



LANE COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

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February 2017 NEWSLETTER



President's Message

Max Kuhn, LCBA President

I don't have all the answers....and...I'll bet, neither do you. But collectively, **WE** have quite a few. This in a nutshell, is a club's strength. In our Lane County Beekeepers Association we are very lucky to have a wealth of experience and knowledge at our disposal. We should not forget to utilize that wealth of information as we move forward into the New Year.

As we move forward with our educational efforts, I should point out that some information presented in various forms, at our early sessions and during the general meetings may be controversial to some members. We present this as information only in an effort to expand your awareness of what goes on around you in the world of beekeeping. This does not mean you should include this new found knowledge in your daily routine without further thought. On the contrary, it means you should consider the information, then investigate the parts you are interested in. Then make an educated, independent, decision on whether or how to utilize the new information. I will use as an example the topic of "Mead". We at LCBA have in the past, (and probably will again in the future) offered classes on Mead making. This does not mean that the club feels that all members should make Mead. (Picture that eh!? J) But I feel we should make our members aware of Mead as yet another "product of the hive." There are many such products. Some of those products can be dangerous if used improperly or without proficiency. So please do your due diligence and investigate any such new knowledge before incorporating it into your beekeeping related efforts. While doing your investigation, don't forget to utilize this club's greatest strength, **our collective knowledge and experience**. So ask around, seek advice, ask for comments from other club members, then move forward with care.

Spring is a critical time to begin active hive management. This month, our February meeting is "Spring Management" by Kenny Williams. Kenny recently retired his commercial operation. He kept bees for over 30 years and is a past president of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association. He has helped out many years at LCBA's Field Day as a hive demonstrator.

January's meeting we had great sandwiches, snacks and a presentation by

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NEXT MEETING:

February 21, 2017

Come early to socialize and share your questions with experienced beekeepers.

Early Educational Class! "Yellow Jacket Threat"

Door opens at 6:00 pm

Presentation starts at 6:15 Pm

"Fireside Room"

General Meeting

Hall opens at 7:00 pm

Program 7:30 pm

Topic: Spring Management Speaker: Kenny Williams

Trinity United

Methodist Church

440 Maxwell Road

Turn West off River Road
in Eugene (South of Beltline)

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president's message continued Dr. Ramesh Sagili on winter bees. Thanks to all the members who brought food to share.

I hope you enjoy the lineup of guest speakers we have arranged for the club in 2017 and may your beekeeping experience be everything you want it to be.

LCBA Treasurer's Report

by Polly Habliston, LCBA Treasurer

This year was the fourth year for our Lane County Beekeepers Association Education Program which was established in 2013 with Member donations. Whenever members make a donation to LCBA they can ask that the monies be put toward the Education Fund and the funds are kept separate from the general treasury funds.

Since its inception we're happy to report that we have awarded \$3,350 in scholarships;

- 11 Oregon Master Beekeeper Apprenticeship Scholarships
- 2 Master Beekeeper Journeyman recognition Awards
- 9 Bee School Scholarships
- 7 Oregon State Beekeepers Annual Conference Registrations

LCBA also has dedicated funds for two additional Master Beekeeper Journeyman recipients. The Fund has received almost \$3,300 in donations (\$500 last year alone). The General Club funds have supplemented the Scholarship Fund each of the last three years and with that help we are starting the year with \$2,895. We hope the fund will continue to grow as we award more scholarships.

We're also proud to announce that last year we donated \$1,500 to Dr. Ramesh Sagili's bee research program at Oregon State University.

With all Club activities for 2016 we started and ended the year with close to the same funds.

If anyone would like to see a more detailed account of our income and expenses, please see me.

Swarm List

by Judy Scher, LCBA Webmaster

It is time to update the LCBA swarm list that is published on our website. This list is intended for members only that will collect swarms. It is **not** for those wanting swarms. If you were on the list last year and are current with your dues we will continue to list you. Check to make sure your information is correct by clicking on the link: <http://www.lcbaor.org/SwarmList>.

If the information is correct and your dues are current you need to do nothing, we will continue to list your information. If you are a new member and would like to be listed, I will need your contact information and the city or cities that you will respond to. You must have experience in removing swarms to be on the list.

Tall trees and building removals are listed separately on the swarm list. If you have the tools and ability to do these removals make note of this in your response.

If you want to give me info or updates at a meeting please bring it in writing and give to me or to one of the board members. We will be updating the website monthly.

To insure the information gets added correctly please contact Judy Scher at judyscher@gmail.com or 541-344-2114.

Welcome New Members

| | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Michael Fleming | Springfield |
| Marshall Livingstone | Eugene |
| Robert & Gayle Mays | Cottage Grove |
| Dan Shankle | Eugene |
| Elizabeth Simpson | Eugene |
| Ed Quigley | Springfield |

2017 LCBA Bee School

Bee School is filling up. If you are interested in attending please contact Pam Leavitt for a registration form.

pamseaver2000@yahoo.com or by phone 541-344-4228

Date: March 4, 2017, 8:45 am - 5:00 pm

Location: Trinity United Methodist Church, Eugene, OR

Cost: Individual \$40 (includes class book)

Couple (2) \$60 (includes 1 class book)

Bee School is a full day of learning. Classes & workshops will cover the first year of keeping honey bees using Langstroth equipment. This is a great class for beginning beekeepers and those wanting to learn what is involved before becoming a beekeeper.

Note: Warre & Top Bar Hives and Treatment Free Beekeeping are not covered.

Bee School Scholarships

The deadline for getting your LCBA Bee School applications has been **extended to Friday, February 24th**. We have five scholarships to give out this year. Contact Katharine Hunt 541-607-0106 or keehhunt@gmail.com to request a form. We will also have them available at our February meeting.

Bee School Snacks

If you can help with snacks for bee school please contact Anita Jones. There will be a sign up sheet at the February meeting or if you are unable to attend just let her know. Our members always come through with yummy goodies. We are needing finger foods -deserts, muffins, vege's, cheese & crackers, etc.

Anita Jones anitaretired@gmail.com or 541-937-2244

Varroa Control for the Month of February

by Judy Scher

In this newsletter monthly treatment will be discussed, but be sure you look at the main page of the LCBA website (www.lcbaor.org) and look at the links under "Important Varroa Information."

Since most Varroa control products are temperature dependent, there are only a couple of options for Varroa control products now. Hive manipulation (where hive boxes are moved) should only be done when the bees are flying, the outside temperature is over 55 degrees F, and it's not raining.

First of all, you must monitor for mites. In this cold weather use a collection board and count the mites. If you use the more accurate sugar/alcohol shake you are at risk of breaking the cluster and dangerously exposing bees to the cold. I like to keep the sticky board under the hive for 72 hours (3 days), count all mites on the board and divide by 3 for number of dropped mites/day. Right now the mite/day count should be 5 mites or below. With the sticky board monitoring method, you need to monitor 2 and 4 weeks from the first count to monitor the trend of the mite increase. Be sure you clean off debris over the screened bottom board to allow mites to drop through.

The following two methods of treatment will only kill mites on the adults (phoretic mites). The queen has started laying again and therefore, there may be capped brood which may contain mites. Neither of these methods will kill mites under the caps.

There is a video found on the first page of the LCBA website under "Important Varroa Information" and on p. 11 of Honey Bee Health Coalition: [Tools for Varroa Management](#).

1. **Oxalic acid** 5 ml of oxalic acid sugar syrup are dribbled between each frame on the top box. This method can be used without lifting boxes and disturbing the cluster. Obtain an oxalic acid kit from Brushy Mountain Bee Supply. This is the only legal source of oxalic acid for bees as of now. <http://www.brushymountainbeefarm.com/> *Be SURE you watch the video from the LCBA website or on p. 11 of Tools for Varroa Management.* Although this is a very effective method, oxalic acid will kill larva and temporarily set back the early population increase.

Note: As of now we are only recommending the drip method, not the fumigation method, which can be dangerous.

2. **Hopguard II** You must remove the box to insert the Hopguard II strips. Therefore, don't apply unless the outside temperature is 55 degrees F or above. Insert one folded strip per 5 frames of bees in each brood box, leave on for a 4 week treatment. You may only use this treatment 3 times per year. If you still see mites after four weeks, you may reapply Hopguard II. This method does not kill larvae.

How Varroa Spread & Multiply Video:

<https://youtu.be/h-wDgd5yURo>

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Feb 15th - Linn Benton Beekeeping Assoc. Meeting

Topic: Spring Time in Your Apiary"

Location: Corvallis Waldorf School, 6:30-8:30 pm

Visit their website for more information. <http://www.lbba.us>

February 17th - Friday in the Apiary, "Colony Autopsies"

Location: OSU Apiary, Corvallis, 3:00 pm-5:00 pm

Sign up to received notifications and to RSVP.

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/mb/blog/friday-apiary-february-17-2017>

Feb 22th - Central Coast Beekeepers Assoc. Meeting

Topic: "Strategies for Augmenting Honey Bee Forage",

Anne Schatz, Oregon Master Gardener

Location: Newport Library, 6:30 pm

<http://www.ccaor.org/>

Feb 25th - "Bee Amazed, Discover the Wonderful World of Honey Bees", by Dick Turanski

Topic: Honey Bees and products of the hive.

Location: Glory Bee Factory Store

March 4th - Lane County Beekeepers Assoc. Bee School

Location: Trinity United Methodist Church

March 4th - Annual BEEvent Pollinator Conference: The Plight of our Pollinators

Location: Linn County Fairground, Albany, OR

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/linn/beeevent>

April 7th-8th - Glory Bee Weekend

Two day event with beekeeping education, distribution of pre-ordered packages of live bees, live demonstrations, honey sampling, onsite food vendors and other activities.

<https://wholesale.glorybee.com/content/bee-weekend-2017>

April 15th - Southern Oregon Beekeepers Assoc. Spring Bee School, "The Art and Science of Keeping Bees in the Rogue Valley"

Location: Southern Oregon Research & Extension Center, 569 Hanley Road, Central Point, OR

<http://www.southernoregonbeekeepers.org/news-and-events/soba-beginning-beekeeper-class>

Kelly's Beekeeping Website: "Lane County Hiveways"

Follow Kelly as she does her inspections, observations, and other beekeeping activities.

<http://lanecountyhiveways.com/>

Florence Garden Club—visit their face book page at

www.facebook.com/FGCOR.

Bee Amazed!

Discover the Wonderful World of Honey Bees

**Saturday
February 25
10am-12pm**

Presentation and Q&A with
Honey Bee Expert, Dick Turanski



Did you know:

- Honey Bees have 5 eyes?
- Honey Bees communicate by dancing?
- Male Honey Bees have no stinger?





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KNOW THE ENEMIES NOSEMA APIS AND NOSEMA CERANAE

by Pam Leavitt and Judy Scher

Varroa destructor is the greatest threat to your colony of honeybees. The club will feature a monthly meeting on this devastating pest in April. We emphasize the importance of having a plan to deal with this parasite.

This column will feature other pests and diseases that every keeper of bees needs to be aware of and be able to recognize and be prepared to respond to aid their bees in the battle to stay healthy. This month we will discuss *Nosema apis* and *Nosema ceranae*, caused by spore-forming protozoa that invades the digestive tract of adult bees, workers, drones and queens.

European honey bees have long carried *Nosema apis* which has been a relative benign infection that usually spikes in the fall and early spring. It is more problematic in locales where there are long, cold winters and the bees are confined without being able to go out of the hive on cleansing flights. In practical terms, they are unable to go out to poop! Generally *Nosema apis* is not problematic in the summer.

Good nutrition is the primary key to the colony being able to deal with an infection from *Nosema apis*. Some beekeepers feed an antifungal medication, Fumagilin B, in a heavy sugar syrup in the fall or early spring, when signs of dysentery are present. Finding golden yellow streaks down the front of the brood box is an indication of the need to medicate. However, be aware that Fumagilin-B **kills** beneficial bacteria and fungi in the mid gut of the honey bee.

Nosema ceranae was originally a parasite of the Asian honeybee. Those bees were genetically able to deal with the parasite, but when the parasite “jumped” to our honeybee, *apis mellifera*, the infection became virulent in the new host. The major difference between *Nosema apis* and *Nosema ceranae* is that *Nosema ceranae* causes a year-round infection and can move from the gut into other body tissues.

This particular infection has proven to be benign in some cases and devastating in others, depending on extenuating circumstances. One major factor is nutrition, as well as the presence of viruses. These viruses gain entry through the *Nosema* infected gut causing stress to the host, compromising its immune defenses.

Hives infected with *Nosema ceranae* will exhibit a decrease in honey production. If the queen is able to continue to lay enough eggs to offset the premature death of infected foragers, the hive will generally be able to handle the condition without total collapse. If the queen begins to fail, a supersedure queen may enable the colony to continue to survive. A lack of population buildup is a noticeable sign of *Nosema ceranae*.

What is a beekeeper to do? The maintenance of good nutrition is essential for honey bees. It is very important for them to have good protein levels from ample pollen sources and from a variety of flowers. Low protein levels can occur when there is a loss of daily pollen income, such as when weather prevents foraging, when forage plants stop blooming, when forage plants are cut/mowed. Sunflowers, blueberries and dandelion are all producers of nutritionally incomplete pollen and if these are the only sources of protein, the colony can be nutrition deprived. Feeding supplemental protein is important and can be of benefit to the bees. A OSU grad student, Cameron Jack, has studied how nutrition alone will control *Nosema ceranae*. Ensuring your honey bees are nutritionally sound is important in the prevention of an over-whelming infection from *Nosema ceranae*. It is very important to ensure your bees are healthy to assist them in dealing with *Nosema* as well as other conditions that can negatively impact them. The current treatment recommendations for *Nosema ceranae* are not clear cut except for good nutrition and fresh pollen. (Note: Fumagilin B will not rectify *Nosema ceranae*.)

Without sampling, there is no way to tell if your bees are infected. Their gut contents must be inspected under the microscope to truly identify the presence of *Nosema* in your honeybees. Samples can be sent to OSU Honey Bee Lab for analysis of the presence of *Nosema*, and also Varroa mites and tracheal mites. Call the Honey Bee Lab at 541-737-5440 for information on sending them samples for diagnostic purposes. We are very fortunate to have the availability of the OSU researchers to aid us in being knowledgeable about our bees.

January Meeting Highlights **Announcements:**

Max welcomed our members to our new year. Katharine talked about the upcoming LCBA Bee School on March 4th and that LCBA has 5 scholarships available. Information and forms available on information table. The membership enjoyed the sandwiches and snacks provided by the club, a January meeting tradition, and many members brought snacks and deserts for everyone to share.

Presentation: “Winter Mystery in the Hive”, Dr. Ramesh Sagili, Assistant Professor-Apiculture, OSU Bee Lab

Dr. Sagili’s presentation focused on winter bee physiology, thermoregulation, nutrition, and mite populations.

Diutinus bees are the winter bees or fat bees. These bees have a longer life span and can survive up to six months where the average bee has a life span is 45 days. Their long life is due to their high fat body content, larger intrinsic protein stores, and high vitellogenin. Vitellogenin is a protein that the bees produce from fresh pollen. The nurse bees consume the largest amount of protein. Once bees become foragers they don’t eat pollen as they have no enzymes to digest it. They collect the pollen, bring it back to the hive, give it to the nurse bees, who then feed it to the larva.



Dr. Ramesh Sagili talking with Morris Ostrofsky.

When are the winter bees raised? Ramesh said that the winter bees are raised sometime from the end of August into October. This is when the pollen decreases coming into the hive. Ramesh is currently doing a study to find out when exactly the winter bees are raised. His students pulled frames once a week and painted the emerging bee. Each week they used a different color. They continued monitoring the hive into winter noting the number of bees remaining of each color. This way you know which week the hive was producing the winter bees. The point of the study is to be able to tell you when it is the best time for you to give your bees the utmost attention (ideal nutrition and health) for successful overwintering of a colony.

The honey bee diet is pollen and nectar with pollen being the primary source of protein. Most pollen is 10% to 40% protein. Nutrition, especially protein, is critical when the colonies are rearing winter bees. When feeding bees make sure you give them pollen, instead of a protein substitute. Ramesh said that bees will eat their eggs and the one and two day old larvae when there is a pollen dearth.

Ramesh showed a video demonstrating “flower fidelity”. It showed that bees visit one type of flower and visit only that flower until they find a better source.

Nutrition Management: Going into winter be sure to monitor winter stores. Colonies can die of starvation in early spring if food stores are low or cannot be accessed due to a small population. You can move honey frames closer to the cluster if needed if temperatures allow. Provide protein supplement with some pollen, after the winter solstice (Dec. 21st) because the queen is starting to increase egg laying.

Thermoregulation: The winter Cluster consists of the outside insulating mantle bees and the inside cluster bees. For successful overwintering you need to have a sufficient population to maintain an ideal cluster. An ideal cluster consists of the outside mantle bees who shiver their wing muscles to generate body heat. The inside cluster bees through thermoregulation create the ideal cluster temperature of 90 to 94 degrees.

Mite Populations: Ramesh talked about the importance of controlling the varroa mites in our hive. In the winter most mites are phoretic, meaning they are on the bee or just hiding out. They are not in the brood cells as there is little or no brood being produced. These mites live throughout the whole winter. He said the goal is to keep the mite level low. Early brood rearing in a hive will also cause early mite reproduction which means that early mite control strategies to be implemented. Varroa mite treatment should not be calendar based, but based on realistic mite populations levels. Ramesh talked about the different kinds of mite control treatments. Today, beekeepers have many options for mite control.



February Beekeeping Tips by Chuck Hunt

1. It has been a difficult season for bees and many hives have been lost to exploding mite populations. Spring for beekeepers means checking for brood and queen, checking for foulbrood, and doing mite checks if you use a screen bottom board. You must make a decision whether to medicate for mites and then decide what medication to use. Also, it is time to check on the hive's honey stores to avoid late winter and early spring starvation. Medications should be placed in the hives sometime at the end of February or the first week in March. In order to do all this begin by picking a warm afternoon when the temperature exceeds 55 degrees F and there is no wind or rain.
2. Tracheal mite medication consists of grease patties. These should be placed just above the brood cluster. The formula for this medication is: 1/3 Crisco, 2/3 granulated sugar (this applies whether you make grease patties for one or one thousand hives). Mix these ingredients together thoroughly. An ice cream scoop is about the correct quantity to make a grease patty for a single hive. Excess patties may be frozen.
3. Attention to Varroa mite population is absolutely essential for the survival of your hive. There are a number of medications that may be used if you decide that your mite fall requires medication. There are too many medications to list the proper dosage and use in this column but three recommendations may be made. First, always follow the directions for use carefully particularly in regard to safe handling and disposal. Second, talk to other beekeepers who have used the mite control measures you plan to use. Finally, you may want to alternate mite medications from one year to the next, or even from spring to fall, in order to avoid mite resistance to the measures you have decided to use. You should be aware whether mites will develop resistance to the particular measure you have adopted.
4. It is recommended that you treat your hives with tylosin, a new antibiotic that is effective against foulbrood. Treatment with tylosin is begun when foulbrood is detected. Thus, all beekeepers must be able to recognize American or European foulbrood and look for this disease in their first, and subsequent, spring hive inspections. If foulbrood is detected, treatment with tylosin may be commenced. Otherwise, every hive inspection should also include an inspection for foulbrood.
5. **Check hives in late February or early March for honey stores. Hives that are strong can be lost in March due to dwindling honey stores and the increased need for honey due to increased brood rearing. Lift the hive gently from the back in order to estimate how heavy the hive is. As an alternative, open the hive on a warm spring day and check for adequate honey stores. The hive should have no less than 15lbs of honey (about 3-4 deep frames of honey or about 5 western frames) as a minimum. More honey is much safer. If the hive is light, feeding is essential for survival. A good early spring feed for bees is fondant. The recipe for this can be found on our club website under recipes. Some people use candy canes instead of fondant.**
6. When checking for stores, or on any warm spring day when the temperature is over 55 degrees F and it is not windy or raining, check your hives for queens. At this time the queen should be laying eggs in large numbers in order to build up the population. Check the brood nest carefully for the presence of these eggs. Do not expose the frames of brood too long to the sun or cool air. If the queen has a good pattern and the hive is building up, go home and have a small glass of mead and celebrate the successful wintering of your hive. If there are no eggs, the hive is weak, or is not building up well, or you see disease.... Skip the mead, medicate, and think about requeening or combining weak hives.

Busy Bee

Each year LCBA has a booth at the Good Earth Home & Garden Living show in January. This is always a fun event and many were interested in honey bees, other pollinators and what they can do to help. We also talked about LCBA's upcoming bee school. Ken Orgain did a presentation on "Can I Keep Honey Bees? What's Involved." and Dr. Lynn Royce on "Tree Hive Bees".

Thank You Home Show Volunteers!

Polly & Doug Habliston, Rita & Morris Ostrofsky, Pam & Les Leavitt,
Anita & Arthur Jones, Nancy & Ken Ograin, Katharine & Chuck Hunt,
Mike France, Larry Larson, & Lynn Royce

LCBA encourages community outreach to talk about bees and if you present to a group or volunteer at an event, please be sure contact Pam Leavitt at pamseaver2000@yahoo.com.



Mike France, Arthur
& Anita Jones, Ken
Ograin

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Our Factory Store Is Your Lane County Beekeeping Resource.
We support LCBA members

The GloryBee Factory Store is truly a unique destination. Our products are great for first-timers and seasoned beekeepers. We have all the beekeeping essentials such as woodenware, foundation, clothing and nutrition. Come by today for a visit with our friendly staff. We are always here to answer questions and help you select the right equipment.

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“Dead Colony Forensics”
by Dr. Dewey M. Caron

Dead colony forensics IS ALL ABOUT examining a dead colony to help determine what might have been the reason for non-survival. Identifying the problem can guide changes in management leading to improved overwintering success. Last year backyard Oregon beekeepers lost 43% of their

overwintering colonies – there were additional losses during the active year resulting in approximately one of every two colonies not surviving over a full year period. The most likely reasons backyard beekeepers lose colonies overwinter are: too weak, starvation and/or mites. Large-scale beekeepers have 3 different reasons: varroa mites, CCD, and pesticides, and generally lose many fewer (by at least ½) overwintering colonies.

I hope you are finding full survival this winter. If however you do lose one or more colonies, this self-questionnaire is designed to help you figure out why your colony died. It has three parts. You need simply answer YES or NO to questions in each section, for each dead colony, and sum your responses.

PART 1 Could your colony have been too weak to survive the winter in OR?

1. Was your colony started as a split/divide or Nuc? ___ YES or NO
2. Was colony established on foundation frames before-April 15? ____ YES or NO
3. Was newly established colony fed at installation and at least 3 more times? ___ YES or NO
4. Were there at least 12 fully draw comb frames in BOTH brood boxes? ____ YES or NO
5. Are you confident the colony never had developing queen cells? ___ YES or NO
6. Colony was still alive in January? ____ YES or NO

PART 2. Could your colony have starved?

7. Was any honey/possibly too much honey harvested from colony? ____ YES or NO
8. Was colony fed sugar syrup a minimum of 3 times after September 1st? ____ YES or NO
9. Did dead colony have (evidence) of more than 4 frames at least half full of capped honey? ___ YES or NO
10. Colony was still alive mid-February? ____ YES or NO

PART 3. Could mites (& associated viruses) have been reason colony died?

11. Was colony still alive end of February? ___ YES or NO
12. Was colony in Langstroth boxes and you used a Screen bottom board? ____ YES or NO
13. Did you sample for varroa mites at least monthly in August, September and October? ____ YES or NO
14. Did you seek to control mites with drone brood trap or brood interruption? ___ YES or NO
15. Did you use Amitraz (Apivar) strips, continuously in Brood Nest for a 42 days? ____ YES or NO
16. Did you use an essential oil treatment (Apiguard or ApiLife Var) minimum of 21 days? ___ YES or NO
17. Did you use formic acid (MAQS) for a 7-day treatment or oxalic acid after Nov 1? ____ YES or NO

If 3+ NO responses in **PART 1**, colony could have died from weakness and/or lack of proper initial care. You should find a handful or more of dead bees on the bottom board and/or a small dead cluster with bees head-first into cells around a small patch of dead capped brood located on one of the brood combs. Queen failure might be diagnosed as remains of queen cells or capped drone cells in worker-sized cells.

If 3+ NO responses in **PART 2**, your colony could have died from lack of adequate stores. You might find the honey was robbed by bees from another colony (evidence is bits and pieces of light wax scattered within cells and on bottom board), torn edges of cells that had might have contained honey and find a dead cluster (handful or so of bees with many single bees head-first into cells around a patch of capped brood cells, that may have punctures in their capping).

If 4+ NO responses in **PART 3**, your colony likely died from mites (BEE PMS). You may or may not see dead bees on the bottom board but not likely to see a cluster of dead bees with bees head-first into the cells. There will most likely be scattered capped brood cells, many with holes in the cappings. Looking into former brood cells, you might note a bright white “stain” on upper cell wall (mite guano).

If you found that all 3 PARTS of these might likely be the reason of a dead colony, then the MOST LIKELY reason is mites (**PART 3**), especially if you answered NO to question 13, nor did any control (questions 14-17).



BEEvent Pollinator Conference

Third Annual BEEvent Pollinator Conference: The Plight of our Pollinators

How YOU can personally help save them
Saturday, March 4, 2017

Linn County Fairgrounds and Expo Center, Albany, OR
9:00 am – 5:00 pm (Attendance Desk opens at 8:00 am)
\$30 registration fee includes snacks/coffee

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

New option this year to register and pay online - [Click here to register online via PayPal.](#)
***You do not need a PayPal account to register. To pay simply using a debit or credit card, scroll down the page to click that option.

Want to register via phone? Please call Laurie at the OSU Linn County Extension Office 541-248-1088

*The third annual Pollinator Conference, hosted by Linn County Master Gardeners, March 4, 2017 at Linn County Fairgrounds, will have a full day of speakers, lecturing on various topics that are addressing the decline of our pollinators – all with an eye on what you can do to **improve their populations.***

Join us for a day of expert speakers, centering on what you as a home gardener can do to improve the Plight of our Pollinators. Larger spaces, more vendors, and Mason Bee supplies, houses, tubes, cocoons for sale.

Speakers:

Pollinators, More Than Just Honey Bees, Keynote Speaker Robin W. Thorp, Ph.D., Professor of Entomology Emeritus, University of California, Davis

Integrated Gardening: The case for alternatives to pesticides, Melissa Scherr Ph.D. Entomology, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

Plant a pollinator garden “Never doubt how a small, thoughtful and committed pollinator habitat (in your backyard) can change the world.” Your flowers are blooming, so where are the bees? Andony Melathopoulos, OSU Horticulture Department, Assistant Professor of Pollinator Health Extension

Your flowers are blooming, so where are the bees? Rich Little currently teaches Basic Entomology, Advanced Entomology, Integrated Pest Management, Rearing Mason Bees, Native Bees as Pollinators, Plant diagnostics, Soil biology, & Garden Myths for Master Gardeners & the public.

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP FOR BEENOTES](#) – a *free* e-newsletter “all things pollinator” issued approximately four times a year.



Classified Ads

Bee-related classified ads cost \$5.00/month for non-members and are free to members. Classified ads run for three issues and may be renewed by contacting the editor. Bee-related business ads start at \$35 a year. To place an ad, contact Nancy Ograin by the 1st of the month. 541-935-7065 or via e-mail nancy.ograin@gmail.com.

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I'm out of the beekeeping business: Can you use ... ?

36" stainless steel uncapping tank: \$275

Observation hive for one Western frame: \$50

Scale, formerly licensed: \$40

Pollen trap, never used: \$30

Also: Western woodenware, wired foundation, bee suit, Ross round covers, books, hive stand, electric fence charger, miscellaneous other bee-keeping stuff.

Contact Robin at [541-746-0808](tel:541-746-0808)

For Sale

82 Dadant # M00250, 4 1/8 x 4 1/8 plastic cut comb boxes, pg. 98 in their catalog, plus

#M00937 stainless steel comb cutter, pg. 24.

Approximately \$95 value. Will sell for \$25.

Contact Dean Burkhart
541-744-1919.

**For Sale
Warré Beehives**

I sell complete kits for Warré top-bar beehives and also fully assembled hives.

See the details at
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I also offer free guidance in Warré top-bar beekeeping.

Bill Wood

~ (541) 687-8211 ~
beeologique@gmail.com

2017 Membership Renewal

If you wish to continue your membership in LCBA please remit the 2017 dues at our January meeting or mail to:

Polly Habliston
LCBA Treasurer
1258 Dalton Dr.
Eugene, OR 97404

Dues are \$25 per year per household, with membership renewal in January.

Contact Nancy Ograin if you are not sure if your membership is expiring.

nancy.ograin@gmail.com, 541-935-7065

For discounts on American Bee Journal subscriptions contact Nancy Ograin for discount form.

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\$25 per year per household or family
Please remit payment to:

LCBA Treasurer, Polly Habliston
1258 Dalton Dr., Eugene, OR 97404
polly@uoregon.edu

Membership forms for new members and renewals are available on the LCBA website. [Click here](#) to access.

NEWSLETTER CONTACT INFORMATION

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