

The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers' Association

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August 2008



Lynn Ketchum

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Front story: The search for a research entomologist with expertise in apiculture is gearing up just as the bee season begins to wind down. Updates from Oregon State University appear on pages 1 and 3.

Correction: The caption for the photo in the July issue incorrectly identified Virginia Webb as standing on the *left* instead of on the *right*. Although I do at times have left/right issues, in this case I changed the photo but not the caption. I apologize for the error and any resulting confusion.

HONEY BEE RESEARCH BY SEPTEMBER

Tiffany Woods

Oregon State University hopes to hire two research and Extension faculty members by September to examine the health of the state's honeybees and find out if any hives have been wiped out by a mysterious phenomenon that has caused losses in colonies throughout the country.

The positions will be funded through a \$215,000 emergency package approved last week by the Joint Legislative Emergency Board, which oversees budget requests when the state legislature is out of session. The money will also be used to increase the diagnostic capability at OSU's Insect ID Clinic and buy lab supplies for honeybee research. The funding is for 10 months, but the university hopes the legislature will renew funding in the 2009–11 budget for the Oregon University System.

OSU will conduct a nationwide search to fill the two new openings, said Stella Coakley, an associate dean at OSU's College of Agricultural Sciences. One position is for a lead scientist who will identify and work to resolve problems facing honeybees in Oregon. Ideally, the candidate would be an entomologist with expertise in apiculture and experience with honeybee health issues, Coakley said.

The other position is a research and Extension assistant who would aid the lead scientist and OSU insect clinic entomologist, Jim Young. Young presently is funded to devote four hours a week to honeybee health issues, but with the new funding, he will spend 10 hours a week on this. He also plans to analyze random samples of honeybees from across the state to form a general assessment of the health of hives.

Oregon does not have a full-time expert who specializes in diagnosing problems facing honeybees. The Oregon Department of Agriculture used to employ a honeybee expert but eliminated that position in the 1990s amid budget cuts....

[Professor Emeritus Michael] Burgett and agricultural economists from Montana State University and North Carolina State University received a grant this year from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to calculate how many honeybee colonies have died in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho in 2007–08 and to assess the economic impact of these deaths on agriculture. Burgett...expects the findings to be published in December or January.

The Bee Line

The Bee Line is the official publication of the Oregon State Beekeepers' Association. The newsletter is published ten times a year, and subscriptions are included with membership in OSBA.

Please send news about your bees and your experiences in keeping them, as well as corrections, letters, comments, photographs and stories (old and new), interviews, and requests for advertising to: Editor, *The Bee Line*, 4803 SE Woodstock Blvd Ste 157, Portland OR 97206; e-mail: thebeeline@comcast.net.

Advertising Costs Per Issue

Business Ads:	
Business card	\$10.00
Quarter page	\$25.00
Half page	\$50.00
Full page	\$100.00

Classified Ads (30 words):	
Members	\$3.00
Nonmembers	\$5.00

Please submit copy by the 10th of the month prior to publication. The next issue will be September 2008. Contact the Editor with questions.

Thank you! Honey Bee
Immunity to Infection

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a difference a few weeks make. Last month everyone was spending their time feeding bees and wondering where summer was hiding. Now everyone is trying to get enough honey supers on their hives.

Summer has come with a vengeance—from those cold rainy days to ones that are very hot and dry. It is starting to look like most beekeepers will have a good honey year.

The blackberry flow has been most impressive. Strong hives are filling supers at more than a super per week. But, like all good things, the blooms are turning to berries and the blackberry honey season is nearing the end. In the Willamette Valley, this usually means the honey season is over except for a few small flows in some areas. Those who live in the foothills or move their bees into high-elevation areas will extend the season a few more weeks.

I hope you have a plan for mite control ready as soon as honey supers come off. There are many controls on the market. Some will be hard to find at the last minute. You need to plan ahead and check your bee supply company to find out what will be available. And don't forget about *Nosema*. For many years *Nosema* has been a problem overlooked by many. Years ago, I was told the treatment with fumagillin would be rewarded with many times its cost in hive survival and honey production. In the past year information has pointed out even more reason for treatment. [See pages 8–12 for guidelines.]

From another direction, the Joint Legislative Emergency Board has given Oregon State University funding to hire personnel for working with honey bee problems [see page 1]. We hope to have more information about this soon.

Have a sticky good time extracting your honey crop. Don't forget to thank the bees for their effort. Then let's all get ready to learn the newest at the Fall Conference.

—Chuck

Reminder: The Oregon/Washington Beekeepers Convention is scheduled for October 16–18 at the Red Lion Hotel in Vancouver WA. The California State Beekeepers Convention takes place November 11–13 at Lake Tahoe.

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY SEARCH BEGINS

The search committee has been convened and Dr. Helmut Riedl (program coordinator for entomology at OSU) identified a co-chair for the search due to previously arranged travel to speak in Europe. Dr. Riedl will return in late July but is assisting via e-mail meanwhile.

Here is the composition of the committee:

Helmut Riedl (OSU interim program coordinator for entomology) Co-Chair

Jim Young (OSU Insect Clinic, Botany and Plant Pathology) Co-Chair

George Hansen (beekeeper, Foothills Honey Co., Colton)

Rufus La Lone (entomologist, J.M. Smucker Co.)

Jan Lohman (beekeeper, Vazza Farms, Hermiston)

Christopher Marshall, (OSU Insect Collection Curator/Zoology)

Jeff Olsen (OSU Yamhill Co. tree fruits/horticulture crops)

Silvia Rondon (OSU Hermiston Ag and Research Station, crops entomology)

The lead department head for this search is Anita Azarenko, Horticulture; Stella Coakley will remain the contact for the honey bee health positions within the Deans' office.

In addition to this position, funds are being provided by the e-board for a faculty research/extension assistant position for 10 months; as with the lead scientist, the College of Agricultural Sciences is seeking (via the Oregon University System) recurring funds in the next legislative session. Because we can't guarantee that outcome, the college is committing to adding two months to each of these positions to ensure a full year appointment for each; we believe that is essential to recruit the most highly qualified candidates.

As soon as the lead position description is completed, a simultaneous search will begin for this support position, but with a timeline that allows the person hired for the lead position to help choose the faculty assistant. The support position will also be contributing to the bee health diagnostic effort and will therefore will be working closely with Jim Young as well.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Stella Melugin Coakley

Associate Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences

FOR DONATIONS TO THE NORTHWEST APICULTURE FUND FOR HONEY BEE RESEARCH, EXTENSION AND EDUCATION

- Make your check out to: **OSU FOUNDATION**
- On the memo line, write: **NORTHWEST APICULTURE FUND**
- Mail your donation to: Oregon State University Foundation
850 SW 35th St Corvallis OR 97333-4015

Direct any questions for the Foundation to their Director for Development for the College of Agricultural Sciences, Todd Bastian, at (541) 737-8724.

IMPORTANT: Making your check out only as described above ensures that your donation is correctly applied to the Apiculture Endowment and not to any other program.

OREGON STATE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION RESOURCES

OSBA REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Columbia Basin: Deb Morgan
3800 Benson Rd, The Dalles; (541) 298-5719

Eastern Oregon: Jordan Dimock
2635 Mitchell Butte Rd, Nyssa; (541) 372-2726

Metropolitan Area: Open

North Coast/Webmaster: Thom Trusewicz
90041 Logan Rd, Astoria
(503) 325-7966; ccbee@intergate.com

South Coast: Open

Southern Oregon: Open

Willamette Valley: Harry Vanderpool
7128 Skyline Rd S, Salem; (503) 399-3675
shallotman@yahoo.com

OSBA REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS



Central Oregon Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 pm, third Tuesday, Bend
Deschutes Public Library, Hutch Rm
President: Dennis Gallagher
(541) 389-4776

Secretary/Treasurer: Glenda Galaba
(541) 383-1775; galaba@msn.com

Coos County Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 pm, third Saturday (except Dec)
Olsen Baxter Bldg, 631 Alder St, Myrtle Pt
President: Shigeo Oku; (541) 396-4016
Vice Pres: John Gardner; (541) 572-3847
Secretary: Marsha Long; (541) 290-8847
Treasurer: Jane Oku; (541) 396-4016
jane_oku@hotmail.com

Lane County Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 pm, third Tuesday, Eugene
EWEB Meeting Rooms, 500 E 4th Ave
President: Paul Gordon; (541) 510-8420
rpaulg@gmail.com
Vice President: Judy Scher
judy_scher@catdreams.com

Treasurer: Nancy Ograin
(541) 935-7065; woodrt@pacinfo.com
Newsletter Editor: Jonathan Loftin; (541) 736-1870
lcbnewslettereditor@hotmail.com
Web site: www.lcbaor.org

Portland-Metro Beekeepers

Meets 7 pm, second Thursday, Oregon City
Hous Auth Clackamas Bldg, 13930 S Gain
President: Kerry Haskins
(503) 632-8448; kh251@aol.com
Vice President: Jim Mellis; (503) 631-4622
Secretary: Paul Hardzinski; (503) 631-3927
Treasurer: Barbara Derkacht
(503) 631-3063; bderkacht@yahoo.com

Southern Oregon Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 pm, first Monday, Central Pt
So Or Res & Ext Ctr, 569 Hanley Rd
President: John Jacob
(541) 582-BEES; john@oldsolenterprises.com
Vice President: Floyd Pawlowski
415 Pompadour Dr, Ashland
Secretary/Treasurer: Julian Lewis
(541) 535-5817; lewis_adams_00@yahoo.com
Web site: www.southernoregonbeekeepers.org

Tillamook County Beekeepers

Meets 7 pm, first Thursday, Tillamook
Forestry Building, 5005 Third St
President: Bob Allen; (503) 322-3819
Vice President: Terry Fullan
(503) 368-7160; tfullan@nehalemtnet.net

Tualatin Valley Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 pm, last Friday, Beaverton
OSU Ext, #1400, 18640 SW Walker Rd
President: Andrew Schwab
(503) 537-0506; pyr4ausi@verizon.net
Vice President: Herb Brasington
herb@hwbsystems.com
Co-Secretaries: Jerry Maasdam; jmaasdam@mac.com
Paul Anderson; paulanderson@tritektsolutions.com
Co-Treasurers: Michael and Brigitte Hendrickson
hendricm@ece.pdx.edu

Willamette Valley Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 pm, fourth Monday, Salem
Chemeketa Comm College, Bldg 34, Rm A
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: Gordon Kroemer
(503) 538-2307; kroemer2@verizon.net

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Lane County Beekeepers

The LCBA has had an active summer! Farmers' Market Sales by our coop were brisk, and we had to shut down 'til fall when more honey comes in. That's right, we sold all we had, at farmers market retail prices. And the fun and excitement were the real payoff. In June the club enjoyed a two-hour naturalist-guided walk focused on the wildflowers and pollinators of the rare wetlands prairie ecosystem. Our field day was held in July at Dr. Lynn Royce's apiary in Corvallis, with good food and talk and hands-on hive demos galore. We might even march in the famous, fabulous—OK, wild and weird—Eugene Celebration Parade. Wouldn't it be nice if our honey prospects for this year were as great as our club's social whirl? Blackberry flow down here was three weeks late, and the bees are not at their best after a cold, wet spring inhibited buildup. So it does not look like an outstanding honey year. Come commiserate with us at our regular club meetings, the third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 PM, at the EWEB building on 4th Avenue in downtown Eugene.

—Jonathan Loftin

Tualatin Valley Beekeepers

The Tualatin Valley group will have their picnic on August 2nd at Jim Marshall's place. Harry Vanderpool will speak at our August meeting. The topic will be: *Winter 2007/2008: Did we all have the same nightmare? or Honey bee nutrition in troubling times.*

—Andrew Schwab

Willamette Valley Beekeepers

Dr. Dewey Caron, recently retired Chairman of the Department of Entomology and Applied Ecology at the University of Delaware, spoke at a recent WVBA meeting. His wide-ranging presentation included the following highlights:

- ❖ Top bar hives don't work very well for European bees, which tend to build vertically; however, Africanized bees build horizontally.
- ❖ Commercial beekeeping in the United States is now almost totally dependent upon almond pollination for survival.
- ❖ The Langstrom hive has been a great success at providing portability and ease of manipulation, but it has also resulted in the selection of bees with minimal propolis production.

- ❖ For the first time bees are being imported from Australia for pollination; however, many of these are at the end of their lives and not as effective pollinators as our Spring bees.
- ❖ Small-scale beekeepers may be the key to the survival of honey bees.
- ❖ Fluvalinate is so prevalent in beeswax that the cosmetic industry will no longer accept US beeswax because of this contamination. The concentration/purity of the active ingredient in commercial mite formulations has increased to offset mite resistance.
- ❖ Most of the world (except North America) uses products from the honey bee as a major part of their pharmacy to treat a myriad of conditions.
- ❖ Honey bees have relatively poor defense mechanisms against pathogens and pests. They generally outbreed the disease rather than resist.

Dr. Caron donated three of his books (signed) to the group. These are *Africanized Honey Bees*, *Honey Bee Biology and Beekeeping*, and *Observation Hives*. He will be available to provide assistance/guidance to Oregon beekeepers and might participate in our Bee School.

—Adapted from: WVBA July 2008 newsletter



Chicken and sodas will be provided. Please bring side dishes, desserts, and other drinks. And chairs. We will have demonstrations of tools of the trade. Torey Johnson, beekeeper extra-ordinary, will provide a short presentation and respond to questions about bees. We will repeat the silent auction. Plan to win a door prize.

Directions: From I-5, take exit 256 (Market St) and go west on Market to the third stoplight. Turn right (north) on Park Ave. Go about 2/10ths of a mile. It's a light yellow two-story house on the left. Call (503) 364-3275 if you need more help with directions.

KEEPING BEES IN AUGUST

Todd Balsiger

August is a difficult time to work bees. It is hot, and the bees have a strong inclination to rob. But there are vital tasks we must do to greatly increase the odds for winter survival.

- ❖ Remove all supers and configure colonies into winter configuration (generally two deeps). Do this regardless of how populous you think your colony is!
- ❖ Treat for *Varroa* in early August—the latest you should delay is the 15th. Our objective is to raise a healthy crop of winter bees. Some of our mite treatments are hard on the bees, too. That is partly why it is important to begin your treatments early so that the colonies have time to recover.
- ❖ Treat for foulbroods by dusting hives at intervals with either Tylosin or Terramycin. Follow directions.
- ❖ Find queenless hives and requeen with a nuc or close them down.
- ❖ Be cognizant of the problem of robbing at this time of year. It is best to prevent robbing. Once it begins, it's hard to stop. Try to work quickly, and at either end of the day (morning/evening) when flight is diminished. If you only have a few hives, this probably won't be a problem.
- ❖ As usual, keep a lookout for American foulbrood. Inspect weak hives and find out why they're in that condition. Weak hives (which could be caused by AFB) are prime candidates to be robbed.
- ❖ Extract as soon as possible after removing supers. Wax moths are very active at this time of year and will quickly find brood and pollen in supers. Wax moths and their larvae are a nuisance during extraction—best to avoid them altogether.
- ❖ Provide water continuously for bees with no access.



OSU BEE LAB UPDATE

Dr. Dewey M. Caron

I am retiring from University of Delaware, where for last 27 years I was apiculturist, teaching two bee courses, and did bee/pollinating insect extension and research, along with other faculty duties. I plan to settle in the Willamette Valley to “spoil” grandchildren of two sons living in Portland. I also plan to keep active in teaching beekeeping and in continuing bee extension and research. During my visit to the OSU Apiculture Lab this summer, I have been becoming familiar with Oregon by visiting local bee groups.

I was last on the OSBA program in 2004 with talks about mite thresholds and AHB studies. I co-founded the Mid-Atlantic Research and Extension Consortium (MAAREC), a dynamic task force of six mid-Atlantic state beekeeper associations, apiary inspectors, the USDA Beltsville Bee Lab, and university bee research/extension faculty. In addition, I have been a frequent WAS visitor/speaker, including the last Oregon conference (1987); I was EAS Board chairman for nine years and organized the 2007 meeting at UD.

New on campus this summer is the Oak Creek Pumphouse Observation Beehive at the OSU hort farm apiary site. Mike Burgett refurbished the old pumphouse, finished the outside in an attractive pine covering, and stocked the new building with a new observation beehive. It might be the only building in a university apiary used for the sole purpose of housing an observation beehive. Another OSU bee observation hive is located nearby on the Audubon Hesthavn Sanctuary, just up Oak Creek from the apiary site.

Mike continues to maintain the OSU apiary for visitors and extension functions while teaching popular Entomology and a unique Introductory University Honors course Fall and Spring semesters. But the most exciting news is that finally, following Mike's retirement in 2002, OSU has begun searching for a bee scientist to conduct pollination studies. Funding is only temporary, but it is a start in the right direction.

Photos: (A) Mike Burgett checks out the observation beehive in the pumphouse. (B) Dewey Caron checks out the bees. Dr. Caron is available at dmcaron@udel.edu. To learn more, visit: www.pcs.udel.edu/udonline/beekeeping.

STATE FAIR: A TIME-OUT FOR BEES?

Harry Vanderpool

For the first time in over 40 years, there will not be an OSBA bee booth at the Oregon State Fair. After ongoing discussions with staff at the fair, the executive board of the Willamette Valley Beekeepers Association voted not to organize and manage a booth for 2008.

We began the discussion months ago when we were asked whether or not we would mind moving our booth from the Jackman-Long Building to the FFA barn. We held our position that, due to commodities, suitable traffic, the proximity of judged entries and the booth, and a suitable climate for live bee exhibits, we preferred to remain in Jackman-Long. Even so, we were told: “The decision has been made. If you want a booth it will be in the FFA barn. And that booth will cost you \$350.00. In addition, the judged entries will remain in the Jackman-Long Building. Take it or leave it.”

The FFA building is open to air. We had concerns about neighboring bees flying into the booth area. Central to our bee booth has been the honey, wax, extracting frames, pictures, observation hives, and all of the other material exhibits that are judged. Without those, we have no booth. Further, lighting and significant traffic volume are discouraging aspects of the new venue.

Where this leaves beekeeping exhibits and judging at the fair this year remains to be seen. [See page 14.] “They just don’t care,” said Richard Farrier, WVBA President. “They don’t care. They are much more interested in curling or skateboarding than agriculture.”

Fritz Skirvin, who has always been able to negotiate successfully with State Fair administration, intervened on WVBA’s behalf, but left empty handed after facing the same unfortunate stonewall. After the WVBA vote, we discussed details of the situation with OSBA President, Chuck Sowers, who expressed hope and confidence in resolving the situation for 2009.

Oregon Parks and Recreation took over the management of the Oregon State Fair in recent years. Although the new management has been aggressive with innovation and improving profitability, in my

opinion there has been noticeable staff turnover and a wholesale abandoning of the fair’s roots.

Oregon’s *Johnny Apple Seed of Beekeeping* Oliver Petty started the booth in the early 1960s as an un-staffed display. He single-handedly staffed the booth until the Willamette Valley Beekeepers’ Association assumed management in the 1970s.



Yet—you never know how things will go. Honorary lifetime member and WVBA charter member Marge Ehry contacted the State Fair Director as this newsletter was going to print. The beekeepers are moving back into the Jackman-Long Building.

Please show your support by exhibiting and staffing. And, next time you see her, take time to thank Marge for this—as well as for the many other contributions she has made over her years of involvement in OSBA.



GREAT SUNFLOWER PROJECT

Flowers should begin blooming in your area soon. Once flowers start blooming, pick a sunny day every two weeks and at some time between the hours of 10–12 focus on one flower and time how long it takes for five bees (honey bees, bumblebees, or solitary bees) to visit the flower. If after 30 minutes five bees have not visited the flower, stop and record how many did.

Send data to Ken Ograin at woodrt@pacinfo.com.

Over 50,000 have signed up throughout the United States and Canada. Once all these data are collected, we should have a snapshot of the health of pollinators throughout North America.

From: LCBA July 2008 newsletter

MEDICATION AND BEES

Eric C. Mussen, University of California, Davis

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. LONG HISTORY OF CHEMICAL USE IN AND AROUND HIVES (SMOKE)
- B. MAJOR CONCERNS
 - 1. KILLING BEES (CORN COB SMOKE TOXIC DAYS LATER)
 - 2. CONTAMINATING HONEY
- C. MAJOR USES
 - 1. APIARY LOCATION: WEED KILLERS, ANT KILLER, SKUNK KILLERS (LIVE TRAPPED, NOW)
 - 2. OCCUPIED HIVES
 - A. BEE FEEDS—SYRUPS AND SUBSTITUTES
 - B. ANTIBIOTICS
 - C. MITE-CONTROL PRODUCTS
 - D. BEE REPELLENTS
 - E. WOOD PRESERVATIVES
 - F. “DEPOPULATION” SUBSTANCES
 - 3. STORED EQUIPMENT
 - A. WAX MOTH CONTROL
 - B. COMB DECONTAMINATION—FUMIGANTS AND IRRADIATION

II. PRODUCT USE

- A. LEGAL PESTICIDES
 - 1. REGISTERED FOR USE BY US EPA
 - 2. REGISTERED FOR USE IN YOUR STATE
 - 3. USED IN ACCORDANCE WITH LABEL
 - A. PEST
 - B. SITE
 - C. DOSAGE
- B. ILLEGAL PESTICIDES
 - 1. NOT REGISTERED AT NATIONAL AND STATE LEVELS FOR USE WITH BEES
 - 2. USED IN A MANNER INCONSISTENT WITH THE LABEL
- C. “HEALTH” PRODUCTS (HERBAL EXTRACTS, ESSENTIAL OILS OF PLANTS, ETC.)
 - 1. NO REFERENCE TO PEST/DISEASE CONTROL ALLOWED ON PACKAGING
 - 2. UNKNOWN EFFECTS ON BEES (OR PEST)
 - 3. POSSIBILITY OF HONEY CONTAMINATION

III. TREATMENTS DIRECTLY TO BEES

- A. FEED SUBSTANCES
 - 1. SUGARS
 - A. PRIMARILY SUCROSE OR HIGH FRUCTOSE CORN SYRUP (HFCS)
 - B. BEST UTILIZED AS SYRUPS
 - (1). LIGHT SUCROSE SYRUP—I:1 (50%), SUGAR:WATER, SPRING (“STIMULATIVE”) FEEDING
 - (2). HEAVY SUCROSE SYRUP—~2:1 (~60%), SUGAR:WATER, FALL (“WEIGHT”) FEEDING
 - C. FEED EARLY ENOUGH IN FALL TO ALLOW SYRUP TO BE “RIPENED”
 - D. FEED EARLY ENOUGH IN SPRING TO PREVENT HONEY CONTAMINATION
 - E. TARTARIC ACID SOMETIMES USED TO “INVERT” THE SUGAR (SUCROSE = GLUCOSE + FRUCTOSE)—BEES DON’T GET ALONG WELL WITH ACID RESIDUES
 - 2. POLLEN SUBSTITUTES
 - A. BREWERS’ YEAST
 - B. FEED YEAST
 - C. SOY FLOUR—WATCH OUT FOR SOY ENZYMES THAT DIGEST BEE ENZYMES
 - D. POWDERED MILK (CASEIN)—WATCH OUT FOR LACTOSE

- E. POWDERED EGGS (ALBUMIN)
- F. FISH MEAL
- G. COOKED POTATOES
- H. BEST FED AS PATTIES
 - (1). USE INVERTED SUGAR TO RETAIN MOISTURE AND KEEP PATTY SOFT
 - (2). MUST BE IN CONTACT WITH CLUSTER
 - (3). CONSUMED WHEN NATURAL POLLEN IS COMING IN
- I. TRY TO INCLUDE PROPER STEROL PRECURSOR—CANOLA OIL

B. ANTIBIOTICS

- 1. OXYTETRACYCLINE HYDROCHLORIDE (TERRAMYCIN[®])
 - A. FOR CONTROLLING AMERICAN FOULBROOD (AFB)/CAUSED BY *Paenibacillus larvae larvae*
 - B. FOR CONTROLLING EUROPEAN FOULBROOD/CAUSED BY *Melissococcus pluton*
 - C. USED THREE WAYS
 - (1). DRY—IN POWDERED SUGAR, PROPHYLACTIC AND THERAPEUTIC
 - (2). DRY—COATED IN LIPID IN EXTENDER PATTIES, PROPHYLACTIC AND THERAPEUTIC
 - (3). MOIST, IN SUGAR SYRUP, ONLY IN EMERGENCIES, THERAPEUTIC
 - (B). HALF-LIFE OF 26 HOURS AT HIVE TEMP
 - D. TYLOSIN CURRENTLY REGISTERED AND LINCOMYCIN MAY BE SOON
 - (1). “DUST” FORMULATIONS WITH POWDERED SUGAR
 - (A). PERSISTS IN SYRUP UP TO SIX MONTHS
 - (B). PERSISTS IN HONEY UP TO ONE YEAR
 - (2). THERAPEUTIC TREATMENTS, ONLY
- 2. BICYCLOHEXYLAMMONIUM FUMAGILLIN (FUMIDIL-B[®] AND OTHERS)
 - A. FOR CONTROLLING NOSEMA DISEASE
 - (1). CAUSED BY *Nosema apis*
 - (2). CAUSED BY *Nosema ceranae*
 - B. REGISTERED ONLY FOR USE IN SUGAR SYRUP
 - (1). AFTER NECTAR FLOWS—VERY PERSISTENT
 - (2). AFTER MAJOR BROOD REARING HAS CEASED
 - (3). LAST SYRUP, IF FEEDING FOR WINTER WEIGHT
 - (4). “DRENCH” APPLICATION IS VERY TEMPORARY (MIGHT HELP WITH *N. ceranae*, SUMMER)
- 3. SODIUM SULFATHIAZOLE
 - A. FOR CONTROLLING AFB
 - B. REGISTRATION WITHDRAWN YEARS AGO
 - (1). TOO PERSISTENT IN HIVE
 - (2). CONTAMINATED HONEY
 - (3). CONCERN OVER HUMAN ALLERGIES

C. MITE CONTROL PRODUCTS

- 1. MENTHOL
 - A. FOR CONTROLLING TRACHEAL MITES/*Acarapis woodi*
 - B. FUMIGANT THAT WORKS BEST WHEN DAYTIME -70°F
 - (1). TOO COOL—NOT ENOUGH FUMIGATION
 - (2). TOO HOT—DRIVES BEES AND QUEEN FROM HIVE
 - (3). CONTAINERIZE IN DISPENSER (8-MESH SCREEN)
 - (A). 70°F —PLACE MENTHOL ON TOP BARS
 - (B). $80-90^{\circ}\text{F}$ —MENTHOL ON BOTTOM BOARD
 - C. SPRING TREATMENT—APRIL OR MAY
 - (1). BEST CONTROL FOR THE COST OF TREATING
 - (2). SHOULD PROTECT BEES THROUGH FALL AND WINTER (ESPECIALLY WITH “GREASE” PATTIES)
 - D. FALL TREATMENT—OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER
 - (1). LIKELY TO BE TOO LATE TO REALLY BE BENEFICIAL
 - (A). PARASITE-INFLICTED WOUNDS DO NOT HEAL
 - (B). DAMAGED BEES DO NOT OVERWINTER SUCCESSFULLY
- 2. FLUVALINATE (APISTAN[®]) AND COUMAPHOS (CHECKMITE+[®]) PRODUCTS
 - A. CONTACT ACARICIDES/EFFECTIVE WHEN BEES ARE MOVING, NOT EFFECTIVE ONCE BEES CLUSTER
 - B. TREATMENT LENGTHS PRINTED ON LABELS—**FOLLOW!**

Continued on page 10

Medication—Continued from page 9

- (1). EXCELLENT FOR REDUCING MITE POPULATIONS, WHEN MITES ARE SUSCEPTIBLE
- (2). LONGER EXPOSURE ONLY HASTENS DEVELOPMENT OF RESISTANCE
- C. IN MOST PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, ONLY ONE TREATMENT NEEDED PER YEAR
 - (1). STARTING AROUND MID-AUGUST
 - (A). PREVENTS “WINTERING BEES” FROM BEING PARASITIZED
 - (B). DAMAGED BEES DO NOT OVERWINTER SUCCESSFULLY
 - (2). TREATMENTS BEGINNING AT LATER DATES MAY KILL MORE MITES, BUT COLONY IS LIKELY TO DIE DURING THE WINTER OR EARLY SPRING

D. BEE REPELLENTS

- 1. DRIVE BEES FROM HONEY SUPERS, APPLIED WITH “FUME PADS”
- 2. TEMPERATURE AND DOSE DEPENDENT
 - A. FOLLOW THE LABEL
 - B. COOLER (65–80°F): BENZALDEHYDE
 - C. WARMER (80–110°F)
 - (1). BUTYRIC ANHYDRIDE
 - (A). ORIGINAL BEE-GO[®] SMELLS TERRIBLE
 - (B). CURRENT HONEY ROBBER[®] “DEODORIZED”
 - (2). FISCHER’S BEE QUICK[®]/BLEND OF OILS AND HERBAL EXTRACTS
- 3. CARBOLIC ACID (PHENOL)
 - A. ORIGIN OF NAME “ACID BOARD”/NOW WE USE “FUME BOARD”
 - B. REGISTRATION WITHDRAWN
 - (1). HIGHLY TOXIC; DANGEROUS TO HANDLE
 - (2). CONTAMINATED HONEY

E. WOOD PRESERVATIVES

- 1. IF USED ONLY ON THE OUTSIDE OF HIVES, THEN NOT PROBLEMATIC
- 2. FREQUENTLY USED ON BOTTOM BOARDS; POTENTIAL CONTAMINATION
- 3. PAINTS: GOOD GRADE LATEX OR OIL BASED OK/LAST LONGER FOLLOWING LINSEED OIL, ETC.
- 4. PARAFFIN DIP—CAN BE FOLLOWED WITH PAINT
- 5. WATER SOLUBLE COPPER SALTS
- 6. INAPPROPRIATE SUBSTANCES—CONTAMINATION OF HIVE PRODUCTS AND MAY KILL BEES
 - A. CREOSOTE
 - B. PENTACHLOROPHENOL (DIOXINS-TERATOGENS)
 - C. CARBOLINEUM[®]
 - D. TRIBUTYL TIN OXIDE
 - E. CHROMATED COPPER ARSENATE

F. DEPOPULATION PRODUCTS

- 1. HEALTHY COLONIES—HIVES TO BE REUSED
 - A. ALUMINUM PHOSPHIDE (PHOSTOXIN[®] AND OTHERS)
 - (1). REQUIRES SPECIAL FUMIGATION EQUIPMENT
 - (2). RESTRICTED USE MATERIAL; REQUIRES AGENCY PERMIT
 - B. CALCIUM CYANIDE/REGISTRATION WITHDRAWN IN UNITED STATES
 - (1). DANGEROUS TO USE
 - (2). OFTEN CONTAMINATED HONEY (AS WITH BLOWING DUST)
- 2. DISEASED COLONIES—HIVES HAVE TO BE DESTROYED, AEROSOL SPRAY PRODUCTS HARD TO FIND

IV. TREATMENTS FOR STORED EQUIPMENT

A. WAX MOTH PREVENTION

- 1. ALUMINUM PHOSPHIDE (PHOSTOXIN AND OTHERS)
 - A. SEE ABOVE, UNDER “DEPOPULATION PRODUCTS”
 - B. ONLY REGISTERED PRODUCT IN CALIFORNIA
- 2. FORMERLY USED SUBSTANCES—REGISTRATIONS WITHDRAWN
 - A. PARADICHLOROBENZENE (PDB): SUSPECTED CARCINOGEN, NOT REGISTERED IN CA
 - B. ETHYLENE DIBROMIDE (EDB): ONE OF THE WORLD’S WORST CARCINOGENS
 - C. CALCIUM CYANIDE: TOO DANGEROUS, LEFT RESIDUES WHEN DUSTED

- D. METHYL BROMIDE: DANGEROUS, DESTROYS IONOSPHERIC OZONE
- D. BURNING SULFUR (SULFUR DIOXIDE): LEAVES RESIDUE, CORRODES METAL
- E. CERTAN^{*}
 - (1). LIVE *Bacillus thuringiensis* SPORES
 - (2). POOR SHELF LIFE, ESPECIALLY AT HIGH TEMPERATURES
 - (3). GOOD FOR EARLY INSTARS; POOR ON LATER INSTARS/SOME DAMAGE
 - (4). NO LONGER SOLD IN UNITED STATES
 - (5). MAY BE AVAILABLE IN CANADA

B. COMB SANITIZERS

- 1. FORMERLY USED SUBSTANCE—REGISTRATION WITHDRAWN: COMB CLEANER^{*}, *Penicillium walkmani*/WORKED, BUT NEVER CAUGHT ON
- 2. FORMALIN
 - A. 10% FORMALDEHYDE IN ALCOHOL OR WATER
 - B. KILLS EXPOSED AFB SPORES, BUT NOT THOSE BURIED IN SCALE
- 3. GLACIAL ACETIC ACID (TIMES MORE CONCENTRATED THAN VINEGAR): KILLS *Nosema* SPORES
- 4. GAMMA IRRADIATION
 - A. EXPOSURE OF >1 MEGARAD WILL KILL ALL BACTERIA, FUNGI, AND VIRUSES
 - B. STUDIES SUGGEST >100 KILORADS ADEQUATE TO PREVENT INFECTION
 - (1). BACTERIA “ALIVE,” BUT NOT INFECTIVE
 - (2). THIS LEVEL, ON HUMAN FOODS, WILL NOT INACTIVATE VIRUSES

V. LEGALLY AVAILABLE SUBSTANCES

A. ANTIBIOTICS

- 1. TERRAMYCIN
- 2. FUMIDIL-B
- 3. TYLOSIN
- 4. LINCOMYCIN—COMING SOON?

B. MITE CONTROL PRODUCTS

- 1. MENTHOL
- 2. APISTAN
- 3. CHECKMITE+
- 4. FORMIC ACID

C. REPELLENTS

- 1. BENZALDEHYDE
- 2. BUTYRIC ANHYDRIDE
- 3. FISCHERS' BEE QUICK

D. DEPOPULATION MATERIALS

- 1. ALUMINUM PHOSPHIDE, IN CALIFORNIA: CAN REUSE COMBS
- 2. MANY SYNTHETIC PYRETHROIDS IN AEROSOL CANS
 - A. WASP AND HORNET SPRAYS
 - B. SOME AVAILABLE IN BEE SUPPLY OUTLETS, NURSERIES, HARDWARE STORES, SUPERMARKETS, ETC.
 - C. OTHERS AVAILABLE ONLY TO CERTIFIED PEST CONTROL OPERATORS
 - D. COMBS CONTAMINATED; CANNOT BE REUSED; HONEY CANNOT BE CONSUMED

E. WAX MOTH ELIMINATION

- 1. ALUMINUM PHOSPHIDE, IN CALIFORNIA
- 2. PDB EVERYWHERE ELSE

Note: Dr. Mussen has provided this outline, which served as the basis for his presentation on *Medications and Bees* during the OSBA Fall 2007 Conference, to help guide beekeepers in managing colonies. He, along with numerous others, stresses the need to follow label requirements when using any medication.

BEES AND HONEY AT THE OREGON STATE FAIR

While finishing up the season's extractions and beginning fall treatments, consider setting aside some of the honey and wax the bees worked so hard to produce for this year's state fair, August 22–September 1. Information can be accessed by going to www.oregonstatefair.org/competition/farm-and-garden and clicking on *Agricultural Categories*—which links to a pdf in which the category *Bees and Honey* appears on pages 14–15. (Alternatively, go to: www.oregonstatefair.org, click on *Competitions*, then on *Farm and Garden*, and finally on *Agricultural Categories*—which links to the pdf.)

The categories include those for both hobbyist and commercial beekeepers, with a cutoff at 20 hives. Minimum quantities for entries are as follows:

Bees—queen (marked) and bees in single-frame nucleus

Comb honey—three lots of three rounds

Extracting frame—three frames

All other honey—three 1-pint jars

Extracted honey—three standard, 1-pound uniform glass queenline jars


Additional categories include beeswax, candles, and artistic beeswax, as well as photographs to be placed in 8" x 10" black legal frames. Photo entries need to follow the theme of the state fair, *Too Big To Miss*, as it relates to honey bees.

Beeswax novelties are not eligible.

All entries need to be marked *commercial* or *hobbyist*. Awards are restricted to exhibits produced within Oregon this year. Beekeepers exhibiting for the first time need to notify the Department Coordinator to be eligible for awards.

In addition to information available on the Web site, the Oregon State Fair information line is (1-800) 833-0011. Good wishes!

—RM



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ESSAY

Lynn Royce

Morning sun emerges over the Douglas-fir trees to the east. Mist rises from moist earth and grass. If you listen you can hear the vegetable sprouts lift up their voices to the warmth and light as the garden awakens to this early spring day that promises sunshine for good growing. The annuals make up most of the garden. Their purpose in life is to leave their seeds for the next year. They need the warm sun, heat to grow and light to make food. They also need good soil and water. Finally they need a way to move their pollen. Some use wind, but the most beautiful relationships are found between bees and plants.

Annuals grow quickly and soon have flowers offering nectar and pollen. Each one is special: large orange squash, small bright four-petaled flowers of cole crops (mustards and broccoli), flowers like sales of the peas and beans. But my favorite is the sunflower. Bright flowers in large compact heads. Great bee platforms that bloom from mid summer until frost. Once these flower heads set seed they are soon attractive to birds. First the gold finches come then as later flowers mature the larger house finches and jays. Insects that live in the flowers and on the stems become plentiful and attract chickadees and nuthatches. The birds in their rush to feed and fatten for the long migration flights drop plenty of seed that will sprout next spring. But what if the bees don't come?

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