

# The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association

Volume 18  
Number 1

February/March  
1993

## "I was destined to be a beekeeper"

By Marilyn Weatherly

"Maybe I was destined to be a beekeeper," says John Mespelt, the 1993 president of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association and owner of Fairview Apiaries of Albany.

To back up his statement, the Albany beekeeper tells the true story of an experience he had when he was five or six years old. Seems as if John found some old bee equipment beside a greenhouse. He gathered up a bumblebee nest with his bare hands and placed it inside the discarded hive body.

What happened to the bumblebees?

"They died, of course," he concedes.

But his lack of fear around both honeybees and bumblebees stuck with him. As a child he often caught bees in his hands then observed them in a glass jar.

Today, John still isn't afraid of bees. In fact, his fearlessness around the tiny productive insects has gone a step further. He gets a lot of enjoyment just being around them.

"There's something about going into a bee yard...having thousands of bees around your

head...it doesn't bother me," he says. He recalls being in bee yards with high school students who made quite a commotion when they "freaked-out."

"I enjoy working those bees. Not everyone can do it. The majority can't do it," the Albany beekeeper says. He currently operates 1,200 hives with an emphasis in polli-



nation. Annually, he harvests between 45,000 and 50,000 pounds of honey.

Not that John opens the hive just to be doing it. He points out that hobbyists might enjoy getting into a hive and leisurely caring for it, but commercial beekeepers "get in, do what they need to do, and get out." Through experience, he has learned how to open a hive and tell at a glance what's going on from the sound and activity. He can usually spot the Queen in less than three minutes.

John's 29 years of beekeeping began in Albany in 1964 when commercial beekeeper Oliver Petty needed a summer worker. Oliver came to John's vocational agriculture class at Albany Union High School to interview students active in Future Farmers of America who might be interested in beekeeping. John got the job.

"I've always had a strong work ethic," John says. "Oliver seemed to appreciate the fact that I was always there on time and was willing to work long hours."

He spent three summers with Oliver, learning the basics, but recalls, "At that time, I had no intention of becoming a beekeeper."

After a tour of duty in the U.S. Navy where he trained to be a plumber and worked on a construction battalion, John

### OREGON STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL

#### MIDWINTER MEETING

Hosted by Southern Oregon  
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### PROGRAM

Research: Michael Burgett,  
extension apiculturist,  
Oregon State University

"Pollination from an Orchardist's View"  
by Pete Naumes, orchardist

American Beekeeping Federation 50th  
convention Connie Petty, delegate/  
Richard Turanski, exhibitor

Buzz Session: Mites

Lunch: Catered or on your own

### Information:

John Mespelt, OSBA president,  
926-1850;  
Connie Petty, The Bee Line,  
926-8718/928-7924;  
Robert Behrend, SOBA president,  
or Lynne Behrend,  
SOBA secretary-treasurer,  
664-3426

## 1993 OSBA President John Mespelt



returned to Albany but found he couldn't get into a plumber apprenticeship program. He worked in a plywood mill in Albany for five months and came to the conclusion that the mill was boring. "There had to be something more enjoyable in life than an 8 to 5 job," he says.

So in 1970 when Oliver Petty referred John to R.I. Robinson, a large commercial beekeeper in Nampa, Idaho, he was ready for a change.

John is grateful to Oliver for giving him his start. "Oliver taught me the basics to start with and Robinson smoothed off the rough edges."

The operation in Idaho was huge and the pace was hectic. Robinson operated 12,000 hives with just 2 three-man crews. "We had a system down," John says. "Everyone knew what to do. We tried to get around to the bees every two weeks."

John worked for Robinson for almost nine years. At first, his tasks were regular beekeeping, extracting and pulling honey. Then he went into management and had his own crew.

John worked all day and moved bees at night, sometimes getting only two hours sleep. The scope of the operation gave John the broad experience and speed that would serve him well when he went into business for himself. He picked up the little techniques and practices he still uses.

Eventually, John grew tired of the hectic pace and wanted to move back to his roots in

the Willamette Valley at a time when Oliver Petty wanted to retire. In 1980, John contracted to buy Fairview Apiaries from Oliver. The initial purchase was for 1,000 colonies. During the next three years, John gradually increased to 1,500 colonies.

Now he keeps his holdings at 1,200 colonies for pollination and honey. His operation includes taking bees to California for almond pollination then following the pollination cycle for Oregon crops including cabbage, white clover, crimson clover, arrowleaf clover, cherries, pears, pumpkins and vetch.

Recently, John has been busy getting ready for the coming pollination season. He has been maintaining his vehicles, painting and getting the bees ready for California. Getting them ready means testing them for strength and moving the bees to a central location so they will be ready to load onto the semi-truck.

California pollination takes place at a 400-acre almond orchard in Chowchilla, Calif., 675 miles south of Albany. John sends 900 to 1,000 hives. Fairview Apiaries bees have been making that trek since 1979 when Oliver first took 312 hives.

John used to haul the bees with his own semi-truck, but three years ago he decided it was more economical to pay a trucking company \$1,000 a load to haul for him than it was to maintain his own semi all year.

In 1979, California pollination prices were \$12 per hive. They have climbed as high as \$32 per hive. John even heard that some California growers pay per frame, bringing the total price per hive to \$45.

Although the pollination price in the Willamette Valley depends on supply and demand as well as the crop and location, pollination prices run around \$20 to \$22 per hive now. When John bought Fairview Apiaries, they were \$10. There hasn't been an increase in five years, John points out, even though expenses have increased dramatically because of the mites.

Beekeepers all over the Pacific Northwest have been hard hit by winter loss during the last five years, since tracheal mites hit. Winter loss went from around 5 percent to 30 percent. This year, John's winter loss was around 30 to 35 percent. Since beekeepers absorb costs for medications and bee replacement, profit margins have been nil.

Although beekeeping is his full-time occupation, John sometimes jokes, "My wife is working to support my hobby." A registered nurse, Judy Mespelt works as the medical floor charge nurse at Lebanon Community Hospital.

Incidentally, Judy happens to be allergic to bee stings. She has carried shots with her since the time years ago when she was stung while driving. She realized she was in trouble, flagged down a police officer who took her to

the hospital. She was given a 50-50 chance, but pulled through just fine.

The Mespelts have two daughters, Linda, a student in the pre-nursing program at Linn-Benton Community College, and Christina, newly married and working at the new aquarium in Newport. Linda and her husband have a toddler named John.

Normally fishing and camping are John's favorite hobbies, but next year, travel will enter into the picture. John and Judy hope to attend an international beekeeper conference in China.

When all is said and done, what does John enjoy most about beekeeping? "It's a lot of hard work and the hours are long," he says, "but you put everything you know into it. It's like planting a crop. There's joy in seeing the hive expand."

## New OSBA President Talks About the Job

"You'll find that most beekeepers are very independent," says John Mespelt, 1993 president of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association. Proof of this is the fact that there are 1,800 registered beekeepers in Oregon and only 200 of them belong to our state association, he says.

OSBA is important, John believes, because as a state organization, it's the only official "voice" for all of the beekeepers in the state.

Although he feels somewhat uncomfortable in a leadership role, John agreed to serve because he feels so strongly about the importance of the organization.

"The only reason I accepted was because no one else stepped forward," he says.

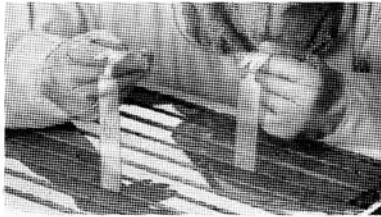
Keeping up with the latest developments with the Oregon state legislature is one role he sees as extremely important. John has already represented OSBA at one legislative hearing where lobbyist Fred Van Natta represented Oregon beekeepers' interests on the pending proposal to deregulate beekeeping.

According to the Oregon State Beekeepers Association calendar, meetings scheduled this year include one on March 6 in Medford; the Aug. 8 Picnic at a location to be determined; and the Dec. 3-4 meeting at the coast.

John says he appreciates the service of past president Marjorie Ehry who led the Oregon State Beekeepers Association for the last five years. "Marge did an excellent job promoting beekeeping on the



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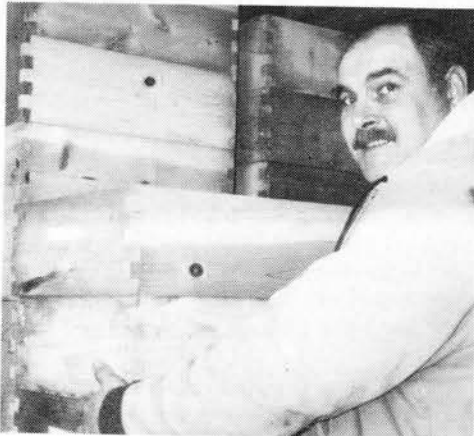
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## Honey Pots International Collector names club

by Betty Ramsey

We have a name now. We will be known as "Honey Pots International." I received only one suggestion for a name and since I didn't feel it — Ramsey's Honey Pot Club — was appropriate, I did what the Little Red Hen did, I named it myself.

In a short time, I quickly learned that the cost of postage is prohibitive, so in the January newsletter, I requested stamps to cover mailing costs. Six of the club's sixteen members responded. Each included a note with a positive response and stamps..



## Message from the OSBA President

As the new president of OSBA, I hope to be able to speak to many of you in the up coming year. If you have a problem or a question, please feel free to call or write. I will respond as quickly as I can.

Another year is starting. Winter is over and spring is on its way. many of us will be hitting the road to California with hopes of a successful season. After the large winter losses, many of us have experienced as beekeepers, we need to work together to overcome our problems

Saturday, march 6th, is our spring meeting in Medford. Winter loss and other topics will be discussed. I hope to see you there.

Sincerely,  
John Mespelt

If anyone would like to join the club, please send your name and address and enough stamps to cover the rest of 1993 to:

**Betty Ramsey,  
Honey Pots International,  
4455 Nevada Street,  
Salem, Oregon 97305.**

This is what I plan to include in future newsletters:

\* A club roster, with members (so far) from England and the United States, and their addresses.

\* Pictures of honey pots and a price range.

\* Rare dishes with beehive patterns.

I am asking collectors to send pictures and descriptions of honey pots they would like to have identified or would like to trade or sell.

Please try to send a clear picture that shows the details. Color photos are best. If I can't identify the pot, I will print the picture and description in the newsletter, hoping someone else can help.

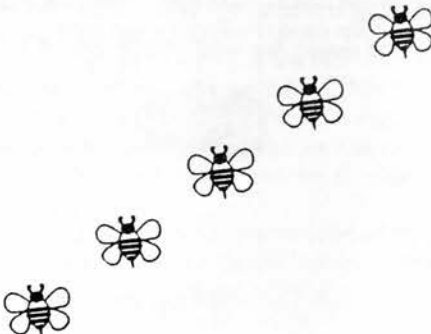
Those who wish to sell or trade a honey pot (s), should send pictures to me. Some of you may have duplicates, or parts of pots, such as lids, which another collector would like to have.

We are becoming well known! To my surprise, I received a postcard from Israel offering a honey pot with the inscription "Have a Sweet and Happy New Year" in Hebrew.

My response was in the mail the next day!

— Betty Ramsey

Editor's note: The Beeline will publish Betty's column in each issue as well as information about the Honey Pots International and its activities. Betty hopes to formally organize the club within a year. By the way, I started collecting beekeeping memorabilia in 1950 when a sister-in-law sent me a teapot and matching creamer and sugar. My collection is not as extensive as Betty's, but I have what I consider some prize pieces. I am also interested in pots made by contemporary ceramists as well as paper memorabilia. Connie Petty



## Oregon State Beekeepers Association

### 1993 officers

*President:*

John Mespelt  
830 Queen Avenue S.W.  
Albany, Or. 97321  
926-1850

*Vice president:*

Lucien B. Alexander  
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Boring, Or. 97009

*Secretary-treasurer:*

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Phyllis Shoemake, 1874 Winchester N.W., Salem OR. 97304.

**Send news items, announcements, letters and advertising to:**

Connie Petty, Editor  
1033 Gibson Hill Road NW.  
Albany, OR 97321  
Telephone: (503) 928-7924 or  
(503) 926-8718

### ADVERTISING RATES

**Business ads, per issue:**

Business Card Size	\$7.50
Quarter Page	20.00
Half Page	35.00
Full Page	100.00

**Classified ads, per 30 words:**

OSBA Member	\$2.00
Non-member	3.00

Deadlines are the 15th of the month before the ad is to appear. Make checks payable to the OSBA.

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### Auction antics at fall conference

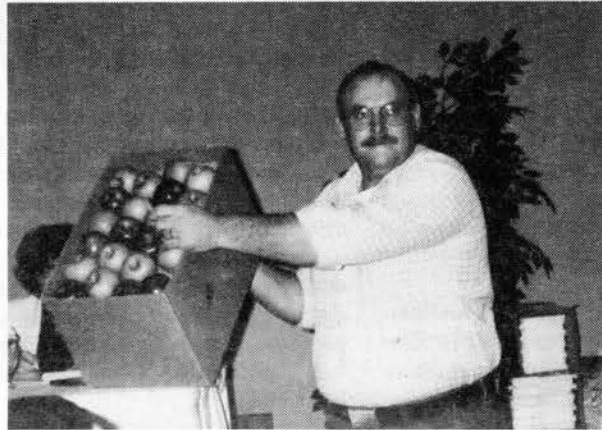
Photos by Connie Petty



Auctioneer Alan Ehry sports cap with pony tail sold as a gimmick by Washington beekeepers

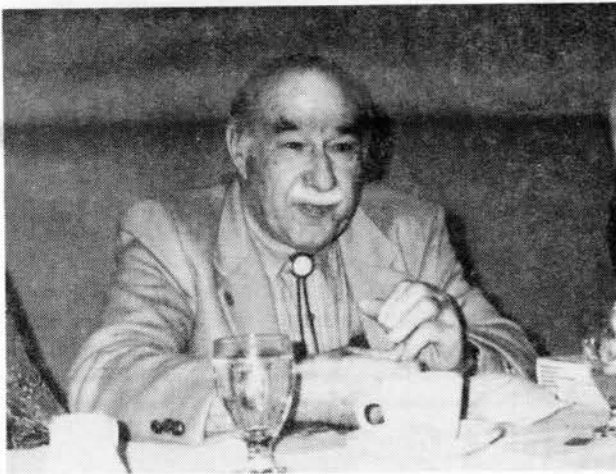


Bruce Yeager is happy about something ....



John Mespelt displays apples donated to auction

Washington president Bob Zahler



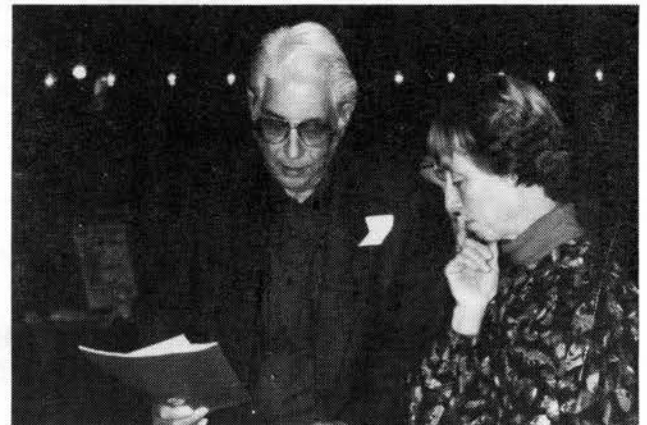
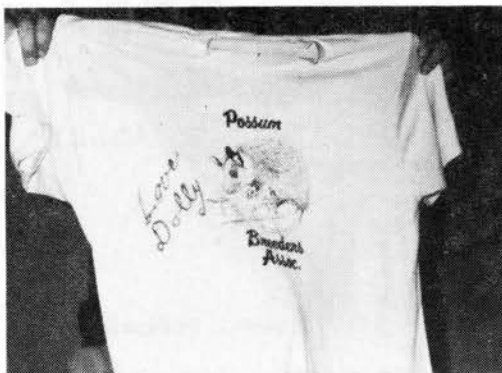
Lu Alexander purchased plastic honeybees

Collector Betty Ramsey showed some honey pot cookie jars at convention



OSU's Lynn Royce and Washington beekeeper look over auction items

Possum Breeder's Association donated this t-shirt to auction



## New Beekeeping Product Controls Destructive Parasites

American beekeepers have a new line of defense against varroa mites and tracheal mites. Miticur (registered trademark) Bee Mite Strips, recently approved by the Environmental Protection Agency, provide the first comprehensive control program for both types of mites.

Varroa mites (*Varroa jacobsoni*) first appeared in U.S. honey bee colonies in 1987. At that time, beekeepers were trying to respond to the threat of another parasite, the tracheal mite (*Acarapis woodi*). Three years after their introduction in 1984, tracheal mites were already spreading rapidly. Since then the prevalence of both mite species has exploded in virtually every beekeeping region in the United States. In some parts of the country, beekeepers can blame these mites for the loss of more than 50 percent of their colonies during the winter months.

The mites cause a general weakening of honey bee colonies, resulting in slow spring buildup, reduced honey production and a high incidence of winterkill. Infested colonies often appear normal during sum-

mer months, when brood production is high and young bees dominate the hive's population. During the winter, however, the weakened colony is comprised mainly of older bees and becomes more susceptible to damage from these mites.

Sharp-eyed beekeepers can sometimes detect varroa mites with a close visual examination of worker bees or larvae. Laboratory dissection and microscopic examination usually is needed to confirm the presence of the internal tracheal mite. Signs of mite infestation include general weakening of the colony, patchy brood, lethargic bees with poor flying ability and a large number of pupae and crippled bees ejected from the hive.

The mites spread between apiaries and hives with infested swarms, robber bees or queen introductions from infested stock.

Dr. David Shapiro, a professional services veterinarian with Hoechst-Roussel Agri-Vet Company, describes the approved procedure for using Miticur Bee Mite Strips.

\* Apply Miticur strips after taking honey from hives.

\* Place three strips in each brood chamber.

Use small nails to hand the strips between the center brood frames to assure maximum contact with clustered bees.

\* Leave the strips in the hive for at least six weeks.

\* Remove the strips before a nectar flow begins and before replacing honey supers.

Amitraz, the active ingredient in Miticur, is a proven miticide, used in different formulations to control mites on a variety of domestic animals. It works on contact against varroa mites and tracheal mites.

Because of the rapid spread and destructive potential of these parasites, beekeeping specialists say no one should assume their hives are mite free. Unless they have strong evidence to the contrary, beekeepers should treat their hives for varroa and tracheal mites.

Parasitic mites present a significant threat to individual beekeepers, the beekeeping industry and some types of commercial agriculture. In addition to honey production, honey bees pollinate 200 commercial crops in the United States, with an estimated annual value of \$20 billion. Beekeepers should consider the risk of winterkill, the cost of replacing bees and the potential for lost honey production as they evaluate their need to treat for varroa and tracheal mites.

### Membership and Publications

Membership in the Oregon State Beekeepers Association is open to anyone who has an interest in bees and beekeeping. You do not need to own bees or reside in Oregon to join.

OSBA Membership: \$15 per person. Includes 10 issues of the BEE LINE and a vote in all OSBA elections. If you belong to a local group, which one? \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Why don't more beekeepers belong to beekeeping groups?

From the Maine Bee Line condensed by Connie Petty, OSBA The Bee Line editor

I've attended a lot of beekeepers meetings over the years — local, regional and larger. I see similar problems with all sizes of groups. I've talked to a lot of people...I've also had some personal experience, so I feel fairly confident when I say the single largest obstacle to success in any organization is the degree of importance the group plays in the lives of its members.

Importance can be measured in many ways, but with beekeeping groups, it is basically social, educational or political.

The social aspects are probably pretty strong. After all, routine contact with people having at least one common bond is necessary for everybody; steelworkers, grocery clerks and beekeepers.

This alone isn't enough to sustain a group. This is where educational opportunities become so important... and where a lot of groups start running into problems: not enough money to bring outside speakers, not able to find outside speakers ... local talent tapped too often...

When a group's educational programming begins to falter, attracting new members and keeping regulars becomes difficult...but it gets more complicated. Aside from the social, most members attend meetings to hone beekeeping skills. Offering a program of interest to a beekeeper with 20 years' experience is another matter entirely... If you please beginners, you probably lose the experienced, and vice versa.

The political side may or may not rear its head, depending upon the group. Politics go from nobody wants the job to the same people always do the job.

An association is a lot of work. Certainly the more people a leader has working, the easier it is. But the ultimate responsibility ... lies on the president's shoulders. If he or she has bodies to delegate work to, more will get done. Program chairman, fund-raising chairman, membership chairman, fair chairman, are jobs the president should not do.

When leaders are dedicated ... and things get done, meetings and the association usually run smoothly: New members are recruited, regulars are educated and volunteer for special projects...resulting in a growing, dynamic association.

Why aren't there enough bodies? Don't the members want to help, don't they have time, or haven't they been asked to help? If they were asked, why was the answer no?

I've visited associations where 80-90 percent of the membership attended nearly every meeting...with about 100 members, a 10-member board and a bank account that would rival Fort Knox.

Does this group have a secret? Consider the original statement: the success of any organization depends upon the degree of importance the group plays in the lives of its members.



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## The History Of The Africanized Honeybee And Its Range Expansion

Scientists believe that all honey bees originated in Southeast Asia because many of the current species, *Apis cerana*, *Apis dorsata*, and *Apis florea*, still exist there. The Western honeybee, *Apis mellifera*, is believed to have spread out from that region to inhabit areas of Africa and Europe. The bees in Europe underwent natural selection to survive in a climate with long, cold winters and intense nectar flows of relatively short duration. The bees that spread into Africa evolved to survive under more tropical conditions, with an annual pattern of wet and dry seasons, and weak, unpredictable nectar flows.

Honeybees did not occur naturally in the Americas. Early American settlers, knowing the value of honeybees, brought many races from Europe. *A. mellifera*, from Northern Europe, *A. mellifera ligustica*, from Italy, and *A. mellifera iberica*, from Spain, were among the races introduced to the new world. These European races did well in North America, which has a climate like Europe, but did not become well established in the tropical area of South and Central America.

Citrus is known internationally as a nectar-producing crop. The growth of the citrus industry in Brazil in the 1950's made scientists aware of the potential for increased honey production in their country. In an attempt to improve the domestic honeybees of Brazil, in the late 1950's, a Brazilian geneticist went to Africa to select and import queens of *A. mellifera scutellata* for a breeding program. This race of bees was being used by beekeepers in the Eastern highlands of Africa with both modern and rustic beekeeping methods. Because queens first selected and shipped to Brazil died in transit, early attempts at importation were unsuccessful, in 1957, African queens from South Africa and Tanzania were introduced into honeybee colonies in the state of Sao Paulo.

The African honeybee became established in the Brazilian jungle after an accident allowed 26 swarms with imported African queens to escape. Additionally, other African queens were given to local beekeepers for their use. Consequently, the African bees adapted to a tropical environment and became established in Brazil.

Since African and European honeybees are members of the same species, *A. mellifera*, they interbred freely. Matings between the African honeybee, *A. mellifera scutellata*, and European races already in Brazil resulted in an hybrid bee population. These hybrid bees were named *Africanized honeybees* (AHB). In areas where

there were relatively few or no European honeybees (EHB), the predominant hybrid was more African-like. In areas with extensive beekeeping and importation of EHB queens, the feral AHB popular showed the clear influence of the European honeybee stock.

As the AHB expanded its range from the original site in the state of Sao Paulo in Brazil, it moved in all directions. They spread to the coast on the east and to the Andes mountains on the west. The Andes served as a barrier to westward movement across South America until the bees crossed the mountains in Northwest Peru. The AHB entered Ecuador from the south and Peru from the north. At the same time the AHB moved north through South America into Central America and from there to North America. On October 15, 1990, an AHB swarm that moved naturally into the United States was captured and destroyed in southern Texas for the first time.

The Africanized honeybee has the ability to survive in many different climates. Colonies have been found in rain forest and dry desert areas. They establish nest from the low coastal regions to high mountains (about 9,000 ft. in Colombia, 11,000 ft. in Venezuela). Early predictions were that the AHB would be limited to the warmest areas of the Southern States and California. Other scientists felt that the AHB was cold-tolerant enough to spread throughout much of the United States with the possible exception of the Northern Midwest. Researchers are still unsure how far North the Africanized honeybee will survive in the United States.

## Defensive Behavior Of Africanized Honeybees

Unlike the docile European honeybees common in the United States, the Africanized honey bee defends its hive more quickly and will pursue intruders greater distances. Most serious stringing incidents have involved animals; but, on rare occasions, humans have also been stung. Stinging occurs after a human or animal has intruded into the territory of the honey bee colony. In some cases, vibrations from machinery have provoked stinging incidents. Chance encounters with individual AHB's on blossoms pose no greater threat than an encounter with European honeybees.

Even though mass stringing is terrifying and could be life threatening, it is rare. also, the venom from one AHB sting is no more potent than the venom of a single EHB sting. Common sense is the best defense for avoiding stings from all stringing insects - not just honeybees. If you are being stung or you are in the vicinity of large numbers of insects you think might sting, calmly but quickly move away from the area.



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## Other Africanized Honey Bee Traits

In spite of its "big" reputation, the AHB is actually smaller than the European honey bee. However, the difference is not obvious. For identification, special techniques must be used.

Beekeepers in areas recently Africanized commonly complain that honey yields have dropped precipitously. However, after developing different management schemes over several years, honey yields in Africanized areas have recovered somewhat.

The AHB produces swarms more often than the European honey bee currently found in the United States. This is due in part to their shorter development time and the propensity to use resources to rear more bees, rather than to store their resources for periods of shortage. Consequently, Africanized honey bees sometimes gain a population advantage over European honeybees.

Africanized honey bees frequently construct nests in exposed areas that would rarely be selected by EHB. However, the higher frequency of exposed nests could be because the preferred sites are occupied. Since these bees are well suited for life in warm climates, there is reason to believe that the warmer states will have to content with feral Africanized honey bee establishment first. However, due to potential encounters with EHB in great numbers, the AHB could become further hybridized. The future even honeybees in northern states may show some Africanized honey bee traits.

Both European honeybees and Africanized honey bees require pollen collected from plants as a protein source. The Africanized honey bee's unique manageability characteristics concern many U.S. beekeepers who move thousands of colonies each season for crop pollination and honey production.

Continued on page 10

### BEES & BEEKEEPING SUPPLIES



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### Letter to the editor:

Dear Editor.

I would like to thank all the members of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association for awarding me a life membership in the Association. Marge Ehry called and surprised me. It was great to hear her voice, she made my days to come. I miss all my friends in Oregon. I expect to be through with my spinal shots before spring and hope to be able to make the next meeting.

So many good things have happened to me in the last six months that never happened before in my lifetime that I began to wonder if I was still living in the real world or had passed on to the spiritual world as the doctors had expected me to do. So I asked my doctor and he affirmed that I was still in the real world. Then when I got the bill I knew without a doubt.

As most of you already know, I sold most of my bee outfit to Harold Chase. he is running them in much the same locations in Eastern Oregon. He is doing real well: He averaged 98 pounds this year. I think that is better than I ever did. And I thought I knew how to run bees.

So thanks again everybody, I really appreciate the honor that this life membership means. My very best wishes to you and yours.

Sincerely yours,

*Ansel Groomsbey*

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## If Africanization Is Suspected

If Africanization is suspected, contact your county agent, state apiarist, state beekeeping Extension specialist, or the local bee inspector for help. Determining whether or not Africanization has occurred is a difficult procedure that will require technical assistance. The county Extension office will usually have the address and telephone numbers for authorities who can help.

**Collecting Honey Bee Samples For Identification:** Dead bee samples can be collected and preserved in several ways. A small jar or plastic container with a 70 percent alcohol solutions appropriate for preserving bees for morphometric identification. Ethanol is best, but isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol or methanol can also be used. Collect 50 to 100 adult worker bees. Another way to collect a similar sample requires collecting live bees in a sealable plastic bag and immediately putting the bag in a freezer. Live bee collection should be performed by an appropriately trained individual.

All samples should be submitted to the appropriate State Apiary Inspector or State Extension Apiculturist for routing to the

proper authorities for identification. The county agent will be able to help in contacting them.

**Disposed of Africanized honey bee swarms and feral colonies:** The increase in the number of swarms that normally accompanies the Africanization of an area and the greater public awareness of all honey bees means there will be more requests for assistance to dispose of unwanted colonies. This activity requires properly trained and equipped response teams. untrained, unprotected individuals are at high risk of being severely stung. Again, state beekeeping authorities should be contacted for assistance is destroying suspected Africanized honey bee colonies.

helpful in understanding the Africanized honey bee's swarming behavior and rate of spread. Though much has been learned about the Africanized honey bee, more research is needed.

Articles about deaths associated with the Africanized honey bee have been published, but the actual number of deaths has been very small. Statistically, everyday risks, such as auto accidents, pose a much greater risk to the public.

The public should stay informed about issues concerned Africanized honey bee, but not be unduly alarmed. Any future Africanized honey bee problems are not

## Understanding the Africanized Honey Bee

Scientists have studied the Africanized honey bee in other countries for many years. These projects conducted in Argentina, Venezuela, French Guiana, Brazil, and other south and Central American countries during the past 20 years have yielded much information about AHB behavior and biology. Cooperative programs between the United State and Mexico have also been



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Salem, OR 97310

**EXTENSION ENTOMOLOGIST**  
Dr. Michael Burgett 737-4896  
Department of Entomology  
Oregon State University  
2046 Cordley Hall

## Local Group Meetings:

**COOS COUNTY**  
7:30 p.m.,  
Third Friday,  
except December.  
Coquille Annex.  
Coquille

**KLAMATH COUNTY**  
Dates and places vary.  
Call officers above.

**LANE COUNTY**  
7:30 p.m.,  
Second Tuesday;  
Public Employees  
Credit Union Bldg.,  
1155 Chambers St.,  
Eugene.

**PORTLAND**  
7:30 p.m.,  
Fourth Monday;  
Far West Federal Bank,  
McLoughlin Blvd.  
Oregon City.

**SOUTHERN OREGON**  
7:30 p.m.,  
First Monday;  
Ag Extension Auditorium,  
Maple Park Drive,  
Medford.

**TILLAMOOK COUNTY**  
7:00 p.m.,  
First Thursday;  
Fish & Wildlife Bldg.  
4909 Third St.  
Tillamook

**TUALATIN**  
7:30 p.m.,  
First Wednesday  
Bldg. No. 3,  
Rock Creek Campus,  
Portland Community College.

**WILLAMETTE VALLEY**  
7:30 p.m.,  
Fourth Monday;  
Room 32B,  
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**1993 Western Apiculture Society Meeting**

The 1993 Western Apiculture Society Meeting has been scheduled for Aug. 17, 18 and 19. The conference will be held high atop scenic Burnaby Mountain at Simon Fraser University, overlooking the city of Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

The theme of the 1993 meeting will be "Beekeeping in the North." The conference will provide a unique blend of bee science and practical beekeeping and will include lectures, workshops and demonstrations. Some of the topics present will be over wintering bees indoors and outdoors, the application of bee pheromone for management, a simple guide to pollination, queen rearing and introduction, splitting and uniting colonies, and much, much more.

But the conference will not be all hard work; the usual Western Apiculture Society blend of barbecues, banquets, talk and fun will be there as well. Attendees may want to plan some vacation time before or after the conference. Vancouver and the surrounding regions have cosmopolitan urban life, fishing, hiking, beachcombing and spectacular views.

The Western Apicultural Society extends a cordial invitation to WAS93. For further information or to put your name on the mailing list, contact Conference Services, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6 Canada (phone 604-291-4910, FAX 604-291-3420).

**Oregon State Beekeepers Association***The Bee Line*

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