

OSBA Winter Convention Plans Announced for December 1 & 2, in Cannon Beach

The OSBA Winter Convention and Business Meeting will be held this year at a new site for us, the Hallmark Resort in Cannon Beach. The Meeting will get under way with a no-host causal get-to-gather at, your guessed it, the bar, on Friday night, December 1 at 6:30 pm. This time is for early arrivals to meet, "schmooze", and generally lie to each other about what a great beekeeper they are and how bad so-and-so is.

Registration begins at 8:00 AM Saturday morning. The program begins on Saturday morning at 9:00 AM. Although the exact order of events will not be finalized until later this month (and published in the next *Bee Line*), the following will serve as a good guide.

George Hansen, President of the OSBA will start the program at 9:00 AM with opening remarks and introduce the first speaker, Dr. William Wilson. His presentation will be on the general state of Parasitic Mites - Varroa and Tracheal Mites. This will be followed at noon by the annual Oregon State University Research Luncheon featuring Dr. Burgett and others.

Dr. Wilson will again speak at 1:30 PM with more of a focus on the problems of tracheal mites and winter losses. We then plan to break for a unique panel discussion on the formation of a professional pollinators trade group. After the excitement dies down and we are all on speaking terms again (after the panel discussion, that is) we will move on to the annual OSBA Business Meeting.

All day there will be a silent auction, ending at 3:30 PM. At 6:00 PM there will be a no-host gathering in the bar to be followed by the Banquet and the Live Auction. The Banquet and Auction is a social event NOT TO BE MISSED! For any of you who have not had the chance to attend this event, it is NOT your standard staid convention banquet.

This full day event offers you a chance to hear the experts and leaders in the beekeeping industry talk about the future of beekeeping and honey marketing which will affect all of us. But, more important, this is a chance for new and old hands to meet and share the experience of beekeeping. This is probably the greatest joy in beekeeping is the interchange of stories and information between people with the common and shared love of beekeeping.

Cannon Beach. The site of this year's Convention was chosen base on information from a number of members and comments on past Conventions. Cannon Beach, one of Oregon's great destination resort cities, is situated on the North Coast between the resort city of Seaside and Neakahnie Mountain/Nehalem Bay resort areas. Cannon Beach is smaller than Lincoln City, but offers the visitor many more attractions, all within a short walk of our meeting site.

Rather than go into a long list of all the recreation and visitor opportunities (Cannon Beach has a very active art community and a large number of antique and shopping areas) that are available in the Cannon Beach area, we are going to leave it to you to contact the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce direct at 503-436-2623 for that type of information.

Additionally, the special OSBA member room rates at the Hallmark Resort are less than almost any budget motel in any other city and convention facility we looked at. Now, all of our attendees can stay close at hand and walk to all of the restaurants, shops and attractions and keep the whole trip to an affordable level for any beekeeper's budget. for a number of reason.

The Hallmark Resort has offered us very special room rates ranging form as little as \$49 for non and limited ocean view rooms to just \$89 for a 2-bedroom suite with view! They have many rooms available at press time in the \$49, \$69, \$79, and \$89 range to fit any need. But, please note, YOU MUST PRE-BOOK YOUR ROOMS BY NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 6th to get these special rates. Call the Hallmark Resort direct at 1-800-345-5676 to make your reservations. Bee (Oh No! Bee jokes again) sure to mention that your are with the OSBA to receive this special discount.

So, don't *bee* shy. Newcomers will marvel at how quickly they fit in and old hands will have a chance to share their knowledge and experiences, see all of your old friends and make new ones.

Make your arrangements and book your room early. We will have more information on the program, speakers, and the pollination group panels discussion in the next *Bee Line*. We will see you there.

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Business ads, per issue:

Business Card size	\$ 7.50
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Copy, art, and payment must be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Contact the editor for any special requirements and mechanical information.

Classified ads, 30 words, per issue:

OSBA members	\$ 2.00
Non-members	3.00

Most Interesting News!

The following was clipped from the October 6 issue of the *Capital Press* -

Russian bees mite resistant?

WASHINGTON (AP)—Agriculture Department scientists have found honeybees in eastern Russia that may be more resistant to a damaging mite than honeybees in the United States.

The varroa mite has taken a heavy toll on U.S. hives since it made its way north from Mexico in the mid-1980s.

But in the Primorsky region of far-eastern Russia, the mite is less damaging because the honeybees seem to be more resistant to it.

"Honey bees and varroa mites evolved in the Primorsky area over the last 100 years, so the bees may have developed resistance during that time," said Thomas E. Rinderer, research leader at the Agricultural Research Service's Honeybee Breeding, Genetics and Physiology Lab in Baton Rouge, La.

"Over the next few years, we will continue to study bees in the Primorsky region to confirm that they have genetic resistance," he said. "If the resistance proves to be significant, then we'll bring them into the United States through quarantine for further testing and possible release to U.S. beekeepers."

U.S. beekeepers treat their hives twice a year, while Primorsky beekeepers treat just once a year, and their hives had far fewer mites than the U.S. colonies last year, Rinderer said.

Bee experts worry that the chemical treatment for varroa, fluvalinate, may be losing its effectiveness, as reports from Europe suggest.

I will be following up on this Associated Press Wire Service report and try to track down the source press release and any further information Dr. Rinderer may have to report. Dr. Rinderer was not available for comment at press time since he was presenting a paper, "What we have Learned about Varroa Mites?" in Spokane, WA, at the Tri-State Beekeeper's Conference and Convention. I will try to have a full report in the next issue of the Bee Line.

From the Editor's Desk

I've got a couple of bees in my bonnet this month. Last month at a local club meeting, during a discussion on the proper use of Apistan where a person said that they reused their strips in some mix with new strips, a visiting beekeeper from another area (I hope that this person reads this and know that I'm talking to you) said that he used wooden sticks soaked

Cont. on Page 11

Pacific Northwest Colony Mortality 1995

by Dr. Michael Burgett, Department of Entomology
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331

Honey bee colonies are nationally experiencing increased losses. No where has this been better documented than the Pacific Northwest region of the U. S. For the past eight years results from surveys of regional beekeepers have shown annual colony losses that are in excess of 20%. The 1994 loss for regional commercial beekeepers was 25%, higher than any previous year. For the same period, semi-commercial beekeepers experienced a loss of 37%, which was also the highest of any year for this group. The results for 1995 are not significantly different from those of 1994; a 24% loss for commercial colonies and a 33% loss for semi-commercial hives.

A major factor for the high losses has been the introduction and spread of two species of parasitic mites, the honey bee tracheal mite (*Acarapis woodi*), which was first discovered in the PNW in 1985, and the Asian brood mite (*Varroa jacobsoni*), which was first detected in 1989. These mites quickly spread through our region and beekeepers should now consider them as cosmopolitan. In addition to the direct mortality of colonies from mite parasitism, there are also suspected stress interactions when colonies are infested with both species of mites, a condition which should be considered as the norm. And we are beginning to understand the role of mites in the transmission of viral diseases of adult bees, such as

acute bee paralysis virus, which adds an additional stress to colonies already weakened by mite parasitism. It should be pointed out that mite-caused colony losses are

in addition to all previous mortality factors. We still have colonies dying from starvation, brood diseases, and predators. As an example, one beekeeper in this year's survey reported a loss of 100 colonies to black bear predation.

Sixty-six beekeepers from Oregon and Washington provided the data for the 1995 survey. There were 34 commercial beekeepers

(each owning more than 300 colonies) and 32 semi-commercial beekeepers (each owning less than 300 hives). A total of 50,058 colonies were owned by the beekeepers who cooperated in the survey. This is approximately one-third of the commercial and semi-commercial colonies currently registered in Oregon and Washington.

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In past surveys, colony numbers were requested from October to March or April of the following year; the traditional Winter period for a PNW beekeeping operation. This year, because of increased concern for late Summer losses,

colony numbers were requested from July 1994 to March of 1995. This was done in order to begin to understand the magnitude of losses prior to the Winter period.

Tables 1 and 2 summarize the

Cont. on Page 4

Table 1. Commercial Hives - Living Colonies by Date¹

	Jul. '94	Sep. '94	Oct. '94	Dec. '94	Feb. '95	Mar. '95
No.Hives	46,473	45,934	42,441	41,474	36,566	35,193
Cummulative % Loss		1%	9%	11%	21%	24%

¹ 34 beekeepers.

Table 2. Semi-Commercial Hives - Living Colonies by Date¹

	Jul. '94	Sep. '94	Oct. '94	Dec. '94	Feb. '95	Mar. '95
No.Hives	3,585	3,455	3,235	2,977	2,800	2,419
Cummulative % Loss		4%	10%	17%	22%	33%

¹ 34 beekeepers.

Table 3. Mortality for colonies not treated for mites¹

Date	July 1, 1994	March 1, 1995
Number of living colonies	762	249
Mortality %		66%

¹ Seven non-commercial beekeepers.

Cont. from Page 3 colony losses by recording period. Losses for July and August are relatively low, (1% for commercial and 4% for semi-commercial hives). This low Summer loss is in contrast to various testimonial reports of large scale losses immediately following the Summer honey flows. A sharp increase in losses was experienced during the month of September. The major loss period, however, continues to be December through February.

The overwhelming majority of commercial colonies from Oregon and Washington are moved to California in January and February prior to almond pollination. During this period beekeepers are assessing colony strength and often combining weak colonies that probably would not have survived had these same hives remained in the PNW.

All commercial beekeepers are now practicing some form of chemical control for mite management. Apistan® is the

material used by nearly all beekeepers, both because of effectiveness and because it is the sole material presently registered by the EPA for use against varroa. 94% of

the commercial beekeepers administered Apistan® in 1994. For semi-commercial beekeepers, 27 of 34 beekeepers utilized Apistan®. Seven semicommercial beekeeper did not employ any mite treatment program. This group of beekeepers experienced a loss of 66% of their combined colonies (Table 3), which illustrates the

value and necessity of a mite control program.

The author wishes to thank all the beekeepers who took the time to fill out survey forms. Their collective efforts are providing the most accurate assessment of colony losses for any region of the U.S.

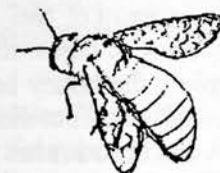


Table 4. Summary of Winter Losses for the period 1989 - 1995

	Commercial Colonies (>300) Less %	Non-Commercial Colonies (<300) Loss %	Number of colonies in survey
1995	24%	38%	50,058
1994	25	37	39,405
1993	17	33	21,791
1992	22	13	17,418
1991	19	17	20,624
1990	21	22	25,352
1989	22	13	10,812
AVERAGE	21.4%	24.7%	

Summary for the "Average" beekeeping Operation - 1995

	Commercial (≤300 hives)	Semi-Commercial (< 300 hives)
Average # colonies on July 1, 1994	1,367	112
Average # colonies on March 1, 1995	1,035	76
Average colony loss	332 (24%)	36 (33%)
Total colonies in survey	46,473	3,585
Total colony loss	11,280	1,166
Number of beekeepers	34	32

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FINDING QUEENS

By Malcolm T. Sanford, University of Florida

Those new to beekeeping are often surprised at most of the technology of the craft was developed before 1900. Only one, instrumental insemination, evolved after the turn of the century. The next question often asked is what technology is left to be developed. Most beekeepers would say that a quick and effective method of finding a queen would be very high on the list.

In volumes 30 and 31 of *Beekeeping & Development*, two scientists from Latin America discuss this topic. B.M. Freitas from Brazil suggests a method based on the unique odor of a colony and the intolerance of one queen for another. Beekeepers in that country, faced with extremely defensive Africanized honey bees, had to develop a method that did not overly disturb a colony. In summary, the technique replaces a frame in the colony where the queen is sought with a frame shaken free of clinging bees from another colony. If little smoke has been used in the process, after three to five minutes, the queen, prompted by the different odor, will move to the introduced frame in search of a rival. The beekeeper then only has to look at that one frame for the queen.

Dr. William Ramirez from Costa Rica describes a couple of variations on this theme. He suggests moving all the frames one at a time into another box placed on the original hive stand, in the process scanning each comb for the queen. If she is not seen, the walls of the original box can be examined and, if necessary, the remaining bees can be shaken onto a light-colored board. Should the above method be impossible because of a large, defensive bee population, he says to move the original colony away and put a box with a frame of brood in the old location. Over time, the defensive, older bees will fly back to the original location. Now it is relatively easy to find the queen amongst fewer bees that are younger and

less defensive.

Finally, Dr. Ramirez describes two other methods based on queen odor. A spare, live queen can be introduced into a colony using a push-in cage. After a time, the queen being sought will migrate to the cage and attempt to fight with the introduced adversary. In a variation of this, dead queens kept in a freezer can also be pinned to the top bar of a frame. Again, the queen being sought will move toward and attempt to fight with this interloper.

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ABF's Portland Convention to Emphasize Trade Show

Bee supply dealers and manufacturers, fork lift dealers, and every other description of vendor to the bee and honey industry are being invited to exhibit their products and services at the American Beekeeping Federation Trade Show during the 53rd ABF Convention, January 16-22, in Portland, OR.

An unusual opportunity will be available for the ABF Trade Show in Portland, where the ABF will use the Red Lion Hotel's 17,000 square foot exhibit hall - more than twice the amount of space normally available for the Trade Show. All booths, including the forklifts, will be located inside the exhibit hall.

To take full advantage of the space, plans are being made to have a stage right in the exhibit hall and originate a part of each day's programming from it. Exhibitors are being invited to "Show and Tell" about their products or services from the stage, and the stage will also be used for other programming suitable to the format.

For each half-day's sessions, the convention program will begin in the general session hall. At break time, coffee, soft drinks, and snacks will be served in the exhibit hall, then programming from the Trade Show Stage will run until time for lunch or to recess for the evening. Any vendors interested in participating in the ABF Trade Show should contact the ABF Office at P.O. Box 1038, Jesup, GA 31598, Phone and Fax 912-427-8447.

NHB Sponsors Export Workshop During ABF Convention

The National Honey Board will sponsor an Export Training Workshop at the 1996 American Beekeeping Federation Convention. The workshop will be held Saturday, January 20, at the Red Lion Hotel/Lloyd Center, in Portland.

The Workshop will provide prospective U.S. honey exporters with basic information on exporting. It will also help U.S. honey exporters to be more competitive in the world market by providing them with marketing strategies and valuable information on market conditions of international markets.

Representatives from the U.S. Department of Commerce, banking institutions, freight forwarders and shipping lines will be present to provide information on

various aspects of international trade. Simon Bakht, president of Arab Marketing and Finance, Inc., will present information on market conditions and marketing strategies for U.S. honey in the Middle East.

Prepare Now For Honey Show

Plans are being made for the American Honey Show, which will be a feature of the American Beekeeping Federation's 1996 convention. The convention will be Jan. 16-22 at the Red Lion Hotel, Lloyd Center, Portland.

The show will spotlight the finest examples of honey and beeswax. It provides six classes for liquid honey, one for chunk comb honey, two for comb section honey, one for cut comb, one for creamed honey, and two for beeswax.

In general, the rules call for entries composed of four 1-lb. jars of honey, four comb sections, or a 5-lb. block of beeswax (up to 10 lbs, for the art design beeswax). Detailed rules are available from the ABF Office (P.O. Box 1038 Jesup, GA 31598 (phone and fax: 912-427-8447). Persons not familiar with the show should review the detailed rules before preparing their entries.

A special trophy will be presented for the first place entry in each of the 13 classes. Second and third place entries will receive ribbons. The "Best of the Show" award will be made for the best single entry. Presentations will be made during the ABF business meeting on Saturday, Jan. 20.

Attendance at the convention by the entrants is not necessary. The entries may be shipped to the convention (see the rules for instructions), and any awards or ribbons won will be sent to absent entrants.

After being on display for two days, all the entries will be sold at auction with the proceeds benefiting the American Honey Queen Program. Competition in the American Honey Show is restricted to members of the American Beekeeping Federation.

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News from the National Honey Board

HAVE YOU PLANNED TO ATTEND?

Longmont, Colo.—"Making the Sweet Taste of Success Even Sweeter" is a business management program for honey producers, producer/packers and packers that will be held December 1 and 2 in Minneapolis. Program attendees will participate in a series of seminars hosted by the National Honey Board, the Minnesota Honey Producers Association and Dr. Marla Spivak, assistant professor and extension entomologist from the University of Minnesota.

The keynote address, "Journey Toward the Next Millennium: Doing Business in the 90s," will be presented by Edward D. Barlow, president of Creating the Future, Inc. Seminar presenters include: Mary Humann, marketing director for the National Honey Board; Thomas J. Payne, president of Thomas J. Payne Market Development; John C. Yolcom, president of Checkmate Marketing Resources, Ltd.; and Mary Lye, marketing director for the Canadian Honey Council.

It's not necessary to be a member of the Minnesota Honey Producers to attend. For information on the program or hotel reservation information, call Sherry Jennings or Tina Tindall at the National Honey Board - 800-553-7162.

HOW A LITTLE BEAR CAN MAKE MAGIC

Longmont, Colo.—He started life out as a little bear with a lot of charm and big dreams for the future. Today, he's making advertising magic as the spokesbear for the honey industry. The familiar, lovable squeeze bear will appear this fall in leading consumer magazines proclaiming, "Watch me make a chicken disappear." With such tantalizing recipes as Southern-Style Honey "Barbecued" Chicken and Oven-Baked Orange Chicken in his bag of tricks, the squeeze bear is certain to

get consumers' attention!

"There really is something magical about the appeal of the squeeze bear," said Mary Humann, marketing director for the National Honey Board. "The Honey Board tests consumers' responses to the squeeze bear ads in magazines. We also pretest recipes for consumer appeal. Squeeze bear ads are measured against ads for, say, Campbell Soup and other well-recognized brands. Last year, the squeeze bear ad was better read and better remembered than some brands that are household names."

Honey ads are placed to coincide with peak honey use months. Look for the squeeze bear this fall and winter in *Family Circle*, *Woman's Day*, *Better Homes & Gardens*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Ladies Home Journal*, and *Cooking Light*. For the holidays, the squeeze bear will make special appearances in *Country Living Holidays*, *Great Holiday Baking* (a *Family Circle* publication) and *Best Ideas for Christmas* from *Women's Daily*.

- Italian Package Bees and Queens
- Pollination
- Honey



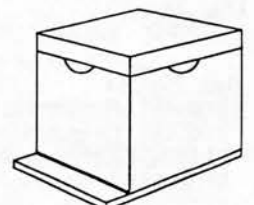
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More Goings On

Just when you thought it was safe to put your calendar away, the *Bee Line* mailbox is again filled with announcements of events of interest to beekeepers. (Why is the California meeting's Banquet Social Hour only 45 minutes?)

California State beekeepers Association's 10th Annual Meeting and Convention

NOVEMBER 14-16, 1995

The California State Beekeepers Association invites you and your family to attend this year's annual convention at Harrah's Hotel Casino in Lake Tahoe, Nevada. The Hotel has on-site a large children's play area, indoor pool, health spa, and many fine restaurants. In addition to the reasonable room rates, the hotel has agreed to low cost show tickets for those staying at the hotel.

The Convention allows you to see and talk to many friends as well as meet new ones. You will have the opportunity to listen and talk to the many fine presenters on this year's agenda. Charles Mraz, bee venom expert, and Esther Wright, American Beekeeping Federation Honey Queen, are among the many guest speakers that comprise the program.

California State Beekeepers Association TENTATIVE CONVENTION PROGRAM

Mon., Nov. 13

3:00 PM Board of Directors Meeting

Tues., Nov. 14

8:00 AM Registration and Commercial Exhibits Open

9:00 AM Opening Ceremonies and Committee Reports

11:00 AM Update on Anti-Dumping Suit Troy Fore

11:30 AM Pollination Survey Results Kevin Roberts

12:00 PM Lunch

1:15 PM Beekeeping: Nevada Style Leonard Joy,
Nevada Dept. of Ag.

2:00 PM Apitherapy: From the Master Charles Mraz

2:30 PM Selling Honey as a Gourmet Food Specialty Sherry Jennings

3:15 PM Break National Honey Board

3:35 PM Commercial Honey House Operations Bob Miller

4:15 PM Apistan Update Oscar Coindreau,
Zoecon

7:30 PM Social Hour, Cookies and Esther Wright,
American Honey

Refreshments

Queen

8:15 PM Evening with Charles Mraz Charles Mraz

Wed., Nov. 15

8:00 AM Registration Continues

8:30 AM Current Research ? Dr. Kirk Visscher

9:15 AM Almond Board Bee Research Rick Souza, Calif.
Almond Board

10:00 AM Break

10:15 AM Honey Sales and Promotion Judy Gulleon,
Comm. Beekeeper

11:00 AM Bear Facts Revisited Shannon Wooten

11:30 AM Need for Research Panel Joe Traynor,
Bruce Beekman, &
Gene Brandi

Dr. Kirk Visscher,

12:00 PM Research Luncheon UC Riverside

2:00 PM Sioux Honey Association Meeting

Afternoon Free

Thurs., Nov. 16

8:00 AM Registration Continues

8:30 AM Planning for Retirement John Allanson,
Financial Consultant

Alan Mikolich,

9:15 AM Wax Rendering David Bradshaw

9:50 AM Break

10:15 AM Staying in Touch

Ria deGrassi, Calif.

Farm Bureau

10:45 AM TBA

Regulator

11:30 AM Lunch

1:00 PM Wooten's Year on Film

Glenda Wooten

1:30 PM Annual Business Meeting

3:30 PM Auction

6:45 PM Social Hour

7:30 PM Annual Banquet and Awards

7:30 PM Annual Banquet and Awards

7:30 PM Annual Banquet and Awards

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For registration forms and more information, contact Bob Miller, President, California State Beekeepers Association, 1518 Paradise Lane, Los Banos, CA 93635 or call at 209-826-8065.

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1995 State Fair Honey Cooking Contest

The results and recipes are in from the Honey Cooking Contest and Demonstration at the 1995 Oregon State Fair. The event, co-sponsored by the OSBA and the National Honey Board, spearheaded and judged by our own Marjie Ehry. The other judges were Kay Shidler of the Agri-Business Council, Bob Ramsey, retired beekeeper (and great cook), and Betty Ramsey, President of Honey Pots International. Here is a report from Marjie:

This is the 9th year we have sponsored the Honey Cooking Contest at the State Fair. Each year a different category is offered. Honey Salad Dressing - this year's category, sounds like a snap doesn't it? Well, our contest brings out some of the Fair's top cooks which always makes it a challenge for our judges. Not to mention the time involved in tasting and discussing the pros and cons of each entry.

During the judging I did a demo using the NHB recipe folder "The Golden Touch". The recipe was Ambrosia with Honey Lime Cream Dressing. Samples for tasting were given out along with the recipe. Following the demo were the judges' comments by Kay Shidler and myself - and the long awaited awards. Honey used for the awards were for 1st Place: 1 gallon, donated by Andy Rice of Woodburn; 2nd Place: 1/2 gallon and 3rd Place: 1 quart, both donated by Jack Deveraux of Coos Bay. The NHB donated one of the HONEY aprons, which was given for "Judge's

Calendar of Events

Oct.	5-7	National Honey Board, Phoenix, AZ
	7-8	Tri-State Conference - Spokane, WA
	10	Lane County Beekeepers meeting
	11	Tualatin Valley Beekeepers meeting
	12	Portland Beekeepers meeting
	20	Coos County Beekeepers meeting
	23	Willamette Valley Beekeepers meeting
Nov.	13-17	California State Beekeepers Convention
Dec.	1-2	OSBA Fall/Winter Convention
Jan.	16-21	American Beekeeping Federation Convention, Portland OR
August	5-9	Western Apicultural Society, Hawaii

Choice" rather than sweepstakes, as in the past. Also, Glen Peters was gracious about donating all the Honey Stix needed - they were given out to people in the Jackman-Long Building from 11AM until 1:30PM.

Here follow the 1st and 2nd place winning recipes. We will print all of them in future *Bee Lines*, as space permits.

Honey Coleslaw Dressing

Arlene Thorp, Monmouth, OR

- 1/2 cup light sour cream
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
- 1 tsp prepared mustard
- 1 tsp celery seed
- 1/2 tsp dried sweet basil
- 1/4 tsp salt

Beat all ingredients together until well blended and smooth. Refrigerate until needed. Use for coleslaw. Makes 1 1/2 cups of dressing.

Lemon Honey Fruit Salad Dressing

Judy Thorp, Monmouth, OR

- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1/3 cup Oregon Honey
- 1/16 tsp salt
- 1/16 tsp ground nutmeg
- 1 cup light sour cream

Combine honey, egg, and lemon juice in the top of a double boiler. Beat until smooth. Cook over boiling water stirring all the time until mixture thickens. Remove from heat and stir in light sour cream, nutmeg and salt. Beat until completely blended. Store covered in refrigerator. Use for fruit salad.



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Springfield, OR 97477
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688-5675
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Meets 7 p.m. second Thurs
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18238 S. Fischer Mill Road,
Oregon City

Info: Rosemary Marshall, 631-7313

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Cont. from page 2 in Tactik (Amatraz in a WATER soluble formula - so not only does he NOT know how much treatment he is delivering into the hive - the Amatraz will go right into not only his wax, but into his honey as well! - Just what we all need. Someone running the risk of developing a treatment-resistant mite, and putting and insecticide in honey and wax.) to treat his bees for both varroa and tracheal mites. I still have not calmed down from this short-sighted self-serving approach to beekeeping. We have a treatment for varroa that works well WHEN USED AS DIRECTED, and some treatments that work with limited success on tracheal mites. If you can't afford \$7.50 to \$16.00 per year to treat your bees, maybe you should do all of us a favor and GET OUT OF BEEKEEPING!

And, on the subject of reusing Apistan, Jim Bach, WA State Apiarist, published a paper in the current (Oct. 1995) issue of the *American Bee Journal* that you all should read and take to heart. His research and testing indicates the the Apistan strip only contains its active ingredient ON THE SURFACE of the strip, and that after the prescribed period of treatment, the whole strip only contains about 13.6% active fluvalinate! No amount of sanding or scraping is going to make a used strip any good. Use it once and throw it out.

And now on to another point. When I first started getting interested in the OSBA, I spoke with a few of the "veterans" of the OSBA about what I perceived as a need for Oregon beekeepers organize a professional trade group to address issues like pollination. I was told by more than one of these "veterans" - "We already tried it and it didn't work - and we don't need some newcomer coming along with any 'new-fangled'

ideas." Well, the "idea" of a commodity trade group for agriculture is certainly NOT "new-fangled". All of the pollination clients we seek have formed area and/or crop-specific groups to promote their products and service many years ago. We have only to look at Dr. Burgett's annual pollination report and the current cost of creating and maintaining a hive to know that we are giving away our services. Beekeepers are shooting themselves in the foot each time they try to steal clients from another beekeeper by offering a farmer a buck less a hive for pollination services. It is also not a "new-fangled" (boy, I'm having fun with that phrase) to look at the USDA or ODA reports of Northwest crops and acreage in production to realize that there is two to three times the business out there than is currently being served by beekeepers. Why do we keep "giving" any the value of our services - why not work to increase the number of farmers needing pollination services rather than all trying to dip from the same pot all the time? We need to educate farmers on the number of hives needed and the increase in value of their acreage if they pollinate. We need to educate them on the value of our services and that we need a reasonable return on our investments if we are to provide them with the service they demand and NEED.

Well, thanks to the efforts of Dr. Burgett and others, we will have a panel discussion at the OSBA Convention to talk out this "new-fangled" idea who's time has come.

Once again, I've got more stuff than there's space.
See you in Cannon Beach, Ron Bennett

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 the OSBA. OSBA Membership is \$15 per person and includes a vote in all OSBA elections, discounts on other bee-related publications, 10 issues of *The Bee Line*, and more. And, if you are already a member of a local group, your group will receive \$1.00 from your OSBA dues. Foreign membership is \$23.

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