

Washington State Beekeepers Association



Keep the "Bee" in Business

Publication of Washington State Beekeepers Association

June 2004

President's Message

Once again we had a great field day at WSU. I was glad to see many new faces and some old one's. I would like to thank the staff at WSU and our own folks that helped to get everything ready and run the event. Now that we have had two field days I think it is time to evaluate the program and determine what improvements we want to make. Several ideas that came to mind were how could we do a similar program on the west side. Another is that we run the course on the weekend completely. I would really like to see input concerning this program. Send me your thoughts at president@wasba.org.

WSBA sent out its first statewide survey to over 800 beekeepers. I hope everyone takes the time to respond and give us your input. We will be using this information to tailor our programs and support our research. So again it is very important to respond.

Lastly, get signed up for the Oct. convention so Jim Miller doesn't have a heart attack on us! Really, it would be very helpful for our continued planning to see where we are at.

The Honey Flow has finally arrived in Spokane and Spring is over.

Jerry Tate

Washington State Updates

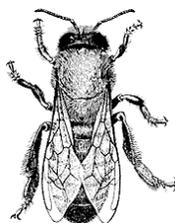
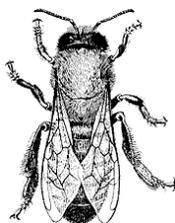
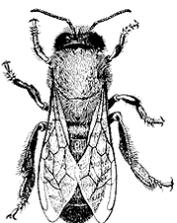
2004 Program Calendar for the Association.

October- WSBA Convention, Spokane Oct 14, 15,16

October- WSBA Executive Board Meeting Oct 14, 4pm

October- WSBA General Membership Meeting **Oct 15** 4pm

January 2005 - WSBA Executive Board &
General Membership Meeting
Cattleman's Club, Ellensburg



Washington State Beekeepers Association Fall Conference, October 14-16, 2004, Spokane WA

Hosted by **Inland Empire Beekeepers Association**, the event will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel in downtown Spokane. The event will kick off with a wine tasting event and will include speakers :

- Frank Merickel: Entomologist and Curator of the Entomology Museum at Univ. of Idaho;
- Dr. Thomas Rinderer: ARS/USDA Baton Rouge, LA;
- Gary Reuter: Apiary Technical Assistant at University of Minnesota; and,
- Dr. Nick Calderone and Dr. Jeff Pettis: Cornell University, Ithaca NY.

To register return the enclosed leaflet, contact Collette Lehinger at 509-924-1001 or visit the Inland Empire Beekeepers website at <http://www.inlandbeemail.com> for more information.

Register early and save

If you haven't seen the Beekeeper Survey, check it out at -

www.wasba.org

Topics include -

- WSU Research
- Honey Bee Pest Management
- WSBA Resources and Training
- Technical Advisory Program
- Legislative and WSDA

If you would like a copy of the survey mailed to you, please contact Paul Lundy at 425-527-4250 or newsletter@wasba.org.

Send in your survey by July 30th to participate!

Introducing the new WSBA apparel now available through mail order. There is also a very nice fleece lined vest not yet pictured. See the enclosed order form for ordering instructions.



Mock turtle neck # 12479-140



Ladies sport shirt # L420-078



Sort shirt # K420-046



Denim shirt # S100-20



T-shirt # 363M-133



Ball caps # 556-000

WSBA Apparel Prices and Sizes

Silk Screened T-Shirt:

Item # 363M-133

Jerzees 100% cotton t-shirts. WSBA logo "Keep the Bee in Business" screen printed on front.

1 color: light oxford gray

Unisex Size S, M, L XL, 2XL, 3XL price each: \$12.00 ship wt. 1.0 lb.

Twill Cap:

Item # 556-000

Six-panel structured cap with self-fabric adjustable closure. WSBA logo embroidered on front.

3 colors: forest green, khaki, and khaki with navy bill

One Size fits all. price each: \$ 15.00 ship wt. 0.5 lb.

Reversible Terra-Tek Nylon and Fleece Vest:

Item # J749-198

Wind-resistant and water-repellent; front and back vents with Velcro closures, zippered slash side pockets & front closure. WSBA logo embroidered on nylon at upper left.

2 colors: hunter green with navy fleece, navy with navy fleece

Unisex Size: XS, S, M, L, XL price each: \$ 40.00 ship wt. 1.5 lb.

Unisex Size: 2XL, 3XL, 4XL price each: \$ 40.00 ship wt. 2.0 lb.

Denim Shirt:

Item # S100-20

Port Authority heavy weight dark blue 7.5 oz. denim. Horn-tone buttons, double-needle stitching, adjustable cuffs, button down collar. WSBA logo embroidered above pocket on left.

1 color: dark blue denim

Unisex Size: XS, S, M, L, XL, price each: \$36.00 ship wt. 1.25 lb.

2XL, 3XL, 4XL price each: \$36.00 ship wt. 1.5 lb.

Sport Shirt:

Item # K420-046

Port Authority 7 oz. pique knit "polo" shirt, soft ring-spun 100% combed cotton. Short sleeve, welt collar and cuffs. WSBA logo embroidered on upper left.

3 colors: dark green, navy, ivory

Unisex sizes: XS, S, M, L, XL price each: \$ 26.00 ship wt. 1.0 lb.

Unisex sizes: 2XL to 6XL price each: \$ 26.00 ship wt. 1.25 lb.

Ladies Sport Shirt:

Item # L420-078

Port Authority 7 oz. pique knit "polo" shirt in soft, ring-spun 100% combed cotton. Short sleeve, welt collar and cuffs, reverse placket. WSBA logo embroidered on upper left.

3 colors: navy, seafoam, white

Ladies Size: XS, S, M, L, XL price each: \$ 26.00 ship wt. 1.0 lb.

Ladies Plus Sizes: 1X, 2X price each: \$ 26.00 ship wt. 1.25 lb.

Mock Turtleneck:

Item #12479-140

Anvil long-sleeve deluxe, 7.1 oz. 100% cotton jersey. Coverseamed neck, double-needle collar and bottom hem. WSBA logo embroidered on upper left.

3 colors: ivy, navy, white

Unisex Size: M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL (no small or x-small)

price each: \$20.00 ship wt. 1.25 lb.

Washington State Updates, continued

JUNE WSU FIELD DAY

At our recent WSU Field Day, your WSU research staff did a great job. Carina Stillman, Sally Hasher, Jamie Stange, Deb Delaney, & Dr. Marina Meixner had a very nice program prepared.

The topics were Varroa Sampling, Queen Flight, Form and Function of the Honey Bee, Preservation of Equipment, Grafting and Breeding, Age Based Behavior and Nuc Making with a Shaker Box. I didn't make it to every workshop, but I heard great things about every one of them.

On Friday I went to the Varroa Sampling at the Feed Mill Apiary. Jamie Strange and Sally Hasher showed us their exacting standards for counting mites on sticky boards. Several of us got the opportunity to do a little sticky board counting. I now see the advantage of buying sticky paper with a grid pattern. It's a lot easier to keep track of the mite count. We then turned to the old ether roll test. Now this is one test I just have never been able to do. The thought of huffing ether and killing a bunch of bees (on purpose) has just not been a priority. Sally Hasher took a frame and tapped bees into a mason jar and before you knew it, Jamie was rolling a bunch of bees in a jar (he estimated around 250) and we were all looking for the little mites. Dump the dead bees out, count the number of mites on the film left in the jar. Now here's the kicker: you then count the dead bees so you can calculate the ratio of mites to bees. Volunteers to count dead bees were few and far between, but the job got done. Jamie's estimate was just a tad off at over 600 bees! We also discussed the powder sugar roll test. The advantage to the powder sugar is you do not kill bees. The disadvantage is you can not truly estimate the ratio of mites to bees.

Jamie then introduced us to a brood nest test by uncapping a representative section of brood to look for mites. He used a small nail and carefully uncapped about 20 cells, tapping the pupae out for inspection. We also got a chance to look at a few drone pupae for mites. Of course the conversation led to other cultures around the world and their use of insects as a source of nutrition. One of our more worldly beekeepers took advantage of the situation and had a tasty snack of worker and drone. I think she said it would have been better with garlic and butter! One last thing: we found less than 10 mites during the entire testing regime. Man, those WSU folks have some mite-free hives. Was I jealous? No, I was really thinking just how inattentive I've been when it comes to Varroa control.

The next stop for me was at the Livestock Pavilion for Deb Delaney's presentation on Form and Function of the honey bee. I've always been interested in the biology of the honey bee so this was really enjoyable. Deb started with an in-depth discussion of the various body parts of the honey bee starting from the head to the abdomen. I think it is very interesting that the worker has 3,000 receptors in each antenna while a drone has 30,000. The more to find their dear queen! Her description of the various specialized parts of legs almost (yes, almost) made me want to go looking for literature to see the legs in detail. Basic bodily functions such as breathing, heart function and the nervous system was covered. Deb admitted that the reproductive system of the honey bee, and especially the drone, was a topic researchers could go on for hours about. I really appreciated the dissection exercises Deb

showed. She started with a basic inspection of the trachea (clean of mites of course) and dissected the complete stinging mechanism, venom glands and all. After looking closely, it is no wonder the darn stinger hurts. Deb also followed this up with the dissection of a drone to show us the drone reproductive system in detail. After that it was definitely time for a beer.

Saturday I attended the Aged-based behavior/swarm behavior/reward behavior presentation at the bee lab. Jamie and Deb set up an observation hive and different concentrations of sugar water in the distance for the bees to forage to demonstrate reward behavior. I enjoyed Deb's discussion on nectar sources and how the bees will forage different sources depending upon weather conditions. That morning it was cold & windy and the bees just were not in the mood to go foraging. Matter of fact I most likely saw more goose bumps than bees. Three age groups of bees were labeled with different colored paint by Jamie so we could see the different age based behaviors in the observation hive. It was very apparent that the yellow painted bees were foragers just waiting to get the heck outside as most were either hanging out at the entrance or in the lower comb area.

At the Hill apiary Dr. Marina Meixner was teaching techniques on grafting queens. Her demonstration of how to pick a larvae from a cell with a plastic spatula and a banana was quite illuminating. OK, so you don't really use a spatula, but Marina's explanation of the how's and why's of careful larvae manipulation almost made me think I could actually do this! I think I'll wait for a caffeine free day when I can find my reading glasses before I try grafting. Marina did give me the confidence that with some careful reading, some advice from Master Beekeepers, and a strong nuc program in my own apiary, it might be possible to raise my own queens.

I did stop by the Nuc making with a shaker box lesson toward the end of the day (of course after all the hard work was done) and watched Tim and Connie Bueler finish up more nucs than I would ever think to tackle. Man, they really made dumping bees by the thousands look so easy! By that time of the day the wind was getting a bit annoying so it was time to take a break and head for lunch at the Livestock Pavilion.

At the general membership meeting later in the day we discussed the possibility of having this kind of Beekeeper Workshop west of the Cascades. Maybe we'll see how much enthusiasm we can generate to make it happen.



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Washington State Updates, continued

June 5, 2004 General Meeting in Pullman

There were 32 people present when Lee Massey called the meeting to order. Jerry Tate was unable to attend.

REPORTS

The Secretary's Report - A motion was carried to accept the **Minutes** of the last meeting as published in the April Newsletter.

The Treasurer's Report - Lisa Knox gave handouts for the Treasurer's Report. She went over each item. Money was transferred from the Carl Van Wechel Research Fund into a 1 year CD under the name Carl Van Wechel. There is currently \$49,361.37 in checking, savings accounts and three funds. There is also \$10,825.58 in two Certificates of Deposit. The motion to accept the treasurer's report was carried.

Checking	\$ 1,516.75	Savings	\$ 2,878.56
PR fund	\$ 1,011.85	CD's	\$10,825.58
Research funds	\$44,966.06		

Membership Report - Lisa Knox announced we now have 97 members. Three new members joined during this weekend function.

Master Beekeepers- Jim Pefley had nothing to report. The Master Beekeepers have not met.

WSBA Newsletter - Paul would like to get articles from people taking their Journeymen tests or going to go for Masters. He also hinted that maybe Bob Arnold would contribute (or was he pleading).

Area Reps –

Area 1 - Tim Bueler said all was looking good and locals are beginning to take an interest in beekeeping. The weather is warmer and dryer.

Area 2- Robert Smith – The Olympic peninsula SW WA to Vancouver. Robert says there are only 3 or 4 members in his area. The winter losses seemed to be about average. The blackberries seem to be looking very good and so he anticipates a good year. Lots of package bees were sold and purchased in the area.

Area 3 – Upper Yakima Valley- Eric Olson was not present.

Area 3- Lower Yakima Valley – Arlene Massey said coming back from pollination they had a lot of bees. There is still a Russian olive flow in her area. They are getting ready to send bees to South Dakota. They already have some hives in Montana. This area represents one of the oldest clubs in the state she said, and they want to get a club started again. The Massey's still donate prizes in the name of Central Washington Beekeepers Association.

Area 4 -Miriam Bishop from the Okanogan and We-

natchee area. Miriam said it has been an unusually wet spring so there are lots of interesting things growing. There are not many beekeepers living in the Okanogan valley so she has been making a point to introduce herself to anyone working a hive.

Area 5 – John Pettigrew for the Columbia Basin and Eastern Washington said his bees are doing great! His 4 hives wintered over and he has lots of other beekeepers around his area.

Area 6 – Bob Arnold for Northeast Washington and Northern Idaho. “Things are doing pretty good”, he reported. “Lots of pollen and nectar - last few weeks have been very wet. Knapweed up to 4 feet tall!”

OLD BUSINESS

Frank Seiler handled **The State Convention** report. Handouts had been distributed at the picnic and were also given out at this meeting. There will be some really good speakers at the convention. He explained a little about what to expect. For more information people may go on line to www.WASBA.org or contact Jim Miller. Get your registration forms in as the IEBA needs to make commitments to the hotel for rooms.

Lee Massey told us about the picture Eric bid on at the State Convention. It was taken to California and was auctioned at over \$1,000. The queen breeders raised over \$10,000 for research in California!

Survey report from Paul- The survey is out and he would appreciate everyone responding. The deadline to respond is July 30th.

The TAP program. - Miriam Bishop presented the report for Jim Miller. It was discussed at the TAP meeting that TAP representatives will be at the Journeyman or Master level. She laid out some program ideas. TAP wants to bring in instructors to teach at a college level. Some of those attending would pay for their own expenses and also there would be scholarships available. A letter of intent could be given in exchange for housing and tuition. In exchange the person would be willing to share the information learned with his local association. “They could learn at our expense in order to teach and train at their local associations.”

This two-prong approach has the advantages of paying participants as well as sponsored participants. It will fill all of the chairs and it will be encouraging to the State and other grant agencies to assist because there will be matching funds. Some suggestions were made by the members present regarding a central location and facilities for the sessions which would probably be held in the months of January or February. Another idea was training by correspondence. Jamie Strange has been lined up to be the grant writer.

Robert Smith reminded members to submit names for the **Beekeeper of the Year**. The submissions must be in by Sept. 20, 2004. Mr. Smith offered suggestions on how to choose a nominee.

Many WSBA logo items were purchased during this two-day event. A motion was made to place the profits from the sales of merchandise into the PR fund. The motion was carried.

Members present asked if Jerry Tate will be working on some Section 18 material for formic acid for Washington State.

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Meeting Minutes, continued

(Continued from page 5)

NEW BUSINESS

President Jerry Tate is still receiving information for the committee to review the bylaws.

President Tate had suggested an additional meeting in January so there would not be a long lapse between meetings. It was decided that the meeting would be held the week of January 8, 2005. The commercial beekeepers will still be in the area and therefore, they can attend.

Mr. Massey asked what suggestions could be made to make the June meetings better.

A motion was made for WSBA to recommend that we implement a plan of one year to meet at WSU and the next year to meet in Puyallup. The motion was carried.

WSBA Web site - Frank would like pictures from everyone. He has some great ideas for the web page and would like to "put more flesh" on the site. A suggestion was made for a Want Ad section. He reminded everyone that Associations that are not members of WASBA could still get links to the site. This will help to educate all beekeepers.

On that joyous note the meeting was adjourned.

Regional Updates

GloryBee Foods takes top exporter award

Capital Press Friday, June 04, 2004

By JOHN SCHMITZ Freelance Writer

GloryBee Foods Inc., a company that manufactures and packages a broad range of honey, beekeeping and craftsmen products, was named Oregon Exporter of the Year for 2004 at ceremonies held in Portland recently.

The award, which was presented at a luncheon by Marty Brantley, director of the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department, was one of several Governor's International Business Achievement Awards given to Oregon companies that have excelled in world trade.

"The awards highlight those companies, organizations and individuals that have made a significant contribution to Oregon's position in the global marketplace," said Mike Doyle, manager of OECD's International Division.

Established in 1975, GloryBee Foods has grown from a small, home-based business to a company that employs close to 70 people and operates out of a 50,000-square-foot complex north of Eugene, Ore.

In addition to packing natural and organic honey products,

(Continued on page 7)

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Regional Updates, continued

(Continued from page 6)

the company maintains a huge mail order division that sells over 2,000 different food and non-food products, including candle-, candy- and soap-making supplies.

One of the reasons GloryBee was chosen for the award is its aggressiveness, said International Division program coordinator Patty McWayne.

“Their markets are diverse and they’re always looking at new ones,” she said.

Another GloryBee achievement was its handling of customs obstacles that had been preventing the marketing of GloryBee honey and royal jelly in Italy.

“When they came across a problem, they didn’t just say we won’t do business in Italy,” McWayne said. “They stuck with it and worked with different government organizations to (address) the problem.”

GloryBee’s export program began about 12 years ago when founder and owner Richard Turanski began looking for offshore customers for the honey produced by his Oregon suppliers.

Since then he has expanded his operation to where the company is now contracting for honey production around the United States and abroad.

GloryBee Foods export sales manager Dan Shaneyfelt is responsible for a lot of the success that brought the company to the attention of OECDD, including the filing of the application for top exporter honors.

“It’s an honor we’re still very excited about, and likely will be forever,” Shaneyfelt said. The award came as a surprise to almost everyone at GloryBee except Shaneyfelt. “I didn’t tell anybody except Dick (Turanski) what I had done.”

Shaneyfelt said both domestic and export sales have been growing at an impressive clip for GloryBee.

“Our exports have grown by a factor of about 100 percent

(in the last two years) and the rest of the organization has had the same kind of growth,” he said.

GloryBee’s export business has been based primarily on honey products such as HoneyStix, which are very thin tubes of various kinds of honey. “The export activity right now has been primarily limited to retail-ready packaged products, a selection of specialty honeys that come from the Pacific Northwest, honeys like raspberry and blueberry.”

Organic sweeteners, such as blackstrap molasses and nutraceutical products containing royal jelly, propolis or bee pollen are also part of the lineup.

While soap- and candle-making kits and supplies have not done well abroad, Shaneyfelt said this should be changing as the company devotes more of its resources to export activities.

Until recently GloryBee was not selling much bulk honey offshore.

(Continued on page 9)



WSBA Beekeeper Classified Ad Form

Classified ads are \$5 per insertion, for a maximum of 30 words. **(FREE for WSBA Members).**

To place an ad, please fill out and mail this form, with payment made out to:

Washington State Beekeepers Association

c/o Newsletter Editor

P.O. Box 1331

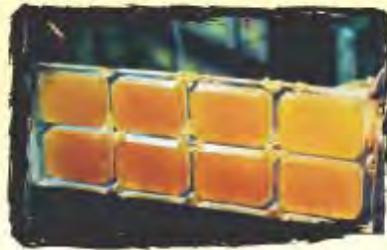
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Please **CLEARLY PRINT** your ad below. Don’t forget to include your contact information (phone, fax, e-mail).

Your ad will run in the next printing of the Newsletter when received by the 15th of the month prior to publication. **The ad will run for two (2) newsletters.** (You may email your submission to plundy@seagen.com and mail your payment to the P.O. Box.)

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WWW.GLORYBEEFOODS.COM

GBF
GloryBee Foods, Inc.

Regional Updates, continued

(Continued from page 7)

“That is something that’s in the process of changing,” Shaneyfelt said. “We’ve been working on a more favorable environment for us to be able to compete on bulk honeys.”

Here, GloryBee is thinking outside the 55-gallon drum.

“We’re not interested in selling a couple of drums here and there,” he said. “There’s a tremendous amount of demand for container loads of honey.”

A container holds around 70 drums.

Shaneyfelt said that new honey handling and processing equipment installed recently has made it possible for the company to think containers. “It’s allowed us to instantly double our honey production capacity,” he said.

He added that GloryBee is not going to address export expansion modestly.

“There’s plenty of opportunity out there for us but we don’t want to bite off more than we can chew,” he said.

All honey comes in raw. “We take it straight from the honeycomb,” Shaneyfelt said.

Another venture the company is involved in is lining up South American honey producers in the East who can supply potential European customers.

Until now GloryBee could not compete in Europe, due mainly to the shipping expenses involved.

From the inception of its export program, GloryBee’s best customers have been Pacific Rim countries. The company recently landed a large order for non-honey organic sweeteners and HoneyStix from a new Middle East distributor.

“It’s the single largest order GloryBee has ever had,” he said.

Shaneyfelt said that until last year honey production in the United States had fallen off, mainly due to dumping by some offshore producers, such as China and Argentina. Now that U.S. wholesale prices have nearly doubled due to anti-dumping duties slapped on imports, “people are jumping back into the game.”

A lot of GloryBee’s success abroad has been due to cost-sharing funds for export market development by OECDD.

GloryBee is applying to a USDA agency, Western United States Agricultural Trade Association, for additional cost-sharing funds.



Research Reviewed, Dr. Sheppard

Mite control products affect honey bee queens

“...these findings strongly support the common sense wisdom that beekeepers should strive for prudent and minimal use of pesticides inside honey bee colonies”

With the introduction of *Varroa destructor* to the US beekeeping scene, life in the apiary as we knew it changed dramatically. No longer was it possible for a few colonies out in the backyard to produce annual honey yields for the *laissez faire* beekeeper and then, “take care of themselves”. Shockingly high numbers of colony losses greeted the inattentive beekeeper of the last decade. After a steep learning curve, beekeepers surviving from the pre-*Varroa* days or those that started anew found it critical to manage mite populations to maintain viable honey bee colonies.

The most popular method of *V. destructor* control in the US has been the use of fluvalinate or coumaphos impregnated plastic strips (Apistan® and Checkmite+®, respectively) placed inside the beehive. For many beekeepers, the ease of use and effectiveness of these plastic strip formulations reduced any interest to monitor mite populations or to consider Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approaches. With an IPM approach, a beekeeper monitors the mite population and then treats only when the population reaches an economically damaging level.

The development of *V. destructor* resistance, first to fluvalinate and then to coumaphos, means that the future of mite management will, of necessity, move toward IPM. However, that is the topic for another column.

In this month’s column we consider a research publication that demonstrates the negative effects of both fluvalinate and coumaphos on queen honey bees (Haarmann et al. 2002). Dr. Haarmann and colleagues conducted a number of experiments in California and Texas queen breeding operations designed to evaluate the effects of fluvalinate and coumaphos on developing and mature queens. I outline a few of these experiments below.

The researchers set up three strong queenless colonies in Califor-

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Research, continued

(Continued from page 9)

nia (as starter/finisher colonies) and used them to raise daughter queens. The colonies contained either a high dose (8 fluvalinate strips attached or around the grafting frame), low dose (2 fluvalinate strips attached) or no fluvalinate (plastic control strip). Each colony received a frame of grafted larvae (48) in plastic cell cups. After 10 days, the resulting queen cells were moved to individual nucleus colonies (nucs) also containing differing amounts of fluvalinate (high dose nucs = 1 fluvalinate strip, low dose = 1/4 fluvalinate strip, control = no fluvalinate). The researchers also collected wax and bee samples at the beginning and end of the nuc experiment and queen cell wax samples at the end. After 8 weeks, 8 queens from each treatment group were collected and analyzed for weight, ovarian weight, number of sperm in the spermatheca and *Nosema* spore levels.

The researchers conducted a similar experiment using coumaphos (high dose = 4 coumaphos strips, low dose = one coumaphos strip, control = plastic strip – no coumaphos). However, after 6 days they noticed that the queen cells were being torn down or contained dead or abnormally developing queens. They were unable to rear viable queens in either the high dose or low dose conditions! They then repeated the experiment at a lower dose and with some other changes, but were able to get only 8 viable cells (out of 160). A queen emerged from this group but had severe physical abnormalities and uncoordinated movements. The third repetition of the experiment – with the high dose now consisting of a single coumaphos strip placed 5 cm away from the queen cells and with only 24 hour exposure, at last resulted in viable cells. These were then moved to nucs and queens analyzed as in the fluvalinate experiments. Additional sets of experiments tested coumaphos in a Texas queen rearing operation in a manner similar to the above.

Queen effects were noticeable in the fluvalinate experiments. The queens from the high dose group had significantly reduced mean weights compared to the queens produced with low fluvalinate dose or control. (As an aside: In a number of insect studies, the mean weight of a female has been shown to be related to her overall fecundity (reproductive output). Thus, more weight = greater fecundity.) No measurable effects were seen on mean sperm count or ovary weight. The wax levels of fluvalinate were variable and did not correspond to the doses used. *Nosema* spores were absent from any of the experimental samples in all groups.

The results of the coumaphos experiments were even more striking. Recall that the researchers were unable to produce queens at the initial levels of coumaphos dosages tested. When queens were finally reared using reduced dosages of coumaphos, they were significantly lower in weight, in mean ovary weight and in the number of sperm contained in their spermatheca than queens reared in the control colonies. The coumaphos levels detected in wax and bee samples were highest in the colonies that received the highest dose (in both California and Texas experiments). The Texas experiments also demonstrated a significant reduction in

(Continued on page 11)

Classified Ads

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Beekeeping Supplies, Custom Honey Extraction, Package Bees & Education
www.Millershomestead.com

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WSBA "Proudly Produced in Washington" gold labels for sale. Rolls of 500 are \$ 7⁰⁰ each. To order, Call 360-297-6743 or email myrasprings@centurytel.net.



Here is a free resource for beekeepers sponsored by Glenn Engel:
<http://www.mybeehives.com>

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Research Reviewed, continued

(Continued from page 10)

queen weight and ovary weight in queens reared with coumaphos, but did not find a reduction in sperm levels in the spermatheca.

The research by Haarmaan et al. provides a practical demonstration of the sublethal effects of fluvalinate and coumaphos in honey bee colonies. Developing honey bee queens had a higher tolerance for fluvalinate than coumaphos in these experiments, although the negative effects of both compounds need to be considered in a queen production operation. While the potentially damaging effects of coumaphos to queen-rearing colonies were obvious, the researchers pointed out that the impact of coumaphos on worker brood needs to be more fully explored. They conclude, "It is probable that (worker) larvae in the cells near coumaphos strips would be negatively impacted by ... coumaphos. Additionally, residue accumulation in comb will probably be quite high..."

This research assessed the interaction between developing queens and the two compounds most widely used to control *Varroa* mites in the US, using a field-based experimental design with clear practical applications. The mechanisms of the negative interaction between fluvalinate, coumaphos and developing queens remain unclear, but similar experiments of this type should prove useful to assess sublethal effects of other mite control compounds currently being used or proposed.

As to the question of what does this research mean to everyday beekeeping? To me, these findings strongly support the common sense wisdom that beekeepers should strive for prudent and minimal use of pesticides inside honey bee colonies.

Reference:

Haarmaan, T., M. Spivak, D. Weaver, B. Weaver and T. Glenn. 2002. Effect of fluvalinate and coumaphos on queen honey bees (Hymenoptera: Apidae) in two commercial queen rearing operations. *Journal of Economic Entomology* 95:28-35.

Dr. W. Steve Sheppard, Thurber Chair, Department of Entomology, Washington State University, Pullman WA 99164-6382, shepp@mail.wsu.edu

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National Updates

National Honey Board

Organic Continues to Grow

The Organic Trade Association reports (<http://www.ota.com/news/press/141.html>) that organic food sales grew 20.4% during 2003, to reach \$10.38 billion. U.S. organic food sales have increased between 17% and 21% each year since 1997 (to nearly triple in sales), while total U.S. food sales over the same time period have grown only 2% to 4% a year.

In related news, the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service is proposing amendments to 16 commodity research and promotion programs (including the National Honey Board). The changes would exempt producers and marketers of solely 100% organic products from paying assessments.

Congress on Beekeeping in Food and Agriculture Planned

Plan to attend the Havana, Cuba International Congress on Beekeeping in Food and Agriculture Sept. 7 - 9, 2004. Cuba has a highly developed infrastructure around beekeeping and bee-related programs, ranging from support of localized production to integration into national agricultural policy. E-mail blubic@aol.com for more information and travel arrangements.

International Updates

HONEYBEE IMPORTATION PROHIBITION REGULATIONS

Information Bulletin

OTTAWA, May 21, 2004 -- *The Honeybee Importation Prohibition Regulations, 2004* have been enacted to permit an exemption for the import into Canada of honeybee queens and their attendants from the continental U.S. The prohibition for importing any other honeybees from the continental U.S. will remain in effect.

The new regulations came into force on May 19, 2004 and will be published in *Canada Gazette*, Part II, on June 2, 2004. A copy of the amendments can be obtained, on or after June 2, from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Web site at www.inspection.gc.ca or the *Canada Gazette* Web site at <http://www.inspection.gc.ca>

International Update, continued

canadagazette.gc.ca/index-e.html.

The *Honeybee Importation Prohibition Regulations, 2004* are in response to the requests of Canadian beekeepers, the changing animal health status of Canadian honeybees and a risk assessment undertaken by the CFIA which determined that the importation of honeybee queens posed a lower risk than packaged bees of introducing new bee diseases into Canada. Representatives of the beekeeping industry and provincial governments were consulted as part of the review.

Canadian beekeepers have faced increasing difficulties in obtaining the necessary number of honeybee queens for the honey production and pollination seasons due to winter losses and limited availability from Hawaii, New Zealand and Australia. Importing honeybee queens from the continental U.S. will help Canadian beekeepers replenish their stock with a minimum risk of introducing new bee diseases.

The safe importation of honeybee queens enables the government to support the sustainability and expansion of Canada's beekeeping industry while minimizing the introduction and spread of new honeybee diseases and pests. Importation will only be permitted in a manner that will minimize the risk of entry of new bee diseases or pests and Africanized honeybees.

The proposed regulations were published in Part I of the *Canada Gazette* on April 10, 2004, for a 30-day comment period.

For more information, please contact:

CFIA Media Relations
(613) 228-6682

Other News

Marking the Queen

The queen is best handled with bare hands (no she won't sting you) in the bathroom with the light on and the toilet lid down so she does not accidentally take a swim. One method is to pick the queen up by the wings then hold her gently by the legs. Another method is to hold her pressed down on to the comb so that she's immobile. Suggested thorax marking materials include: White-out, Testers model paint, or a professional marking kit from bee suppliers. Some materials are too toxic to use on queens. The three listed above are OK if care is taken to keep it on top of the thorax.



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Queens, Bees, Honey & Pollination



The International Honey Bee Queen Marking

five color codes:
Years ending in -
0 or 5 are blue,
1 or 6 are white,
2 or 7 are yellow,
3 or 8 are red,
4 or 9 are green.

Following this code informs you how old the queen is. If you order your queens marked, these are the colors of those marks.

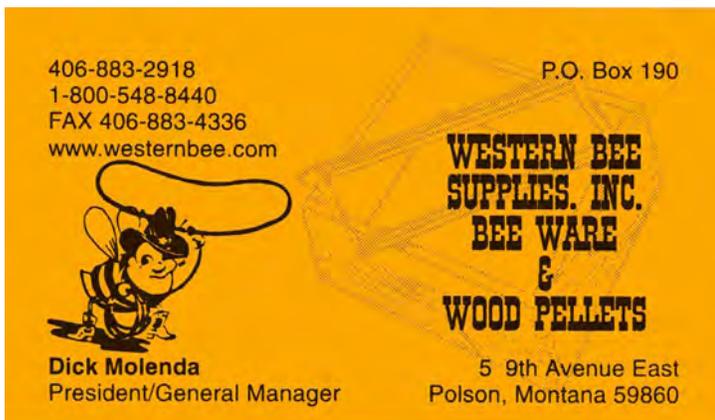
Your Editor

Ah yes. June in Kingston is so very nice. The day before going to Pullman I discovered a queenless hive. So, with no extra queens and needing to pack the car, I combined it with another queen right hive.

Back from Pullman, Van Sherod gave me my Journeyman Beekeeping practical exam. The exam went well. I am continuously amazed at the wealth of information that Van holds. He is the consummate teacher always gently releasing beekeeping facts and suggestions that really stick with me.

I went to the West Sound Beekeepers meeting and was gratified to see an enthusiasm for educating beginning beekeepers and a continuing interest in the Master Beekeepers Program. After the meeting there was a tremendous amount of discussion on establishing a local scholarship program. I had a brief moment to chat with some folks who came to the meeting from the North Olympic Beekeepers based in Sequim. It is great to know we all just want to learn and share beekeeping.

Paul Lundy



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Accommodations

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Tel: (509) 455-9600
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www.doubletreehotels.com



The Doubletree Hotel is situated next to Riverfront Park and the Spokane River, the hotel is in the heart of downtown Spokane, adjacent to the Opera House, just minutes from the cultural arts district and within walking distance to over 20 restaurants and shopping.

Rates...

We have been able to secure several rooms for the attendees at special negotiated rates:
Two night lodging for one or two guests : \$158

Guestrooms...

Guestrooms feature a coffee maker with complimentary coffee, full iron & ironing board, hairdryer, Neutrogena bath products, data port phones with voicemail and 27" Cable Televisions with Lodgenet digital movies.

Other hotel features and Services...

- Complimentary Airport Shuttle Service
- Convenient On-site Free Parking
- Fitness Room with Dry Sauna
- Indoor Pool



Registration

To register, please complete and mail the enclosed Registration Form to :

Colette Lehinger
IEBA Treasurer
11616 East 48th
Spokane, WA 99206

- Make checks payable to Inland Empire Beekeepers Association
- Please note that a downloadable version of the Registration form can be printed from www.inlandbeemail.com
- Remember to register early to take advantage of better rates!

Directions

The 2004 Annual Meeting will be held October 14, 15, 16, 2004 at the:



DOUBLETREE HOTEL
322 N. Spokane Falls Court
Spokane, WA 99201
Tel: (509) 455-9600
Fax: (509) 455-6285
www.doubletreehotels.com

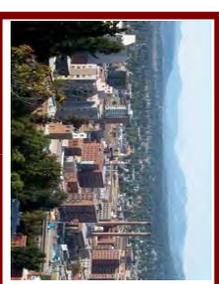
- **By Car:** From Interstate 90, Take Exit #281 (Division Street & US-2 N/US-395). Follow Division Street north for 6 blocks. Turn left onto Spokane Falls Blvd. Hotel will be on your right. Turn right onto Spokane Falls Court. THERE IS A PARKING LOT. PARKING FEE WILL BE WAIVED FOR ATTENDEES.
- **By Plane:** Spokane is just an hour by plane from Seattle with several airlines servicing flights on an hourly basis. **COMPLIMENTARY SHUTTLE SERVICE BETWEEN AIRPORT AND HOTEL.**

For more information

Please contact Jim Miller (509) 299-9035
or visit www.inlandbeemail.com

WASHINGTON STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

**ANNUAL MEETING
2004**



**October 14, 15, 16, 2004
Spokane, WA**

DOUBLETREE HOTEL
322 N. Spokane Falls Court
Spokane, WA 99201

Washington State Beekeepers Association Annual Meeting Agenda Overview

THURSDAY OCTOBER 14

4:00PM - 6:00PM - Washington State Beekeepers Executive Board Meeting. *Executive Board Room.*

6:00PM – 9:00PM - Registration and Wine Tasting. *Shades Conference Room.* Come enjoy an assortment of wines from various regions of France. Donated by the Inland Empire Beekeepers Association.

* Please note that all programs and meals will take place in Salon I, II & III unless otherwise stated.



FRIDAY OCTOBER 15

6:15AM - 7:45AM - Breakfast and Registration

8:00AM - 8:15AM - Welcome by WSBA President Jerry Tate

8:15AM - 8:30AM - Program Outline by Jim Miller

8:30AM - 9:20AM - Introduction to insects, native pollinators, and honeybees
Frank Merckel - Entomologist and Curator of the Entomology Museum at University of Idaho

Mid Morning Snack

9:30AM - 10:20AM - Introduction to sound apicultural research, controlled experiments, interpreting result
Dr. Thomas Rinderer - ARS/USDA Baton Rouge, LA

10:30AM - 11:20AM - Cold Climate Beekeeping
Gary Reuter - Apiary Technical Assistant at University of Minnesota

11:45AM - 1:00PM – Lunch

1:00PM - 1:50PM - Pesticides in the beehive, problems & alternatives
Dr. Nick Calderone - Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

2:00PM - 2:50PM - 1PM introduction and concepts
Dr. Jeff Pettis -Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

Afternoon Snack

3:00PM - 3:50PM - Introduction of new bee races, quarantine studies
Dr. Steve Sheppard - WSU, Pullman, WA

4:00PM - 5:00PM - WSBA General Membership Meeting

7:00PM – 9:30PM - Friday Evening Dinner and Auction. Auction to Start at 8:00PM

SATURDAY OCTOBER 16

6:15AM - 7:45AM – Breakfast and Registration

7:55AM - 8:00AM - Program Outline by Jim Miller

8:05AM - 8:50 AM - Russian Bee Breeding, Genetics, and Physiology Research
Dr. Thomas Rinderer - ARS/USDA Baton Rouge, LA

8:55AM - 9:40AM - AFB - Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow
Dr. Nick Calderone - Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

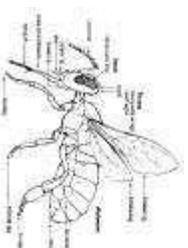
Mid Morning Snack

9:50AM - 10:35AM - Miticide effects on queen health
Dr. Jeff Pettis - Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

10:40AM - 11:25AM - Cold Climate Over wintering
Gary Reuter - Apiary Technical Assistant at University of Minnesota

11:30AM - 11:50AM - Current WSU Research
Dr. Steve Sheppard - WSU, Pullman, WA

11:50AM - Closing Remarks by WSBA President Jerry Tate



A Few Key Reasons to Attend this Annual Meeting

- Education. Learn from the wealth of knowledge that the speakers will provide.
- Meet Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho beekeepers. Learn how we manage our bees.
- Vendor Booths. Visit with your favorite suppliers. See the latest in beekeeping equipment (Salon III).
- Camaraderie with other beekeepers. Share ideas, problems and solutions with other fellow beekeepers.
- Great time of year to visit Spokane.
- Enjoy the great outdoors. The meeting will be taking place alongside the Centennial Trail and Riverfront Park is next door.
- No traffic congestion!



Spokane, The Lilac City

For more info on Spokane...

- Visit Spokane City On Line
www.spokanecity.org
- For food lovers...
 - Spokane Dining Locations
www.inlandnwliving.net/spokanedining.htm
 - For music lovers...
 - Operahouse
www.spokanecenter.com/calendar.htm
 - Spokane Civic Center
www.spokanecivictheatre.com
 - Spokane Symphony
www.spokanesymphony.org

Registration Form

If you are interesting in attending the WSBA Annual Meeting 2004, fill out the following registration form and mail to:

Colette Lehinger
IEBA Treasurer
11616 East 48th
Spokane, WA 99206

- Make checks payable to Inland Empire Beekeepers Association
- For more detailed information on menus and programs please visit: www.inlandbeemail.com
- Remember to register early to take advantage of better rates!
- If you have any questions or require additional info please contact Jim Miller (509)299-9035 or visit www.inlandbeemail.com

NAME OF GUEST(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE (DAY): _____

PHONE (NIGHT): _____

- If you will be lodging at the Doubletree Hotel please circle your preferences:

Room Type : Smoking or Non-Smoking

Check In Date: October 14 or October 15

Check Out Date: October 15 or October 16

- Kindly make your Option Selections on the other side of this leaflet

OPTION #1

Available only if register before May 1, 2004
INCLUDES LECTURES, MEALS AND ROOM FOR ONE OR TWO

One Guest.....\$180 _____
Second Guest.....\$160 _____
Lodging for 2 nights...\$158 _____
(1-2 guests)

TOTAL _____

OPTION #2

Available if register b/w May 1 - Aug 31, 2004
INCLUDES LECTURES, MEALS AND ROOM FOR ONE OR TWO

One Guest.....\$195 _____
Second Guest.....\$170 _____
Lodging for 2 nights...\$158 _____
(1-2 guests)

TOTAL _____

OPTION #3

Available if register after September 1, 2004
INCLUDES LECTURES, MEALS AND ROOM FOR ONE OR TWO

One Guest.....\$210 _____
Second Guest.....\$180 _____
Lodging for 2 nights...\$158 _____
(1-2 guests)

TOTAL _____

OPTION #4

INCLUDES ONLY MEALS

(Ideal for guests accompanying a WSBA member who do not wish to attend lectures)

Friday Breakfast..... \$21.80 x ____ = _____
Friday Lunch..... \$24.38 x ____ = _____
Friday Dinner **..... \$37.31 x ____ = _____
Saturday Breakfast... \$21.80 x ____ = _____

TOTAL _____

**If you choose to attend Friday's dinner please circle your dinner selection : chicken or salmon

OPTION #5

INCLUDES ONLY LECTURES

Lectures only..... \$130 x ____ = _____

TOTAL _____

GRAND TOTAL _____

WSBA BEEKEEPER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Local Associations are asked to submit a candidate of their choice to receive the WSBA Beekeeper of the Year Award, to be presented at the annual meeting's dinner in October.

The selections are to be described in writing, not to exceed one page.

Beekeeper of the Year Criteria: Which beekeeper has done the most to promote and demonstrate good beekeeping, improve the public image of the industry and/or show how this member has volunteered for civic and other projects.

The 2004 Deadline for submissions is September 20th. Please send your candidate selection to Bob Smith. Contact Bob at:

15525 Castle SE
Yelm, WA 98597
Phone: 360-894-2159

P. Lundy
Washington State Beekeepers Association
Newsletter Editor
P.O. Box 1331
Kingston, WA 98346-1331

