



INLAND BEEEMAIL

Monthly newsletter of the Inland Empire Beekeepers Association

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Presidents
Corner:

Presidents Corner:

First off lets talk about the WSU Beefest down in Pullman on the 23rd & 24th of June. I really was not sure I was going to go this year until I heard how few were signed up two weeks ago. I am very glad I went. I enjoyed this one more that any of the three previous.

Friday Night wine and cheese and honey judging event was great. The honey tasting was very interesting although some of the honeys were a little old and did not taste like they normally would. (Orange blossom honey for example). Maybe next year I'll save some almond honey so others can experience its unique taste! The best part was Dr. Nick Calderone's presentation. I like having a presentation that evening; it gets you into the right frame of mind. I would love to get a copy of the slides so I could present it to the association. That was the best info on drone comb and their effect I have seen or read about.

Saturday:

Lab: I could have spent many more hours in the lab. I had a great time. The best was looking at a live queen and some workers under the microscope. When I gave them some water I got to see the tongues etc. at work. Also grooming and feeding the queen. Fascinating. More of this next year. Maybe artificial insemination?!!

Hawk Hill: Having Dr. Nick there was fantastic. Being able to ask him questions of all types without a hundred other beekeepers interrupting etc. was great. His thoughts on screened bottom boards are very interesting. Could save me a bunch of time and money.

I thought Dr. Steve Shepard was in rare form up on the hill. Very informative down to earth com-

ments. Few slips into technical stuff light years beyond us mortals. He was very good at drawing out responses, very little lecturing. Good stuff.

Also on the hill were Marina and the AFB site. I'm glad they had some AFB frames but none of them had any smell yet. I made sure my group used a stick to pull out the ropy brown crap and hope she did that with the other groups. Maybe next year instead of having the dipping station at the bee lab building they can have a weed burner set up and show how to scorch some deeps.

I did not go the Doug's dipping station and building tour. Been there done that. I stayed at the lab with Debbie for an extra hour. Varroa mites magnified are really ugly.

Last but not least - Lunch. Best yet. No fuss no mess. Lots of good food, impossible to go away hungry. Easy clean up. Did not hear any complaints.

Next year: I think 32 is the lowest number let, which is disappointing. I'm sure we can do a better job at advertising than we did this year. This will fall into IEBA's efforts to get our recent grads much more involved after they graduate. I didn't see too many new faces, which is not good. Hopefully next year we will not schedule the conference on the same weekend as hoop fest. Lots of families will go there over a beekeeping conference. Any year but this one would have seen me at hoop fest and not the conference.

We have us a honey flow! The only question is how long will it last. Everybody go out and do your best rain dance. Watch your hives for congestion in the top box. Some of my hives are plugging out the queen and filling up all 10 frames in the 2nd deep. Pull some of the frames that are

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

capped and open up the middle slots. Move the honey frames to Nucs or start stocking the honey bank. Almost everyone needs frames in a honey bank for emergency feeding when March and April come along. If you need to get your Pierco frames drawn out now is the best time. Do whatever is necessary to keep the workers from shutting down the queen.

Drone frame exchange needs to continue even if you have four honey supers on top of the deeps. Remember each frame has over 4,000 drone cells. If you forget to exchange the drone frame you will have lots of extra hungry drones to feed and your mite population will probably triple.

Our next meeting will include a discussion on expanding next year's beekeeping class and lots of pictures from the almond orchards. See you there.

Do not forget to get your WSBA Conference reservations in.

IEBA Apiary Status

July 7, 2006

IEBA Apiary Status

Well the month of June has been interesting. We had a good time in the yard on June 10 finding and replacing queens with some WSU queens. We put in 17 queens I believe. The queens we removed were good queens and were sold to those who wanted them for \$5—which is due at the next meeting.

An inspection was made on July 5 by Bob Arnold, Allen Bremner and David (must apologize on not remembering his last name) with the neat beard! We looked at all of the hives and did a number of things. We checked the WSU queens that we had installed on June 10 and found 4 or 5 that were not accepted. These had made cells and still did not have a laying queen. The poor accep-

tance was noted and the new queens that we had to install were put in the hives with the old queen removed above a double screen just in case the WSU queens were not accepted.

The good hives are actually putting honey in the super. We had about 4 hives working in the super and needed to add a super to 6 more hives. There had been a nice honey flow during the hot week of June 27 thru July 4 where the bees had put up a good deal of honey. The hives that had previously had queen problems were all checked. Most had good queens that were doing well. Some of these hives probably will not make it through the winter as they have been delayed too much by the queen problems.

We have had help from a large number of you. Allen Bremner, Stan (another last name I can't remember) and Daren Mumau have been especially helpful feeding the bees when I couldn't. Turnouts at the planned field days have been excellent and have been good learning sessions for all that came.

The next task is to make up some queen cells for those of you that want to have some queens out of the WSU queens. I spent some time two weeks ago checking all of the WSU queens that I overwintered for hygienic behavior using liquid nitrogen to freeze kill some brood. I also checked a couple of queens that Jerry and Ted had. One of Jerry's was a WSU queen. I have two WSU queens that cleaned up the freeze killed brood in less than 24 hours and Jerry has one. We can use any of these queens as our queen mother. I expect to do a graft next week for myself and will be willing to do another for the group. We can discuss this at our next meeting.



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WSBA Website

www.wasba.org

JUNE

TED SWENSON

Agenda July 14, 2006

Welcome!

Business Meeting Night

Reports:

The Secretary's Report - Linda

The Treasurer's Report - Ky

Joy in Beekeeping Report – Joe

Fair Reports

North Idaho Fair - Kelly McSheehy
Spokane Co Fair - Linda & Roger Carney

Inland Beemail Report - Dave

WSBA Report – Jerry

Four Corner Bee Reports – Bob and Jerry

Old Business:

North Yard Report – Bob Arnold
Joy in Beekeeping

New Business:

Planning -
North Idaho Fair - Kelly McSheehy

Spokane Co Fair - Linda & Roger Carney

Meeting Adjourned

Hive Care :

July

The Bees.

Nectar flows are at their maximum, with plenty of bees and activity around the hive.

The Beekeeper.

Watch your colonies as they fill up the hives with nectar. Add supers as necessary and watch that the brood nest does not become honey bound. In some areas, beekeepers begin extracting in July. Supers can be pulled and extracted as early as when about two-thirds of the comb is capped.

In areas of high production, and where flows extend to mid-August, extracted combs can be returned to the hives.

Test for varroa in some randomly selected colonies. Be on the lookout for colonies with unusual population expansion, as they may be receiving large numbers of varroa infested bees from hives that are collapsing nearby.

As you survey your crop, ready some of your efforts for fair entries.

-adapted from
www.backyardbeekeepers.com



July 7, 2006

*Beekeeping Notes for July 2006—by
Bob Arnold*

June was a difficult month here as no honey was put up until the last of June. It was beginning to look like a bust for honey production. Hives in some places were light as a feather. In fact one of my yards that is usually an excellent yard I decided to move to another location as it looked like no honey for the winter not to mention for the extractor. Then the hot week hit. The honey poured in with some hives filling 3 supers in one week with very nice white honey. One of my farming friends that has about 800 acres of hay had his swather break down and all of his hay was in bloom! In fact our IEBA apiary got some of its honey from one of his fields.

The bees still have some more honey to go but not at the rate it came in the last days of June and early July. There still is good soil moisture so we will make some more off the hay and perhaps some of knap weed.

Our problems with queens at the IEBA apiary have been terrible. The majority of the hives have had some sort of queen problem. Probably poorly mated but it is difficult to know. Many have superseded. The new queens are generally excellent compared to what came with the package of bees. This is typical of a wet spring and California queens. Many of you that are just starting out with a package have had the same bad luck. Purchasing queens from California in April and early May often leads to queen failure within the first month.

The next big issue will be checking for mites. We all must test our bees to verify the mite levels. New hives will generally make it through the first year but then will fail the next winter due to heavy varroa mite loads. We must use some verification as to the mite status in our hives. The best test for

most hobbyists is to have a screened bottom board that a monitoring paper can be placed under. A count of natural mite drop is made and when it gets above approximately 20 to 30 a day a treatment is given to the hive. Note this is done after your honey crop is removed. During the treatment the mite drop is monitored to make certain the treatment is effective. This is essential as the treatment may not work. The ether test and the powdered sugar test are also effective at determining mite levels.

At our next field day we will do some of these tests so everyone can become more familiar with the techniques.

The other major task after the honey flow is over is replacing queens. For those having queens that have gone through two spring build-ups and one winter the wise thing is to replace the queen in July or August.

It is difficult to introduce a queen to a booming hive. It is best to make up a nuc from the booming hive and introduce your queen or queen cell to the nuc. Take out 5 frames of open and sealed brood from the booming hive with at least one frame of honey and place them into the 5 frame nuc box. Move the nuc to a new site >2 miles away—put them in the IEBA apiary. Introduce your new queen or queen cell to the nuc.

Once the queen is laying and you have observed her for a month then you can introduce the nuc to the booming hive. This gives you some time to make certain the queen is performing well before risking your booming hive. Simply take 5 frames out of the booming hive and stick the 5 frames from the nuc into the booming hive. (I am assuming you have taken the old queen out and sent her to the old queen retreat at Linda Carney's). This is the best way to re-queen a strong hive or any hive (even drone laying hives).

DETECTING VARROA

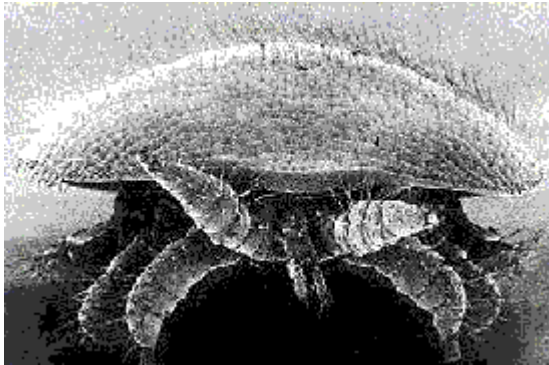
by Roger Morse - Bee Culture

There are a number of good techniques to detect *Varroa* mites in your bees. The problem is to interpret what the finding of a given number of mites means. In the fall, when there is little or no brood, the meaning of the numbers will be different from the spring when your colony populations are expanding. You are interested in two questions. When do you treat for *Varroa* and, do your bees have any resistance to the mites? This paper discusses the techniques and points to the pitfalls in the methods we use. However, the question of what a given number of mites in your hives means is left dangling because I don't know and I can't find anyone to give me clear and concise instructions! We know too little about how *Varroa* populations grow.

The Asian honey bee mite, *Varroa jacobsoni*, causes the most serious of all bee diseases. It was first found in the United States in 1987. We have good chemicals to control *Varroa* mites and the development of honey bees resistant to the mites is underway. The most difficult aspect of *Varroa* control is to determine how many mites are present in your hives and when you should treat to control them.

Methods of detecting *Varroa*

There are a number of methods of detecting *Varroa* and de-



termining the level of infestation in your hives. These include uncapping brood and removing the larvae and/or pupae from their cells to expose the mites (most of the mites will be on the drone brood), the ether roll, placing sticky boards on the bottomboards to collect mites (sometimes with special bottomboards), smoking bees to force them to drop off of the mites onto sticky boards, surveying the hive debris on the bottomboard, and placing adult bees in solutions and shaking them to free and count the mites.

There is variation in the effectiveness of these methods and shaking bees in a liquid solution is the most accurate method of determining how many mites are present (see side bar). The greatest disadvantage of using shaking solutions is that the method is slow and some bees are killed. However, the alternative is to treat bees routinely, usually twice a year including sometimes when no treatment is necessary.

Cappings scratcher

Cappings scratchers are approximately seven inch long tools that have 18 to 20 sharp, needle-like teeth molded into a high-strength plastic handle. They are usually used to cut

and/or break the cappings on combs of honey that are being extracted and that have been missed with an uncapping knife or plane. Szabo (1989) gave instructions about their use. He wrote, in the first American paper on the subject, that he had observed scratchers being used successfully in Hungary to check for *Varroa*.

To determine if *Varroa* are present or not the teeth of the cappings scratcher are inserted into the brood in a manner to suggest that the brood cappings are being lifted off. The teeth of the scratcher are slid parallel to the tops of the cappings. In this manner, 20 or 30 pupae may be lifted from their cells at once. The *Varroa* are exposed on the pupae where they may be seen and counted. You may also then bang the comb on a piece of white paper and if more *Varroa* are present in the cells where the pupae have been removed they will fall from the cells. I have used this technique successfully on drone brood to check for *Varroa*.

The problem with this technique is that it does not give us a good quantitative determination as to how many *Varroa* are present though certainly if more than one *Varroa* mite is seen on each drone pupae there is cause for concern. However, the method is fast and if the drone pupae have only a few *Varroa* on them you might believe the infestation rate in your hive is low.

Ether roll

The most popular method to detect *Varroa* mites has been to brush about one third of a pint of worker bees into a one or two quart glass jar and to squirt ether into the jar. The cap is put into place and the jar is shaken and rolled. Under these circumstances the bees are killed, as are the mites which then leave the bees and may be seen stuck on the glass, inside the jar. The ether roll is another European idea that was observed in Turkey by Burgett and first written about in this country by Burgett, Krantz and Capizzi (1987).

Calderone and Turcotte (1998) recommend the following procedure in an effort to standardize the use of the ether roll and to use it in the most effective manner. A predetermined volume or weight of bees, collected with a vacuum device, is placed in a quart and a half glass jar. The bees are sprayed with a two second burst of car starting fluid (primarily diethyl ether). The cover is quickly placed on the jar, which is 'shaken vigorously for 10 seconds, then rolled three complete turns on its long axis.' The mites clinging to the inside of the jar may be counted. To determine your accuracy with the ether roll, which varies from person to person, the bees may next be placed in alcohol and shaken as they are with the soapy water technique (see side bar).

Delaplane and Hood (1997) were obviously dissatisfied with the ether roll technique as a quantitative measure of the number of *Varroa* present in a colony because of the variability they found. Still, finding only no mites with the ether roll is comforting while finding more than a dozen suggests treatment is needed. The time of year is important with spring counts being more accurate than when the colonies have more bees in the summer.

Caution: Ether is a toxic substance and care should be exer-

(Continued from page 5)

cised in its use. I have been told by a few people that they have been made ill through over exposure to the fumes. Moreover, the fumes tend to excite nearby bees so move away from a colony when spraying.

Shaking solutions

The most accurate method of determining the number of mites present on your bees is to brush some bees into a glass jar with about a pint of hot water, soapy water, or alcohol (De Jong, Roma and Goncalves 1982). The jar is shaken and the mites are dislodged and may be counted. Alcohol is the favorite of bee researchers but in my experience soapy water is nearly as accurate and certainly easier to obtain.

Sticky boards and 8-mesh hardware cloth covered bottomboards

Sheets of sticky paper that fit into a bottomboard have been tested both to determine the number of *Varroa* present in a hive and as *Varroa* mite control devices. It is known that a given number of mites fall onto the bottomboard each day though it is not so clear as to why this occurs. It is most likely as a result of grooming, both self grooming and the grooming of others. Most of the mites that fall to the bottomboard in this manner attach to another bee and return to the brood nest area. Smoking a colony after the sticky board has been put into place will cause even more mites to drop off of the bees and onto the bottomboard. Tobacco smoke is especially effective in this regards though the use of various materials that may be placed in a smoker to produce this effect are still under study.

The sticky board is covered with a piece of 8-mesh hardware cloth so that the bees will not come into contact with the sticky stuff and be caught themselves. Sanford (1999) reviewed what had been done both in Europe and the United States. He concluded that using sticky boards 'slowed *Varroa* population development, but cannot be relied on as a single, effective treatment for these mites.' Delaplane and Hood (1997) wrote that 'bottom board inserts are the more reliable survey method for making treatment decisions.'

You may make your own sticky board by spreading Vaseline or some other light-weight grease over a piece of white paper or wax paper that will not absorb the grease.

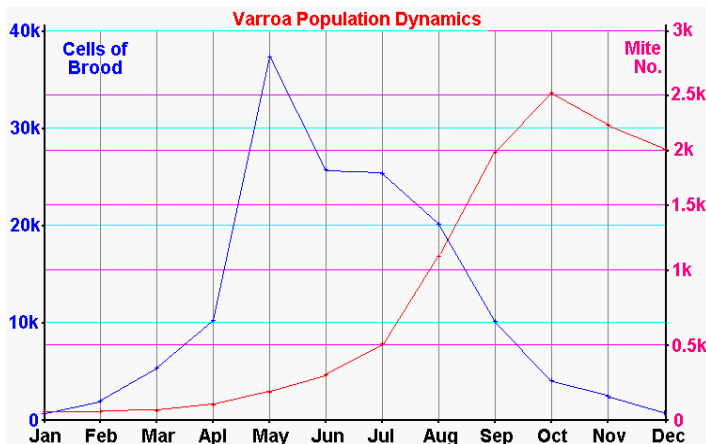


Varroa distribution in a hive

A study by Calderone and Turcotte (1998) shows that *Varroa* mites are not equally distributed on bees throughout a hive. The infestation rate among bees in the honey supers is about half of that found on bees from the brood nest. There are also significant differ-

ences in the number of mites on bees from comb to comb within the brood nest.

As a result of these observations, it is stated that *Varroa* population estimates will be most accurate if taken in the spring or late fall when the bees are in one or two supers when most of the mites are on the adult bees. If you count *Varroa* mites in the summer when the colonies are supered it is best to collect the bees you sample from three or more combs in the brood nest. It is always possible to inadvertently collect a queen when collecting bees from the brood nest and it is best to find her before the sample is taken.



The bees in Brazil

We believe we are close to developing and using European honey bees that are resistant to or tolerant of *Varroa* mites. Where will these bees come from? They may come about as a result of special bee breeding programs or they may develop from feral colonies in your own backyard. The answer to this question may come in part from examining what has happened in Brazil. However, to determine the level of infestation you need a good *Varroa* detection technique.

Varroa mites are everywhere in Brazil but the Africanized bees there have a high degree of resistance to them. The mites were found in that country about ten years before they were found in the U.S. No beekeeper in Brazil treats bees for *Varroa*. Under the most severe circumstances researchers find about three mites per 100 bees, a level that can be tolerated. This was not always the case.

When the *Varroa* mites were first found in Brazil beekeepers would usually find about 60 mites per 100 bees but rarely more. The number was determined using the shaking solution technique. Apparently, Africanized honey bees already had some natural resistance to *Varroa* when the mites were introduced into that country. It is not clear why this was true but it may have been the fact that Africanized honey bees naturally show a greater degree of hygienic behavior as regards most bee diseases. However, most important is the fact that there were no colonies killed by *Varroa* in Brazil as has been the case with North America bees that have their ancestry in Europe.

July Minutes

Linda Carney, Secretary

June 9, 2006

As usual the pre-meeting meeting was a lot of fun. (This is the time from about 6:15 to 7:30 pm). Great stories were shared and lots of laughter rang through the room.) It is always great to catch up on other people's activities and lives besides beekeeping. I was going around with a camera taking pictures to put in a visual member list. All turned out great because it was a digital camera and I just kept taking them until we found one we liked. It will be nice to put names to those faces you recognize.

After calling the meeting to order, President Swenson announced the main focus of tonight is education; therefore, the meeting will be abbreviated.

The **Secretary's minutes** and **Treasurers report** were accepted as published in last month's newsletter. The **4 Corner's** report moved along rapidly.

East-Jack Knox said *Idaho* is looking up, Travis Sammons in the *Valley* said his bees are flying all over and "working" Snowberry is helping the *Northern* hives. Ted said his hives are really kicking in the Colville area and thought it must also be snowberries.

Bob Arnold said a second box was added on Wednesday, to the *North Bee Yard* bees. Because the bees had already eaten all the sugar water given to them on Sat.! The North Bee Yard is a good example of "if you 'feed, feed, and then feed' bees will draw out plastic." There will be about 15 queens replaced on Saturday and those can be purchased at the bee yard on Saturday. Bob also announced he would like some help to assemble the 24 honey supers purchased last year. Please, contact Bob if you can help with the assembly or painting. (His contact info is in the bee mail.)

Hey, everyone!! Let's get excited!!!! It's time for the annual picnic in August. It will be on Sunday, August 13th at Plant's Ferry Park in the Valley and will start at noon. More details will be provided later. This is always a lot of fun for the whole family.

Jim Miller has asked for members to donate 1st and 2nd grade books which he will send to the country of Georgia to help the students learn to read English. If anyone has some books please contact Jim. His phone number is also listed in the Bee Mail. Jim has been to Georgia twice now and has found the beekeepers eager and friendly. The schools in the community really are interested in speaking and reading English. He would like very much to be able to help them. If you have books from children, friends, grandchildren that have outgrown them, then please give this a thought as a way to recycle knowledge.

Our meeting was then adjourned



Program for 2006

2006 Program

July

- ◆ Evaluating your hives for mites
- ◆ Treating your hives for mites
- ◆ Summer field day, mating nucs at IEBA Apiary

August

- ◆ Picnic

September

- ◆ Preparations for Fair
- ◆ Fall feeding of bees
- ◆ Fall field day at IEBA Apiary

October

- ◆ Selection of hives for wintering
- ◆ Preparing your hives for winter

November

- ◆ Annual Thanksgiving dinner
- ◆ Invited speaker

December

- ◆ Elections
- ◆ Annual dinner
- ◆ Invited speaker



Classified Ads

Tate's Honey Farm has all of your extracting and packaging needs as well as spring packages and queens. Woodenware for all your winter projects and spring needs. Shop hours are 8:30—2:00 every Saturday at E. 8900 Maringo, Millwood. Contact us at 509-924-6669 or 891-7428 online at www.tateshoneyfarm.com

BEEBOXES BY LEE

Woodenware, standard or custom orders, IPM bottom boards, Hive top feeders, etc, select lumber. Order now to be ready for spring. Lee Berchtold
(208) 687-1300

NUC's - For Sale

Now taking orders for 06 Queens and Nucs 4.9mm and standard cell sizes available. Contact Travis Sammons at 509-928-4326 / 509-991-3758

Miller's Homestead

Jim and Jenine Miller

Cheney, WA 1-509-299-9085
14606 Stangland Rd., Cheney. Look at our web site for prices on all available items.
www.millershomestead.com

NUC's For Sale

RUSSIAN or KONA Queens

You Get:

Proven Queen

- ◆ 3 frames brood
- ◆ 1 frame honey
- ◆ 1 frame honey/empty comb
- ◆ 3 lbs. of bees

Chattaroy Hills Honey Farm

Ted Swenson 220-0185

Available: 21 or 28 April

Limited #, First Come First Serve



Going Out of Business Sale: 8 & 10 Frame Hives, Bottom Boards, Excluders, Top Covers etc. (4-5 Hives) 2 Sets of suits and gloves, smoker etc. over \$500 new sell for \$250 Contact Penny, Sean or Brad Davis (509) 891-7428

Web Site of the Month

Each month IEBA members share the latest in favorite web sites on Beekeeping. Take some time to check this month's selections out.

<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Beekeeping/>

<http://www.beemaster.com/honeybee/beehome.htm>

http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/ent/notes/Beekeeping/bee_contents.html

Hymenoptera

On a recent trip to Drumheller, Alberta, the Seiler family saw the following piece of amber with a 65 million year old cousin of our honey bee entombed in it. It is part of the collection at the Tyrell Museum of Paleontology. For some more neat amber entombed bees and wasps see the following web site: http://www.fossilmuseum.net/Fossil_Galleries/Insect_Galleries_by_Order/Hymenoptera/hymenoptera_fossil_gallery.htm



Sir Francis Bacon (1561-1626) saw nobility in the fragile remains in amber,

"The Spider, Flye, and Ant, being tender dissipable substances, falling into Amber, are therein buried, finding therein both a Death and Tombe, preserving them better from Corruption than a Royal Monument."



Recipe of the Month

Grilled Pork Appetizers

1 pound boneless pork loin roast
3 tablespoons soy sauce
3 tablespoons honey
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
3 garlic cloves, minced
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger

Cut the pork into 1/8 in slices, then cut each slice width-wise in half. In a large resalable plastic bag, combine the remaining ingredients; add the pork. Seal the bag and turn to coat; refrigerate for 2 to 4 hours, turning occasionally. Drain and discard the marinade. Thread the pork onto metal or soaked wooden skewers. Grill, uncovered, over medium heat for 2-3 minutes on each side or until meat juices run clear, turning once. Makes 8 servings



HYGIENIC BEHAVIOUR IN BEES

http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/publications/Publications.htm?seq_no_115=163616

Courtesy USDA / ARS

Submitted to: American Bee Journal

Publication Date: November 1, 2004

Citation: Kavinseksan, B., Wongsiri, S., Rinderer, T.E., DE Guzman, L.I. 2004. Comparison of the Hygienic Behavior of ARS Russian Commercial Honey Bees in Thailand. American Bee Journal 144(11):870-872.

Interpretive Summary: Hygienic behavior contributes to the overall disease and mite resistance of honey bees. ARS Russian honey bees are known to possess this hygienic trait and thus were used as a standard to determine whether or not a commercial Thai *Apis mellifera* also has the same trait. Results showed that the Thai bee strain evaluated was as hygienic as the ARS Russian honey bees. In Thailand, *Tropilaelaps clareae* is a more serious problem of *A. mellifera* bee-keeping than *Varroa destructor*. Hence, this behavior may be helpful in the regulation of *T. clareae* populations in colonies of both bee strains.

Technical Abstract: The hygienic behavior of honey bees (*Apis* spp) is a mechanism of disease and mite resistance. Hygienic honey bees detect, uncap, and remove diseased or parasitized brood, including the parasites, from the colony. This study compared the hygienic behavior of *Apis mellifera* commercially available in Thailand to that of ARS Russian honey bees, which are known for their resistance to varroa and tracheal mites in the United States. Ten Thai and 10 ARS Russian honey bee colonies were compared for their rates of brood removal using the liquid nitrogen technique. Results from two assays showed that both Thai and ARS Russian honey bees displayed similar rates of brood removal with means of 82.6+4.2% and 85.5+3.7%, respectively. For both stocks, 50% of the colonies were considered hygienic since they consistently showed >95% brood removal in both assays. The number of adult worker honey bees was not correlated to the rate of hygienic behavior.

IEBA APIARY—Hygienic Behavior - Dave Bearden

In the abstract above a method of testing hygienic behavior of honey bees and the results of research being conducted is discussed. At the IEBA Apiary in July we will be discussing Varroa mites and how to test for them and also how to test the hygienic behavior of our IEBA apiary (a test you can use on your own hives)

Bob and Jerry will be outlining the best ways to test and we will also discuss testing hygienic behavior of our hives. The test using liquid nitrogen is a good way to do this and not hard to do. **Having said that Liquid Nitrogen is dangerous and care must be taken when doing this test - Use Gloves.** Liquid Nitrogen is available from most of the Industrial Gas Suppliers e.g. Norco for about \$3.00 per liter and they will loan you a Dewar (Vacuum Bottle) to safely transport your Liquid Nitrogen in. The test is completed by taking a small can e.g. a tomato can and cutting both ends out leaving one end sharp. The can is then placed over a fully capped patch of brood and pushed into the brood until the center of the frame is reached. The can is then filled with Liquid Nitrogen and allowed to boil off. The frame with frozen brood is then placed back in the hive and how quickly the hive uncaps and removes the brood. Bob and Jerry will outline the process and discuss how to interpret the results.

The pictures below were taken at the WSU bee field day in 2005 illustrating the process.





Next Meeting:
 Friday July 14th
 7:00 PM Social Time
 7:30 Meeting

The Inland Empire Beekeepers Association (IEBA) meets the 2nd Friday of every month at the Spokane County Ag Extension office by the County Fairgrounds, at 222 N. Havana. The association is affiliated with the Washington State Beekeepers Association (WSBA). IEBA membership dues are \$5.00 for an individual or \$10.00 for the entire family. This includes your receiving the *Inland Beemail*, which is published by the association every month.

INLAND BEEMAIL

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Local Beekeeper Honored in the ABJ

The American Bee Journal highlighted a young IEBA member, Ramón

Seiler, now eight, in the July 2006 issue under the title "Washington State Youth Becomes Certified Beekeeper at Age 6." The author Cecil Hicks, a retired schoolteacher from Sandpoint Idaho enjoys writing agriculturally based articles for various magazines and was intrigued by



Ramón's picture on the IEBA website. After some research and an interview, ABJ showed interest in the story, and we get to enjoy it in this month's issue. Mr. Hicks also has another article coming up in the ABJ about Wenatchee area pollinators and is currently working on some articles about the Montana beekeeping industry.



New: IEBA 2004 & 2005 CD Now Available

For the cost of \$5.00, you can now obtain a CD containing all of the 2004 & 2005 *Inland Beemails* in PDF format, as well as a good number of pictures that were taken at various club activities. This is a great resource for all the new beekeepers as many excellent management articles were discussed in the past 2 years. You can order your 2004/2005 CD by sending an E-Mail to seilerbees@att.net or calling Frank at (509) 991-3019 and your CD will be waiting for you at the next meeting of the IEBA. All proceeds are to benefit the IEBA in expanding its educational programs.

I hope to build up the CD and reissue it every year with the latest information. Think of it as an IEBA library in progress. System requirements are fairly minimal and will work well for both Windows and Linux users.

Frank Seiler