



# INLAND BEEEMAIL

Monthly newsletter of the Inland Empire Beekeepers Association

Volume 12, Issue 4 — April 2007 — [www.inlandbeemail.com](http://www.inlandbeemail.com)

Presidents  
Corner:

## From the President:

We need to take time and say thank you to someone who has worked hard for the Inland Empire Beekeepers Assoc. over the years. This person has gone the extra mile. The records of the association are outstanding and we are again a non-profit association. The person was president of the association for several years. And on two occasions has gotten up early in the morning to make sure that we had a good spot for our annual picnic. We need to say thank you to Ted Swenson for a job well done.

As you read this newsletter we are in the last week of our advanced class of beekeeping. Our bee class started in January ran for 10 weeks and now we are at the end of the second class, which ran for 5 weeks. There has been a group of beekeepers that have come every week. Some are new beekeepers some are the regulars that make things work. Thanks to everyone that made the bee class work. I guess we all will go into a relapse next Friday with nothing to do. Maybe we should just show up and then leave. It might be easier than doing it cold turkey.

The 2007 Farm Fair will be here May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Brian Smith is in charge of the program. Want to visit with young people, some know more about honey bees than we do, come and join Brian and the group.

I was given a CRS Report for Congress prepared by the Congressional Research Service. The report is titled "Recent Honey Bee Colony Declines" A watered down version of the Summary is as follows:

"To date, the potential causes of CCD, as reported by the scientists who are researching this phenomenon, include but may not be limited to

- Parasites, mites, and disease loads in the bees and brood;
- Known/unknown pathogens;
- Poor nutrition among adult bees;
- Level of stress in adult bees (e.g. transportation and confinement of bees, or other environmental or biological stressors);
- Chemical residue/contamination in the wax, food stores and/or bees;
- Lack of genetic diversity and lineage of bees; and;
- A combination of several factors.

On March 29, 2007, the House Subcommittee on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture is to hold a hearing to review the recent honey bee colony declines reported throughout the United States."

The article is 10 pages in length and the order code is RL33938.

Remember we are looking for a New President for the IEBA come December. Are you up to the task. Roger will be watching.



Zach's Bee Photos [(c) Zachary Huang]

## 2007 Farm Fair IEBA Participation

The 2007 Farm Fair for May 2nd and 3rd is drawing near. The set up will be May 1st from 1pm to 5pm or before 9am on the 2nd.

We will talk more about the plans at our monthly meeting in April but, we still can use more volunteers for both days as there will be about 800 to 900 students expected for both days combined.

The groups cycle through on a timed schedule so many volunteers mean that we can take turns presenting our information. Since it is a farm fair we can present the theme of "The value of beekeeping to Agriculture." Showing that the most important thing the bees do for our food is POLLENATION.

Each volunteer will have their own style and we can all learn and help with the many questions that are asked. At the end of the day each student receives a packet that will include a honey stick from our association. By meeting night I should hopefully have the schedule.

The fair will run from 9am until about 1pm or so each day. This is a fast paced fun filled time great for new beekeepers as well as season veterans.

You who are school presenters we could use teaching posters and maybe that mini hive the association purchased if it is available.

Dave will be bringing the honey sticks to the next meeting. maybe the School presenters could bring those items that we could use.

To volunteer you can E-mail me at sterling-cleaning-services@comcast.net or call 922-2010 leave message if no answer. Thank you one and all for helping to make this upcoming event a success.

## COLONY COLLAPSE DISORDER (CCD) – A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

Re-Printed with permission of the Author  
Dr. James E. Tew – Ohio State University

I very nearly don't know what to say about this issue. The publicity on this subject has exceeded any science supporting a causative agent. Giving it a new name and saying that it is worse than previous outbreaks have given the condition an emergency status that has elicited what I have called *electronic hysteria*. Make no mistake; those migratory beekeepers who have lost bee colonies are experiencing pain and financial distress. They deserve our concern and support. Alternatively, our bee colonies in Ohio that died from winter starvation are none-the-less dead, too. If I combine our winter-kill problem with the national issue of CCD, the question is begged, "Who would want to keep bees?" Therefore, my primary concern for Ohio beekeepers is that the negative publicity toward beekeeping will make new people fearful about becoming beekeepers. As serious as a decline in bees is, a more serious condition would be an excessive decline in new beekeepers or discouraging



**This colony is not suffering from CCD**

(Continued on page 3)

*(Continued from page 2)*

establishing beekeepers so much that they drop out.

Once the spring season is here and we can go about our business of recovering, we will recover. The 2006 Ohio season will be historically recorded as being a bad bee year, but strange as it may seem, the CCD episode has made me a more thoughtful beekeeper.

I would suggest that we remember that:

- bees – though they appear to be domesticated – are none-the-less wild animals.
- as wild animals, bees are easily stressed as we manage and manipulate colonies for our human good.
- stressing bee colonies with migratory activity and general colony manipulation upsets the colony's natural resistance to diseases and pests making them more vulnerable – not more resistant – to being overrun by a pathogen outbreak.
- such an outbreak can have multiple causes; thereby clouding the root cause – colony stress, resulting in conditions like that called Colony Collapse Disorder.
- chemical treatments are only short-term fixes, for any bee disease, and that we should always expect side effects from the use of any chemical (hard or soft) in our bee colonies – particularly comb contamination.
- the configuration of a modern hive and the configuration of a bee yard are designed for human convenience and are not necessarily conducive to natural honey bee biology.
- abnormal concentrations of colony numbers and equipment only serve to concentrate and homogenize bee diseases and pests.
- most of the time, the best thing a beekeeper can do for a bee colony is leave it alone.

## **MANAGING SURVIVING COLONIES**

### ***Best guesses on what to do, what not to do, and when to do it***

Re-Printed with permission of the Author Dr.

James E. Tew – Ohio State University

Make no mistake about it – many Ohio beekeepers have had a bad year. The spring season of 2006 was one of the worst in years. The fall season was little better, so our bees went into winter light in stores.

We hoped for a mild winter, but instead we had the harshest winter we've had in several years. Significantly more colonies than usual have died from simple winter starvation. It appears that our winter-kill percentage will range between 50% - 80%. That's shocking.

This is happening to Ohio beekeepers at a time when much of the US is experiencing a condition called Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). Ohio apparently has missed the brunt of this malady, but it certainly cannot be said that we are home free. It has been remarkably difficult to get sympathy for our routine plight when others are seemingly suffering from some new, exotic problem. Either way, as beekeepers we must recover and we can only do that in concert with our surviving colonies.

### ***Replacement bees***

Replacement bees are going to be in short supply and will be expensive. For some of us, simply buying replacement bees will be the best way to go. For those of us who had any colonies survive, nurturing them enough to divide them later in the season will be the more obvious – but slower – way to go.

### ***Surviving colonies***

***My goal – to deftly nurture the surviving colony is, getting it up to full strength as quickly as possible with the least amount of intrusion.***

### **What to do right now (Mid-to-late March)**

Lift the back of the wintering colony to get an ap-

*(Continued from page 3)*

proximation of the overall colony weight. Prepare to feed all colonies, regardless of the colony's weight, but pay particular attention to light colonies. Light to very light colony weight will mean that this colony will have to have help or it could still starve as the winter/ spring season progresses. Feeding frames of capped honey is the best feed but few of us have it.

Quietly clear the entrance but leave it reduced. There's not much else that can be done outside the colony right now. If the colony must be opened, do it on a day and at a time when the bees can recover from the manipulation. In all things, stress the colony as little as possible. Top feeders would seem to be less invasive than division board feeders. Entrance feeders are nearly impractical but slightly better than nothing. Feed thick syrup. Corn syrup is probably easiest but some types of corn syrup are suspected of causing digestive problems within the bee colony. However, if the decision must be made to feed suspect corn syrup or feed nothing, corn syrup certainly wins. Though our industry does not have a perfect pollen substitute, put on a pollen substitute cake. Place this feed as quietly and as quickly as possible. In general, cause the least confusion within the colony as possible. Use only enough smoke to subdue the bees. If these colonies are weak already, I suggest that you feed much longer usual. Our Ohio colonies have been weakened by several unexciting spring seasons with the spring of 2006 being particularly bad. My suggestion is to feed in order to pump up the colony as much as possible — especially if the spring flow is light again.

The problem that will develop as the spring season progresses is that the colony will divert much of the feed to bees and not to food stores. There's nothing you, the beekeeper, can or should do about that. If swarming, by some delightful turn of events, appears to become a problem, split the colony in half, letting the queenless half produce its own queen. If you don't want to make colony increase, you can recombine the two colonies later

in the season. I don't want to do all this feeding only to have the work swarm away.

### **Mites**

As the season progresses, but before spring passes, perform some kind of Varroa mite treatment. Varroa treatment right now can be tricky. If you didn't treat at all last year, and you commonly treat, consider doing something this season. If you don't commonly treat, be sure to monitor mite populations as they build up. While our colonies died predominantly from winter starvation, high mite populations are still a potential problem if left unchecked. Though it is probably not absolutely necessary, but because our colonies are challenged, it would probably be a good idea to put on grease patties. Tracheal mites are not on anyone's radar, but they should not be completely ignored. Don't have supers on when applying miticides.

### **Queens**

If you have marginal queens heading recovering colonies, first stabilize the colony with feed until well into spring. Consider requeening as the season warms and all the stresses of cold weather are gone. This should be considered a recovery year for most of us; therefore, it will not be a good year to let the bees produce their own queens. All new queens are not necessarily good. All new queens are not necessarily accepted. Do whatever it takes to get a new queen in place.

### **Other bee diseases**

Just because we are focused on recovering from the problems of winter losses, Varroa mites, and CCD, it would be folly to ignore any other common disease. Constantly watch for American foulbrood. Before next fall, I will be recommending that you treat for Nosema with Fumadil-B, but that is some time from now. Otherwise, not much can be done for common diseases such as chalk brood other than monitoring for it. Due to our recovery year status, it is not a good year to tinker with curing American foulbrood.

*(Continued on page 5)*

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### Colony splits

Our colony numbers are low. Do not try to recover all your losses in one year, but strive only for colonies that you can feed and develop into winterable colonies before next fall. This past year has been serious enough and our colony count is at a point low enough that we must protect our base. Once that has been accomplished, we can get on with increasing colony numbers next year.

### In summary

Feed any colony that has survived – and feed abundantly. Feed both pollen and sugar feeds until it is crystal clear that the colony does not want it. Monitor for any other disease and install a new queen if needed. Perform these tasks with the least amount of intrusion. Many of our colonies have been seriously damaged and challenged. We need to give them serious time and support to recover.

## March

**Linda Carney, Secretary**  
Friday March 9th

### March 9, 2007

President Jim Miller called the meeting to order. The Minutes were accepted as published in the Inland Bee-mail. There was no Treasurer's Report.

The recent Beginner Bee Class has graduated with 49 new beekeepers. Jim Miller said there were lots of fun, games, and understanding.

### Joy in Beekeeping

Al Dwinell said it was difficult to pick just three recipients from the 11 letters submitted. The final decisions were made and the Joy in Beekeeping vouchers were given to Matthew Spock, Kalib Edwards, and Robin Ankor

### Fair Committees

Roger Carney stated that he is starting preparations for the Spokane County Fair.

Jack Knox announced that the North Idaho Fair is getting ready also.

## Washington State Beekeepers Association

Jerry Tate, the President of WSBA, said the speakers for the State Convention should be aligned by the end of the month. According to Jerry, E.WA has taken a hard hit on their bees. The Yakima area was all right with less than 20% losses. The pollination started a week ago in CA and they were done in 7 days. Ted Swenson's bees looked strong and he is doing splits. The date to remember here in the Spokane area is April 14<sup>th</sup>. The packaged bees can be picked up that day.

### 4 Corners

North--No report

South--"Mine are Flying and Dying

West--One beekeeper has some eggs

East--Jacks Knox said his are bringing in pollen, perhaps pussy willows.

## General conversation on local conditions

In the Valley the bees are bringing in pollen, some is gray-green. There have been eggs, but they have been spotty. Also it is very rare to lay drones this early but some drone cells have been found. Jerry Tate put on a pollen supplement and in 3 weeks was gone. He found no natural pollen in the hives. Jerry recommends that the beekeepers put on pollen or a supplement now. John Pierce has hives that are full of brood! When asked why some bees are pulling out larva it was suggested that it is varroa or the bees are hurting for pollen. Formic acid works on trachea mites and also varroa mites. It works so well last year, according to Jerry Tate, the U.S. used Api Guard in such large amounts that the U.S. ran out in August. The IEBA yard had a quick check and it looks good.

### Old business

The Advanced class will be starting March 16<sup>th</sup>. The last class of the series will be April 13th. A sheet was passed around for an update for birthdays and anniversaries.

### New Business

Farm Fair--Brian Smith is asking for volunteers to the man the booth for May 2-3. He is also looking for educational materials.

Don Nilles furnished an "inline feeder" with built in plastic ladders as a door prize. Don owns *East Farm Supply*, which is going to be carrying bee supplies.

Our meeting was adjourned.

# The Mysterious Disappearance of Honey Bees (DRAFT) Prof. Joe Cummins- 2 March 2007

In October 2006 United States National Research Council published the report of their Committee on the Status of Pollinators in North America, The report pointed out that an existing decline in honey bee pollinators was devastating North America. The report pointed out the importance of pollinators noting that three quarters of the earth's flowering plants depended on pollinators for propagation. The extensive report dealt with bureaucratic issues aimed at dealing with the catastrophe and delineated ways that more human and financial resources should be focused on honey bee decline The report did not pin down causes in decline but instead focused on introduced parasites and microbial disease causing organisms such as fungi, bacteria and viruses Other causes included habitat decline, fragmentation and deterioration.

The remedies suggested included testing commercial pollinators to insure that they were disease free and similar bureaucratic measures rather than a sharp focus on the primary causes of decline.

The impact of pesticide on bees the uses and the spread of genetically modified (GM) crops modified for insect resistance and herbicide tolerance were barely discussed in the report leaving the impression that these were not considered important by the committee. The following discussion will deal with those important issues regardless of the views of the NRC Committee.

Science Magazine reported on the pollination crisis but emphasized the need to replace the current pollinators with more robust insects.

The New York Times emphasized the impact of bee decline on farmers and reported a salient observation that bees were flying off from the hive and simply not returning.

The Independent commented on the swift colony decline and noted that the problem of a tremendous pathogen load in the remaining members of a colony. The cogent point is that the bees in the colonies appear to have lost their immunity to viruses, bacteria and fungal diseases. The loss of resistance to disease may be caused by parasites, virus infections, or pesticides (both applied and present in GM crops). The disappearance of bees may have originated with one thing that diminished the bee's immunity or by a combination of environ-

mental factors diminishing the immune system ,all hitting the bee colonies at the same time.

Parasites reduce bee immunity : Varroa mites (Varroa destructor) were first observed in the United States in the mid 1980s , they appear to have jumped from native bees to honey bees in the Orient during the mid 1960s. The parasite was first observed in North America in the mid 1980s, since that time they have spread throughout North America. The parasite invades the hives and sucks the hemolymph from the pupae and adult bees infecting them with viruses carried by the parasite.

The parasite reduces the immune response of the bees causing them to be prone to infection with virus, bacteria or fungi. A number of virus diseases are enhanced in the parasite infected bee colony , particularly the deformed wing virus disease that causes crippling deformity in the bees . Multiple viruses frequently infect the bees attacked by Varroa parasite. These viruses are spread not only by the parasite but vertically from queen to brood. The parasite infected colonies are frequently treated with a pyrethroid insecticide , fluvalinate, but this insecticide may influence the behaviour of the honey bee and has well the parasite has grown resistant to the insecticide. Honey bee disappearance has not always been associated with parasite infection and it is clear that man made environmental contaminants may influence bee immunity and bee behaviour. The immune pathways of bees have been studied. Honey bees have 17 gene families involved in immunity but they have roughly one third the number of genes involved in immunity as have Drosophila and Anopheles Mosquitoes. Honey bees seem to have limited immune flexibility. The immune inflexibility of honey bees may make them sensitive to devastating pathogens.

Pesticides may have sublethal effects on bees:

Most of the information on pesticides reports the lethal effects on insects or on non-target beneficial organisms. Bees are particularly sensitive to pesticides, whether insecticides, fungicides or herbicides, that effect development, adult longevity, immunity or behavioural effects such as navigation, feeding behaviour, oviposition, or learning. Sublethal effects can prove fatally disruptive to hive communities. Numerous pesticides have been found to disrupt bees following sublethal exposures (12). A wide array of pesticides including insecticides and fungicides including fluvalinate (the chemical used to treat hives to eliminate parasites) disrupted the behaviour of honey bees leading to feeding and navigation problems (13). Bees suffering from sublethal pesticide intoxication resembled the behaviour of bees described by observers of honey bee disappearance phenomenon.

Sublethal doses of fipronil (a veterinary insecticide) in honey bee impaired the olfactory memory process. Spinosad, a prominent and much used natural insecticide fed to bumble bees in pollen were slower foragers while a higher dose of the insecticide caused colony death within two to four weeks. It is difficult to find studies on the impact of herbicides on bee behaviour and such studies are desirable. A study of the effect of glufosinate ( a glutamine synthesis inhibitor) on the bees gut microbes showed that over half of the gut microbes were sensitive to the herbicide.

Glufosinate had pronounced insecticidal activity towards the caterpillars of skipper butterfly. Glutamine is important in sensory nerve transmission in insects.

Genetically Modified (GM) crops may have sublethal effects on bees: The possibility that the great distribution of GM crops in North America is contributing to the decline in honey bees was given little consideration by the NRC Committee studying the problem even though the time that the decline appeared was at the time GM crops were first widely deployed. GM crops are either modified to tolerate herbicides including glyphosate or glufosinate or to contain insecticides (the Bt Cry toxins). The insect resistance toxins produced in GM crops are not highly toxic to bees they are toxic to moths and beetles but in some instances the toxins cause bee lethality or behavioural modification. The *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) toxin Cry1Ab caused reduced foraging activity before and after treatment with syrup containing the toxin.

However, the Bt toxin produced less pronounced impacts on bee behaviour than did the chemical pesticides deltamethrin or imidacloprid (18). Bt bacteria caused mortality in bees when fed in broth cultures or sugar solutions (19). A number of purified Bt Cry toxins have been studied in the laboratory to determine their toxicity to honey bees and bumble bees. For the most part, those studies showed little threat from the Cry toxins. However, sublethal effects on the bees were not recorded in the experiments.

Transgenic glyphosate resistant canola pollen posed no threat to honey bees. Organic, conventional and herbicide resistant Canola were compared regarding the pollination by wild bees in Alberta, Canada. The herbicide tolerant canola plots had the greatest pol-

lination deficit, while conventional and organic plots were equally well served by the wild bees.

Fuller studies are needed to evaluate the impact of GM crops on sublethal effects such as learning and feeding behaviour.

The potential consequences of pollinator declines on stability of food crops and on the conservation of biodiversity has been discussed.

The loss in food production can be staggering and the impact on biodiversity may be irreversible.

In conclusion, the decline in honey bees is likely to be far from finished. The most significant factor in this decline may be fundamental it may be the well documented inflexibility in the genes of the bee's immune system. Immune inflexibility was not discussed in the NRC report on bee decline. That factor is, most likely, the primary hurdle in an ultimate reversal of the decline. Using genetic techniques such as microarray analysis and marker assisted selection it should be possible to create honey bees with robust immune systems. In the absence of such robust honey bees it is clear that honey bees cannot be treated like "babies in a bubble" to protect them from toxins and pathogens in the environment.

Agents impacting on the honey bee immune system go beyond mites to chemical pesticides and to some degree GM crops. Bees need to be protected from the agents that interfere with their immunity or behaviour. However, the NRC Committee report does little to establish a broadly based approach to identify and control the pesticides and crops causing the decline. The NRC report is narrowly focused and should not be considered a serious effort to deal with the decline of honey bees. The impact of pesticides and GM crops requires fuller attention as does a program to create honey bees with robust immune systems.

*Prof. Joe Cummins is Professor Emeritus of Genetics, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario.*

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### WSBA Website

www.wasba.org

# APRIL

## JIM MILLER

## Agenda

### 4/13/07

#### Agenda for April's IEBA Meeting

Call to order at 7:30 PM

Reading of Last Month's Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

2007 Farm Fair Report

Newsletter Committee

Couer D'Alene Fair Committee

Spokane Fair Committee

Program Committee

Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinner Committee

School Presentation Committee

Nomination Committee

Audit Committee

Budget Committee

Directory Committee

Joy in Beekeeping

WSBA Report

Four Corners Report

Old Business

New Business

Arrival of Package Bees

Adjourn Meeting @ 8:30 PM

## Hive Care

### April:

**The Bees.** The weather begins to improve, and the early blossoms begin to appear. The bees begin to bring pollen into the hive. The queen is busily laying eggs, and the population is growing fast. The drones will begin to appear.

**The Beekeeper.** If you have not done so already, pick a warm and still day do your comprehensive hive inspections. Can you find evidence of the queen? Are there plenty of eggs and brood? Is there a nice pattern to her egg laying? Now, or very soon, on a very mild and windless day, you should consider reversing the hive deeps. This will allow for a better distribution of brood, and stimulate the growth of the colony. If stores are getting light, begin feeding and continue feeding until the nectar flow. This is the time to treat for nosema, foulbrood, and tracheal mites to ensure that the chemicals will be off before the honey flow. April is also the month for packages. .

-adapted from  
www.backyardbeekeepers.co



Go to  
[www.nhb.org](http://www.nhb.org)  
for more information

# 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 online at [www.tateshoneyfarm.com](http://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 07 Queens and Nucs 4.9mm and standard cell sizes available. Also 2nd. generation Australian Nuc's available please call for prices. 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](http://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 (509)220-0185

**Available: 21 or 28 April**

Limited #, First Come First Serve



**Beeboxes, frames, foundation, tools and equipment  
open M-S 9-5:30**

**East Farms Feed**

21518 E. Gilbert  
Otis Orchards, Wash. 99027  
509.928.3616

## *IEAB Apiary News*

A bunch of us met Sat 3/24 and went through the IEBA hives. All made it through the winter alive and low on honey stores. We checked all of the queens and found all to be laying with some having large amounts of brood--4 frames. Pollen stores were for the most part all used up. Several of the hives were on the weak side but completely able to spring back and become good honey producers. Many of the hives (7) had less than 4 frames of honey and need to have feed as soon as possible. The light rain falling seemed to not bother the beekeepers present. A thanks to all for coming out in such rotten weather. Our next meeting will be to put on feed as soon as we have a week of flight weather. I will get some of the remaining supers of last years honey on the hives that need it the most.

Regards,  
Bob Arnold

## **Annual Beekeeping Task Calendar for Small Beekeepers - Spokane Area - by**

**Bob Arnold**

### April

When bees are flying well inspect the hives. Check for and kill drone laying queens introduce overwintered nuc with stronger colonies or combine remaining bees with viable colonies. Check for American Foulbrood (AFB). Equalize stored honey in hives. Place 1:1 warm sugar syrup in a feeder in the upper brood chamber. Feed enough to provide at least 4 full frames of honey or syrup stores in the colony. Feed pollen patties if pollen is in short supply. Move the brood chamber having mostly feed to the bottom board with the box having empty brood combs to the top. For 3 brood chamber colonies move the empty boxes above the box with the most brood and bees. Keep some empty comb above the bees through the dandelion flow. Keep the entrance reducer on the colony. Start new packages, keep 1:1 sugar syrup feed on the package continuously until honey flow starts if started on foundation. If on drawn comb keep feed on until they don't want it. Check queen viability every 5 days. Replace immediately if she isn't laying properly or drone brood is appearing in worker comb. Don't give her a second chance! Keep the package in a single box until it is crowded with bees. Keep laying space for the queen in established colonies. Put on drone comb for trapping mites.



**Inland Empire  
Beekeepers  
Association**

**Next Meeting:  
Friday April 13th  
7:30 pm**

**T**he 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.

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### 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

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

<http://www.ento.psu.edu/extension/factsheets/dominulus.htm>



### Birthdays and Anniversaries March & April 2007

#### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Dean Cannon - 10th  
Stephan Sherman - 22nd  
Jerry Tate - 24th  
Jerry Gray - 25th  
Mary Martin - 26th

#### MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Dennis and Linda O'Barr - 18th  
Dusty Miller - 24th

#### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Dusty Miller - 2nd  
Pam Zack - 3rd  
David Evans - 6th  
Cherry Edwards - 7th  
Carol Wright - 9th  
Roger Carney - 13th  
Rick Sherman - 14th  
Art Ross - 15th  
Andy Tom - 23rd  
Peter Ice - 28th

#### APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Bill and Julie Watts - 4th  
Al and Patsy Dwinell - 18th