed and winter stores in place by now. But often there are hives that can benefit from “last chance” efforts to correct problems. As the month progresses, foraging opportunities are few and far in-between. Did the beekeeper do their job earlier on in the year with the assessment of stores? If not, immediate measures are in order that may or may not work to ensure winter survival.

When returning to hives to pull miticide materials, beekeepers can mark hives with bright survey ribbon that feel light and give them a few more shots of syrup if weather permits. Feeding syrup too late in the season when temperatures are below 40°F can result in fermented honey in the feeders and frames. Dysentery often follows. Frames of honey added to light hives should be placed in a position that respects the profile of the brood nest. We want to avoid dividing the brood nest. Remember: the box is square, the brood nest is round!!

The last syrup feedings in early October are the best time to include Fumagilin-B for Nosema control.

Queenless hives can be combined or have nucleus hives installed. But special care must be taken to maintain the tight, consolidated brood nest and area above with stores.

Sampling hives for mite loads in the fall and applying the test results against an “economic threshold level” value for decision making to treat or not treat is an obsolete concept. Beekeepers who regularly sample and test hives for pests and disease throughout the year are in position to do well. But with the uptick of Varroa-vectoring virus pressure and increasing mystery varieties, the results are already in: treat hives in the fall for Varroa and reduce levels as low as possible.

Late-season sampling for mite levels, post treatment, give very good information on the efficacy of treatments used. Many beekeepers like to perform an oxalic acid dribble, or a “fall clean-up” later on in the year when the brood is at its lowest level. Sampling in October can help in the decision making of such measures.

Mouse guards installed in hive entrances are very cheap insurance for your very valuable comb. They are also a big part of an annual IPM for Varroa control. What? Mouse guards as a method of Varroa control? Mice that winter in honey bee hives often deface several frames of comb as they feed and make their nest. Such frames will be reconstructed by the bees in the coming year with very large areas of drone comb that will serve as Varroa generators. Don't let it happen!

While insulation of hives is not necessary in Oregon, many beekeepers install covers of various materials over the entire pallet of hives in order to shed rain and snow. This really helps with moisture control as well as helps preserve hive materials.

Once you have done all that you can do for your bees, how about doing something for the beekeeper? Sign up for the Oregon State Beekeepers Association Fall Conference. Do it now! A lot of very valuable information will be presented there that you just cannot afford to miss! Please remember, the OSBA Fall Conference is greatly improved by your presence and fellowship there!

GOLDEN GOOSE AWARD

The Golden Goose Award honors scientists whose federally funded work may have been considered silly, odd, or obscure when first conducted, but has resulted in significant benefits to society.

John J. Bartholdi III, Sunil Nakrani, Thomas D. Seeley, Craig A. Tovey, and John Hagood Vande Vate will receive the Golden Goose Award for their study of honey bee foraging behavior and the development of the “Honey Bee Algorithm” to allocate shared web servers to internet traffic. The original honey bee research, funded by the National Science Foundation and Office of Naval Research, unexpectedly led to the algorithm that major webhosting companies now use to streamline internet services.

Bartholdi, Tovey, and Vande Vate, all engineers at Georgia Institute of Technology, and Seeley, a Cornell University biologist, are being cited for their curiosity-driven research on how honey bee foragers are able to maximize nectar collection in ever-changing environments. A decade-plus later, Tovey and Nakrani, also an engineer, adapted the basic research to develop the “Honey Bee Algorithm” for allocating

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shared web servers to changing internet traffic. The algorithm performs up to 20 percent more efficiently than others and distributes web transactions to servers more smoothly and quickly for users.

After three years of developing a mathematical model based on honey bee foraging behavior, Tovey joined Seeley for an empirical test of their model at the Cranberry Lake Biological Station in upstate New York. The experiment beautifully confirmed the model, showing that the bees had evolved to distribute themselves in such a way that each forager bee gathers nectar at roughly the same rate over time and ensures the hive can adapt to changing nectar resources.

Tovey, in particular, sought to apply the work on honey bee foraging to a variety of problems, but it wasn't until then graduate student Nakrani walked into his office in 2002 talking about web-hosting computer servers that he settled on a perfect application. Shared webhosting servers operate by switching from one application to the next based on demand for any given application. Each server, for security reasons, can run only one application at a time, so switching applications – like a honey bee finding a new flower patch – requires down time and incurs a revenue penalty as the server shifts and loads a new application. The ideal algorithm adjusts to rapidly changing internet demand and delivers the maximum total revenue – just like honey bee colonies foraging for nectar.

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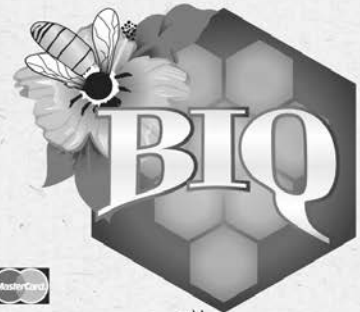
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28
9 A.M.—12:30 P.M.

Oregon Garden Resort
Silverton, Oregon
FREE, but registration is required.

To register, please call Carolyn Breece at 541-737-5440 or email carolyn.breece@oregonstate.edu

Accommodations for disabilities may be made by calling 541-737-5440, preferably one week in advance.



Photo: D. Prescott



Ralph Jones, M.B.A.
Idaho State University

Oregon State
UNIVERSITY

OSBA Fall Conference 2016

Oregon State Beekeepers Association

October 28, 29 & 30, 2016
 Oregon Garden Resort, Silverton, Oregon 97381
 Individual and Family Registration
 For online registration, visit: osba2016.orsba.org.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Phone: _____ email: _____

Additional Family Members Attending

Names: _____

Event			Cost
Friday Night Hospitality Room			Complimentary
Full Conference ¹	Individual - \$150 Family - \$180		\$
Saturday Conference Only ¹	Individual - \$90 Family - \$110		\$
Sunday Conference Only ¹	Individual - \$90 Family - \$110		\$
Saturday Luncheon	\$28 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Saturday Banquet	\$50 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Sunday Luncheon	\$28 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Research Donation ²			\$
Annual OSBA Dues	\$40 per Person	Number: _____	\$
Total ^{3,4}			\$

#1) Attendees qualify for preregistration rate if application form (with registration fee) is postmarked on or before October 18. Late and on-site registration rates are: One Day \$110.00, One Day Family \$130.00, Full Conference \$190.00, Full Conference Family \$220.00.

#2) The Oregon State Beekeepers Association is classified as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Research donations made out to the OSBA may be deductible; please consult your accountant.

#3) Please make check payable to OSBA and mail with this completed registration form, postmarked no later than October 18, to: Oregon State Beekeepers Association, 2016 Fall Conference, 4207 SE Woodstock Blvd Ste 517, Portland, Oregon 97206.

#4) Hotel reservations are not included in these costs. Special rates are available at the Oregon Garden Resort: (503) 874-2500 Ext 0.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

OSBA Fall Conference 2016 ❖ Oregon Garden ❖ October 28–30, 2016

Friday, October 28

- 6:00 PM **Registration** (Main Lodge, Trillium Room)
 7:00 PM **Kick-Off Wine and Cheese Social** (Main Lodge, Orchid Room)

**Saturday, October 29**

- 7:30 AM **Registration** (Pavilion, Entry Hall)
 8:00 AM **Silent Auction** Begins (Pavilion, Grand Hall)
 8:15 AM **Welcome & Announcements** (Pavilion)
 Harry Vanderpool, OSBA President
General Session, Pavilion
 8:30 AM **The Grand Interaction of Flowers, Bees, Growers, and Beekeepers**
 Dr. John Skinner, University of Tennessee

- 8:30 AM– **Bee School**
 2:45 PM (Concurrent, Natural Resources Building)
 Thom Trusewicz, Director

- 9:15 AM **Mite Keeping 101**
 Morris Ostrofsky
 10:00 AM **Break**
 10:15 AM **What Makes a Queen Tick: Factors affecting honey bee queen post-mating changes**
 Dr. Elina Niño, University of California, Davis
 11:00 AM **Bee Informed Partnership**
 Ellen Topitzhofer, Oregon State University/BIP
 NOON Luncheon (*Preregistration required*)
Pollinator Protection in Oregon
 Dr. Andony Melathopoulos, Oregon State University
 1:15 PM **WSU Honey Bee Germplasm Importation and Effects on US Commercial Populations**
 Dr. Steve Sheppard, Washington State University
 2:00 PM **Queen Rearing at Miksa Honey Farm**
 David and Linda Miksa, Miksa Honey Farm
 2:45 PM **Break**
 3:00 PM **Following the Wild Bees: The craft and science of bee hunting**
 Dr. Tom Seeley, Cornell University
 3:45 PM **Indoor Wintering Affects Varroa Mites and Honey Bee Nutrition**
 Brandon Hopkins, Washington State University

- 4:00 PM **Silent Auction** Ends
 4:30– **OSBA General Membership Meeting**
 5:45 PM (Pavilion, Stage Area)
 6:00 PM **Social Hour** (Main Lodge, Orchid Room)
 7:00 PM **Banquet** (*Preregistration required*)
 George Hansen, Foothills Honey Company
 Benefit Auction to Follow

**Sunday, October 30**

- 7:30 AM **Registration** (Pavilion, Entry Hall)
 8:15 AM **Welcome & Announcements** (Pavilion)
 Harry Vanderpool, OSBA President
General Session, Pavilion
 8:30 AM **The Bee Colony as a Honey Factory**
 Dr. Tom Seeley, Cornell University
 8:30 AM– **Mead Workshop**
 10:00 AM (Concurrent, Natural Resources Building)
 Andrew Schwab, Instructor
 9:15 AM **Ongoing Research on Mushrooms and Bees at WSU**
 Dr. Steve Sheppard, Washington State University
 10:00 AM **Break**
 10:15 AM **Sharing 65 Years of Beekeeping Experiences**
 David and Linda Miksa, Miksa Honey Farm
 11:00 AM **OSU Honey Bee Lab Research Update**
 Dr. Ramesh Sagili, Oregon State University
 NOON Luncheon (*Preregistration required*)
Observations from the Field: The good, the bad, and the ugly
 Ellen Topitzhofer, Oregon State University/BIP
 1:15 PM **Biomitocides for Varroa Mite Management**
 Dr. Elina Niño, University of California, Davis
 2:00 PM **Oregon Master Beekeeper Program**
 Carolyn Breece, Oregon State University
 2:45 PM **Break**
 3:00 PM **Those Other Pollinators, Native Bees**
 Dr. John Skinner, University of Tennessee
 3:45 PM **Final Comments** (Pavilion)
 Harry Vanderpool, OSBA President
 4:00 PM **Adjourn**

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Do you have a recipe to share? Questions about bees and beekeeping? Observations of bees & bloom in your area? Send them to osba.newsletter@gmail.com!



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Oregon State Beekeepers Association Membership Application

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, three free ads on the website, and an annual directory and subscription to *The Bee Line*.

*Please send check made payable to OSBA with a **completed form for each individual** to:*

Oregon State Beekeepers Association, Membership
4207 SE Woodstock Blvd, Ste 517, Portland, Oregon 97206

Date: _____ New Member Membership Renewal

First Name: _____ **MI:** _____ **Last Name:** _____

Company name: _____

Type: Small scale (less than 25) Sideline (25–300) Commercial (more than 300)

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Telephone number: _____ **e-mail address:** _____

Contact information: The OSBA respects the privacy of members. Please let us know if you want your contact information included in a membership directory sent to OSBA members only:

Do not include contact information

Share all information *OR* Share: mailing address phone number e-mail address

Local group, if member: _____

Membership dues: \$40 per person (\$50 per person outside the US) \$ _____

Voluntary contribution(s):

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Thank you!

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Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association

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Reminder: The date on the mailing label is the expiration date for membership.
If the date is October 2016 (or earlier), this is your friendly renewal notice.

The Bee Line

The Bee Line is the official publication of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association. Annual subscriptions to the newsletter are included with each membership in OSBA.

Please send news about your bees and your experiences in keeping them, as well as events, corrections, comments, questions, photographs and stories, interviews, recipes, points of view—and ads/advertising—to: Rosanna Mattingly, *The Bee Line*, 4207 SE Woodstock Blvd Ste 517, Portland OR 97206; e-mail: osba.newsletter@gmail.com. It's *your* newsletter—we want to hear from you!

The next issue to be printed will be the November–December issue, 2016. The deadline for submitting copy is delayed to **October 31, 2016**, for the conference. Please let me know if you find difficulties with the deadline so we can work out the space and timing for the material.

Thank you!

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