



INLAND BEEEMAIL

Monthly newsletter of the Inland Empire Beekeepers Association

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Presidents Corner:

It's **FAIR SEASON!!**

As I write this article, the Colbert-Deer Park Fair is over, North Idaho is done, and Spokane State Fair is about ready to start. A big thanks to Jack and Kelly for running another successful Idaho fair. We also owe Bob Arnold another thank you for his one-man show with the new Colbert-Deer Park fair.

A huge thanks to Linda and Roger Carney for volunteering to run the Spokane State Fair for the association. We all need to lend a hand and support them in their efforts.

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered their time and talents. There are still openings on the fair booth list and the setup list. Please contact Roger and Linda Carney and get your name on the schedule. For those not on the list, come on out anyway. Remember that our meeting this month is Thursday the 7th in front of our booth at the fair. We will start at our normal time (7:00 PM) for the business meeting but will use a reduced agenda. Bring your fair entries with you.

I hope everyone is pulling lots of honey supers filled to the max. A big thanks to Bill Watts for heading up an effort to get members bulk sugar at a reduced price.

SMOKER SAFETY – Everyone needs to be very safe in the lighting, use, and storage of your smokers! This time of the year it is very easy to get a fire going around your hives and even in the back of your bee truck. Please put a stopper in and store inside a metal container after each use.

See you at the fair.

September 4, 2006

Fall Feeding of Bees and Mite Treatments

By Bob Arnold

The summer has passed and fall has started. We are seeing hot days and cold nights which is the beginning of the cold season. Our lakes and streams have already dropped in temperature and the ground temperature is also dropping. The bees have sensed this sometime earlier in August and have begun preparations for the winter. Any nectar that comes in now should be going into the brood chamber. If you still have your supers on it will be going into empty spaces there rather than the brood chamber. So get your honey removed and extracted.

The bees need to have about a full deep of honey to get them through the winter and early build up of spring. It is best to feed now rather than in the spring. Spring feeding can be problematic due to temperature extremes that prevent the bees from getting to the feed. Our fall days usually have temperatures in the 70's and 80's all the way into late October and make the best time to feed the bees up to one full deep of honey. It is best to give the feed to the bees with plenty of time for them to take the feed and cap it. Most strong hives will devour a gallon of feed in a day or so if the temperatures are high enough—above 50°F. Once the daily temperature maximums are in the 50's it is getting too late to put any feed on the hives.

If your hives are weak (less than 9 full frames of bees) they may benefit from feeding a stimulating sugar syrup mixture. They may be weak because of disease or a poor queen. Assuming that you have a good young queen and no disease but perhaps the nectar and pollen have been in short supply feeding a 1:1 sugar syrup mixture will benefit the colony. It is best to feed a little at a time and

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add some each day rather than feeding it all at once. Just add 2 quarts in your feeder each morning for a couple of weeks and the hive will raise a few frames of brood that will help make it through the winter and be strong in the spring. Start early September and complete the stimulative feeding within 2 weeks.

Once the stimulative feeding is complete then a final 2 gallons of heavy syrup with Fumigilin-B is fed to provide for both winter stores and protection against nosema. Nosema is an adult bee disease that robs the bees of vigor causing the colony to be weak and slow to respond to spring food sources. Often the colony will show severe signs of dysentery during confined winter periods defecating inside the hive and then slowly dying during the spring build up period. Feeding the medication in the fall will reduce the disease incidence to almost nothing. The medication must be fed in heavy syrup at the last of the feeding to insure that it is stored and used during the winter and early spring.

All of this feeding must be done before our daytime temperatures get to the 50's or your feed will not be taken and will rot within the feeder making a mess for you to clean up. At the same time if you have not begun your mite meds better get them on. The menthol should wait until maximum daytime temperatures get below the 90's as the high temperatures will often run the bees out of the hives. I prefer putting the menthol on using the mechanic towel with cooking oil rather than the menthol crystals in the bags. The formula is widely used and can be found on the internet. If you have questions just give me a call.

There are a number of options for varroa mite treatments. Whatever treatment you use you must check its efficacy. That is, before you put the treatment on, check the daily mite drop that you are having. Then apply the treatment and check the daily mite drop during and after the treatment period. The purpose is to make certain that the treatment is working. If you just apply

the treatment and assume it works you may discover in a few months or next year that the treatment was ineffective and your bees have passed

the living treatment threshold and will die. The new treatment Apiguard is a thymol type treatment that the mites should not become resistant to and the material may not cause many of the problems that other hard chemicals we have used have. Note that varroa mites have shown resistance to both Apistan and Checkmite and both of these treatment materials have affected the vigor of the colony.

So it is time to get your bees fed and ready for winter. Get the feed on now with the Fumigilin-B as the cost is small compared to a package and all of its problems in the spring. Make certain the queen is a good one. Replace her if she is not by introducing her to one box while saving the other queen in the other box until the new queen is laying good. Get your mite treatments on. All must be done in a timely manner if you are to have a strong booming hive in the spring. Good luck!

***Book Review - Check it Out --
"Sweetness and Light – The Mysterious History of
the Honeybee" by Hattie Ellis***

Did you know that Abraham Lincoln and Muhammad Ali both consumed bee pollen to boost energy, or that beekeepers in nineteenth-century Europe viewed their bees as part of the family? Or that after man, the honeybee, is the most studied creature on the planet? In *Sweetness and Light*, Hattie Ellis leads us into the hive, revealing the fascinating story of bees and honey from the Stone Age to the present, from Nepalese honey hunters to urban hives on the rooftops of New York City. She is an award-winning columnist and author who specializes in writing about food. To tell the story of bees and honey in all of its wondrous particulars, she traversed the globe from Sicilian mountainsides to Parisian parks, from Scottish moorlands to London streets, from the New Zealand bush to the California coast. She lives in East Sussex, England.

Research Reviewed

By: [Steve Sheppard](#) - Selection and possibilities within honey bees – be careful what you are selecting for.

The issue of honey bee breeding and selection has been around for some time. In 1929, a Russian honey bee scientist visiting the U.S., Dr. Alpatov, noted that Italian honey bees bred and sold in the U.S. were more yellow in color than populations he had studied across Italy. He attributed the color difference to U.S. queen producers who actively selected for this trait. The tendency of U.S. breeders to produce and sell a brighter queen is perhaps understandable, given that such a 'product' could be more easily differentiated from the dark bee commonly used by beekeepers prior to that time.

With the importation and establishment of parasitic mites in recent years, higher hurdles have been placed before queen breeders than the need to select for color. Most notably, the hurdle to select and breed honey bees that can better tolerate or resist damage from parasitic mites, especially *Varroa destructor*. A clear understanding of the nature of honey bee resistance to mites is important and one published study involved 'bi-directional' selection and breeding experiments conducted with Italian honey bees (Lodesani et al. 2002). The team of Italian and German researchers selected lines of bees that tended to have either high or low mite populations and then investigated whether behavioral and physiological characteristics of bees from these different lineages could be correlated to mite levels.

The researchers initially measured the *V. destructor* levels in a population of 60 colonies of honey bees for two years. In the third year – the five most mite-infested and five least mite-infested colonies were selected and daughter queens for the first generation (F1) were produced by instrumental insemination of virgins from each group with semen from within-group drones.

Twenty-nine colonies were established using the selected queens and equalized for brood and honey and then placed in an isolated location.

In the fourth year, these F1 colonies were infested equally with mite-infested bees. During the rest of the bee season, colonies were monitored for mite levels, brood area and honey yield and also tested for a number of behavioral or physiological characteristics. These characteristics included hygienic behavior (ability of bees to clean out a small comb section of pin-killed pupae), rate of non-reproducing mites (proportion of single foundress mites that did not reproduce) and grooming behavior (proportion of damaged/undamaged mites that were collected on sticky boards). Based on the mite level results, another generation of bees (F2) representing 'susceptible' and 'resistant' lines was produced using instrumental insemination and the above tests were repeated using 24 colonies in year six.

The results reported by the researchers showed that mite resistance or tolerance as measured solely by mite population levels was not readily correlated with the various tested physiological and behavioral honey bee characteristics.

Thus, there was no correlation between the tendency of the bees to remove pin-killed brood and the mite infestation levels of the colonies. Likewise, they found no correlation between the number of non-reproducing mites and the level of mite infestation or between the percentage of damaged mites collected on sticky boards and the level of mite infestation.

However, they *did* find that both brood area (number of brood cells) and the average honey crop harvested were higher in each year of the experiment in the so-called *susceptible* colonies compared to the *resistant* colonies!

To understand why, we might consider that higher brood areas likely corresponded to higher overall bee populations and thus, higher honey yields, albeit at the expense of maintaining higher mite levels. In their discussion of the results, the authors caution the reader that hygienic behavior, non-reproduction of mites and grooming may be traits that have limited value in a selection program designed to produce mite resistant honey bees. They further caution that it may be difficult to select for honey bees that produce both vigorous and productive colonies, yet have slow growing mite populations. Their rationale for the latter statement is that mite population growth appears to be tied to brood levels. Thus, selection for low mite levels could actually select for bees that produce smaller amounts of brood. In fact, this particular point made by the authors in reference to a broad problem in selection may hold the key to why the specific susceptible and resistant lines developed in their experiments exhibited no correlation between the aforementioned traits (hygienic behavior, non-reproduction of mites and grooming) and mite levels. For example, by using (as they did) mite infestation level as the only selective criterion, the researchers may have inadvertently selected for high and low brood producing lines of bees. Thus, their 'resistant' bees actually may have been bees selected to produce less brood and to be less able to sustain mite population growth. Consequently, they also would have been less able to collect a surplus of honey.

Among researchers and breeders interested to produce honey bees that are resistant to *Varroa* mites, there may be continued debate on the relative importance of specific traits such as hygienic behavior, non-reproduction of mites and grooming within the selection scheme. However, what is discussed in the last paragraph of this paper, in numerous other recent papers on honey bee breeding and what must be considered to be 'just good common sense' by most bee breeders is the need to include additional traits relevant to apiculture in any selection program. The ability of the colony to exhibit desirable rates of population growth, to produce adequate honey surpluses, to overwinter well and to resist diseases are just a few of the other traits that must be considered and included in the selection regime.

Dr. W. Steve Sheppard, Thurber Chair, Department of Entomology, WA State University, Pullman, WA 99164-6382, shepp@mail.wsu.edu; www.apis.wsu.edu. Lodesani, M., K. Crailsheim and R.F.A. Moritz. Effect of some characters on the population growth of mite Varroa jacobsoni in Apis mellifera L. colonies and results of a bi-directional selection. 2002. Journal of Applied Entomology 126:130-137.

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SEPTEMBER

TED SWENSON

Agenda

9/7/06

Welcome!

Reports:

The Secretary's Report - Linda

The Treasurer's Report - Ky

Fair Reports

Spokane Fair (as part of 'new business') –
 Roger and Linda

North Idaho Fair – Jack and Kelly

Colbert-Deer Park Fair - Bob

Cheny Fair - Jim

WSBA Report – Jerry

Four Corner Bee Reports

Old Business:

IEBA Charter/Constitution Update – Nothing to
 report.

New Business:

Price of honey at the fair

Fair Status

Meeting Adjourned

Hive Care :

September

Most of us have our supers pulled by now and are thinking about our fall management. Whatever strategy you implement, now is the time to start fall mite treatments.

Be sure to adhere closely to the manufacturers recommendations for all chemical treatments. Remember that many treatments are temperature dependant and successful treatment is easier early in the fall. Improper use increases the chances of mites becoming resistant and also increases the chances of contaminating your comb with pesticides.

Evaluate your hives and their potential for over-wintering. Combine those that are weak,. Evaluate food stores and begin a feeding program for light colonies as there is little nectar coming in now. A 2:1 sugar/water solution is recommended for fall feeding.

Robbing and yellow jackets are of particular concern. Reduce your entrances to prevent robbing if possible, trap and destroy yellow jackets and paper wasps that are threatening you bees.

And best of all, enjoy the fruits of your labors as you extract and bottle and share in the county fairs in our region.

The next meeting on September 8th will be at the Spokane County Fair IEBA booth and will cover:

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

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Phone: 818.501.0446 Fax: 818.995.9334 E-mail: aasoffice@apitherapy.org

Visit the website, www.apitherapy.org, for more information and to download a registration form.

Schedule

Thursday, September 21st

6:00 pm Registration
 7:00 pm Welcome Dinner (for all)
 8:30 pm Intro. To CMACC (Kochan)
 Friday, September 22nd - Course
 7:00 am Continental Breakfast (for all)
 8:00 am Welcome (Kochan)
 8:20 am Honey (Stashenko)
 9:10 am Propolis (Perry)
 10:00 am Break
 10:30 am Pollen (Stashenko)
 11:00 am Royal Jelly (Kochan)
 12:00 pm Bee Venom (Cherbuliez)
 1:00 pm Lunch (on your own)
 2:00 pm Pain & Apitherapy (Kochan)
 2:45 pm Apitherapy Cases (Downs)
 3:30 pm Informed Consent & Legal Issues (Cherbuliez)
 4:00 pm Break (snack for all)
 4:30 pm Principles of Apitherapy (Higgins)
 5:15 pm Workshop on Pollen & Propolis (Keller)
 6:00 pm Dinner (on your own)
 7:30 pm Hands-on BVT (Downs, Higgins)
 Review for Examination

Saturday, September 23rd

Examination

7:00 am Continental Breakfast (for all)
 8:00 am Examination (Faculty)
 10:30 am Examination Correction (Faculty)
 12:00 pm Lunch Buffet (for all)

Conference

2:00 pm Lyme Disease (Carlson)
 3:00 pm Mission in Kuwait (Wagner, Stashenko)
 4:00 pm Break

4:30 pm Auto-immune Diseases (Kochan)
 5:15 pm Veterinary Apitherapy (Keller, Perry)
 6:00 pm Dinner (on your own)
 7:30 pm Annual Meeting/Board Meeting— open to members

Sunday, September 24th - Conference

7:00 am Continental Breakfast (for all)
 8:00 am Recent Advances in Apitherapy (Cherbuliez)
 8:45 am Preparations and Indications of Propolis (Perry, Cherbuliez)
 9:30 am Cleansing & Detox, Weight Management (Keller, Cherbuliez)
 10:15 am Break (snack for all)
 10:45 am Practical Apipuncture (Keller)
 11:30 am Micro-stinging Technique (Seipel)
 12:15 pm Lunch (on your own)
 1:00 pm Advanced BVT Case Studies (Keller)
 3:00 pm Conclusion, Acknowledgments & Questions/Answers
 3:30 pm End of CMACC

Cost Per Person:

Early registration discount/ Full amount
 Course: (Thurs-Sat at 1pm) \$300 / \$350
 Conference: (Sat noon-Sun) \$250 / \$300
 Course & Conference:(Thurs-Sun) \$400 / \$450

Registration includes syllabus for Course and/or Conference, one year AAS membership, and all related meals and snacks on schedule. Syllabus for Course or Conference available for \$50. each.

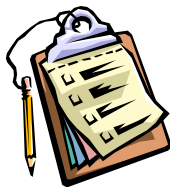
Hotel: Shilo Inn, The special AAS room rates are \$89.50/ night plus tax for a room with two queen beds and bath. To obtain these rates: go to www.shiloinns.com, click on reservations, add in information & group code: 092006gr or call (800) 222 2244, reservations for Salt Lake City Shilo Inn or call (801) 521 9500 at the hotel and ask for Rachel Bremer. For both numbers specify that you are with the American Apitherapy Society. The hotel is in downtown Salt Lake City and has 24 hour transportation to and from the airport, which is ten minutes away. For the hotel van from the airport to the hotel, you must call (801) 521-9500 and request a pickup.

August Minutes

Linda Carney, Secretary

August 13, 2006

(This meeting was held on Sunday at Plantes Ferry Park in the Spokane Valley under a sunny sky and warm breezes. Talk about good food!! It was real hard to pull us away to do some EIBA business.)



President Swenson called our sunshine picnic meeting to order.

The July minutes were accepted as published in the Inland Beemail and we skipped the details of the Treasurer's report.

4 Corner Honey Report

East- Jack Knox said, "Idaho needs moisture and to cool off! The honey quit and shut off in July". The South side is "eah", the middle valley is "okay" and the North Valley is "eah" according to Wally Plowman. But then the surprise announcement from Travis Sammons who is still working on the Ponderosa Valley. He said that it is "like a faucet".

Jim Miller, **West**, has also noted the honey flow has stopped in his area.

The **North** side is a little half and half. The bees near Bob Arnold's home have no honey while the ones in the IEBA yard are doing very well. Green bluff has alfalfa left on so the flow is above average. Chattaroy had rain Thursday, which helped the knapweed so locals are looking for a little more rain to also help the

wilted alfalfa.

South- The Carney's said it has been so dry in their area on the South Hill that they have been feeding the bees for a long time now

Old Business

Kelly McSheeny gave out the tickets for the North Idaho Fair volunteer. The Spokane County Fair still needs more volunteers to help. Please contact Roger or Linda Carney if you can help. The mood was exiting as we stuffed our honey straw packets. This is going to be a great year!

The next meeting will be Sept. 7, the day before the opening of the Spokane CountyFair. Be sure and bring your business cards if you want to advertise. There is going to be a display for your business cards and a map to help show your location.

Update** the city beekeeping ordnance has been progressing and the draft can be viewed on the website.

New Business

What a Deal!! Bill Watts has been able to arrange a large discount to our members with his employer, URM, for the purchase of 50# bags of sugar. Please contact Bill or Julie Watts. (If you do not have their number then you can contact Secretary, Linda Carney, for that information)

Our meeting was adjourned so we could eat. (more)

P.S. Special taste bud thanks to John Pierce and his magnificent frying machine.

September 3, 2006—Status of IEBA Apiary

Bob Arnold

I did a brief check of our apiary on August 23rd to get some photos for the Deer Park Fair that was held the weekend of August 25 through the 27th. The bees look strong and have a lot of honey. We have some of the hives that have a super of honey. Most of the colonies that did not have some supercedure problems did fine. Some of the colonies that superceded did not put up the honey they need and did not do a good job drawing out comb. These hives may need to be combined with some of the stronger colonies. Some of them can be wintered on top of some of the stronger colonies.

We started 9 nucs in July using queen cells that were raised from some selected WSU queens. The queen mother for

these nucs passed the liquid nitrogen hygienic test by cleaning up the dead larva in less than 24 hours. The colony selected made 4 westerns of honey (approximately 120 lbs) and had survived traveling to and from California for almond pollination. The bees were gentle and did a good job drawing wax and did not have a lot of propolis on the hive ware. Three IEBA members brought nucs out (a fourth member had a serious AFB problem so did not leave his nucs). A total of 9 nucs were given queen cells. Seven of these had queens that were laying when I visited and had good brood patterns. One had successfully raised it's own queen and was just laying eggs. One of the nucs did not have a laying queen. So our first effort succeeded with 7/9 from the cells given them. Next year we hope more of you will take the opportunity to get one of these WSU queens. We should have a lot of WSU drones for mating

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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 with a focus on Bee Research.

www.cyberbee.net/research.htm

www.masterbeekeeper.org

www.life.uiuc.edu/robinson

FAIR TIME!

North Idaho Fair

The North Idaho Fair Honey Booth was a great success again this year. It, of course, would not have been possible without all of you that came to share your time, knowledge and sparkling personalities with the visitors, and other bee folks alike. Bees hatching out of cells this year was a real special treat for all that saw them. Several folks told me that visiting our booth is the highlight of their Fair visit each year. Thanks a 'Bee'-zillion to each of you that made the booth such a great success.

Kelly McSheehy



Next Meeting:
Friday August 11th
Social Time


**September Meeting
IEBA Booth Spokane
County Fairgrounds
Thursday September 7th**

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Recipe of the Month

Honey Fish Kabobs

Ingredients:
2 lbs. walleye fillets or other white fish, cut in cubes for skewering
sweet red, green and yellow peppers, cut for skewering
small whole onions, cut in half
1/4 cup Honey
2 Tablespoons soy sauce
2 Tablespoons teriyaki sauce
1 Tablespoon cajun hot fish spices
1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
salt and pepper to taste



Directions: Mix the last seven ingredients well. Mix the walleye, peppers and onions. Lay in a deep plate and cover with the sauce mixture. Marinate in the fridge overnight.

When ready to barbecue, put fish, peppers and onion on skewer. Make sure they are well pressed against each other, keeping in mind that the fish cubes will reduce in size while cooking. Grill until done.

(Continued from page 6)
then.

Our next field day will be September 16th at which time we will go through the hives checking queens, combining weak hives, putting in feeders and medications. We will also put the first gallon of feed on the hives. I will send an e-mail to all of you on the list. If you wish to be included on the list send me an e-mail to that effect (sar3140@aol.com). Those that want to be called please give me a call at 993-0562. Leave a message if I don't answer.

2006 Program

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