
THE BEE LINE



The Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association

Volume 24, Number 8

September 1999

AGENDA

Northwest Corner Beekeepers Conference-Oct. 28-30 at the Best Western Hood River Inn, Hood River, Oregon

The agenda for the "Northwest Corner" Beekeepers' Conference has come together, according to Bart Snyder, conference coordinator. This should be a "must attend" event for hobbyists, sideliners and commercial beekeepers alike from all parts of the Great Northwest, including British Columbia, Washington, Idaho and Oregon.

Speakers include Dr. Hachiro Shimanuki from the USDA Beltsville Bee Lab, our own Dr. Michael Burgett and Dr. Lynn Royce from Oregon State University, Lilia DeGuzman from the USDA Bee Lab in Louisiana, and Dr. Steve Shephard from Washington State University.

A registration form is enclosed. Avoid long lines at the registration table! Reserve your place now by completing the form and sending it to Bart Snyder by October 1. Also, make your room reservations as soon as possible. The Best Western Hood River Inn can be reached at 1-800-828-7873. *Editor's note: For room information at other motels, call the Hood River County Chamber of Commerce at 800-366-3530. Another contact is a free service called Overnight Success at 800-365-6343 that lists over 2,000 lodgings. Postal regulations prohibit non-profit groups from listing or recommending specific motels or rates.*

Thursday evening, Oct. 28, 1999

7 pm - Registration

7-8:30 pm Welcoming reception---mead, wine and cheese tasting social

Friday morning, October 29, 1999

7-8 am Registration

8:30 am Welcome from the OSBA President, Torey Johnson

8:40 am Welcome from the WSBA President, Bob Stump

8:50 am Conference details – Bart Snyder, OSBA Vice President

9-10 am **"Terramycin Resistance and other Bee Disease Status"** –
Dr. Hachiro Shimanuki, USDA Beltsville Bee Lab

10-10:20 Refreshment break

10:20-11:20 am Subject to be announced –
Dr. Lynn Royce, OSU

11:20-11:45 am **"OSBA Research Committee Tracheal Mite Study Review"**
Ray Varner, Committee Member

(cont. on page 3)

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- *Fall Conference Registration Form
 - *Apistan Language Clarification
 - *Risk Management Information
-

Oregon State Beekeepers Association

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

To join the OSBA, complete the membership application in this issue and send with payment to: Phyllis Shoemake, 1702 Toucan Street NW, Salem, OR 97304

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TODAY

President's Notes

by Torey Johnson

On Aug. 30th I found myself driving through Heppner and it was snowing. Two days earlier it was 95 degrees hot! I've felt sorry for myself all year. So much work and so little time, but it is the poor bees and wildlife in general that must be confused. I can go home and turn on the fan or the heat, but honey bees don't have that luxury. It's a tough life.

Honey reports seem to be varied this year. If the bees were in prime condition, bumper crops of honey were made in July. One of the best Julys in recent years. In August honey on the west side was a roller coaster at best with the rainy weather that seemed to start and stop. Most people have medicated later this year. I personally finished medication on Aug. 23. If you haven't done your meds and you're in the valley, it's time to get busy. I've also put twenty hives on the new mite check strips. Please use this to the letter of the label as it is a Section 18 and a serious chemical.

See you in the beeyard!

Notable, Quotable Honey

"More Flies are taken with a Drop of Honey than a Tun of Vinegar." Gnomologia by Thomas Fuller



Agenda (cont. from page 1)

11:45 am-1 pm No host lunch

Friday afternoon sessions1-1:30 pm **"Timing is Everything-Varroa Mite Treatment Studies"** – Jamie Strange, WSU1:30-2 pm **"Drone Potency Deficit-Causes and Effects"**–Ms. Deborah Delaney, OSU2-3 pm **"Russian Varroa Resistant Bees"** – Lilia DeGuzman, USDA Bee Lab, LA

3:15-3:45 pm American Beekeeping Federation and National Honey Board Report

3:45-5 pm State/Province Business Meetings – rooms to be announced

Friday evening dinner

5:00-6 pm No host social hour

6-7 pm Banquet

7-8 pm **"Beekeeping in the New Millennium"** – Dr. Hachiro Shimanuki, USDA Bee Lab, Beltsville

8-10 pm OSBA Benefit Auction

Saturday morning, October 30, 1999

7:30-8 am Registration

8am-2:45 pm Commercial exhibits open for inspection

8-8:15 am Announcements and drawings

8:15-9 am **"New Horizons: Bees, Genetics and Mites"**– Dr. Steve Shephard, WSU

9-10 am Subject to be announced – Dr. Jerry Bromenshenk, Montana State University

10-10:30 am Coffee break

10:30-10:45 Announcements and drawings

10:45-11:30 am Subject to be announced- Dr. Michael Burgett, OSU

Saturday afternoon11:30-1:30 pm Research luncheon
Profits from the luncheon go to the OSU Bee Lab

1:35-1:45 pm Announcements and drawings

1:45-2:15 pm **"Report on the OSBA Web Page and Pollinator's List"** – Bart Snyder

2:15 – 2:45 pm Final announcements and drawings

2:45-3:30 pm **"Genotypes in Varroa-Some Not Too Bad, Others Awful"** – Lilia DeGuzman, USDA Bee Lab, LA

3:30-3:45pm Conference wrap-up – Y2K WSBA President

3:45-4pm Conference wrap-up – Y2K OSBA President

Northwest Beekeeping

September- Crops in bloom producing nectar and/or pollen: various herbs, white clover, peppermint, pumpkin, squash, gourds. Others: aster, borage, hollyhock, sagebrush, thistle.

- Provide water continuously.
- Don't tempt robber bees by exposing honey.
- Install mouse guards on all hives. Use galvanized hardware cloth with ½ inch holes.
- Check your stored comb for possible wax moth infestation.
- Pay your dues to your State and local beekeeper's associations.
- Feed if needed.
- Sign up to make school visitations this month, if possible, when most teachers make their requests. Join a partner if you want to be an assistant.

Thank you to Portland Beekeeper Association members Stephanie Barnes, David Gage, Rosemary Marshall, Ernie McCormack and Bill Ruhl, for Almanac review and suggestions, 1996.

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Apistan Label Language Clarified

Excerpted from WSDA Honey Bee News

A question has been raised as to whether the Apistan label prohibits the use of bee hive manipulation systems resembling the Demaree system of swarm control. This system requires movement of capped brood from the brood nest up into the middle of the first honey super, and placing empty combs in the brood nest, with or without the use of a queen excluder.

Washington State Apiarist, James Bach, contact Wellmark International, which manufactures Apistan, to obtain information about the intent of the label language. The following questions were asked and answers received:

Question: On your Apistan label in the Hazards to Humans section, Sentence 5, the label says "Do not place strips in direct contact with combs containing honey intended for human consumption." Does this statement prohibit honey bee colony management systems:

- ◆ Where brood nest combs are treated with Apistan in Aug. to Sept., the
- ◆ In March – June the next year (6 mos. later) brood nest combs are moved up into a third super to relieve congestion in the brood nest, and
- ◆ Combs from the third super and placed down into the brood nest,
- ◆ These brood nest combs in the third super are filled with honey by the bees,
- ◆ And are extracted for human consumption in late August to October.

Wellmark Response: The label statement prohibits uses as you propose. Apistan cannot come into contact with honey or wax intended for human consumption at any time. "If you move the combs up into the third super you must remove the comb from the frame." The intent is that no consumable honey should ever contact previously treated combs.

Question: The label means, then, that treated brood nest combs should only be used as brood combs and **should never** be used for containing honey destined for human consumption, or beekeepers should keep brood nest supers and combs separate from surplus honey combs?

Wellmark Response: Yes, that is correct.

Washington State Apiarist

Recommendation: Because beekeepers use several foreign substances in hives for the treatment of mites, it is recommended that they:

- ◆ Identify brood nest supers by painting the hand holds or cleats a distinguishing color,
- ◆ That pollen or honey combs removed from a brood nest to relieve congestion be placed in supers identified as above, and placed either in temporary storage, or
- ◆ With the use of a queen excluder, a third deep (4th western) super identified as a brood nest be placed over the excluder and used to relieve congestion, and
- ◆ Later in the nectar flow, combs of honey from this third deep (4th western) be moved down into the brood nest as winter stores, and
- ◆ The deep or western with empty combs be removed to storage, and
- ◆ Open comb be placed in the center of the first honey super so that bees can store the last of the nectar flow as close to the brood nest as possible,
- ◆ To help prevent "plugging down" the brood nest with honey too early which results in a small wintering bee colony.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept.12-18 Apimondia, Vancouver BC

For further information visit web site:

<http://www.apimondia99.ca>

Sept. 25 Deadline for *The Bee Line*

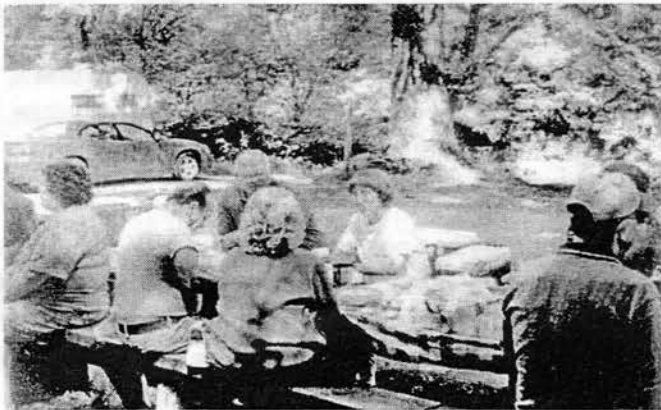
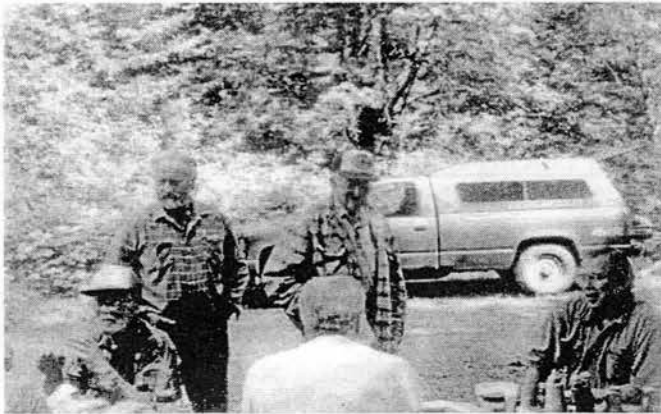
Oct. 28-30 NW Corner Fall Conference

Hood River. See related article.

Bee Musings

By Diane Varner

The OSBA Summer Picnic was hosted by the Tillamook County Beekeepers, and was it ever a beautiful day for a picnic at the coast! Kilchis Park is on the Kilchis River, so the kids played in the shallow water and had a grand time. Tillamook VP Doug Taylor cooked the most delicious oysters – many thanks, Doug! President Bob Allen was a most gracious host and everything was perfect. **THANK YOU, TILLAMOOK!**



Risk Management Info

The USDA Risk Management Agency publishes a booklet called "Introduction to Risk Management" that some beekeepers might find of interest. The free booklet will be available at the Northwest Corner Conference in Hood River next month. The USDA representative describes the booklet as a tool to help beekeepers understand agricultural risks in areas such as production, marketing, financial and legal matters, and human resources. For further information, or to obtain the booklet earlier or on your own, contact Jo Lynne Seuffer at 509-353-2147. Her address is 112 N. University Road #205, Spokane, WA 99206-5295.

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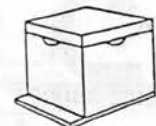
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Time to Think About Elections

Ever thought about running for an OSBA office? Check the list on page 10 for the possibilities. All positions under Officers and Regional Reps are open for anyone interested in running, or for incumbents that want to continue to serve. If you are interested, give Phyllis Shoemake a call at 503-364-8401, or drop her a note at 1702 Toucan St. NW, Salem 97304.

Web Sites of Interest

There are a number of web sites relating to pesticides and integrated pest management that beekeepers might want to look at. Following is a partial list:

Pesticide Data: OSU houses a massive database that details information about hundreds of pesticides. Address: ace.orst.edu/info/extoxnet

Integrated Pest Management: OSU is also home of the Integrated Plant Protection Center and contains information on pest management for the State of Oregon, including the database of IPM resources, pesticide certification and licensing, and more. The database of IPM resources is an information retrieval and referral system and is a compendium of worldwide IPM sources accessible on the Internet. Address: www.ippc.orst.edu/

Pathology: OSU's Dept. of Botany and Plant Pathology has posted the Pacific NW Plant Disease Control Handbook, which contains the A to Z text sections of the printed handbook and a handy search function. It features many color photos showing disease problems on specific hosts. Address: www.orst.edu/dept/botany/epp/guide/index.html

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Honey-The Natural Advantage

From the National Honey Board

Using honey frequently, especially in place of other sweeteners, makes good nutritional sense. In a recent review of related literature, Dr. Susan Percival of the University of Florida's Food Science and Human Nutrition Department found that honey contains trace amounts of a wide array of vitamins, minerals and amino acids. Honey contains antioxidants as well. In a separate scientific review, microbiologist Richard F. Stier found that honey's unique composition makes it an effective antimicrobial agent, useful for treating minor burns and scrapes. More exciting research is under way to discover other health benefits of honey. In the meantime, you can feel good about making life a little bit sweeter - with honey!

Vitamins, mineral and amino acids in every bite: "When you consider that the source of honey is floral nectars, it is not surprising to learn that honey contains a wide variety of vitamins, such as Vitamin B6, thiamin, niacin, riboflavin and pantothenic acid," says Dr. Percival, adding, "Essential minerals, such as calcium, copper, iron, magnesium, manganese, phosphorus, potassium, sodium and zinc are also found in honey."

In addition, several amino acids have been identified in honey. Although these vitamins, minerals and amino acids appear in trace amounts, and vary depending on the honey's floral source, they contribute to your overall nutrition intake.

Antioxidant Benefits: Whether you stir honey into your tea or coffee, spread it on toast or enjoy it by the spoonful, you can rest assured that you are boosting your daily supply of antioxidants with each delicious mouthful.

"Antioxidants perform the role of eliminating free radicals, which are reactive compounds in our bodies," says Dr. Percival. "Free radicals are created through the normal process of metabolism and are believed to contribute to many serious diseases when left unchecked." Honey contains several compounds that function as antioxidants, one of which is unique to honey called pinocembrin.

A quick source of energy: If you feel a boost of energy after eating honey, you're not imagining it! "Honey is a natural mixture of the simple sugars glucose and fructose. Recent studies suggest that this unique mixture of sugars works best in preventing fatigue and enhancing athletic performance," says Dr. Percival.

Antimicrobial benefits: The next time you have a minor burn or scrape, reach for your honey squeeze bear. Honey is an effective antimicrobial agent. Antimicrobial agents inhibit the growth of certain bacteria, yeast and molds. Honey is antimicrobial for many reasons, including its high sugar content, which limits the amount of water available to microorganisms for growth; relatively high acidity (low pH); and low protein content, which deprives bacteria of nitrogen needed for growth. Honey also contains hydrogen peroxide and antioxidants which inhibit bacterial growth. When used to treat minor skin injuries, honey's hygroscopic nature, that is, its ability to draw moisture from the air, promotes healing, helps prevent scarring and keeps the injured area from adhering to the bandage.

Editor's note: This information may be useful to share with customers when marketing your honey.

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Russian Honey Bees are Coming

USDA Ag Research Service

Editor's note: Russian bees resistant to varroa is a topic at the Northwest Corner conference. The following is excerpted from the ARS' monthly magazine (Aug. 1999). View the complete article complete with color photos at the ARS web site: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/aug99/bees0899.htm>. This is a subject we will be hearing a lot about in the coming months. Take a look, and come to the Conference to hear more.

Hardy honey bees from the mite-infested Primorski region of Russian's Far East may also offer natural genetic resistance that could be bred into US honey bees.

"The Russian bees are the same species as our domesticated honey bee," says ARS geneticist Thomas E. Rinderer. "But we suspect that, over time, the constant mite challenge in that region led nature to favor survival of only the most mite-resistant bees." Rinderer heads the ARS Honey Bee Breeding, Genetics and Physiology Research Unit in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

In 1997, Rinderer brought some of the rugged Russian bees to an ARS quarantine facility on small, sun-baked Grand Terre Island off the coast of Louisiana. His studies there indicate that mite populations in some hives deliberately infested with the parasite decreased as much as one-third, while mites in some research hives of domestic bees increased fivefold.

"If this resistance proves constant," says Rinderer, "beekeepers may in some cases be able to reduce, if not eliminate, miticide treatments by relying on the Russian bees."

Rinderer has sent Russian bees to commercial colony suppliers in Iowa, Mississippi and Louisiana to evaluate the insects for temperament, honey production and pollination skills – traits beekeepers value. "If their reports to us are good and mite resistance continues to be high, the Russian bees could make their national debut next year."

Widespread use of a miticide called fluvalinate, or Apistan, has "inadvertently contributed to the rise of mites resistant to this chemical," says ARS environmental toxicologist Patti J. Elzen. Recently Elzen and colleagues in the ARS Beneficial Insects Research Unit at Weslaco, Texas, found fluvalinate resistance in varroa mites collected from California, Wisconsin, Arkansas and Florida. Based in part on the Weslaco research, Florida state officials this year were the first to seek and obtain a one-year emergency exemption from the federal Environmental Protection Agency to allow use of an alternative chemical, coumaphos.



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Northwest Corner Beekeepers' Conference

Please use a separate form for each individual

Best Western Inn ,Hood River, Oregon
October 28th - 30th, 1999

Attendee's Last Name _____	First Name _____	MI _____	Registration Date: _____
Company Name (if applicable) _____		Home Phone _____	
Mailing or Street Address _____		Work Phone _____	
City _____		Cell Phone _____	
State/Province _____	Postal Code _____	Fax Phone _____	
		E-Mail _____	

Event
Thurs.Night Wine\Cheese Reception
Friday Conference Only @ \$35 (see item 1. below)
Saturday Conference Only @ \$35 (see item 1. below)
Full Two Day Conference @ \$50 (see item 1. below)
Friday Evening Banquet @ \$25.00
Saturday Noon Lunch @ 14.00
OSBA Membership (including Bee Line) \$15.00
Total Conference Registration Fee.
If exhibiting, number of tables @ \$25.00 each. _____

Registration for Individual Days
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1. Attendees qualify for the Pre Registration Rate if the Application Form (with Registration Fee) is postmarked on or before Oct 1, 1999. Late or On-Site registration rates are: One-day, \$45; Full Conference, \$65.
2. Make checks payable to OSBA.
3. Mail all completed Registration Forms and payment to: Barton E. Snyder, 3000 Ellen Ave. , Eugene, OR 97405.
4. Hotel Reservations are not included in these rates. Make your reservations at the Best Western Inn, Hood River, Oregon. 1 800 828-7873 and ask for the Northwest Corner Beekeepers Conference.

Questionnaire (Optional) In 1999, How many colonies do you own? _____ Do you provide pollination services (y/n)? _____	How do you sell your honey? Wholesale (W), Retail (R), or Both (B) ? _____ How many hives were used in pollination for hire? _____ How many times was each hive rented? _____
--	--

Who's Who in the OSBA Resource Guide

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Fax 503-986-4737
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REGIONAL BRANCH ASSOCIATIONS

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VP: Don Barney 541-267-5945
Sec./Treas.: Toni Wyatt-Kirkeby

Klamath County

Inactive at the present time

Lane County

Meets 7:30 pm second Tuesday
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V Ps: Gene Garner 541-746-5972
Denny Jessup 541-687-0912
Treasurer: Frank Svejcar 541-688-9153

Portland Area

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Treas.: Charlie Snider 503-829-9169

Southern Oregon

Meets 7:30 pm first Monday
S.O. Research & Extension Center
569 Hanley Rd., Central Point
President: Stan Kee 541-664-3238
VP: John Campbell 541-664-4867
Sec.: George Steffensen
541-474-4305

Tillamook County

Meets 7 pm first Thursday
Forestry Building
4909 Third Street, Tillamook
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VP: Doug Taylor 503-842-4245
Sec./Treas.: Wayne Auble

Tualatin Valley

Meets 7:30 pm fourth Friday
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Walker Rd., Beaverton
Pres.: Roy MacMillan 503-628-0277
VP: Bob Ward 503-324-8123
Sec.: Mary Moss 503-357-4782
Treas.: Jerry Schwanke 503-357-9284

Willamette Valley

Meets 7:30 pm fourth Monday
Rm. 112, Building 50
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VP: Ray Varner 503-662-4559
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Check your Mailing Label

In order to stay within our operating budget while providing the best publication possible, expiration dates on mailing labels will be monitored and *The Bee Line* cannot be mailed to memberships 60 days past the date code. As an additional service, a membership and publications form will be printed on page 11 each month. Note additional savings are available when ordering magazines through OSBA.

Check Out OSBA Website

The OSBA website is up and running and worth a look (see the address on page 10). The graphics are beautiful and there's something for everyone. Bart Snyder, the web keeper, would appreciate feedback.



Research Contributions

To make tax-deductible contributions for honeybee research at OSU, make your check payable to Agriculture Research Foundation (ARF) and send it to Dr. Royce at OSU (see her address on page 10).

For those of you who want to contribute to OSBA above the \$15 membership dues, please note a new line item on the form below. Your contribution can be earmarked for the Research or General Fund (specify your choice). The Executive Board wants to hold the line on increasing dues across the board but recognizes that some members would like to make one-time or ongoing contributions. Thank you for your support!



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 is \$15 per person and includes a vote in OSBA elections, discounts on other bee related publications, ten issues of *The Bee Line*, and more. Foreign membership is \$23.

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Additional Voluntary Contribution: \$ _____ Please apply to Research / General Fund (circle one).

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Make checks payable to OSBA and send this form with payment to:

Phyllis Shoemake
1702 Toucan St. NW
Salem, OR 97304

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