

THE HONEY BEE

"The honey bee is not a native. There were none in North America when the Spanish explorers arrived. Settlers coming in later expeditions brought them, and at first the Indians called them the 'white man's fly' -- By now, as pollinating agents, they perform a far more important duty than producing honey and beeswax. In the pioneer stages of American agriculture, bumblebees, and other native pollinating insects that fed upon the nectar and pollen were everywhere. But the planting of vast areas which once were forests, prairies, and swamps with fields of grain, orchards, and gardens upset the delicate balance of Nature. Widespread cultivation of single plants in huge acreages brought about an abnormal condition of insect population. Injurious species, afforded an enormous food supply, prospered and multiplied until now serious insect pests menace almost every important crop." Written by James I. Hambleton and published in the National Geographic Magazine, April 1935 issue. This issue contains a wealth of information about bees, pollination, beekeeping and beekeepers with illustrations of beekeeping in many lands and contains page after page of both black and white and colored illustrations and data. Colored illustration VIII shows the honey from the star thistle, orange honey and the dark colored buckwheat with a footnote. "The most skilled chemist has been unable to duplicate the product of the bee."

(Let us hope that beekeepers will support the research now being conducted to prove that the synthetic imitations are such, and chemical analysis to prove it.)

EAS JOURNAL
c/o J. C. Matthenius, Jr.
516 Victory Avenue
Phillipsburg, N. J. 08865

L J CONNOR PH D
249 COTTSWOLD
DELAWARE OHIO 43015

EAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

(continued from page 5)

Florida. His research is aimed at curing and preventing the transmission of the disease which is related to thermal stress in many cases.

Alphonse Avitable, U-Conn, Waterbury, reported on his investigations of colonies building combs in dark, but unprotected areas. The abhorrent behavior usually results in loss of the colony during the winter probably from insufficient wind protection.

AWARDS

The Friday night awards banquet featured the introduction of The Hambleton Award. Winner Dr. Furgala made presentation of solid silver bowl prizes. Awards were as follows:

The President's Trophy for Chunk Honey - Al Delicata, Mass.

Dadant & Sons Beeswax Trophy - John Tardie, Vermont.

R. B. Willson Trophy for Extracted Honey - John Cantatory, New Jersey.

A. I. Root Trophy for Comb Honey - Ray Churchill, New Jersey.

Lagrant Trophy for Honey Cookery - Mrs. D. Luette, New Jersey.

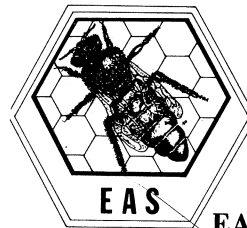
Carlton Slater Trophy for Mead - Charles MacDonald, Mass.

Thomas E. Raney Trophy for Gadget - Norman Bantz, Conn.

Sweepstakes Bowl EAS - Mrs. D. Luette, New Jersey.

The next EAS Conference is planned for Virginia Polytechnic Institute in Blacksburg. The Conference will be in air-conditioned buildings August 11-14. The Society will welcome new members and looks forward to increased participation in annual conferences.

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EAS JOURNAL

EASTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA, INC.

OCTOBER, 1975

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from Virginia: All conferees, I trust, made pleasant journeys home after our conference at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy. I want to display my personal gratitude to the many people -- especially the Anderssons and Magees -- who organized the 1975 conference. The arrival of the Bay City and the boat rides were signal events never to be relived -- well, not in Virginia anyway.

The conduct of our Virginia organizers should be adequate, though, to give you all some pleasures and a chance or two at some personal betterment.

SELLING HONEY IN VIRGINIA: One of the issues treated in the 1975 conference resolutions, was this matter of marketing. We in Virginia will implement a honey sale for E.A.S. members. Holding a sale comes second nature to our country people; I will earnestly try to put together an event that is downright fun as well as fulfilling the hopes of those who view going to market as a pleasant adjunct to the fellowship and self-improvement we have come to expect. The type of sale to hold is open for discussion, of course. Virginia will probably run a "choice - and - privilege" sale because it does not obligate the seller to bring to the sale any more than a sample of honey, or a small quantity of honey representing the size units being offered for sale, e.g., cases, cans, barrels. A buyer then has the privilege of buying more units at the sale price, f.o.b. seller's door. (there is not really a language barrier in Virginia, in fact, you will enjoy hearing in use, some of the older terms. Here is your first lesson: greater wax moth is a candle fly.)

Conference Program in Virginia: The workshops in Massachusetts were a success; Virginia will follow their lead and run some workshops. How to make moonshine will not be offered. The higher skills such as mead making and wax working are more our style. Untried program speakers will be held to a minimum, but in the interest of innovation, not eliminated.

Accommodations in Virginia: Our host institution, VPI & SU, is a big school by any standards and has a beautiful campus. If all the changes they make in our plans follow the pattern established by the latest one, we are in clover. "Latest change" refers



Eastern Apicultural Society President and First Lady Pat and Carol Powers.

to the number of air conditioned twin rooms allocated to us. You may remember I promised 102 air-conditioned rooms; well, that number has been revised to 108.

Home P. Powers
September 10, 1975

E.A.S. MEETING SCHEDULE

1976 Meeting
V.P.I. & S.U., Blacksburg, Va., Aug. 11-14.
1977 Meeting
University of Delaware, Newark, Del., Aug. 17-20
1978 Meeting
Ohio.
1979 Meeting
Ottawa, Canada (if approved)



Dr. Basil Furgala, recipient of the 1975 James I. Hambleton Award. We were very fortunate to have Dr. Furgala deliver a paper at the E.A.S. meeting this year.



We would like to thank Jack Bittlingmayer (above) for the wonderful musical entertainment he supplied at the E.A.S. banquet in Bourne. We would also like to thank John Romanik for his Russian dancing. We all look forward to seeing both these gentlemen next year at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

EAS JOURNAL
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1. No more than four hives of honeybees for each one-quarter acre or less of lot size shall be maintained on any lot.
2. No hive of honeybees shall be maintained within ten feet of a boundary line of the lot on which said hive is located.
3. A six foot hedge or fence (partition) shall be placed between the hive and the neighbors if the hive is ten feet from the neighbors yard and the entrance faces the neighbor's yard.
4. No hive of honeybees shall be maintained unless an adequate supply of water shall be furnished within twenty feet of said hive at all times between March 1 and October 31 of each year.
5. No hive of honeybees shall be maintained unless such hive is inspected not less than four times between March 1 and October 31 of each year by the owner of the lot on which said hive is located or his delegate. A written record including the date of such inspection shall be maintained by said owner and shall be available by authorized individuals.
6. No hive of honeybees shall be maintained in a residential area in such a manner as shall constitute a substantial nuisance:

Fred Peabody

STATE'S BEE DISEASE CONTROL LAW CHANGED

As a move to streamline the statutes affecting Wisconsin's beekeeping industry, the State Legislature has revised the state's Honey Bee Disease Control Law which has been in effect for many years.

According to Samuel B. Ferguson, chief apiarist with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, the revisions have eliminated the requirements for apiarists to obtain a permit from the State Ag Department for the intrastate movement of used beekeeping equipment and the filing of package bee reports.

Ferguson adds that beekeepers must still obtain a permit to ship honey bees interstate. This permit is obtained from the state of destination.

Apiarists from other states wishing to move honey bee colonies into Wisconsin are still required to obtain a permit from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture and to furnish a health certificate from the state of origin, which has been issued within 30 days prior to such movement.

Through the revised law, the State Ag Department will maintain surveillance of the state's beekeeping industry to detect and prevent the spread of honey bee diseases.

Ag Department regulations under the Wisconsin Administrative Code (Ag 15) dealing with honey bee diseases are unchanged.

VIRGINIA BEEKEEPER FINED FOR ILLEGAL MOVEMENT OF BEES INTO NEW JERSEY

Clinton D. Ritter of Winchester, Virginia, president of the Ritter Bee Company, was recently found guilty of illegally transporting bees into New Jersey and was fined after a trial before Municipal Judge Frederick W. Hardt in Pemberton Township Municipal Court.

Ritter was found to have brought honeybees into New Jersey for use in pollinating crops without a certificate of inspection stating that the colony was free from infectious or contagious bee diseases. This is contrary to State law. The charges were brought by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

According to Jacob C. Matthenius, Jr., supervisor of bee culture for the Department, this provision of the law is intended to prevent the spread of certain bee diseases which are highly contagious and generally fatal to honeybees. It also insures that a grower who uses honeybees to pollinate his crop is getting a good healthy colony of bees.

Matthenius urged all New Jersey growers who are renting bees from out of state for the pollination season to make sure that all colonies have a valid certificate of inspection from their state of origin.

About 5,000 colonies of bees are moved into New Jersey each growing season to pollinate such crops as apples, blueberries, cucumbers and cranberries. Matthenius said that because of the large number of imported colonies, the cooperation of all growers in the State is needed to keep the bee business healthy.

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HONEY IS HONEY, NOTHING ELSE IS

In the market place, good sense and a good margin of profit prevail in making decisions and in solving problems. So it took a very short time for industry to see the good sense in abandoning honey as a component in many of today's consumer products -- items such as bakery goods, packing house provisions, and manufactured tobacco products.

The switch came in a matter of months -- those same months during which the price for industrial grade honey made such a remarkable climb. As honey prices were rising, the magic of modern science brought to the market a substitute for honey at roughly one-third its price.

The principal sugars in honey are fructose and glucose. Manufactured by bees from sucrose, the sugar in nectar, honey is about one-sixth water, about 40 percent fructose and about 35 percent glucose. It is this combination which imparts to honey the physical and chemical properties which make honey useful in industry.

The Japanese have devised a way to split starch molecules, then to isomerize some of these so that an end product containing about 40 percent fructose and 50 percent glucose emerges. Mixed with water and standardized at 71 percent total dissolved solids, the product came to market at around \$350 per ton when the price of honey was tickling a thousand. Except for a little difference in the amount of water, the corn product will assay about the same as honey, so a switch could easily be made on the basis of price.

With the honey substitute, as a component, the cakes and candies, sausages and stogies seem as good as ever and at a lower cost. Scrutinized by the regulatory chemist, the sugars in honey substitutes and the sugars in honey are the same and in about the same proportions. Absent, however, are the delicious flavor and bouquet, and some other properties unique to honey.

In the scheme of things, nature has enabled the tiny makers of honey to prepare this food so that it protects itself from myriad manners of abuse and yet remain wholesome food. (1) Easily understood is the effect of its hygroscopicity -- its affinity for water. So active is this property, that most organisms, including those which are causal agents of human disease, are devitalized by desiccation and rendered nonviable when placed in honey. (2) Then

there is the low pH of this natural product. Honey contains enough acid, mostly malic, so that its pH ranges from a high of 4.8, down to 3.2. This, too, renders honey a barren medium for proliferation of micro-organisms. (3) Finally, and most interestingly, dilution of honey by moisture causes this product to become even more bacteriostatic than did its hygroscopicity.

Honey is made by a number of insects, the stingless bees of the new world tropics, the bumble bees, certain wasps, and, of course, the honey bees. All impart an enzyme, glucose oxidase, which is energized as honey becomes diluted, producing hydrogen peroxide. Containing amounts often over 25 parts per million, diluted honey becomes bacteriocidal because of this naturally occurring hydrogen peroxide component. Dorland's Medical Dictionary described honey, called mel, as a specific treatment for sores in the mouth, long before Dr. White discovered glucose oxidase. Experience had already led to the general conclusion that, even diluted, honey has unique properties useful to man -- properties which make that little difference between the products made with honey substitute and those made with honey.

(As of this writing, there is no regulatory test to determine whether packaged honey has been stretched with a man-made limitation.)

17 Sept. 1975

H. P. Powers

LETTER TO EAS

Dear Mr. Wilson (Sect., EAS):

Thank you very much for the car received with the good wishes from EAS. I do indeed regret I could not be with you at board meetings and at the annual meeting in Mass.

As a result of a serious case of rheumatic fever I had in 1934, two of my heart valves were badly damaged. They finally made it necessary to have open heart surgery last July to replace them with artificial valves. It was a pretty serious operation and it will be several months before I will be around again if all goes well. I do hope I will again be able to be with EAS.

Sincerely,
Charles Mraz

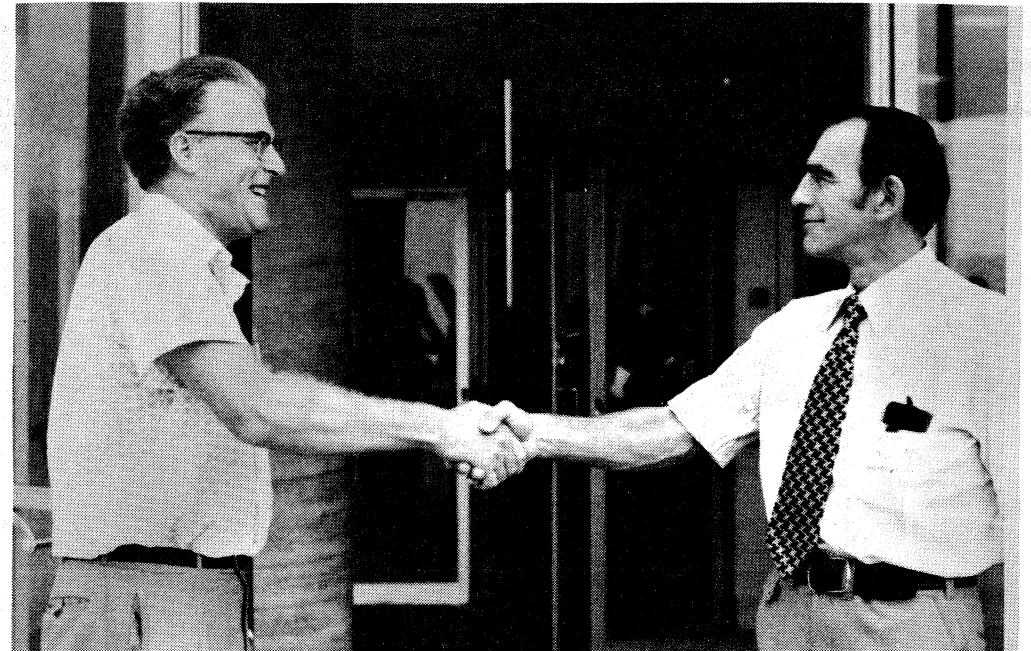
We all wish Mr. Mraz a speedy-as-a-bee recovery.

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Dr. Rolf Boch (left) and Dr. Basil Furgala (right) meet at the E.A.S. meeting. Two very fine research scientists - both recipients of the Hambleton award - Dr. Boch works for the Canadian Department of Agriculture at the Ottawa Research Center and Dr. Furgala conducts his research at the University of Minnesota.

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Ray Churchill receiving the E.A.S. comb-honey award from Past President K.G.A. Andersson.



Past President K.G.A. Andersson presenting award to John Cantatory of New Jersey.

EAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

Members of the Eastern Apicultural Society, numbering in excess of 460, recently concluded their annual conference.

Meeting at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy August 13-16, Society members attended a varied program including speakers and a variety of workshops. Two beehives painted bicentennial red, white and blue greeted both EAS members and the students from the Academy returning on their classroom ship, the Bay State, after a three month cruise to European ports. Highlight of the meeting was awarding of the Hambleton award to Dr. Basil Furgala for his outstanding recent contributions to scientific research on honey bees.

Conferees were greeted by the Massachusetts Commissioner of Agriculture, Frederic Winthrom, Jr., who presented a proclamation from Governor Dukakas proclaiming the week of August 10th Honey Bee Week.

Morning speakers included Fred E. Westbrook, USDA Agronomist, who reviewed the activities of

USDA honey bee and wild pollinator research stations. A survey of the nation's farmers revealed difficulty in getting bees as the number one ranked problem of growers followed by costs of obtaining bees and pesticide related bee problems.

George Cantwell, USDA Insect Pathologist, reviewed progress in controlling bee diseases and pests. He underlined the economic importance of ethylene oxide fumigation which is being used increasingly along the eastern seaboard. Results of fumigation follow up studies confirm low rates of recurrence of AFB. In addition, ethylene oxide destroys all stages of wax moth and nosema organisms along with a variety of lesser pests.

The morning program included with Chester Cross, Director of the Cranberry Experiment Station in nearby Wareham, Massachusetts. He reported that growers are increasingly turning to irrigation spray equipment for applying pesticides to cranberries. Reduced use of aircraft for spraying

(continued on page 5)

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TWO-YEAR BEEKEEPING PROGRAM TO BE OFFERED

The Agricultural Technical Institute plans to offer a two-year program in beekeeping (apiculture) beginning Fall Quarter, 1975, pending final approval.

The Beekeeping Technology program combines basic skills and training in entomology, botany, and horticulture with social, agricultural and business skills. Technicians in this speciality conduct all basic operations in beekeeping and honey production, as well as have thorough knowledge of marketing and sales of bee products. Crop pollination requirements are taught so the technicians can perform the pollination services required in plant production.

Basic skills are developed in plant and insect growth, pesticides, microbiology, communication, business, soil science, wood working and other areas associated with individual needs.

JOB: Employment opportunities are available in various state and federal governmental agencies concerned with bee inspection and/or research. Considerable opportunities are present in commercial beekeeping/pollination operations as field foremen and honey plant managers. Employment is also available in the fruit, berry, vegetable and oil production industries where insect pollination is required. Other opportunities are

available in beekeeping equipment, manufacture and sales.

Job Titles to be considered by graduates of this program include: commercial beekeeper, apiary manager, honey plant manager, equipment salesman, apiary inspector and pollination advisor.

CURRICULUM: A course outline would involve general and basic courses listed for other agricultural technologies, such as math, science, communication and business. Tentative technical courses have been developed and include: Beekeeping I, Introduction to Apiculture, Anatomy and Physiology of the Honeybee; Health and Protection of Honeybees; Breeding and Genetics of honeybees; Honey and Beeswax; Beekeeping II, Intermediate Apiculture; Sources of Nectar and Pollen; and Housing, Equipment and Supplies for Beekeeping.

For more information on ATI's Beekeeping Technology, write The Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute, Wooster, Ohio 44691 or phone (216) 264-3911.

Send your ads to Adv. Sec'y. Mrs. Liz Rodrigues, RD 2, Five Point Rd., Colts Neck, N. J. 07722. Advertising rates effective April 1 — \$2.50 per 1/2", \$3.00 per inch, each additional inch \$3.00 and each additional 1/2", \$1.50, full page \$48.00, repeat ad 10% discount if copy remains the same. Rates as per issue. Copy deadline 14th of previous month.

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**EASTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY
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Board of Directors' Meeting
Mass. Maritime Academy
August 13, 1975

Officers and Directors Present: Anderson, Mass. P.; Caron, Md. D.; Cochran, W. Va. P.P.; Divilbiss, Ohio D.; Gay, Del. D.; Hewitt, Conn. D.; Hopkins, Ont. D.; Jones, Va. D.; Macleod, Ont. P. P.; Mathennius, N. J. P. P.; Newton, Conn. D.; Norton, N.Y.D.; Perry, R.I.D.; Powers, Va. V. P.; Rigby, Mass. D.; Wilson, N. J. D.; Ziegler, Pa. D..

Guests: Dean P. P.; Holmes; Webb; Berthold; Comer; Vogel; Mrs. Morton, Mrs. Berthold, Mrs. Hopkins and others.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED:

Resolution No. 1

Be It Resolved,

That the Eastern Apicultural Society express its sincere appreciation to all those who have contributed to the success of the 21st annual meeting. This appreciation is expressed especially to the Mass. Maritime Academy for providing the facilities, to the staff of the institution for the gracious and courteous manner in which they have discharged their duties and,

To the President, Officers and Members of the Mass. Beekeepers Association for their cooperation and support in making this conference a success and,

A special word of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Corrigan and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Comer for the supply of honey used at our meals.

Resolution No. 2

WHEREAS The Rev., Dr. L. L. Langstroth, the Father of American Beekeeping, who made so many indispensable contributions to beekeeping throughout the world; and

WHEREAS his home, located at Oxford, Ohio, being of great historical interest throughout the world is in danger of being demolished; therefore be it

Resolved, That the proper authorities be requested to preserve, intact, the "Langstroth Cottage" as an historic site, and in memoriam of so great a man, for the benefit of posterity; and be it further

Resolved, That appropriate copies of this resolution, as adopted in this meeting be mailed to those authorities.

Resolution No. 3

WHEREAS the Eastern Apicultural Society deplores the exaggerated emphasis placed on the so-called African Bee, to the extent that, in some areas near panic exists; and

WHEREAS the fact that hornets, wasps, and yellow jackets and other stinging insects are often referred to as honey bees; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Eastern Apicultural Society encourage the Media and others to emphasize the benefits of the honey bee in the pollination of fruits

and vegetables and other agricultural crops and our dependance on the honey bee for this invaluable service; and be it further

Resolved, That the honey bee, as distinguished from wasps, yellow jackets, hornets, etc., rarely attack and sting people or animals; and be it further

Resolved, That at this present time there are no African Bees in the United States, Canada or Mexico and the possibility of their coming is highly speculative.

Resolution No. 4

WHEREAS the honey plants growing within the boundaries of the Eastern Apicultural Society secrete nectars of varied and distinctive qualities; and

WHEREAS much of the honey produced within the boundaries of EAS satisfies the criteria for being labelled "natural and organic"; and

WHEREAS the EAS honey show represents a considerable tonnage of honey of high value in the market place; therefore be it

Resolved, That the officers and members of the EAS employ genuine effort to encourage honey exhibitors to: a. Indicate with each entry the amount of honey the entry represents and whether or not it is for sale and; b. dignify the labelling of floral source of the honey for the purpose of generating a higher price in the market place, and; c. conduct a sale at the regular annual conference of those lots which are offered for sale.

Resolutions to be read upon the opening of the business session and voted upon.

Moment of Silence -- (followed by reading)

Resolution No. 5

WHEREAS the death of Mr. Thomas E. Raney was a great loss to the Eastern Apicultural Society, and with an awareness of his dedication and contribution to this organization as Secretary, Treasurer that this resolution is adopted in his memory as a part of the permanent record; and also be it

Resolved. (Resolution No. 5) that the death of Professor Edw. E. Anderson was a great loss to this organization as well as a great loss to the beekeepers of the United States due to his contributions to practical apiculture that this resolution is adopted as a part of the permanent record.

Resolution No. 6

WHEREAS His Excellency Honorable Michael S. Dukakis, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has proclaimed the week of August 10-August 16, 1975 as Beekeeper's Week; therefore we do hereby

Resolve, That the appreciation of the 456 members and delegates at the EAS attending this conference be conveyed to him by means of this resolution.

Resolutions Committee

Dave P. Cockran -- W. Va.
Howard Norton - N. Y.
Walter Wilson - N. J.

EAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

(continued from page 4)

programs is reducing unnecessary loss of pollinating insects because of better control of time and place of application. Dr. Cross questioned the wisdom of the DDT ban which has forced use of far more dangerous chemicals, most of which are worse for bees than DDT.

Workshops conducted Thursday afternoon featured honey cookery by Bess Clarke, opening bicentennial bees by Jack Matthenius and how-to-do-it lecture-demonstrations on making candles by Robert Berthold and making honey wine by Dewey Carol. Roger Morse delighted exhibitors by explaining in detail how prizes are awarded in honey exhibits and how emphasis in judging is placed on factors which the exhibitor can control. Later, he answered questions on the Brazilian bee problem suggesting methods for controlling the hysteria prevalent in many areas of the country. The day concluded with moonlight boat trips and a clambake.

Friday Henry Hagedorn (U-Mass) explained the orderly management of bee colonies through understanding of five principles: the brood nest expands in an upward direction; the brood nest tends to be spherical; honey is stored above brood, and pollen adjacent or below brood.

How honey bees have evolved honey making

habits was explained by Rutgers professor Radclyffe Roberts who traced honey bee society from primitive wasp-like ancestors through related stingless bees representing various communication systems to the modern hive bees. Honey making, he noted, is a habit probably acquired to survive prolonged dry periods in tropical countries where honey bees originated. Application of honey storage to winter survival has permitted honey bees to occupy most geographical areas of the earth.

On Saturday Hambleton award winner Basil Furgala emphasized the need to treat the unseen disease nosema which shortens the life of workers, retards brood rearing and results in frequent supersedure of queens.

P.W. Burke, University of Guelph, outlined the responsibilities of hobby beekeepers to his fellow citizens. He emphasized the obligation of the small beekeeper to study the art of beekeeping, use scarce resources wisely and to prevent spread of brood diseases to larger beekeepers who may be ruined through unnecessary exposure to untended AFB afflicted colonies ignored by a small keeper of bees.

Every beekeeper knows we have enough bee diseases yet, David DeJong from Cornell reported increasing incidence of chalk brood which has reached economic proportions in New York and

(continued on page 12)



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THE STING:

Bee rustlers give California Apiarists a Case of Hives

Beekeepers in California are, pardon the expression, as mad as hornets.

Some of them are so angry, in fact, that they've pooled their resources to offer an \$8,000 bounty for the arrest and conviction of a new breed of Western desperadoes - bee rustlers.

In all of 1970, only 39 beehives were stolen. But in the last eight months, California beekeepers have been stung by the loss of 2,158 colonies, each housing 60,000 of the busy insects, and there seems to be no end in sight.

"People think that bee rustling is some kind of joke," said Lloyd Penner, president of the California Bee Breeders Association, who has lost 60 hives to rustlers this year. "If a rancher lost 60 head of cattle, no one would be laughing. Beekeepers in these parts don't find it a bit funny."

There would have been troubles enough this year without the bee rustlers. First there was an unusually wet and chilly spring, the worst in 25 years, that delayed nectar production and killed one-third of beekeepers' colonies. Then the price of granulated sugar required in large quantities for feed, skyrocketed to recordbreaking levels. And now, highway robbery.

"The rustlers drive into the apiaries just like they have every right to be there" said Lew Foote, supervisor of apiaries inspection for the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

In a recent case, an audacious band of rustlers armed with a forklift and semitrailer looted a roadside apiary of 300 colonies in full view of scores of witnesses. No one questioned them.

The rustlers' familiarity with the habits of bees has led authorities to believe that they are experienced beekeepers. The thefts have occurred primarily in the late evening and early morning hours when there is no flight activity, and the hives are smoked with a bellows to keep them inactive during the move.

In California, apiculture is big business and getting bigger all the time. Last year, the state's 500,000 commercial bee colonies generated \$24 million in revenues. The cost of honey, beeswax, packaged bee sales and pollination services has risen an average of 300 per cent since 1972.

A single queen bank, where queen bees which sell for \$5 apiece are kept before shipment, can be worth several thousand dollars.

Bees also play an increasingly important role in California's lucrative agribusiness. Farmers have come to appreciate their value for pollinating everything from almond trees to a variety of fruit and summer seed crops. Last year, rented bee colonies served an estimated \$600 million worth of growing crops.

BEEKEEPING NEWS

Beekeeping activities at Delaware Valley College were successful during the summer months, and plans are being developed to offer similar events during the spring and summer of 1976.

The College was host to a Bee Meeting, sponsored by the Bucks and Montgomery County Bee Associations, over the summer in which over 70 beekeepers attended.

Dr. Dewey Caron, Beekeeping Specialist with the Department of Entomology of the University of Maryland, was the guest speaker. Dr. Caron's lecture was on Mead, which is a wine made from the fermentation of honey.

During the Summer Beekeeping Short Course, 98 people enrolled from the ages of pre-teen to people in their 70's and they came from all walks of life.

One interesting aspect of the summer course was the fact that over 75% of those in attendance were involved in organic gardening. Many were taking the course to learn about the production of honey for home use and also to learn of the value of the honey bee as a pollinator of the various crops and trees.

According to Dr. Robert Berthold, Director of the Beekeeping Course, there has been a great increase in the interest in bees and beekeeping, and he attributes this to the emphasis now being placed on nature and natural foods. Of course other factors include the capability of keeping bees in a highly populated area; the ease and less time consuming care that is required for beekeeping compared with other agricultural pursuits; and the fact that it is a profitable hobby.

In other beekeeping news Dr. Robert Berthold, Jr., Assistant Professor in Biology, Delaware Valley College, was elected President of the Professional Apiculturists Association at the annual summer meeting of the Eastern Apicultural Society.

The Professional Apiculturists Association is a group involved in the advancement of apiculture-honey bees, on the research, teaching, inspecting and extension level. Its members are mainly employed by the USDA, State Departments of Agriculture and colleges and universities.

At the meeting, Dr. Berthold presented a paper dealing with some ecological aspects of queen honey bees. Professor Berthold currently teaches at Delaware Valley College, Doylestown, Pa., where in addition to other subjects, he teaches a three credit course in Apiculture. Recently he has also been offering two three day short courses in beekeeping, one in the Spring and one in the Summer.

Dr. Berthold received his B.S. degree in Biology from Juniata College, his M.S. from Rutgers University in Entomology, and his Ph.D. in Entomology from Penn State.

For additional information on future programs in beekeeping, write or call Dr. Robert Berthold at 215-345-1500.

EDITORIAL

"HATS OFF TO DR. GEORGE E. CANTWELL, RESEARCH ENTOMOLOGIST, INSECT PATHOLOGY LABORATORY, PLANT PROTECTION INSTITUTE"

For the first time since the inception of the beekeeping industry we have a new tool which has played a major role in the bee disease eradication program. This tool, an ethylene oxide sterilization chamber, has been provided to the industry largely through the efforts of Dr. George E. Cantwell.

Although much work had previously been done with ethylene oxide it had never filtered down to any of the regulatory state agencies until Dr. Cantwell made available, in cooperation with the National Aerospace Administration (NASA), several sterilization chambers in the states of Connecticut, Virginia and New Jersey. There is no doubt that several hundred thousand dollars in bee equipment, honey crops, bees, and pollination rentals has been saved because of this tool. Since Dr. Cantwell's work priorities have been rearranged, he will not longer be able to work on the Ethylene Oxide Sterilization Project.

We hope that in spite of this change, Dr. Cantwell won't lose touch with his many friends in the beekeeping industry who have long enjoyed the benefit of his knowledge and experience in this field.

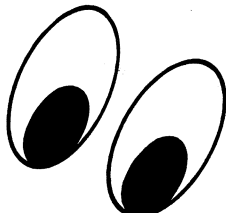
NATIONAL HONEY SHOW SLATED FOR PHILADELPHIA

This the Bicentennial Year, the American Beekeeping Federation has selected Philadelphia as the site for their 1976 annual meeting. The meeting will be held during the week of January 19, 1976 at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, and during this week, the Federation will also be holding its annual national honey show competition.

Dr. Robert Berthold of Delaware Valley College, who is serving as the show chairman, is urging all beekeepers to set aside four jars each of their various types of honey for entering in the show. In past years, Professor Berthold reports, many beekeepers have not entered their honey in the show incorrectly fearing that their entries would not be competitive on a national level.

Since the meeting and honey competition will be a showcase of the beekeeping industry, with thousands of visitors from outside the industry expected to be visiting Dr. Berthold is encouraging as many people as possible to enter honey in the show. With a large number of entries, even the non-winners will be contributing to our industry's public image.

So you will be prepared for the show, put aside your entries now. More information will be forthcoming as to how to enter your honey in the show.



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