



# INLAND BEEEMAIL

Monthly newsletter of the Inland Empire Beekeepers Association

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## President's Corner:

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The fairs are done!! Many members of the IEBA did a lot of hard work. Thank you one and all. I think both of the fairs were well managed and meet our goal of education first, honey sales last. Some of the honey entries were gorgeous water white honey. Too bad we can not sample them. The Spokane fair booth was huge and looked great. Thanks to Kelly and Jack for the Idaho fair and Linda and Roger for the Spokane fair. The association owes huge thanks to Jerry, Scott, Jerry (Miller), Bill & Julie, Joan, our three super secret judges, Harry & Patti, Darren, and several others whom I can not think of right now. For that I apologize. For a volunteer outfit we do an outstanding job.

Before the monthly meeting the education committee will meet and go over our 2009 education plan. One of the members will report to the association the results.

IEBA is totally out of honey straws. We sold out three days before the end of the fair. We must have some for classroom instruction for our beekeeper instructors. We will discuss the options at the next meeting and if appropriate approve a motion to acquire some straws. I had 438 K-3 students at a FFA fair last Friday and that wiped me out of straws. It is great to see kids that have never tasted real honey to experience the great taste that our straws provide. A good way to get them hooked on real honey, not store bought. It was interesting to hear from several teachers and the adult helpers who also tasted their first real honey.

Time prevents me from writing a long message this month so short and sweet it is.

See you at the meeting.

## Agenda

10/10/08

### Welcome!

### Reports:

The Secretary's Report – Linda  
The Treasurer's Report - Julie  
Fair Reports – deferred to old business  
WSBA Report  
Education Committee Report  
Four Corner Bee Reports  
Are your bees ready for winter?

### Old Business:

State Fairs

### New Business:

Honey Straws: barrel or cases?  
Thanksgiving Meeting (Nov 14<sup>th</sup>): Same as last year?  
Storage for fair and other IEBA equipment

Meeting Adjourned

### Class: Winterizing your hive and your bees

Part 1: Mechanical ways to winterize you hives  
(Ted)

Part 2: How to get your bees ready for winter  
(Bob)



*IEBA - Meeting Minutes September*  
Linda Carney, Secretary

**NOT AVAILABLE AT PRESS TIME**

## Bayer Pesticide Chemicals Linked to Devastating Collapse of Honeybee Populations

(NaturalNews) German government researchers have concluded that a bestselling Bayer pesticide is responsible for the recent massive die-off of honeybees across the country's Baden-Württemberg region. In response, the government has banned an entire family of pesticides, fueling accusations that pesticides may be responsible for the current worldwide epidemic of honeybee die-offs.

Researchers found buildup of the pesticide clothianidin in the tissues of 99 percent of dead bees in Baden-Württemberg state. The German Research Center for Cultivated Plants concluded that nearly 97 percent of honeybee deaths had been caused directly by contact with the insecticide.

"It can unequivocally be concluded that a poisoning of the bees is due to the rub-off of the pesticide ingredient clothianidin from corn [seeds](#)," said the federal agricultural research agency, the Julius Kuehn Institute.

The pesticide was applied to rapeseed and sweet [corn](#) seeds along the Rhine River Valley, which borders Baden-Württemberg to the west and south.

"Beekeepers in the region started finding piles of dead bees at the entrance of hives in early May, right around the time corn seeding takes place," said Walter Haefeker, president of the European Professional Beekeepers Association.

A total of two-thirds of all bees in the entire state are believed to have been killed by the chemical.

"It's a real bee emergency," said Manfred Hederer, president of the German Professional Beekeepers' Association. "Fifty to 60 percent of the bees have died on average, and some beekeepers have lost all their hives."

Clothianidin, marketed in Europe under the brand name Poncho, is a widely used insecticide in the neonicotinoid family. Like all neonicotinoids, it is a systemic pesticide that is applied to the seeds of plants and then spreads itself throughout all plant tissues. Based on nicotine, the neonicotinoids function as neurotoxins that attack the nervous systems of insects such as [honeybees](#).

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has classified clothianidin as "highly toxic" to honeybees. The chemical

was approved for U.S. use in 2003 and German use in 2004.

Clothianidin manufacturer [Bayer](#) CropScience, a subsidiary of chemical giant Bayer, blamed the honeybee deaths on incorrect application of the pesticide. Before seeds are sprayed, a fixative should be applied to keep the poison from spreading into the rest of the environment. In the current situation, Bayer says, the fixative was not applied and clothianidin spread into the air.

But beekeepers and pesticide critics rejected this explanation, calling for Germany to follow France's footsteps in banning the chemical - and indeed, all neonicotinoids.

"We have been pointing out the risks of neonicotinoids for almost 10 years now," said Philipp Mimkes, spokesman for the Coalition Against Bayer Dangers. "This proves without a doubt that the [chemicals](#) can come into contact with bees and kill them. These [pesticides](#) shouldn't be on the market."

While stopping short of a total ban, the German Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety acted quickly upon release of the study data, placing a provisional ban upon all seven pesticides in the neonicotinoid family. These chemicals may not be used in Germany until the manufacturers can supply enough data to convince the government that they are safe.

The seven provisionally banned pesticides are the clothianidin-based brands Poncho and Elado; the imidacloprid-based brands Antarc, Chinook and Faibell; methiocarb-based Mesurool; and thiamethoxam-based Cruiser

Six of the seven products are made by Bayer, while Mesurool is manufactured by Syngenta.

Bayer's neonicotinoids have been blamed for killing honeybees before, most notably in France. There the company's best-selling pesticide, imidacloprid, was banned from use on sunflower seeds in 1999 after being blamed for killing off a third of the country's honeybees. In 2004, France extended the ban to sweet corn seeds. The government rejected Bayer's application for clothianidin use in France only a few months ago.

In North Dakota, a group of beekeepers is suing Bayer, alleging that imidacloprid was responsible for Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) in that state in 1995. One-third of North Dakota honeybees died that year after imidacloprid was applied to rapeseed there.

*(Continued from page 2)*

Imidacloprid is marketed in France under the brand name Gaucho, but is also sold as Admire, Advantage, Confidor, Hachikusan, Kohinor, Merit, Premise, Prothor, and Winner.

Around the world, honeybee stocks are in decline, which scientists have warned could have devastating impacts on global [food](#) supplies. A total of 80 percent of world food [crops](#) are primarily or exclusively pollinated by honeybees, amounting to 130 crops and \$15 billion worth of food each year in the [United States](#) alone.

Yet two million honeybee colonies have been lost in the United States in recent years, with massive dieoffs also reported across Europe and in Taiwan, where 10 million bees recently disappeared over the course of only two weeks.

"If nothing is done about it, the [British] honeybee population could be wiped out in 10 years," warned U.K. Farming Minister Lord Rooker in 2007.

While in many cases bees have actually been found dead, as in the Baden-Württemberg incident, beekeepers have been particularly alarmed by CCD, in which the bees simply vanish, leaving empty hives behind them.

Neonicotinoid pesticides have been suggested as a possible cause of CCD, with advocates of this theory noting that since the pesticide spreads through all plant tissues, bees might be exposed through the [pollen](#) of treated plants. At least one study concluded that neonicotinoids are likely to become concentrated in bee hives in high levels, transported by contaminated pollen.

A number of studies have found that in low doses, neonicotinoids produce symptoms consistent with CCD. Termites exposed to imidacloprid experienced disorientation and immune system failure, while bees exposed to low levels of the chemical experienced impaired communication, homing and foraging ability, flight activity, and olfactory discrimination and learning.

Sources for this story include: [www.guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk), [pubs.acs.org](http://pubs.acs.org), [www.allheadlinenews.com](http://www.allheadlinenews.com).

## The Asian Psyllid has arrived in California. This is the pest that spreads Citrus Greening in Florida. Beekeepers Beware.

Reports last weekend confirmed that the Asian citrus psyllid, a tiny insect known to carry a disease that wipes out citrus crops, had entered south San Diego County, near Bonita. Most of the region's citrus groves are nestled in the valleys of North County, but some growers do not expect to keep the bug at bay.

Chuck Badger, owner of R.E. Badger & Sons, primarily grows lemons in Encinitas. He is anxiously awaiting new strains of fruit that is resistant to the bacteria commonly found among the bugs. "People talk about genetically modified foods being negative. Here, it's imperative," Badger said. Somewhat comforting to local citrus businesses is an absence of the actual disease, known as Huanglongbing. However, every time the aphidlike bug has been found, the bacterial disease has followed, said Ted Batkin, president of the California Citrus Research Board.

Further, symptoms of an infection often are delayed, meaning farmers might not realize their crop is in jeopardy before the entire orchard is affected. The disease is also known as citrus greening because it causes fruit to not ripen fully, producing bitter, inedible fruit. Eventually, it kills the tree. No known cure exists for the disease.

**Several have you asked how Frank Seiler is doing and he says to tell all hello...Sent these pictures of bees working Corn.**



**2008 Washington State Beekeepers Association Fall Conference  
Schedule, Speakers and Topics**

**Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**

**5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Washington State Beekeepers Executive Board Meeting**

**7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Registration/ Wine and Cheese Social**

**Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 - 8:00 a.m. Breakfast and Registration**

**8:00 - 8:15 a.m. Welcome and Program Outline by WSBA President Jerry Tate  
OSBA President Chuck Sowers**

**8:15 - 9:00 a.m. Dr. Jeff Pettis, USDA-ARS, Beltsville, MD  
Colony losses in migratory beekeeping**

**9:00 - 9:15 a.m. Coffee Break**

**9:15 - 10:00 a.m. Dr. Eric Mussen -UC Davis Bee Lab, Davis, CA  
Not your Dad's Nosema...**

**10:00 - 10:15 a.m. Break**

**10:15 - 11:00 a.m. Dr. Dave Tarpy - North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC  
(tentative title) Mating numbers in commercial queen populations: possible consequences**

**11:00 - 11:15 a.m. Break**

**11:15 - 12:00 PM Dr. Marina Meixner, Kirchain Bee Institute, Kirchain, Germany  
Honey bee pathogen and pest diagnosis in Germany**

**12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch**

**1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Eric Olson and WSU personnel – Beekeeper action leads to widespread support  
for study of honey bee colony health: status report**

**2:00 - 2:10 p.m. Break**

**2:10 - 2:55 p.m. Tucson Bee Lab – Colony Nutrition Study**

**2:55 - 3:05 p.m. Break**

**3:05 - 3:50 p.m. Dr. Mike Burgett – (emeritus) Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR  
2007 PNW Pollination Economics Survey**

**3:50 - 4:00 p.m. Break**

**4:00 - 4:40 p.m. Drs. Devrim Oskay and Steve Sheppard, WSU-Pullman  
Bee breeding, semen importation and honey production**

**4:45 - 6:00 p.m. WSBA and OSBA General Membership Meetings**

*(Continued on page 5)*

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**7:00 - 9:30 p.m.                      Banquet and Auction**

**Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 - 8:00 a.m.                      Breakfast and Registration**

**8:00 - 8:10 a.m.                      Program Outline by WSBA President Jerry Tate**

**8:15 - 9:00 a.m.                      Dr. Dave Tarpy – TBA**

**9:00 - 9:15 a.m.                      Break**

**9:15 - 10:00 a.m.                      Dr. Eric Mussen – Are newer pesticides tougher on bees?**

**10:00 - 10:30 a.m.                      Coffee and Snack Break**

**10:30 - 11:00 a.m.                      Ms. Beth Kahkonen, WSU-Pullman  
WSU disease diagnostic services**

**11:00 - 11:15 a.m.                      Break**

**11:15 - 12:00 p.m.                      Judy Wu – WSU MS candidate,  
Possible sublethal effects of contaminated beeswax on honey bee workers  
Matthew Smart – WSU MS candidate  
Nosema ceranae – laboratory analysis and field sampling of PNW populations**

**12:00 - 1:30 p.m.                      Lunch**

**1:45 - 2:30 p.m.                      Ms. Christi Heintz – executive director Project Apis mellifera.,  
The vision brought by PAm in support of honey bee research**

**2:30 - 2:45 p.m.                      Break**

**2:45 - 3:30 p.m.                      Dr. Marina Meixner – Breeding for vitality – establishment of a new breeding concept for the future**

**3:30 - 3:45 p.m.                      Break**

**3:45 - 4:30 p.m.                      Dr. Jeff Pettis – An update on the status of the USDA Area Wide Project – migratory operations in the eastern U.S.**

**4:30 - 4:45 p.m.                      Closing Remarks by WSBA President Jerry Tate and OSBA  
President Chuck Sowers**

**4:45    End of Conference, have a safe trip home.**

## Northwest Corner Beekeepers Fall Conference 2008

### Red Lion, Vancouver, Washington

### October 16, 17, 18

Attendee's Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone----- \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing or Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name of family member attending \_\_\_\_\_

Event	Registration for Individual Days	Full Conference Registration
Thursday Night hospitality room	complimentary	complimentary
Friday Conference Only @ \$50 Family registration fee @ \$70	\$	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Sat. Conference Only individual @ \$50 Fam- ily registration fee @ \$70	\$	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Full Conference individual @ \$90 Family registration fee @115	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	\$
Friday Noon Lunch @ \$16	\$	\$
Friday Evening Banquet @ \$30	\$	\$
Saturday Noon Lunch @ \$16	\$	\$
<b>Total</b>	\$	\$

If exhibiting, num. of tables @\$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Total plus exhibitor's table fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to WSBA.**  
**Mail completed registration form and payment to: Paul Hosticka, 517 S. Touchet Rd, Dayton, WA 99328**  
**Hotel reservations are not included in these rates. Make your reservations at the Red Lion Inn, (800) 733-5466 and ask for the Beekeepers Fall Conference special room rate. You must make sure that they know you are attending the Northwest Corner Beekeepers Fall Conference when you make reservations to get the bargain rate.**

# 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 08 Nucs 4.9mm and standard cell sizes 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

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### IEBA Website

[www.inlandbeemail.com](http://www.inlandbeemail.com)

### WSBA Website

[www.wasba.org](http://www.wasba.org)

Hive Care :

## October/ November

### The Bees.

It's the end of the season and the weather will not allow any more manipulation of the bee hives. While some flight will still be observed, for the most part, the bees are settling down into their winter cluster.

### The Beekeeper.

The season has come to an end, and there are probably some loose ends still to tie up in the beeyard. If you are feeding light colonies, continue to give them warm sugar syrup (2:1). Watch the timing of your medications and remove them as directed. Warm days have drawn to an end, so any hive manipulation will likely have to wait for a real warm spell or spring.

Be sure to have an upper entrance and adequate ventilation for the hive. Condensation dripping on the cluster is deadly. Some beekeepers use an absorbing layer of straw above the inner cover to wick up moisture.

And, like most of us, you probably have some honey to package and the next season to look ahead to.



**Inland Empire  
Beekeepers  
Association**

Next Meeting:  
Friday October 10

**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.

## *INLAND BEEMAIL*

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### IEBA

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### October BIRTHDAYS

- 1 -- Phyllis Knox
- 11 -- Jim Miller
- 12 -- Debi Brinson
- 26 -- Sally Fleming
- 27 -- Patsy Dwinell

### October Anniversaries

- 11 -- Jack & Phyllis Knox

## *Beekeeping Calendar - Bob Arnold*

### **October**

Check for AFB. Check mite fall counts. Any additional feed can be put on early in the month but after about mid October the bees may not take any feed. Feed only 2:1 syrup with Fumigillen in it. Nucs can still be introduced but introducing mated queens is problematic—only introduce a mated queen if you first save the old one in the form of a nuc in case the new queen is not accepted. Colonies must face full sun during noon to 2 PM during winter period. Reposition colonies in bee yard late in October after most bee activity has ended. Remove mite control materials after exposure period has been reached. Reduce entrance to exclude mice (must be no higher than 3/8"). Make certain each hive has an upper entrance. Add 2" closed cell foam above upper entrance. Make certain that rain/water cannot run into brood chambers. Winter strong nucs in their 5 frame nuc boxes side by side with upper entrances and 2" closed cell foam above. Give them 3/4" space above frame top bars to move around. Winter those nucs that fill the five frame box and have at least 4 frames of honey. Attend state beekeeping conferences.