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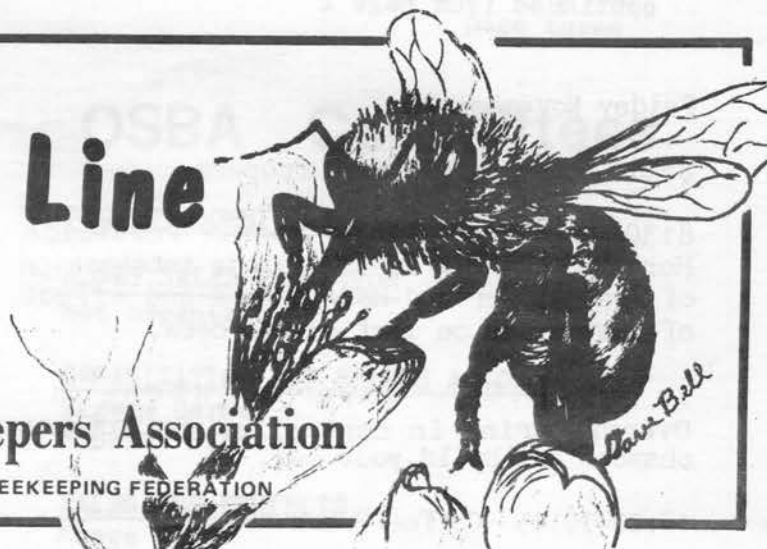
Rt. 1 Box 162
Jefferson, Oregon 97352
327-3609

September-
October 1979
Volume 3
Number 8

The Bee Line

Oregon State Beekeepers Association

AFFILIATED WITH AMERICAN BEEKEEPING FEDERATION



FALL CONFERENCE SET FOR NOVEMBER 29, 30 & DECEMBER 1

Mark your calendar! The 1979 Oregon State Beekeepers Association Fall Conference is coming soon. It happens on November 29th, 30th, and December 1st. That's Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. A schedule is listed below. A reservation form for a room at the Thunderbird in Portland is also included in this issue. An advance registration that must be mailed back shortly is also included. Please fill it out and join us in Portland for the fall conference which is hosted this year by the Washington State Beekeepers Association. See you there!

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 29

9:00-1:00 Registration and pick up pre-registration packets (Registration desk to be open all three days).

10:00-12:00 Drive around led by Gary Hongel and Bill Cameron. A caravan type tour of Vancouver, Portland etc. area. To include commercial honey houses, commercial outyards and bee supply houses (Ruhl-Ramsey-Thayer)

12:00-1-00 On your own lunch

1:00-1:30 Welcome by Host President. Each State President and announcements.

1:30-3:30 State Assn. Bee Meetings

3:30-3:45 Coffee Break

3:45-4:15 Lu Alexander (President of Western Apicultural Society). Slide and talk: Honey and Nectar Plants.

4:15-5:00 Ron Collins: Low Bee Hazard Pest Management Programs (Strawberries, Red raspberries, cane berries, blue berries, potatoes, broccoli, etc).

5:00-7:00 No host Happy Hour and Dinner

7:00-8:00 Extracting for the small beekeeper Questions & Answers. Film by William Rahr.

OR

Demonstration on making supers and frames by Bill Rahr

8:00-9:00 Repeat of 7:00-8:00 schedule so both groups have an opportunity to see each show.

continued on page 2

Friday November 30

8:30 Registration desk reopens.

8:30-9:15 Dan Mayer, Wash. Pesticide Monitoring Program to include interaction of leaf cutter and honey bees and effect of pesticides on leaf cutter bees.

9:15-10:00 Doug McCutcheon: Overwintering in controlled environment chamber and build **your own**.

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10:15-11:00 Dick Jackson, APHIS Activities including the Gypsy moth hazard and the outbreak in Seattle.

11:00-11:45 Jimmy Owens: Pollination and Spraying of Orchards including alternative non-blossoming cover crops to minimize pesticide costs and hazards to pollinators.

OR

11:00-11:45 Jim Bach: Coastal Bee Management

12:00-1:30 Luncheon Speaker: Martha Gilliam: Nutrition of honey bee larvae and the formation of bee bread. (tentative)

1:30-2:15 Mike Burgett: Pollination of Berries in Western Washington and Oregon.

2:15-3:00 Doug McCutcheon: How hive scales and charting can tell you how to manage for maximum production.

3:00-3:15 Coffee Break

3:15-5:30 Second half of State Annual Bee Meeting--election of officers, reports of resolution, committees, etc..

5:30-7:00 No host Happy Hour and a look at the gadgets, honey show, and commercial exhibits.

7:00 Annual Banquet. Speaker: Mike Ingalls: **Touring** Bee establishments on the China Mainland. Dancing?

Saturday December 1

8:30 Registration Desk opens.

8:30-9:15 Mike Burgett: Honeybee pesticide research findings

9:15-10:00 Martha Gilliam: Update on Chalkbrood Research - (tentative) Martha is from the U.S.D.A. Tucson Laboratory, microbiologist of honeybee diseases.

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11:45-1:00 Lunch Break

1:00-4:30 What can we the beekeepers, the applicators, the growers and the pesticide consultants do to minimize losses of the essential pollinator?

Panel:

Carl Johansen, WSU
Mike Burgett, OSU
Warren Cyrus, Plant Industries

Div. Oregon

Art Hurd, Plant Industries Div.

Washington

Elwood Sires

Jack Rowland

Mike Watson, EPA

ASCS

Wash. Hort. Assn.

Wash. Applicators

Wash. Pesticide Consultant

NEW MAGAZINE RATES

Effective September 1 there are new rates for the American Bee Journal. Association rates will be for one year \$6.38 and for two years, \$12.38. These rates reflect an association discount of 25% for paid members. Please send your renewals to the Secretary - Treasurer.

To: Maxine Terrill, Secretary
 408 SE 283rd AV
 Camas, Washington 98607

Enclosed is \$10.00 for pre-registration for the winter conference of the Washington and Oregon State Beekeeping Associations to be held November 29, 30, and December 1, 1979 at the Jantzen Beach Thunderbird Motor Inn, Portland, Oregon.

It is understood that the total registration fee will be \$25.00 (\$10.00 for one day) which will include spouse and minor child. Meals and lodging are not included.

Name _____
 Address _____
 Telephone No. _____

If you wish to stay at the Thunderbird Motor Inn for the state meeting, please fill out the form below and mail to: Thunderbird Motor Inn, Jantzen Beach, 1401 N. Hayden Island Drive, Portland, OR 97217.

OREGON WASHINGTON BEEKEEPERS

PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING ACCOMMODATIONS:

Queen Single (1 Bed, 1 Person)	\$37.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	King Single (1 Bed, 1 Person)	\$43.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Queen Double (1 Bed, 2 People)	\$43.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	King Double (1 Bed, 2 People)	\$49.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Queen Double/Double (2 Beds, 2 People)	\$43.00	<input type="checkbox"/>			

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY NOVEMBER 15, 1979

Date of Arrival _____ Time _____ No. of Nights _____

Rooms held until 6:00 p.m., unless guaranteed by major credit card* or advance deposit. If delayed, a phone call will hold reservations for a reasonable time.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Representing _____ Phone No. _____

Credit Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____

If no room is available at rate requested, reservation will be made at nearest rate available. Check out time is 12:00 noon. Check in time after 2:00 p.m. Rates subject to local taxes, and change without notice.

*American Express, Diners, VISA, Master Charge, and Thunderbird

OSBA Committees

PRESENT COMMITTEES (STANDING)

HONEY SALES PROMOTION
 not organized

ORGANIZATION AND BRANCH ASSOCIATIONS
 Eugene Garner
 Florian Schmitz

FAIRS AND EXHIBITS
 Marge Ehry
 Morris X. Smith

DUES REVISION COMMITTEE
 Oliver Petty
 Bob Arnold
 Diana Van Driesche
 John Pierson
 Bill Ruhl, Chairman Pro Tem

ANNUAL WINTER MEETING
 Shirley Lamon
 Bob Arnold
 (appointed picnic 8-12-79)

IMPROVE PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION
 Lou Alexander, Mike Smith, Mike Meyers,
 Al-Marge Ehry, Dr. Burgett-Advisor

Ethylene Oxide Sterilizer
 Mike Smith, Mike Meyers, Al-Marge Ehry

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
 Anita Alexander, Wilma Ruhl
 Joyce Nebeker

LAWS AND REGULATIONS
 Fred VanNatta, Lucien Alexander,
 Bob Arnold, Alan Ehry, Tom Thayer,
 Don Leslie, Dick Port, Mike Smith

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION
 William Rufener

NECTAR AND POLLEN FLORA
 John Van Driesche

POLLINATION
 Jim Allen, Mike Meyers, Dick Port,
 David Kerr, Bill Bade, Wes Kester

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS
 Dale Bott, Oliver Petty, Martha Schrader

PUBLIC RELATIONS
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continued from page 1

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Burgett on Bees

Editor's note:

Dr. Michael Burgett, a Ph.D. graduate of Cornell University, is Oregon State University's Apiculturist.

Removing Bees from Honey Supers

The simplest method for **removing the** bees from the honey supers prior to extraction is the bee brush. Use a brush with soft plastic bristles rather than one made **from** animal hair, as fewer bees will become entangled in **the** plastic bristles.

The one-way bee escape in **conjunction** with an inner-cover is another uncomplicated technique for removing bees. Its major drawback is that it involves two trips to the apiary; one for installation and another, 24-48 hours later, to remove the honey. Also, for an escape to work effectively, cool night temperatures are necessary to draw the bees down from the honey supers. Equipment must be bee tight or bees from other colonies will rob the unprotected honey supers.

The use of bee repellents **in combination** with smoke is another good method of bee removal. For cooler days (60-70 degrees F) benzaldehyde or acetic acid work best. On hot days (80-95 degrees F) proprionic anhydride or butanoic anhydride are recommended. The use of repellents will take some practice in judging how much chemical to use and under what conditions. A fume board must also be constructed. This is essentially a modified top-cover with some type of absorbent material tacked on the underside.

The fumigant is poured onto the fume board which is then placed directly over the top of the honey super. Repellents work much better on shallow and semi-deep supers as opposed to full depths. It is a good practice to always carry a bee brush in order to correct the failures of any of these methods.

Bee blowers, which are little more than vacuum cleaners in reverse, are becoming more popular with **commercial** beekeepers. A bee blower involves a fair sum of dollars as an initial outlay and is really not worth the investment unless you own over 300 colonies.

Fall Feeding

In most parts of the United States the late summer and early fall are the seasons for removing honey. The amount of honey you must leave the bees will depend upon the severity of your winter. In the Pacific Northwest we leave 60-70 pounds of honey per colony. The important point is that it's better to **leave** them too much rather than too little. That extra ten pounds of honey you covet, might well be what keeps the colony from starving in the spring.

It is important that all you colonies go into the winter at nearly equal strength. Now is not the time to baby a weak colony. Colonies **short** of honey can be brought up to proper weight by feeding sugar. Granulated sugar works, but the bees must first liquify it, which wastes bee energy. After feeding granulated sugar you will often observe it thrown out of the hive in little piles on the ground.

Sugar syrups are the best way to administer supplemental carbohydrate to a colony of bees. Thin syrups fed in the fall can contribute to **dysentery** in the late winter or spring. **Dysentery** results from the build-up or excess feces in the digestive tract of the bees. This build-up is accentuated by watery food stuffs. Honey granulated in the comb is another poor fall food. The bees will throw out the granules and eat the high moisture proportion of the honey left in the cells.

For fall feeding the thicker syrups are recommended (2:1, sugar to water). They can be administered in a number of ways. However, the simplest method for the hobby beekeeper is the use of a friction top pail with 10-30 small holes in the lid. The feeder pail is inverted directly over the top-bars of the top super. An empty super is placed over the feeder and the top-bars with several thicknesses of newspaper in which you have cut a hole for feeder pail. This method insures the availability of the sugar syrup to the bees. Other types of syrup dispensers involve specialized equipment and none offer the advantages of the friction top feeder if you are not running bees on a commercial scale.

South Coast Ramblings

by: Dick Lemery

Fall is a beautiful on the coast. Most of the tourists have gone home, the highways have cleared up, the kids are back in school and a peaceful quiet, underlined by the race to get things done before winter, descends on the land. Now is a good time to check those hives to be sure they are ready for winter.

I was a bit disturbed to find American Foulbrood in an apiary located several miles from one of mine (confirmed by sending a sample to Salem). Now I am going to have to check regularly a frame or two from the brood nest of each I open. I think this is a good practice to develop anyway. Also, I am going to send for some literature on preventive use of drugs when American Foulbrood is known to be in the neighborhood. So far, I have just given one teaspoon of Terramycin mixed with several tablespoons of powdered sugar, sprinkled over the frames in February or March, as a disease preventive. But then I haven't had any troubles with foulbrood either.

If you have any hives that you think you want to requeen, fall is a good time to do this. Consider giving those light hives (just lift up the back of the hive to check the weight) extra stores of honey if they are available. I think I am going to build some telescoping covers with a sheet of aluminum (obtained from a print shop) tacked over them to be sure the hives keep dry. Migratory lids with just two end cleats do not seem to prevent water from blowing under the lid and dripping down on the bees. Another project I hope to do is build more hive stands to be sure all hives are up off the damp ground.

For now, I still have all my wet supers back on the hives where I hope the bees are cleaning them up, and keeping the moths away. After a few hard frosts, I plan to remove them and store them with moth crystals at home. This good, drawn comb will be useful in making up divides in the spring. In dividing a 2-story colony in the spring, we place a queen excluder between the hive bodies. After 4-5 days, it is easy to see which one has the eggs. Then move one body off on new bottom board and give them a new queen (after several hours or the next day). By

adding a super of combs to each split, you are on your way! This divide should solve much of your swarming problem.

Try some hives with a single brood nest, you will be amazed at how they make honey instead of brood. THE GUINNESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORDS lists 404 lbs. of honey from wildflowers as the record for one season from one hive. This record was set by a single story brood chamber, a queen excluder and 14 Western supers! Good luck.

LOGO CONTEST WINNER

Recently we sponsored a logo contest for the Bee Line. Dave Bell submitted the winning entry and we are pleased to use it as our new heading. We would like to thank all the other persons who submitted drawings.

Bee Line Notice

This issue of the Bee Line is for September-October. We were late in getting copy we wanted for articles in this issue so we have a larger, two-month issue. We'll have another in mid-November, just before the state meeting with Washington State Beekeepers. We want to include in the next issue the nominations for our new state officers for 1980.

POETRY CORNER

The Pedigree of Honey
Does not concern the Bee--
A Clover, any time, to him,
Is Aristocracy--

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C. 1884
Emily Dickinson



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MEMBERSHIP

Whether you keep one hive for pleasure or are a commercial beekeeper, the best way of keeping up with technological advances and of enjoying the fellowship of other beekeepers is to join the Oregon State Beekeepers Association. At state conventions, seminars, and social occasions members exchange ideas and share experience. You can learn the latest in both research and practical application within the OSBA. The more you participate as a member, the more knowledge you will gain. And that single new idea can both earn you money and enhance your enjoyment in keeping bees. Your membership will also strengthen the Association's ability to work for you. An application blank is attached for your convenience.

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
 INCULDES SUBSCRIPTION
 TO THE BEE LINE
 (FOR OSBA MEMBERS ONLY)
 PLEASE CLIP FORM AND MAIL
 WITH YOUR CHECK TO:

Secretary Treasurer
JOHN & DIANA VAN DRIESCHE
 Rt. 1 Box 162
 Jefferson, Oregon 97352
 327-3609

American Beekeeping Federation Dues:
 0 - 199 \$10
 200 or more 5cents
 per colony

Western Apicultural Society:
Individual Member:
 Regular \$10
 Junior \$3
 Senior \$5
 Couple: \$15

Oregon State

Regular Membership

Dues: 0 - 5 colonies, \$5
 6 - 24, \$10
 25 - 99, \$15
 100 - 299, \$20
 300 - 499, \$25
 500 or more \$30

Affiliate membership:

Commercial \$25
 Individual \$5
 Youth \$3

<u>Name</u> _____				Oregon State Beekeepers Association
<u>Address</u> _____				
<u>Street</u> _____				
<u>City</u> _____	<u>State</u> _____	<u>County</u> _____	<u>Zip</u> _____	<u>Dues For Year</u> _____
<u>Telephone</u> _____	<u>Number of colonies</u> _____	<u>Occupation</u> _____		
<u>Amount I Have Paid</u> _____		<u>Date I Paid On</u> _____		
The Local Beekeeping Chapter I belong to _____				
I do not belong to a Local, but would like information on the nearest one in my area: _____				
I am a member of the American Beekeeping Federation _____				
I am a member of the Western Apiculture Society _____				
<u>Card sent</u> _____		<u>Information Sent</u> _____ <u>Sec Initials</u> _____		

News From The Locals

Tillamook Beekeepers--The Tillamook Association has been conducting a series of meetings this year titled "Basics in Beekeeping". Their topics this year have included: History of Beekeeping, Hive Construction, Establishing a colony, and Wintering and slides. Paul Miller writes, "We have found that most all of us can learn something new by what may seem to be a rehash of an old subject so all of our meetings have been well received".

Honey Queen

American Honey Queen Kimberly Arnevik, Rice Lake, Wisconsin, will be taking a holiday in Athens, Greece, September, 6-21. She will be attending the 27th International Congress of Apiculture Apimondia.

Queen Kimberly attended the Oregon State Fair August 31st presenting the trophies in the Bees and Honey Division.

CLASSIFIEDS:

FOR SALE: Six colonies of bees, 20 deep supers, approx. 180 deep frames with drawn comb, extra tops and bottoms, 7 empty supers. \$300 Call Cam Milum 362-6588

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

FOR SALE: Eighty hives for sale or lease: 10 frame, 2 story colonies. Kenneth Leighton, Sr. 509-935-8879, Rt. 1 Box 81 Addy, Wa., 99101.

***FOR SALE:** Life time 8 frame extractor \$595.00 (firm)

Reversible/ Large Basket, Dick Turanske-Glorybee Honey and Supplies ph. 485-1649

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For sale: Used 60 lb tins: 75 cents to \$1.50 depending on condition. Glory bee Honey, 1001 1/2 Terry St. Eugene, Or 97402

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STATE FAIR WINNERS

By Marge Ehry

There are a hand full of beekeepers in Oregon that took part in the State Fair, bees and honey show this year. Those people should all be very happy and satisfied. Each of them made a real effort to bring a quality product to the fair. Giving us a small but great group of competitors. They deserve a big hand for a job beautifully done. However, they were not the whole show, if you happened to visit the fair this year you would find the exhibit manned by knowledgeable beekeepers. The unsung heroes were about 40 in number and they came to sit or most of the time stand in the booth and answer questions from "where is the queen" to "how do I can with honey"?

As you see in the list of trophies and winners there were many more awards given this year than in the past. We sincerely want to thank the businesses and local association for their participation by offering these additional awards.

Next year we hope many more of you will try your hand at the fair we need more competitors.

STATE FAIR Winners, their cities

Sweepstakes Award - Bill Ruhl
Portland Pres. by: (OSBA)

Hobbist Award - Rex Wheeler
Beaver (Ruhl Bee Supply Portland)

Youth Award - Warren Kester
Rickreall - Happy Bee Ap.

Judges Choice - George Hansen
Woodburn (Heins Honey Co. Albany)

SPECIAL AWARDS

presented by Local Associations
Class Winner, city Local Association

Beeswax-Bill Ruhl, Portland-Tillamook

Honey Mead-George Hansen,
Woodburn-Tualatin V.

Other Honey-Rex Wheeler, Beaver-Portland

Family Apiary - George
Hansen, Woodburn-Southern OR

Obs. Hive (bees) - John
Tavares, Salem-W.V.B.A.

Extracted Honey-Dave Kerr, McMinnville-Lane
Co.

Judge: Paul Heins

Editor's Note: We would like to thank Marge Ehry for her hard work in setting up and managing the State Fair booth again this year. It took a lot of hard work and we appreciate it.

Bee Venom Part II

Note: This is the second of a three part series on bee venom therapy. Printed below are excerpts from two articles dealing with bee venom therapy. I have tried not to take the materials and statements out of context, but remember that they are just parts of five or six page articles on the subject.

Dr. Bilstrom from the Portland Allergy Clinic recently forwarded this information about a blood test for venom.

"There is a blood test which may be ordered through Pharmacia Laboratories, Diagnostics Division, 800 Centennial Ave, Piscataway, New Jersey, 08854."

"This Laboratory can accomplish a blood test to venom, bee and yellow jacket, along with a total IgE level for fifty dollars. This would probably be the best way to approach the problem for most general practitioners."

Next month, in the last of the series, we will have the answers to more questions.

PROGRESS IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND THERAPY OF INSECT STING HYPERSENSITIVITY

by Anne K. Sobotka, B.A. and Lawrence M. Lichtenstein, M.D.

Lawrence M. Lichtenstein, M.D., Professor of Medicine at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Co-Director of the Division of Clinical Immunology.

Ann Kagey Sobotka, BA, is a predoctoral candidate in the Department of Microbiology, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and Research Associate at the same institution.

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Systemic reactions to insect stings of the order Hymenoptera represent a widespread problem in the United States and other countries. It has been estimated that between 0.4 and 0.8 percent of the United States population has a history of systemic reactions. Thus, there are more than a million individuals in this country who are at risk.

Diagnostic Utility of Venom Skin Testing

While the diagnostic utility of the venom skin test appears very promising, our results must be confirmed by other laboratories. The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases is preparing venom skin test reagents that will be distributed to Allergic Disease Centers around the country, and a definitive answer to the question of their efficacy should be available within a short time to establish the natural history of insect hypersensitivity, and to determine accurately what percent of patients remain at risk and for how long.

Venom skin tests have heretofore been used to discriminate between normal individuals and patients who have a definite history of anaphylaxis after an insect sting and a positive histamine release response as well. Their use now needs to be extended to the several "gray" areas that include patients with large local reactions, some of whom clearly have detectable levels of IgE antibody. These data, again, should emerge from collaborative studies under the auspices of the Allergic Disease Centers.

Clinical Application

From the above considerations, the use of venom immunotherapy seemed very logical and, now that we have some experience, the clinical application is relatively straightforward. We began, however, very cautiously. We were, in fact, forced into venom therapy only after recommending whole body extract treatment for the highly sensitive son of a beekeeper and finding that, after many months of this therapy, he experienced another catastrophic reaction when restung by a honeybee.

Since his older sister had a similar history and, despite whole body extract therapy, had died following a sting, this patient was started on a course of injections with honeybee venom. After he had received, and tolerated, a challenge injection of 100 ug of venom, which we estimate to be twice the amount in a single honey bee sting, we brought him into the hospital where he was stung by a honeybee without sequela.

He has been on maintenance venom immunotherapy for the last several years, receiving a 100 ug injection once a month, except when he helps his father and is naturally immunized by the bees. He has been stung on multiple occasions without reaction.

During the next year, we treated several additional individuals who had had anaphylactic reactions to honeybee stings. In each instance the treatment was completely successful, as judged by a lack of response to an in-hospital sting.

In each instance therapy was successful, but these data are, of course, no more than a series of anecdotes. A controlled study comparing venom and whole body extract therapy versus placebo treatment is now contemplated; the results of such an investigation should establish the efficacy of this form of therapy in a more rigorous manner.

Conclusion

In summary, the studies described above, and those conducted in other laboratories in this country, indicate that Hymenoptera venoms are diagnostically superior to whole body extracts, and strongly suggest they will also be superior for immunotherapy. A problem arises since we are challenging the accepted form of therapy at a time when venoms for diagnosis and immunotherapy are not generally available.

However, if a therapeutic regimen is of questionable utility, this fact should be recognized and faced clearly rather than allowing a false sense of security to persist in the mind of either physician or patient.

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It cannot be said that whole body extracts may not be of some benefit. In some instances we have found increased blocking antibody in patients treated with whole body extracts. Even if only small amounts of venom are retained in the whole body extracts, it is possible that the resulting small increases in relevant blocking antibody may provide protection in some patients.

It appears clear, however, that whole body extract therapy will in time be replaced by venom treatment. When this occurs, the rather unhappy 4,000 year history of insect sting hypersensitivity may be brought to a close with the establishment of a definitive cure.

TREATING PATIENTS WITH INSECT STING-ALLERGY

Insect Stings

Robert Reisman, M.D.

The field of insect-sting allergy is undergoing a dramatic change due to the availability of insect venoms in relatively pure form. Reliable information is being accumulated regarding the natural history of the disease process, accurate identification of individuals at risk, and a reasonable safe and effective means of providing protection for those persons who are susceptible to sting anaphylaxis.

It appears that the traditional material used for diagnosis and treatment, whole insect body extract, may have been completely ineffective. At the present time, unless some potency can be established, there is no place for whole body extract in the treatment of insect-sensitive individuals. The purpose of this article is to provide a clinical update on the use of pure venom extracts in the management of insect-sting allergy. Let's begin with an assessment of the frequency of this problem.

Most reactions occur in men, particularly those under the age of 20. Stings to the head and neck are the ones most likely to elicit a sensitivity reaction. However, men or women, stung at any site, may experience anaphylaxis.

The radioallergosorbent test (RAST) and other in vitro test, such as histamine release from basophils, can be used to measure venom-specific IgE antibodies. Some investigators rely primarily on the RAST as a means of detecting sensitivity, since the patient does not run the risk of developing a systemic reaction (which can occur after venom injection).

The use of venom has also revealed antigenic differences between bees and Vespidae (yellow jackets, wasps, and hornets). A patient may be sensitive to either family or both. Within the vespid family, cross reactivity between the various members does occur. Rarely does an individual appear to be sensitive to only one of the Vespidae, but it is still necessary to do skin test or the RAST with each of the venoms to establish specific sensitivity.

Collecting Insect Venom

An electric grid covered with cellophane or plastic wrap is placed outside a bee hive. When a bee lights on it, the grid produces a gentle shock. The bee stings through the cellophane and its alarm brings the other insects out of the hive. They land on the grid, are shocked, and sting. Since the process does not kill the insects, it can be repeated. In

this manner, bee venom has been collected in extremely large quantities.

Approaches to Therapy

Once a specific sensitivity is established, therapy may be approached in three ways. The first is patient education. (See "Stinging insect allergy-what to do for the patient" by Dr. James R. Bonner, in the September 1978 issue of the CONSULTANT.) The other two approaches deal with the availability of epinephrine for emergency use in case of a sting, and immunotherapy with specific venoms to desensitize an allergic individual.

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Anaphylactic Reactions

The medical treatment of choice for an anaphylactic reaction, regardless of the cause, is epinephrine. It should be given as soon as possible in a dosage range of 0.3 to 0.5 ml. The usual route of administration is subcutaneous, but if the patient is definitely in shock or has mild hypotension, the epinephrine may have to be given intravenously.

Venom immunotherapy leads to the production of specific IgG antibodies, which appear to exert a protective effect against an anaphylactic reaction to a sting. Patients who are clinically protected do have substantial levels of venom-specific IgG, but at the present time, we cannot say that a given level of venom-specific IgG is absolutely protective. We do know that beekeepers who are quite immune to the sting of the bee have high titers of bee venom-specific IgG. In addition, passive transfer of IgG antibodies has afforded to anaphylactically sensitive individuals.

Whom to Treat

The main considerations in the use of venom therapy are patient selection, choice of venom, dosage, and duration of therapy. Problems still exist regarding patient selection and there are still some questions on details of treatment (maximum dose, frequency of injections, and duration of therapy). The information that follows represents the current recommendations.

Patients who have had life-threatening anaphylactic reactions and whose serum contains specific IgE antibodies that react with venom should be treated.

At the present time patients with a history of anaphylactic reactions but without specific IgE antibodies demonstrable by skin testing or in *vitro* tests are not being treated. Without the immunologic mediator of anaphylaxis, it is presumed that these persons are no longer at risk.

It is not clear, at this time, how long treatment must be carried out. In our own experience, we have used the disappearance of specific IgE antibodies, as determined by the RAST, as a criterion for the discontinuance of therapy. We

have now seen a number of patients in whom IgE antibodies have disappeared over a period of 1 to 3 years of treatment. Others have suggested that therapy should be continued indefinitely.

CONSULTANT July 1979

HONEY RECIPES

ZUCCHINI HONEY BREAD from Mrs. Wilma Ruhl

Bake 350 degrees 10 minutes
325 degrees 45 minutes

2 large eggs
3/4 cup honey
1 1/2 tsp. Vanilla
1/2 cup oil
1 1/4 cups zucchini, peeled, grated
1 1/2 cups flour
1/8 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. soda
1 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1/2 cup raisins or nutmeats or both


Beat eggs until light, add honey, vanilla and oil. Blend well and stir in zucchini. Sift dry ingredients. Add to creamed mixture. Fold in nuts or raisins. Put into greased, floured or wax paper lined 9" x 5" loaf pan. Glass pans bake: 350 D. 10 minutes, 325 D. 45 minutes.

CRUNCHY PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES WITH HONEY

Bake: 350 degrees 8-10 minutes on an ungreased cookie sheet
Makes: 6 dozen 2 1/2" cookies

1 cup butter or margarine
1 cup Crunchy old fashion peanut butter
1 cup light and mild honey
2 large eggs
1 tsp vanilla
2 1/2 cups flour
1 1/2 tsp. soda

Cream butter and peanut butter. Add honey, eggs and vanilla. Continue beating until smooth. Sift flour and soda and combine with creamed mixture. Stir well. Bake on ungreased cookie sheet at 350 D. for 8 to 10 minutes. Dough is soft and sticky. Use tablespoon of dough and flatten lightly with floured fork. Makes 6 dozen 2 1/2" cookies.



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