



INLAND BEEEMAIL

Monthly newsletter of the Inland Empire Beekeepers Association

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Presidents Corner:

Happy 'Hot Days of Summer' to one and all. It is almost Fair season. The August picnic is our last meeting in which we can plan and coordinate all the different tasks. Also, get your entry paperwork done and sent in before the deadline.

Please enter lots of the judging events. Remember to get with Roger or Linda Carney and sign up to work at the fair booths. It is always fun and you can learn a lot from the other beekeepers.

The IEBA annual picnic is the 13th of August starting around 12:00. I will go early and try to round up plenty of tables. Hopefully I can get the area with the big cover. IEBA will provide meat, buns, drinks, flatware, paper products, ice, tablecloths, etc. Please bring a side dish, salad, or treat. Rick has volunteered to bring the honey ice cream. John has agreed to bring his huge grill again. Come one, come all. Please call or email your IEBA friends and remind them about the picnic.

The honey straws for the fair should arrive next week. We need volunteers bag them either at the fair or take a case home and bring them back at the fair meeting. Ten honey straws per bag.

One last important item for the picnic, bring your folding chairs. See you there.



Fall Preparations

By Bob Arnold - August 6, 2006

The honey flows have been reduced to just a dribble and the bees are beginning to make ready for winter. It is time to get your honey removed and the miticides on the bees. Bees that are reared now must be healthy and vigorous if your hives are to survive to build up for the honey to come next spring.

Years ago we could wait until September or even October to remove the honey crop. This was the rule that was changed with the advent of mites. We could wait until all of the honey was nicely capped and the brood had all hatched out of our supers and then remove the honey. These days are gone. If our bees are to be strong and healthy we must get our miticides on before the end of August to reduce the mite load on the bees that must take the hives through winter.

Removing honey now does take some extra effort. If the queen has been laying up in the supers you must separate the brood from the honey and put it back on the hive to let it hatch out. Place a queen excluder on top of the two brood chambers and the supers with the brood above the excluder. The bees will stop working above the excluder and start filling the upper brood chamber with honey while the brood hatches out of the super. Within a few weeks the super will be clean of brood and you should be able to get it off before the middle of August. Some of the honey in the super will not be capped. In our dry climate the honey will be of low enough moisture content that it will be quite satisfactory to add it to the other honey that has been fully ripened and capped.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Once the honey is all removed from the hive you should determine the mite load on the bees. This can be done most accurately using the screened bottom board. Simply put some paper with cooking oil spread on it below the screen board. Leave it for at least one day and then count the mites. Divide by the number of days to get your mite drop per day. Once you have the natural fall put another sheet of oiled paper below the screen board and apply your miticide. Check the mite drop again after a number of days. If there is not a huge increase i.e. from 10 mites/day to 300 mites/day then your miticide is not working. This is essential as some of the miticides are ineffective and will not reduce the mite load enough to make any difference. Your bees will be dead within 1 year and may die before next spring.

There are a number of new materials available for controlling the mites. There are several formulations of thymol which are effective. Apistan and Checkmite may or may not be effective. If you have installed package bees in the last few years it is likely that Checkmite will not be effective. Apistan may work. In any case check the effectiveness of the miticide do not assume it will work.

I recommend that you treat for tracheal mites and for nosema. Tracheal mites are easily treated using menthol by dissolving the menthol in hot cooking oil and soaking the solution in some of the blue mechanics rags. Simply purchase the menthol in the little bags and dissolve the menthol in one bag in $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of cooking oil. Put the warm oil in a zip lock bag with two blue mechanics towels letting them absorb all of the solution. Put one towel on the top brood chamber and one between the two brood chambers. Make the lid tight and block the screen board if you have one on the hive. Wait until the hot days of August are over for this treatment. Usually the month of September is not too hot. If the towels drive the bees completely out of the hive take them off and store them in the zip lock bag and put them back

on after if cools down a bit.

Nosema is present in most of our hives. Some of the hives will die during April and May from the virus. It is the biggest reason why bees that have made it through winter but will not build up in the spring and make a crop of honey. The cost of the medication is a maximum of \$7 per hive for the smallest purchased quantity. The cost of the sugar feed is about \$6 per hive. So for less than \$13 / hive you can almost guarantee that they will not have the problem. You need to feed a 2:1 mixture of sugar and water (either by weight or volume) with the Fumagilin. Mix the Fumagilin in the warm water first then put the sugar in. You must heat (110 to 120°F and stir the water to make the solution. Put this feed on mid to late September. They will not take the feed properly when the daily temperature is in the 50's. Do not wait much later than the beginning of October.

Now is critical for your bees if you want to make honey next year. Make certain that all of these medications are on in a timely way. If your queen has been through two honey flows she should be replaced. The best way to do this is to make up a nuc with brood and bees from the hive you want to replace the queen in. Take 4 frames: one of honey, one of brood and bees and two of bees and add a feeder. Take these to a new location and introduce a mated queen. Once the queen is laying and has sealed brood you can take the nuc and place it back into the colony you took it out of---once that you have found and killed the old queen.

Now is the time to get these fall preparations started: get your honey off, check for mites, decide on replacing the queen, put your miticides on, check their effectiveness, treat for nosema and then finish off with making sure they have plenty of winter stores. Do it now and you will have a winner of a hive next spring.

IEBA APIARY Cougar Queens



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www.inlandbeemail.com

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www.wasba.org

AUGUST

TED SWENSON

Agenda

8/13/06

Welcome!

Primary Focus – Picnic

Short meeting at end

Reports:

Fair Reports

Spokane – Roger and Linda Carney

N Idaho - Kelly McSheehy and Jack Knox

Inland Beemail Report - Dave

Four Corner Bee Reports – All!!

Old Business:

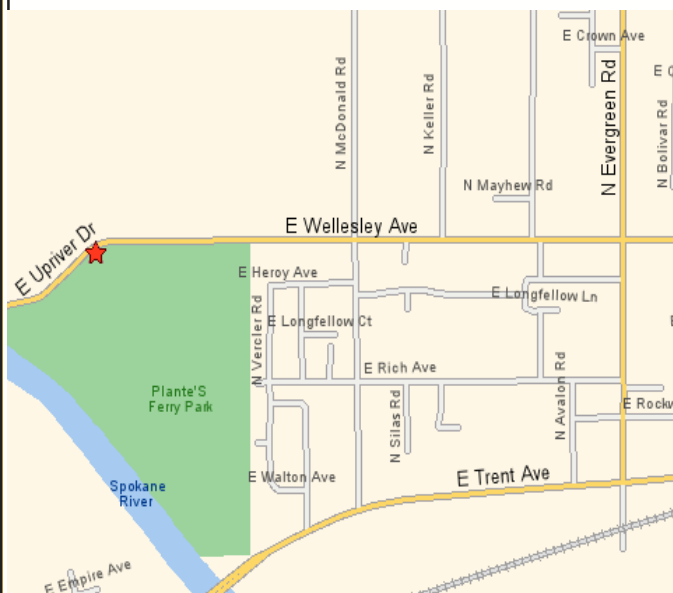
IEBA Charter/Constitution Update – Nothing to report.

Idaho and Spokane Fairs

New Business:

Honey Straws

Meeting Adjourned - ICE CREME



Hive Care :

August

The Bees.

Nectar flows are slowing down. In some areas, the honey flow is over. Bees can be found capping the honey and capping it. Other areas can still have a flow, especially after a good rain.

The Beekeeper.

For most of us, this is extracting month. Get your supers off, extract, or cut comb. As you survey your crop, ready some of your efforts for fair entries.

If you are expecting some more flow, you can put some of the wet supers back on.

This is also the time that you need to take stock of your hives in terms of overall health, varroa infestation, and queen vitality. For a good article on fall (that means August here) requeening, please give Bob Arnold's suggestions a read.

Be sure that no honey supers are on when you start medicating. Treatments such as Apilife Var™ are very temperature dependant, and need to be administered when the weather is warm. You may also wish to consider alternatives to Checkmite™ and Apistan™ by trying Sucrose Octoanoate this fall. Again, you need three weeks of decent weather to apply it.

*adapted from
www.backyardbeekeepers.com*

News from the National Honey Board www.nhb.org

Massachusetts Farmer and Haitian Cabbie Form Unique Beekeeping Alliance

Many different kinds of business arrangements exist in the world of beekeeping, however, an alliance between a cab driver from Haiti and a rooftop beekeeper in New York City is definitely unique! David Graves, a beekeeper from Becket, Mass., keeps 14 beehives on rooftops scattered throughout New York City, including a soul-food restaurant in Harlem and an Episcopal church in Midtown. Enter Antoine Philippe Dorcelus, who immigrated from Haiti in 1983. The two met at a New York City farmers market when Dorcelus approached Graves because of his interest in beekeeping. Dorcelus owns a small piece of property in Haiti, which he hopes to eventually farm by planting fruit trees and keeping bees to pollinate the trees. Graves and Dorcelus' farmers market conversation more than two years ago resulted in the unusual alliance, with Graves providing beekeeping instruction and Dorcelus providing cab rides, including transporting bees! In his spare time, Dorcelus avidly reads and learns about farm-

ing and beekeeping and is a regular subscriber of the American Bee Journal.

It's Back... Let's Celebrate

Due to popular demand, NHB has reprinted the popular "Honey, Let's Celebrate" recipe leaflet. The leaflet features six recipes for celebrations throughout the year.

Also available is "Honey of a BBQ-Winning Recipes from Grilling Fans" contains six great tailgating recipes that resulted from NHB's 2004-2005 "Honey of a BBQ" recipe contest.

Assessment-paying members can receive up to 500 free copies of one of these leaflets per year. State or county beekeeping organizations may receive up to 1,000 copies and fair organizers up to 2,000 copies. Please only request quantities needed.

Honey of a World Cup: Argentina Wins (the Recipe Contest!)

After 26 days of tough competition, Argentina was named the official winner of the 2006 Dulce Mundial (World Cup) honey recipe contest. To honor World Cup teams and their fans, NHB created six simple 100% pure honey-based recipes – one for each of the Latin American national soccer teams that qualified for this year's tournament. The 2006 Dulce Mundial turned out to be a closely contested recipe competition between Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Costa Rica, Paraguay and Ecuador.

The recipe tournament was conducted online on NHB's new Spanish-language web site at <http://www.mielpura.org>. Web site visitors were encouraged to "show their country pride" and vote for their favorite recipe for Mundial viewing parties. Delicious recipes included Costa Rican Plantain Bunuelos, Brazilian Honey Bahianas, and Argentine Honey Beef Skewers.

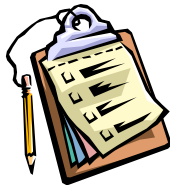


August Minutes

Linda Carney, Secretary

July 14, 2006

After President Ted Swenson called the meeting to order, he gave a quick review of the Pullman experience. The educational Friday and Saturday spent at WSU received thumbs up from those attending. The emphasis for this meeting was education so the business portion was kept to a minimum.



The **Treasurer's Report** was skipped and the Secretaries **minutes** were accepted as published in the Inland Bee Mail.

4 Corners Report

(East) In the Valley, the nectar has slowed down. Travis Sammons thinks his bees are between flows. But Jack Knox says "The flowers have shut down in Idaho It's just been too hot and too dry for flowers to produce nectar." (West) Jim Miller noted things are still going. (North) Bob Arnold is finding that some of the yards in the North are doing very well and some are not. Ted Swenson, who has some hives South of Bob's, is noticing the honey "flowing in". The general opinion is that there are a large variety of conditions.

Fair Reports

North Idaho Fair – Kelly McSheeney will be in charge and Jack Knox will assist her. The North Idaho Fair will be August 23-27. Please contact Kelly or Jack if you can volunteer to help. (There will also be a sign up list at the picnic on August 13th.)

The Spokane Fair - will be Sept 8th – 17th (Friday thru Sunday). Roger and Linda Carney have agreed to co-chair the Fair Committee. With the help of the many experienced volunteers, they look forward to the challenge.

Additional volunteers are needed to help with the booths at both fairs. This is a great time for new beekeepers to step forward. We always need several beekeepers at the booth, some to help answer questions, some to help *find the queen* and show the display hives, and others to sell and package honey

Picnic

August 13th is the picnic, Sunday at noon. At Plante's Ferry Park in the Valley. The IEBA will furnish the hamburgers and hot dogs with trimmings, plates, flatware and soda pop. Those attending are asked to bring a side dish or a dessert. Don't forget your appetites, & perhaps a chair or blanket to sit on. (Plante's Ferry can be reached by going East on Upriver Drive to Wellsley and East until reach the park on the right. Can also go to East Trent and go North on McDonald to Wellesley and go East on Wellesley to park and park is on the left.) (See Map at bottom of Agenda - Page 3)

Jim Miller told "the rest of the story" regarding the \$565 he gave away in the country of Georgia. The \$60 given to the translator was used to translate the WSBA tests into the local language. The local schools are not teaching beekeeping and even the University has started beekeeping classes. for Apprentice, Journeyman and Master.

Our next regular meeting will be Thursday, Sept. 7th, the day before the fair opens. It will be held at the Spokane County Fairgrounds in the Ag. Building.

Our meeting was adjourned.

2006 Program

Program for 2006

August 13

- ◆ 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. 891-7428 8900 Maringo, Millwood. Contact us at 509-924-6669 or 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



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.

www.honey.com/kids—Honey Recipes for Kids

<http://agnews.tamu.edu/bees> - Texas A&M info on Africanized Honey Bees

<http://entomology.unl.edu/beekpg/beeswarm.htm> - Great article about honey bee swarms



Photo by Frank Seiler from IEBA Apiary

With pollen supplies like this you can make a lot of bees!!!



**Inland Empire
Beekeepers
Association**

**Next Meeting:
Friday August 11th
7:00 PM Social Time
7:30 Meeting**

The Inland Empire Beekeepers Association (IEBA) is a non-profit organization located in Spokane County, Washington. IEBA is affiliated with the Washington State Beekeepers Association (WSBA). IEBA membership is \$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.

**AUGUST PICNIC
See details on Page 1**

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Recipe of the Month

Berry Striped Pops

2	cups strawberries
3/4	cup honey, divided
6	kiwifruit, peeled and sliced
2	cups peaches
12	paper cups (3-oz.) or popsicle molds
12	popsicle sticks



Makes
12 servings

Directions

Purée strawberries with 1/4 cup honey in blender or food processor. Divide mixture evenly between 12 cups or Popsicle molds. Freeze about 30 minutes or until firm. Meanwhile, rinse processor; purée kiwifruit with 1/4 cup honey. Repeat process with peaches and remaining 1/4 cup honey. When strawberry layer is firm, pour kiwifruit purée into molds. Insert Popsicle sticks and freeze about 30 minutes or until firm. Pour peach purée into molds and freeze until firm and ready to serve.

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