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EAS JOURNAL

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 EASTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA, INC.

VOL. 9

NO. 2

APRIL, 1981



Dale Eschuk, 18, of Marlboro, the 1980-1981 New Jersey State Honey Queen, smiles sweetly as she preses Ray Kramer, Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders with a jar of honey after he proclaimed "Monmouth County Honey Week" in conjunction with National Honey Week, October 12-18, 1980. Prior to this, Governor Brendan Byrne of New Jersey had also proclaimed the week as New Jersey Honey Week.

WE'RE BRINGING OUR HONEY

Please bring yours . . . to the 27th Annual EAS Conference to be held on the campus of Rutgers University-Cook College, New Brunswick, N.J., August 5-8, 1981. Dale is looking forward to attending her first EAS Conference where she will be welcoming the registrants.

The New Jersey Committee planning details of the Conference extends a cordial invitation to each of the 16 eastern U.S. states and 2 provinces of Canada to send their representative state or provincial Honey Queens to be with us.

The Honey Queens will be honored with recognition at the Ladies Luncheon to be held on Thursday, August 6th, and at the Annual Banquet on Friday evening, August 7th. They will parade before the groups and be seated at a special Queens' table.

EAS FASHION SHOW AT LADIES LUNCHEON

For many months, the New Jersey Committee planning the 1981 EAS Conference to be held August 5-8th at Rutgers University-Cook College Campus, New Brunswick, New Jersey, have been working diligently on the program for this year's Conference.

The Ladies Luncheon will be a sit-down dinner on Thursday, August 6. In conjunction with it, there will be a Fashion Show by popular demand, including members of EAS, whose talents have been hidden for many years.

All women members are invited to enter this Fashion Show competition. There will be ribbons awarded for the contestants.

The entry rules for the show or items entered are available by the coordinator.

For more information on the Fashion Show, contact the coordinator, Mrs. Liz Rodrigues, at the address below.

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306, Lakewood, New Jersey 08733.

We have also invited the 1981 American Honey Queen to be with us.

This invitation is extended to the following states and provinces within the EAS territorial boundaries: Connecticut, Delaware, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Quebec, Canada, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia.

EAS or the NJBA will not be responsible for underwriting any of the individual Honey Queens' expenses of traveling, registration fees, or room and board to attend this Conference.

It will be up to each individual Honey Queen, (or if it is agreeable to) their representative state or province, to underwrite the Honey Queens' expenses.

If it is possible for your Honey Queen to make an appearance at the 1981 EAS Conference August 5-8, 1981 in New Jersey, please send the Queen's name, address and age to: NJBA & EAS Secretary: Mrs. Liz Rodrigues, 157 Five Point Road, Colts Neck, N.J. 07722, or telephone 201-462-4591.



EAS JOURNAL

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1981 EAS CONFERENCE

The New Jersey Committee planning the August 5-8, 1981, 27th Annual EAS Conference at Rutgers University-Cook College campus, New Brunswick, New Jersey, have met six times and report that plans for this coming event are coming along well.

A 3-Day Short Course in BETTER BEEKEEPING will precede the opening of the Conference August 3-5th, and will be geared for both the beginner and the advanced beekeeper.

EAS President, Rad Roberts and Chairman of the Board, Jack Matthienus are preparing an excellent Program with top bee experts from various parts of the United States.

A Children's Program will be arranged and Child Care will be under the supervision of a Registered Nurse for children 3 to 12 years of age.

In conjunction with the Thursday Ladies Luncheon, Inga Litting is planning for a Fashion Show for the EAS ladies to participate in. Please start making your items of clothing, hats or purses now, so you will be able to enter this enjoyable competitive project.

Mike Valosin is in charge of Conference entertainment. There will be daily "Happy Hours". A 5 piece Omphal Band will provide music for the (Lobster) Surf & Turf Barbecue to be held at the Log Cabin on Thursday evening.

J.D. Thison, Chairman of the 1981 EAS Honey Show and his committee have completely revised the EAS Honey Show rules which will be published early in time for all entries.

At the annual Banquet, Friday evening, awards for the Honey Show, Honey Cookery, Gadgets, Beeswax, Mead and Arts & Crafts will be presented. There will be a humorous banquet speaker and musical entertainment.

Bob Harvey, Chairman of the Mall Shows, is planning a Live Bee Beard Contest, supervise Live Bee Demonstrations, Honey Sales and display other interesting live exhibits.

"NEW JERSEY WELCOMES EAS" with Ed Litting in charge. The committee will provide a display with previous EAS Conference memorabilia.

At the cost of \$5.00 per running foot, Commercial Exhibitors will be invited to set up their displays and sell their wares. Information in regard to this will be available.

The 1981 American Honey Queen has been invited to be with us. We are inviting reigning SDate or Provincial Honey Queens from states and provinces within EAS territorial boundaries. The 1981 N.J. State Honey Queen, Dale Eschuk, and Branch Honey Queens will serve as official greeters

or hostesses at the Conference.

Certification for the Master Beekeeper Program will be introduced at this Conference. The Program is to certify qualified beekeepers to provide education and assistance to beginners, or to serve in other capacities in the community as expert beekeepers. The deadline for application will be June 5, 1981, 2 months before the opening of the 1981 EAS Conference.

Workshops will be conducted by top-notch beekeeping personnel.

Attending this Conference will be a wonderful 3-day mini-vacation to bring your family to. There will be three housing options, something for everybody and prices to fit all pocketbooks.

Modern, low-cost housing in air conditioned dorms, or non-air-conditioned, at a lower cost if you prefer, will be available. Plan to car pool and attend with a friend.

Costs, information and pre-registration application forms will be available from EAS Secretary, Mrs. Liz Rodrigues by May 1, 1981.

AMERICAN BEEKEEPING FEDERATION PRESIDENT'S PAGE

The seventies are history now and I would say the past eight years were probably the best years for the beekeeping industry ever. I know they have been the best 40 years I have been in the business. I will also predict they have been better than the next 10 will be. I feel that the next 2 to 3 years will be tough ones. I predict costs will rise more than honey prices will rise. I believe we will receive very little through legislative process that will help financially.

We are going to need a strong organization in the future to cope with our problems. As I see it, some of our problems in the future will be a lot of the same old ones, with some of them getting larger. Probably we will get some relief on some. Insecticides will continue to be the number one problem for most of us, adulteration will continue to be with us, we will be hearing more about Varroa and Acarine mites and Chalk brood. The African bee threat won't go away.

We have seen a lot of improvement in our beekeeping equipment in the last 10 years. With the loaders and larger trucks, bee moving is easier and faster, but not cheaper. Honey extracting and handling equipment have come a long way but there is still room for improvement. So, you young men with inventive urges, I would encourage you to keep thinking and experimenting. G.C. Walker, Jr., ABF Pres. From: Nov-Dec. 1980 ABF Newsletter

PACKAGE BEES

Many will be ordering and installing package bees this spring. Following are some helpful facts gleaned from experiences by many.

If bees are coming via Parcel Post, it is a good policy to phone your Post Office and let them know you are expecting them and give them your telephone number. They will call you the moment they arrive. Most of them are afraid of bees and want to get them out of there pronto.

If bees arrive in bad condition, have the postal clerk sign a bad-order receipt. This may allow the shipper to collect or may aid you in getting enumeration. It is a good idea to have package bees shipped early in the spring before hot weather sets in. Early hived packages often store quite a bit of surplus honey.

As soon as possible after arrival, feed the bees in their cages by spraying with sugar syrup, (either beet or cane) mixed 1 to 2 parts sugar to 1 part of hot water. Some beekeepers medicate this syrup with sulfa, terramycin or Fumidil-B at this time as an added precaution. Spraying the syrup on the screen is the best method. In brushing it on, you injure the bees' tongues which are found sticking through the screen. So, if you brush, do it gently.

Prepare hives before packages arrive. Bees can be installed on frames of foundation, drawn combs or a combination of both. Bees should be fed continuously for a half hour before hiving. If hived dry, without little or no feed, a large majority might fly out the hive and many may not find their way back and cluster on some other object and never find their own hive. When several packages are hived at the same time in the morning of mid-day, it could present a problem. If the weather is cold, wetting bees or queen with syrup outside a building could cause chilling if the temperature is below 50 degrees.

Late evening is the best time to install packages. After being in their hive all night, they are well established in their new home. Just before hiving, spray bees so their wings are wet, but don't soak them.

NOW TO PUT THEM IN THE HIVE. Remove five frames from the hive. Thump package on the ground so all the bees are in the bottom of the package. Remove lid, exposing top of feeder can and the queen cage. Remove feeder can and queen cage and replace cover on cage to keep bees in until you take the cork out of end of queen cage and with a match stick or nail, make a hole through the candy in end

of queen cage and hang the queen cage between two frames in the hive with the candy end up. Now, remove cover from package and shake a few bees over the queen cage to keep the queen warm, now vigorously shake the remaining bees in the hive. Give them a couple of minutes to crawl up the sides and onto the frames, then replace the five frames, and then place the inner cover on with the rim side down for the time being. Now place an empty super on top of the inner cover and insert a jar of sugar syrup over the inner cover hole. The small holes you have punched in the lid of the feeder jar will allow the bees to come up and suck the syrup from the jar as they need it.

Package bees should be fed continuously until a honey flow is one, and another super or brood chamber added as soon as the bottom is almost filled so that brood rearing will not be delayed. This type of feeding is much better than the Boardman entrance feeder as it places the feed directly above the cluster in the broodchamber and they still can get feed even during cold days. The entrance should be reduced considerably at the time of hiving and left that way until warmer weather arrives and sufficient number of bees have hatched out to guard the entrance properly.

In about a week, check to see that the queen is out and laying. Remove the cage. Package bees hived on drawn comb and some frames of honey and pollen under favorable conditions often bring in a good surplus of honey the same season which they are hived. Package bees hived on frames of foundation only require constant heavy feeding in order for the bees to draw out the foundation properly. They can't secrete wax without food.

In case of queen failure in the new package hive, if drones are flying, a frame of eggs from another hive may be given them and they will generally produce a queen for themselves. Or the shipper will replace the failing queen if notified promptly. New queens are accepted more readily if a frame of brood and eggs are present in the hive when the queen is introduced.

In case the queen comes in the package of bees in a cage by herself with no candy in the end of her cage, then you can dip the queen in her cage in some sugar syrup, tear off the screen and drop her among the bees. Or you can leave her cage hanging between two frames for 2 days and then return and release her among the bees after wetting her with syrup. Never place a queen in her cage immediately beneath the feeder hole in the inner cover.

CONTROLLING THE CANDLE FLY

Candle fly? That's the name given to the wax moth back when many candles were predominantly made of beeswax. There are more than one species of wax moth, but the most important has the scientific name *Galleria mellonella*. This the greater wax moth and is a serious pest of the honey bee colony, while at the same time paradoxically beneficial.

Another more colloquial monicker for this insect is wax worm. That's because the feeding stage, the larvae (white worms), eat beeswax and are responsible for untold economic losses to the beekeeping industry each year. The adults are brown, fairly nondescript moths and not damaging in themselves. After mating, however, the female lays several hundred eggs which hatch into larvae and, if not checked, begin eating comb in a colony. In the wake of these depredations, the larvae leave silken-lined tunnels or galleries, from which comes their scientific name. The larvae cannot, it seems, live by beeswax alone. They thrive better on blackened brood comb full of impurities, which provide a more balanced diet. Infestations in foundation, therefore, are comparatively light. A serious infestation of the wax moth is a sight to see — the destruction makes the legends of Genghis Khan's conquests pale in comparison.

The wax moth is cold-blooded and its development depends very much on the external or ambient temperature. In winter, most populations die off to low levels, and so early in spring wax moths are not nearly the problem they can be in late summer. Obviously, latitude plays a role here — the farther south, the more time for the moth to develop, and the less damage the winter does to its population.

A case of wax moth is not a disease. Instead, it's the result of a colony being unable to keep the moths at bay. Strong honey bee colonies always have wax moths, but the population is kept low by constant house cleaning and ruthless exile of offending moth larvae. But brood disease, queenlessness, or pesticide damage all will cut into a colony's resolve, and the larvae are ever ready to exploit such a weakness.

In stored supers, no bees are present, and wax moth invasion can reduce a good stack of combs to a tangle of webs in short order. It pays, therefore, to check spare equipment occasionally during warm weather and to treat it for the wax moth. At present

two fumigants are available on the market. One, ethylene dibromide (EDB), is illegal to use in some states and has a bleak future due to pending Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) restrictions. The other, paradichlorobenzene (PDB), doesn't kill the egg stage of the moth, but is effective if used according to instructions. It's emphasized that no fumigant can be used which is not labelled specifically for the use intended, and legally the working on the label is law, so that it must be followed to the letter when using the material.

Other ways of controlling the candle fly are possible including freezing, now used extensively in comb honey production, heating, treating with gamma radiation, and using the bacterium, *Bacillus thuringiensis*, as a biological control. The potential for these were described in an article in the 1978, Number 4 edition of *Bee World*, entitled, "Control of Wax Moths: Physical, Chemical and Biological Methods." It's available from the International Bee Research Association, Hill House, Gerrards Cross, Bucks., SL9 0NR England, for \$5.

The wax moth is abhorred by many beekeepers. Some consider it to be directly responsible for the death of a honey bee colony, and they would call for extermination of this pest. On the other hand, the moth can be seen as a valuable contribution to honey bee society — responsible for destroying infested brood comb which otherwise would be a continuing source of potential disease — the honey bee's "garbage man" par excellence.

From: Beekeeping Notes, July 1980
Malcolm I. Sanford

EAS MEETING SCHEDULE

1981 MEETING

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J. - August 5-8.

1982 MEETING

West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia - August 4-7.

1983 MEETING

Main (if approved)

1984 MEETING

Rhode Island (if approved)

1985 MEETING

Pennsylvania (if approved)

1986 MEETING

Delaware (if approved)

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR THE MASTER BEEKEEPER

There has been a growing interest in beekeeping in North America, particularly in the past decade among hobbyists. Because of the continuing growth in this interest, there is a need for competent bee masters to provide education and assistance to beginning beekeepers or serve in other capacities in the community as expert beekeepers. The Master Beekeeper program has been developed to certify qualified beekeepers to serve this purpose. Initially this program was developed by Dr. Roger A. Morse at Cornell University and several Master Beekeepers have been certified in New York. The program is now being expanded to other areas by the Eastern Apicultural Society of North America.

The certification program will be conducted in conjunction with the annual EAS Conferences. Certification will be coordinated by certified personnel who are associated with EAS. The program includes several components.

Eligibility. Any experienced beekeeper is eligible to apply for certification as a Master Beekeeper. Persons interested in applying should have a minimum of 5 years of experience in some aspect of apian management such as a private beekeeper, working for a commercial beekeeper or apiary inspection. Also, they should have at least the equivalent of a college level correspondence course in beekeeping.

Application. Persons wishing to apply for certification should send a letter to the Secretary of EAS, Mrs. Liz Rodriguez, 157 Five Point Rd., Colts Neck, N.J. 07722, stating his/her intention and reasons for becoming certified as a Master Beekeeper. This letter should list at least one well respected beekeeper who can attest to the applicant's experience in beekeeping. The deadline for application is 2 months before the annual conference, June 5, 1981. The number of applicants accepted may be governed by the facilities available for testing. Applications will be accepted on a first come, first serve, basis.

References. Master Beekeeper applicants will be provided an outline of examination subjects and a list of references to study in preparation for the examinations.

Fees. Applicants who are accepted as candidates for certification are billed for a fee which covers the cost of a Master Beekeeper manual, other supplies and expenses for testing.

Resource Manual and Teaching Syllabus. A manual on beekeeping in Eastern North America and a course syllabus will be given to each individual upon certification. The manual contains outlines and supporting materials on subjects ranging from "How to Start" to "Raising Queens" to

"Movies, Books and Bulletins." Much information on how to conduct class, give tests and handle teaching evaluations is given in this manual.

Testing. Tests for certification will be conducted in conjunction with the annual EAS Conference or at a location designated by the Chairperson of the EAS Master Beekeeper Committee. Testing will consist of 1) a written examination, 2) a laboratory practical examination on beekeeping equipment and 3) an apian performance test on handling bee colonies. The goal of this program is to certify that those who are given the Master Beekeeper Certificate are competent at a college level in the three areas where they are tested.

Certificate. Each candidate who successfully completes the EAS Master Beekeeper program will receive a certificate suitable for framing and a walletsize laminated card showing certification as a Master Beekeeper.

COMB HONEY

Many beekeepers keep one or two hives for enjoyment and honey for their own use. It is not economical to buy an extractor for extracting such a small amount of honey. Instead, the honey should be removed as comb honey. Frames of comb honey can be removed as soon as they are completely capped over. These frames can be taken one at a time, or wait until whole supers are fully capped. If taken one at a time, replace the frame with another frame with new foundation. If you leave comb honey on for a long time after it is capped, it will become travel stained by the bees. Excessive travel on the comb, darkens the caps and reduces its eye appeal.

A shallow comb filled with honey weighs about 3 pounds. If it is destined for market, you now have an idea of its value. Such comb honey, referred to as bulk comb, is worth more than the liquid honey seen in the grocery stores. Marketing honey in the frame in which it is produced is one of the most profitable ways of selling honey. There is no mess. It can be wrapped in clear plastic and the frame is cheaper as a container than glass or plastic jars.

Frame: of comb honey can be cut into strips, put into wide-mouth jars and liquid honey poured around it to fill the jars. Prepared in this manner, it is called chunk comb. Occasionally it is cut, drained over a screen, then put in plastic containers and sold as cut comb. Draining the individual pieces of cut comb honey overnight, retards granulation, especially if the liquid honey poured over them has been heated to 150 degrees and then cooled to less than 110 degrees. Special comb cutters and containers are available through the supply firms.

From: The Bee Rizzer July 1980

PESTICIDE ALERT!

The Environmental Protection Agency has announced that the Pennwalt Corporation has been permitted to add field corn, barley and oats to the label of Penncap-M as other crops to which the insecticide may be applied.

It is up to individual beekeepers, local associations, and state associations to convince their state departments of agriculture not to allow these additional uses in their states. Join associations, write letters to the governor and to the state director of agriculture. Scream to the press, radio and television.

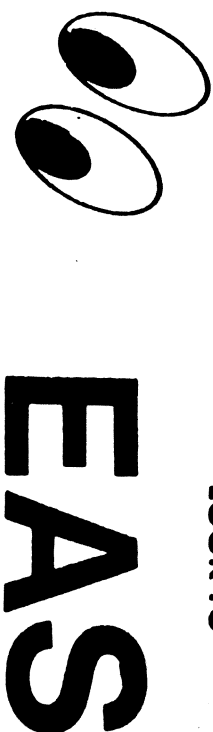
A one-hive beekeeper has the same vote as a thousand-hive beekeeper. Never forget that. Act now.

From: The Speedy Bee, Feb. 1981

PURCHASING POLLEN

Are you considering buying some pollen to supplement to your colonies? If so, think about it twice before you do, because the risk is great. Purchased pollen can infect your colonies with American foulbrood as it did in experiments performed in Canada. The dangers arise from the fact that pollen traps do not only collect pollen also debris from within the colony. Some of this debris may be the dried remains (scales) of infested larvae that contains millions of spores of American foulbrood. Pollen pellets from an infected colony may also contain spores added by foraging bees when they moisten the pollen grains as they pass them onto their hind legs.

From: Bees and Honey Univ. of Ill, Jan., 1981



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157 Five Point Road
COLTS NECK, N. J. 07722

At the 1980 EAS Conference held in Vermont, some exhibitors displaying wares complained because a fee was being charged, and felt that this space should be provided free to EAS membership, or EAS Jr. advertisers.

Space required for EAS Conferences is not free to those conducting the Conference. Fees charged for Commercial Exhibits were assessed by the EAS Board of Directors, are liberal and must be paid by exhibitors.

If you are planning to set up a commercial exhibit at the 1981 EAS Conference in New Jersey, August 8, 1981, you will have to pay a fee of \$5.00 per running foot. Smaller exhibitors can get together and space with someone else.

In no case shall any person exhibit their wares "free of charge". Anyone setting up a commercial exhibit who has not paid the assessed fee, will be asked to remove their merchandise.