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JUNE 2022 NEWSLETTER

President's Message by Brian McGinley

I am feeling pretty good with my hives these days as we leave swarm season and make final preparations for the main nectar flow in our Willamette Valley. Last night I was a little bit anxious because I had not come up with a theme for this month's Presidents Message. My topic finally became clear around 10pm last Sunday, when I listened to an urgent voice mail from a friend hosting one of my out yards (…if three hives can be called an out yard?). The voice mail was not good news and altered my schedule for the following morning.

Apparently, two hives had been toppled over by a recent windstorm. Well, that's a new one for me. These hives sit on short stands in a northwest-facing meadow near a ridgeline. After recovering from the bad news, my mind latched onto bear damage as a more probable cause. Bear damage seemed more likely because of past sightings in the area, which had prompted me to place ratchet straps on these hives. Hives also don't create much of a sail for wind to push on and the smaller hive was only two boxes tall.

The message this month from this situation is to be flexible for unexpected events when venturing along the beekeeping journey. Beekeepers have access to lots of information on bees and beekeeping, as well as crowds of experts outlining the best methods and equipment to be successful. This can give beekeepers a sense of predictability and consistency and honey bees can be fairly predictable creatures to further strengthen that attitude.

This recent experience with my damaged hives (by wind or bears) reminds me to stay flexible and be patient, because mother nature has great capacity to throw curveballs at our neat and structured plans with bees. My subsequent out yard visit found the smaller hive pulled apart and frames picked clean. The taller hive (four honey supers) was still intact, but laying on it's back. The ratchet strap held this hive together, favoring a windstorm as the plausible cause. A subsequent search of the meadow found bear scat about fifty feet from the hives. The landlord later confessed to getting notices of a sow and two cubs seen in the neighborhood. Mystery solved and time to move on and figure out how to solve my bear problem. I'll let you know in next month's newsletter.

GENERAL MEETING
June 21, 2022

Come early to socialize and share your Questions with experience beekeepers.

Early Educational Class
Topic: Preparing Honey Entries
Speaker: Judy Scher

Doors open 6:00 pm
Early Program begins 6:30 pm
Fireside Room

General Meeting
Topic: Extracting Honey
Speakers: Mike France & Lynn Hellwege

Program begins at 7:30 pm

Presentations are in-person
Trinity United Methodist Church
440 Maxwell Road, Eugene
Turn West off River Road (South of Beltline)

Inside this Issue:

Upcoming Events

June 18th - LCBA Field Day
Location: Wild Everlasting Farm, Dorena, OR

June 20th -26th - "Run for the Bee"
A virtual race during National Pollinator Week. All proceeds support "Save the Bee" and support research on honey bee health, see page 5.

June 20th -26th - National Pollinator Week
LCBA is planning on having an informational booth at the Eugene Library on June 23rd.

July 8th-10th - Oregon Country Fair
Location: Veneta, OR

July 20th-24th - Lane County Fair
LCBA will have a display booth. Enter your honey products. See page 6.

LCBA Field Day June 18th

It's not too late to attend field day!

Location: Fonta Molyneaux, Wild Everlasting Farms, 39541 Lower Brice Creek Rd, Dorena, OR

Limited or no cell service available. Bring your directions with you. Use the directions on page 15, instead of the ones in last month's newsletter. They are better.

Don't forget your lawn chair, bee suit, veil, gloves, picnic lunch.

For more information on our field day see the May newsletter.

Upcoming Webinar

June 28th – At Home Beekeeping Series
Topic: Planting for Honey Bees
Katherine Parys, USDA ARS
Time: 4:30pm-5:30pm PST

Join via Zoom at: https://auburn.zoom.us/j/904522838
Join via Facebook Live at: https://www.facebook.com/LawrenceCountyextension/
(If you use facebook, after logging in, click on more, then events.)

The presentation will be recorded and posted on their Facebook page for 2 weeks.

LCBA June 21st Meeting Info

6:30 pm Early Educational Meeting
"Preparing Honey Entries" by Judy Scher
Learn about the properties of honey and how to prepare your products of the hive entries for the Lane County Fair.

7:00 pm Social Time
Share your questions with experienced beekeepers.

7:30 pm General Meeting
"Extracting Honey" by Mike France & Lynn Hellwege
Mike and Lynn's presentation will be on removing bees from your honey supers, extracting and storing wet frames and honey supers.

Opportunity to Understand Honey Bee Swarm Biology via Participatory Research/Citizen Science

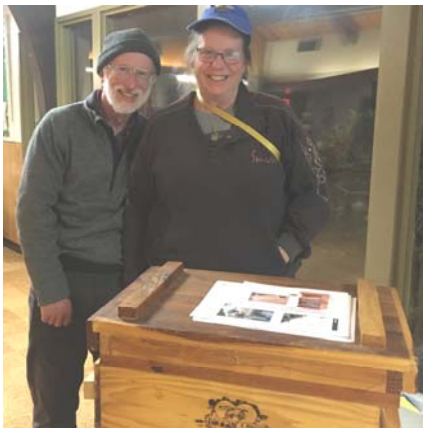
The OSU Honey Bee Lab is interested in exploring the not so well understood aspect of swarm biology with the help of citizen scientists (our passionate beekeepers) by examining as many swarms as possible. If you would like to be a part of this research click on the link below to learn how you can help out.

https://orsba.org/2022-participatory-swarm-study/

LCBA Nuc Raffle Winners

Congratulations Susan and Wis Macomson! Winners of our double nuc!

Thanks to all our members who purchased tickets. We raised $145 for the OSU Bee Lab!



Welcome New Members

David Black	Eugene
Sheila Brown	Eugene
Rick & Nancy Davies	Veneta
Jim & Monica Fair	Cottage Grove
Chris Heritage	Springfield
Mariah Kimpton	Springfield
Lisa Linnell-Olson	Creswell
Mark Mallory	Cottage Grove
Jeff Phillips	Eugene
Roger & Cindy Ray	Junction City

Keeping Bees In June by Jan Lohman

Excerpt for Oregon State Beekeepers July 2022 Newsletter, The Beeline

I can now confirm that every year is indeed an exception and we can throw out all previous assumptions. Yes, 2021 was cold and windy in spring, but 2022 is even colder, wetter, and windier. Virgin queens must be totally frustrated!

June is the time to evaluate your queens, if you have not already requeened your hives. Commercial beekeepers find the time to requeen whenever it works into their schedule each year; for hobby beekeepers, it is important to evaluate your queen each time that you check your hives. When you notice supersedure cells, damaged queens (queens with a bad leg), or spotty brood or poor performance, it is time to retire that queen and get some fresh energy into the hive.

If your hive has swarm cells, there are a few things that you can do to mitigate the colony's swarm behavior. It does not always work, but worth the time. If the queen is still laying eggs, but also throwing swarm cells, you can knock off the cells that are found, usually on the bottom of your frames in the top box, and pull out a few frames of brood (without pulling the queen) to give her more room. You can use that brood to build a nuc to have available when needed, with either a purchased queen or let the bees build their own queen by having young eggs on the frames of brood that you pull—or pull a frame with queen cells already on the frame. While you are knocking off swarm cells, you can also reverse the two boxes so that the queen is less crowded.

Remember, if your hive has swarmed . . . it is important to give the hive enough time to replace her. If you add a mated queen . . . leave the hive alone for 10 days before checking to be sure she has taken. If you are letting the hive do their own replacement, you should wait 30 days before checking for eggs.

In parts of Oregon there should be honey flows beginning. Do you plan to use an excluder? Do you see white wax on your hive's top bars? If so, the bees are telling you that it is show time! For bee colonies to make excess honey, they need robust populations of bees. You should be working to create these robust colonies from early spring to get them prepared.

Record keeping is so important, but so often missed . . . you can write on your hive with a lumber crayon, you can use a computer program or use your cell phone or use a regular notebook . . . important information to gather includes temperatures when you work your bees, bloom phenology, queen observed, eggs observed, feeding needed, and what to do on your next visit.

Finally you need to always be prepared for varroa. It is critical that you know your varroa levels, especially in the summer, and have a plan in place for how to treat when it is time. Be proactive about selecting an approved treatment that you and your bees can live with. For treatment information, please check out Tools for Varroa Management at: honeybeehealthcoalition.org.

I forgot to say that summer is near . . . queens will be mated . . . and I hope that you have an amazing beekeeping year.

Dr. Eric Mussen Passes

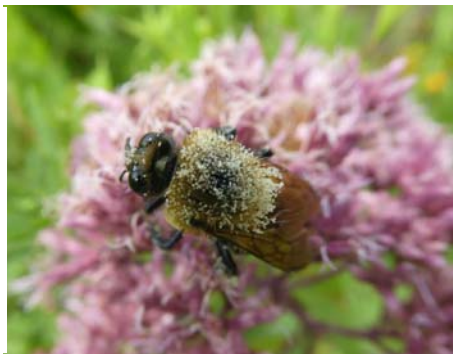
Celebrated honey bee authority Dr. Eric Carnes Mussen, an internationally known 38-year California Cooperative Extension apiculturist and an invaluable member of the UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology faculty, died Friday, June 3 from liver cancer at the age of 78.

"Eric's passing is a huge loss," said longtime colleague Lynn Kimsey, director of the Bohart Museum of Entomology and a UC Davis distinguished professor of entomology. "He was always the go-to person for all things honey bee. He worked happily with hobbyists, commercial beekeepers and anyone just generally interested."

Colleagues described Mussen as the "premier authority on bees and pollination in California, and one of the top beekeeping authorities nationwide," "a treasure to the beekeeping industry," and "a walking encyclopedia when it comes to honey bees."

National Pollinator Week - Wings of Life! July 20th - 26th, 2022

Pollinator Week is an annual celebration in support of pollinator health that was initiated and is managed by Pollinator Partnership. It is a time to raise awareness for pollinators and spread the word about what we can do to protect them. The great thing about Pollinator Week is that you can celebrate and get involved any way you like! Popular events include planting for pollinators, hosting garden tours, participating in online bee and butterfly ID workshops, and so much more.



What LCBA is Doing: Pam Leavitt is giving a power point presentation, "Pollinators in My Garden" on July 23th at 2:00pm at the downtown Eugene Library. There will also be information available on what you can do to help the pollinators and information on mason bees. Stop by and check us out. We'll be there from 2-3pm.

Bee Friendly Plants:

Perennials: Oregon Grape, Vine Maple, Serviceberry, Red-Flowering Currant, Lavender, Ocean Spray, salal, Russian sage, Catmint, California Lilac, Blue blossom (Ceanothus)

Annuals: Borage, Zinnias, Sunflower, Phacelia, Clovers, California Poppy

Use local native plants.

Best colors: Blue Purple, Violet, white & Yellow

Clumps: greater than 4" diameter of one species

Plant different shapes and plant for sequence of flowering for spring, summer, fall and winter.

OSU Extension Service recommends: Enhancing Urban and Suburban Landscapes to Protect Pollinator (oregonstate.edu), co-Arthur Andony Melathopoulos with the Oregon Bee Project.

U OF O Study to Help Pivotal Pollinators in the Pacific Northwest

Excerpt from U of O quarterly magazine, Spring 2022

Lauren Ponisio, an assistant professor of biology and entomologist at the University of Oregon, is leading a study which may change the way forestlands in the Northwest are managed. She is hoping to benefit the humble, wild bees in the forests post-harvest and post-fire.

The study is an attempt to reintroduce native plant species into what was a monoculture of fir trees hoping to attract pollinators, such as the western bumblebee. Her project involves areas of the McKenzie River Valley, following the Holiday Farm Fire, which burned more than 170,000 acres, much of which were Douglas fir forests. A land owner on the McKenzie River lost 1,000 acres of Douglas fir to the fire, however his 86 acres of organic blueberries were not damaged. He was excited to be part of the study because the native pollinators will reduce the cost of bringing in commercial bee hives, and may reduce the spread of disease to his blueberries.

In the Fall of 2021, a week after workers burned 200 slash piles on the property, Ponisio and her graduate students sowed native plant seeds into 20 piles, picking 23 species that thrive in early successional forests. The ashy soil can be fertile ground for plants. They dropped flowering plant seeds with large flowers to attract the bees. This spring, they saw the emergence of these native flowering species. The Douglas fir saplings planted after the fire will grow with the flowers around them, so the researchers can determine which species can coexist with the young trees.

There is already an interest in the timber industry for supporting native bee populations. She is hoping her project can show it's not hard to get these patches of native plants established and the timber industry will adopt the practice.

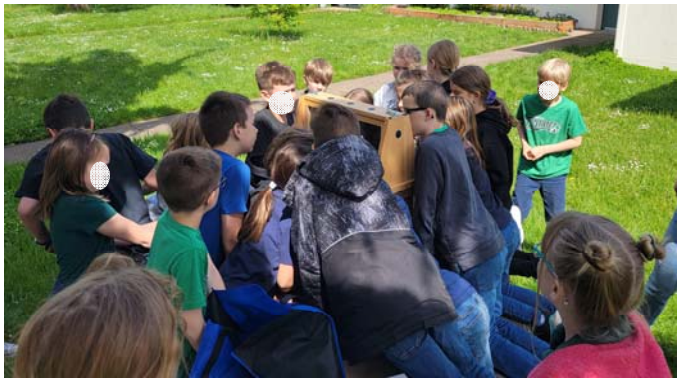
BUSY BEE

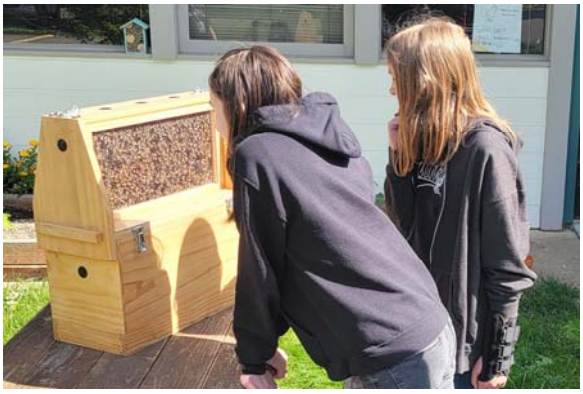
Last month LCBA Board Member, Matt Stouder, did a presentation at his son's school on honey bees. Below is Matt's experience.

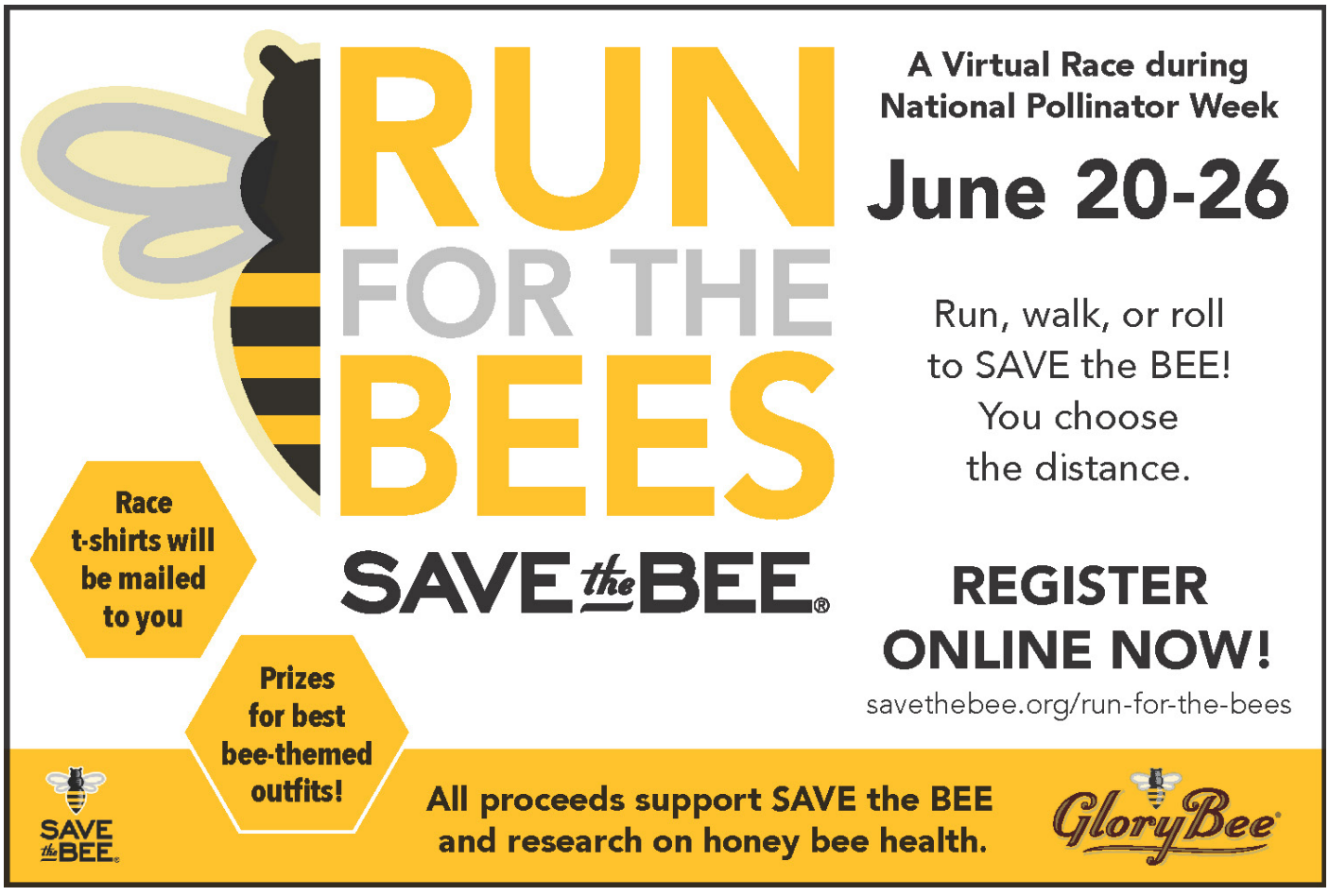
May 17, 2022 — I took my observation bee hive to the Coburg Charter school today and was able to show a Power Point presentation and talk for about an hour with the 6th grade students during their science period. We talked about what is a bee, what isn't a bee, native bees, the different kinds of bees, honey bee species, threats facing honeybees, pollination, swarming, hive activities, etc. I was even able to show the video from the OSU honeybee lab to the kids that we show our LCBA bee school students! After the class, we got to look at the bees in the observation hive. Everyone in the class got a honeystix , a guide to native pollinators from OSU, and some seeds. My boss also donated a really nice mason bee house to the class, and they put that up outside their classroom near the native pollinator habitat they had just planted

After the 6th grade students, I also showed the hive to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade classes and answered lots of questions. They absolutely loved the bee bracelets that Pam Leavitt gave me for the kids and they all got seed packs as well.

It was an enjoyable educational experience for myself as well as the kids.







June Beekeeping Tips
by Chuck Hunt, LCBA Member

1. The first blackberry blossom this year (in Eugene) was on June 2nd. This slowed hive development as well as foliage. The honey flow will occur mostly in June although the temperatures will determine how late it continues.

2. Make sure to put supers on your hives as June progresses. Look into the hives to see if there is whitening on the top bars of the frames.

3. It does not harm the hive to super a little ahead during the early part of the honey flow. In other words, you can put on two supers instead of just one for established hives even though you think that one super might do for the time being. Get your equipment ready for extracting.

4. Watch for outbreaks of foulbrood. Make sure that you know the difference between American Foulbrood (the most dangerous) and European Foulbrood. American Foulbrood can be diagnosed using the "ropiness" test. Outbreaks of American Foulbrood require treatment immediately.

5. Mites can be observed in the drone pupa cells that are revealed when you break the two brood chambers apart. Look for varroa mites on the white drone pupa where they are readily visible at this time. If you see varroa, be aware that the hive is in trouble. Use a sticky board and other monitoring devices to assess the varroa infestation. In serious cases, honey supers may have to be removed and treatment started in order to save the hive.

Lane County Fair Entries

The Lane County Fair is July 20th - July 24th. LCBA will have one pound queen line jars available to members who are entering honey in the fair at the June meeting. Anything harvested after July 21st of last year can be entered. We would like to see a good turnout of honey and wax entries this year.

We are hopeful that our membership will take advantage of the opportunity to advertise the products of our hives this year at the fair.

Honey Categories—Honey is Division 1125 in the Land Products Division

Honey must be strained in one-pound jars for Class 02, 03, 04, & 05. Submit two jars for these four categories.

Class 01 - Honey in comb (one container) (Ross Rounds)

Class 02 - Water White Honey

Class 03 - Light honey

Class 04 - Medium honey

Class 05 - Dark honey

Class 06 - Beeswax, approx. 1 lb. blocks

Class 07 - Honey in Frame Capped

Class 08 - Cut Comb Honey (comb cut in squares out of a capped frame)

Class 09 - Chunk Honey

Deadlines: Online and paper entry registration - Monday, July 2nd.

Entry Drop Off: Monday, July 18th, noon to 7:00pm, Wheeler Pavilion. You can also register when you drop off your entry. Bring your entry form with you.
For more information and online registration:
http://atthefair.com/exhibits-creatives

Paper Entry Form
Fair Still Exhibits Book

Click on 'Fair Still Exhibits" for all the information.

For those who do not have internet service you can contact the fair at 541-682-4292.

LCBA to Award Fair Entries

To encourage members to enter their honey in the Lane County Fair, LCBA will be awarding the first place winners a premium of $10 for each category except Class 01 and 08 will be combined.

May General Meeting Highlights, by Paula Sablosky, LCBA Secretary

Early Presentation:
Brood Disease Identification & Management, by Ellen Topitzhofer, OSU Bee Lab

Ellen Topitzhofer's presentation at our May meeting was via Zoom. She talked about the different honey bee brood diseases and how to identify them. She had great slides showing the symptoms of these diseases and tips on how to identify each of them. Ellen talked about Chalkbrood, Sacbrood, European Foulbrood, American Foulbrood, and Parasitic Mite Syndrome. She also talked about some of the management techniques.

We were unable to record Ellen's presentation, but below is a link to the Dyce Honey Bee Lab at Cornell University's video on brood diseases. This one is very similar to Ellen's presentation, except it did not include management.

YouTube Link: Learn How to Diagnose Brood Diseases https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MAnFr0htfOk&t=14s

Below is a summary of the Cornell University's Video for those of you who are unable to view the video:

Brood Nest Diseases-Emma Walters, Cornell University, Dyce Lab for Honeybee Studies

As a beekeeper's career progresses, you may experience brood diseases in your apiary. Tools to keep in your toolkit are Vita Test kits for bacterial diseases, toothpicks, varroa monitoring kit, flashlight and disease field guides. A key part of recognizing bee diseases is attention to detail. Take the time to look at four brood frames. Scan the open cells to see if anything is off. A small sign would be a larva lying flat with the capping chewed off. The gold standard for brood nest inspection is every two weeks.

The five diseases to be aware of are: European foulbrood, American foulbrood, Sacbrood, Chalkbrood and Parasitic Mite Syndrome (varroa mite syndrome). First up is to recognize what healthy brood frames look like. A solid mass of brood without a lot of spottiness is important, 10 % or less of the cells are open. Cappings are smooth with a slight convex shape and no chewed or ripped edges. Larvae should be pearly white in a "C" shape.

Chalkbrood is perhaps the easiest disease to visually diagnose. It is a fungal disease that occurs in moist damp conditions in spring. It mostly happens in weak hives or when the rain never stops. It is a disease that first starts to affect the larvae. White filaments grow, overtaking areas of the brood frame. It first covers the tail and then fills the entire cell. The cell is then capped. Then the adult bee perceives a problem and will chew off the capping-leaving jagged rough edges. If this colony has good hygienic habits, the "mummy "larvae will be removed. The fruiting bodies of this fungal disease are black or gray which can be seen on the infected cell. The mummies will then be removed by the adult bees. It can be found in ten percent of all hives.

Sacbrood is a virus and is the oldest known disease of honey bees. It is not a common disease but when it does show, it is in spring. An indicator of sacbrood disease, the pre-pupa head is sitting up in an uncapped cell and the body is changing color. The pre-pupa body becomes swollen and fluid-filled with a pointy head. When the body is removed from the cell, the head is sticking up and resembles a swollen slipper. Again, when the adult bees perceive a problem, they will chew the capping away. Then the diseased body turns black and then turns into a black little scale.

European Foulbrood can look different in each new hive. It is a bacterial disease in stressed hives or in the spring. The bacteria may be present in a lot of hives. Some hives develop obvious symptoms, others do not. It is thought when the disease is present, it is due to the brood nest developing too quickly and not enough nurse bees to feed every larva so there is stress in the colony. The brood nest frame is spotty with a lot of open holes. When you look closer, there are larvae color changes to yellowish or brown color. The shape changes to a twisted shape or corkscrew. The body looks swollen and is not sitting in the C shape. Usually, the disease infects larvae, not capped pupae. The bodies dry to a scale. When removing dry bodies with a toothpick-the bodies will be removed easily (the same situation happens with Sacbrood as well). A common early description of the disease would be snotty cells. The Vita test kit works best on early infection. Later stages of the disease will have different bacteria that are present. Yellow brood food is another indication of pending infection. European Foulbrood can be present in five percent of affected hives.

American Foulbrood is a bacterial disease that is highly destructive and whose spores can remain for decades. Equipment that has the disease must be burned or deeply buried and a report must be made to the Honey Research Lab at OSU Extension Service. At first glance, the infected frame looks spotty with lots of open cells that have been chewed open.

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highlights continued A chewed cell will have pre-pupae that looks melted and first beige then brown in color. These bodies will dry to a very black scale. A telltale sign is a toothpick is inserted within the cell and the residue is ropey. It works best when the bodies are beige and mucus looking. If the cell is too dry-this toothpick test is not highly successful. There is also a rancid rotting smell (from the dead brood). When pupae die from AFB, their tongue is sticking out and connected to the side of a cell. Cappings will be sunken and concave and will have a greasy appearance (these cells have dead pupae in these cells.)

Parasitic Mite Syndrome (varroa mite syndrome) is not a brood disease. It is a mite issue that builds up in the hive and crests in late summer or early fall. It is the most common disease situation. It is caused by the beekeeper not treating for mites or the mite treatments not being successful.

This syndrome can vector several viruses, the prominent one virus would be deformed wing virus. A symptom of varroa mite infestation are bald brood (bees chewing thru the cappings when they detect a problem, and the larvae is exposed). Pupae may be cannibalized to control the varroa infestation. Early signs are spotty brood frames that the bees are not backfilling with some chewed cells that have bald pupae in them. A colony may have varroa damage, but not Parasitic Mite Syndrome yet.

A lot of these diseases have the same characteristics so it can be tricky to narrow down the problem. If you see a spotty brood pattern, you need to look closer. Are there chewed cappings? If so check what's underneath. Is there dead brood?

General Meeting: Brood Nest Dynamics - Understanding the Brood Nest,
by Fonta Molyneaux

The key to beekeeping is understanding the brood nest, the area where the queen lays her eggs. Fonta talked about bee management and how to avoid some of the pit falls when you are learning something new. You do not want to be a "Godzilla in Tokyo". Bee management can be a source of inflaming the bees and turning them defensive if we are not sure of what we are doing. Know your reasons for going into the hive, understand where to look and move slow, but efficiently. One of the most important skills is being calm and managing your breath and movements. We communicate with our bees through our movements and our manipulations.

We gain fluency in beekeeping by knowing all the aspects of bee biology and the bioregional biology; where you live, the flowering plants in our neighborhood and other wildlife. It is important to understanding the brood nest dynamics within the hive. As a beekeeper we need to have the knowledge of the year-to-year conditions, real time weather, environmental and nutritional stressors and strengths. This knowledge will directly affect your manipulations in the hive.

Fonta uses the "Wheel of the Year"* to manage her hives. It brings us into the natural cycle of the hive. When inspecting our hives we align our manipulations with the seasons. Honey bees follow the seasonal trajectory of the sun. They expand and contract their brood nest in alignment with the nectar flows and dearths. You need to be aware when these times occur. The beekeeping season begins with the spring equinox and ends with the fall equinox. It peaks at summer solstice. The peak aligns with our major nectar flow, which is the blackberry flow. The brood nest starts decreasing after the summer solstice. The "Wheel of the Year" helps inform us where we are at during the year.

Beekeepers are detectives! As a good detective we need to know the obstacles or key stressors to the honey bee population. These negative factors include parasites, disease, nutrition, pesticides and management. Right now we have weather conditions that are affecting our hives. The number one stressor are parasites are number one and the diseases they vector. Some stressors we may not have much control over, but we can do a lot about management.

Management includes learning about the honey bee life cycle stages, brood configurations and hive inspection guideline. Knowing life cycle stages, the number of days from egg to larva to pupa help you figure out when you last had a laying queen if you can't find any brood or if your are making a split or doing queen rearing. You also need to learn about brood configurations and how they work. Two deeps is the standard, but you can also use three mediums or a deep and mediums. Next is knowing the hive inspection guidelines.

continued on page 9

highlights continued **Healthy Hive Inspection Guidelines:** Only inspect a hive in temperatures above 55 , but not over 80 degrees. Inspect hives in the heat of the day when most of foragers are out and only work hives from the back or the side. Remove honey supers and start in the bottom brood box first. Work from only one side. If you get stung or crush a bee, smoke that area. Try to limit inspections 15-20 minutes every 12-14 days. Do not feed bees or treat with honey supers on. Take notes or photos noting how many frames of brood are open and capped. Wear tight fitting gloves. Do not open your hive during robbing season or winter unnecessarily. Use smoke to move the bees away when inspection your hive.

When inspecting a hive your goal is to keep everything intact. Only go in as far as you must on one side to observe. Note the pollen honey band. Note frame number three, it's called the barometer frame because it's the frame that reflects changes in the hive; expansion or contraction of the brood nest, lack of forage or lack of brood. Note the brood pattern (how much open and closed brood), note population, overall honey supplies and finally note any inconsistencies or warning signs.

Your second goal is to be sure that the hive is queenright, meaning the presence of eggs! If you see eggs it means there was a queen present three days ago. Knowing how many frames of open or capped brood you have is a tool that allows you to paint a comprehensive picture of your hive and the brood nest. The brood nest is a large egg shape that may straddle both brood boxes. Numbering your frames with an arrow will help you put the frames back in the exact same order . You want to keep them in order to keep the cluster together and to keep the brood nest intact. When inspecting, it is best to alternate which side you start from on each visit.

Frames five and six hold the brood. If there are solid frames of capped brood, these pheromones will cause the colony to swarm. During the increase phase (spring) is when we add boxes. When the frames are 70 percent full (seven out of ten frames have population on top of the frames) it is time to add a boxe. If you add a box too early, the bees will chimney up (fill the central frames and ignore the outer frames). An empty box with empty frames will diffuse the energy of the colony. Drawn comb is the ultimate treasure of a colony. The queen can't lay eggs unless there are cells (drawn comb). During the first season your goal is to fill two brood boxes.

After summer solstice, the brood nest will decrease in size back down to the bottom box and they backfill the top box with honey as they prepare for winter (July marks the first month of "winter " for honeybees" here in the Pacific Northwest). The bees will then over the weeks move gradually back up to the upper box as they eat the honey that they have stored. In spring, the cluster will be in the top box with little food to eat. So, remove your honey supers by mid-July so that the bees will have enough time to create the wintertime supplies.

***Note:** The video presentation explains how the "Wheel of the Year**"** and brood nest works. It explains hive inspections and how to remove and replace frames for hive inspections.

Video is posted on YouTube and if you would like the link please contact Nancy at nancy.ograin@gmail.com.

Is That a Good pollinator Plant?
by Dewey Caron

Does your favorite nursery plant labels tell us their attraction to pollinators? How can we tell if the hottest new selection or the old standby is really attractive to bees or butterflies or other pollinators? More importantly, perhaps, is how the nursery inform us on it's attractiveness. It might attach meaningful labels to the varieties they are selling.

There has not been a standard protocol for assessing varietal attractiveness for pollinators. However at least one study has shown that consumers will pay more for plants that are labelled pollinator friendly. Some of the limitations to collection of information is having someone capable of identifying which flying insect visit. Also important is the time of day information is collected, how much time is spent in observation, temperature, season, floral display size and competitive bloom vicinity among other variables.

Emily Erickson recently defended her PhD thesis at Penn State in the Christina Grozinger Center for Pollinator Research Lab. She was seeking to determine how best to tackle the problem of plant attraction to pollinators. She is continuing her studies as a Postdoc at Tufts. Erickson, after spending time in the field to define some of the variables turned to Master Gardeners for a solution.

As Dr Sagili has found in his current nutrition studies at OSU and as we have observed in our Oregon Master Beekeeper program participation citizen scientists are one possible aide to collecting a diverse array of reliable data. As in any research or extension project, errors can give false positive or negative results. Erickson's team set out to measure the error fraction as they sought to determine a minimum observation time for volunteer observers to quantify pollinator friendliness of new cultivars.

First, Erickson gave the volunteers a brief training to identify which pollinators they would likely encounter during the observation period. She provided no additional help while volunteers observed on their own. As a control, Erickson's team observed the same plant cultivars for the same periods of time to determine novice error.

To identify how long an individual plant should be observed to estimate different measures of attractiveness, Erickson watched each plant for 30 minutes and recorded which insects visited the plant and when. They did these observations over time and space. Then they compared information the volunteers complied. The study concluded that ten minutes was a minimum observation time to accurately capture the pollinator visitation for a given cultivar.

Analysis found their volunteer team of Master Gardeners, despite having little to no experience observing pollinators prior to recruitment, produced high quality observations after receiving a short training session. Working closely with members of the floriculture industry, it is hoped that a standardized protocol can be developed that can be used to label new cultivars appropriately. The hope is that, in the future, pollinator attractiveness can be included as one of the traits in breeding trials of new flower cultivars. With proper assessment, this can then allow for more meaningful labeling to be used.

Gardeners, urban planners and beekeepers have a desire or interest in choosing flower cultivars suitable for urban and residential pollinator habitats. Today it is buyer beware. Cultivars, might be quickly replaced by the latest and greatest new blooms, but pollinators still will need flowers to fulfill their nutritional needs. Better information will go a long way to helping to feed the pollinators and "Save the Bees".

You can read the entire study at: Erickson, Emily, C M Grozinger, and H M Patch 2022. Measuring Plant Attractiveness to Pollinators: Methods and Considerations. *Journal of Economic Entomology*. https://doi.org/10.1093/jee/toac066

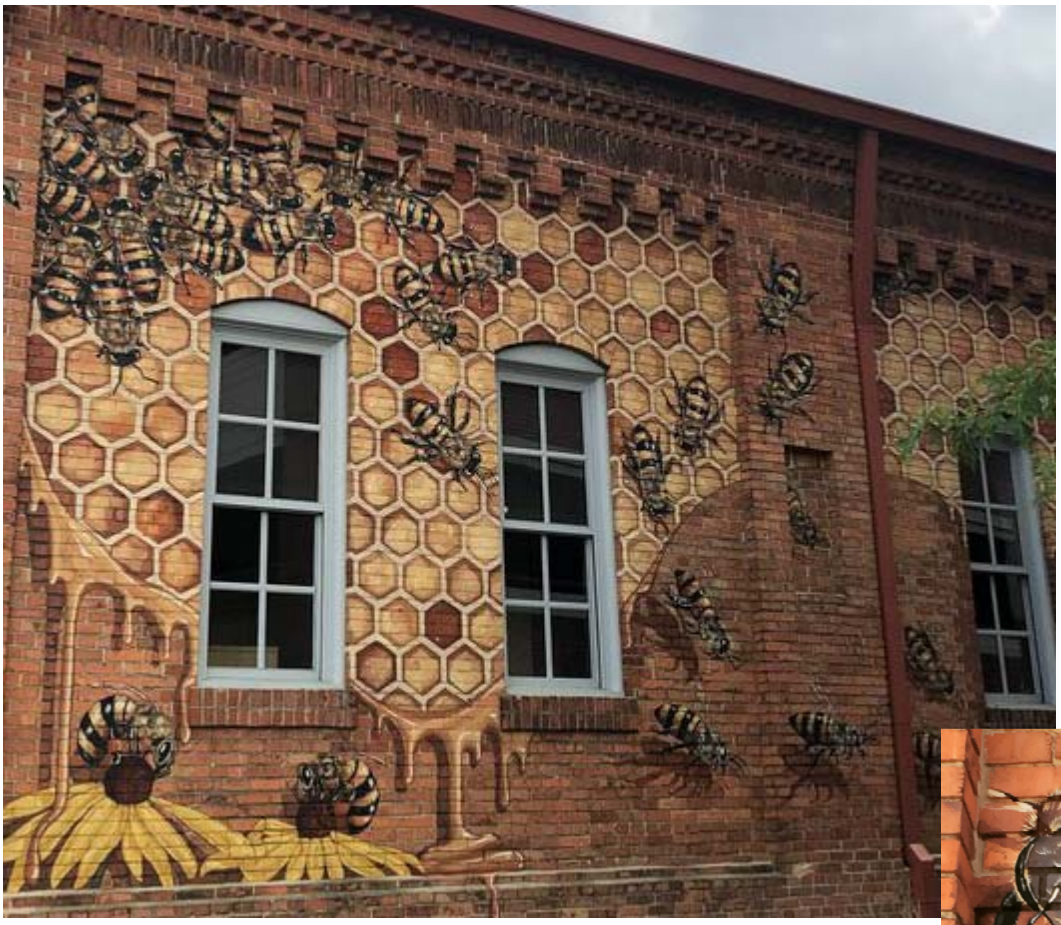
***NOTE: I am currently preparing reports on the recent pnw honey bee survey. By the time you read this an Oregon state report and a preliminary report for LCBA should be posted on www.ǇƴǁhoneybeeSurvey.com/survey-results/ ǀăŝŝ ǁŝădzťŭă [CBA report under2021-22 survey reports).**

Bee Art - "The Good of the Hive"

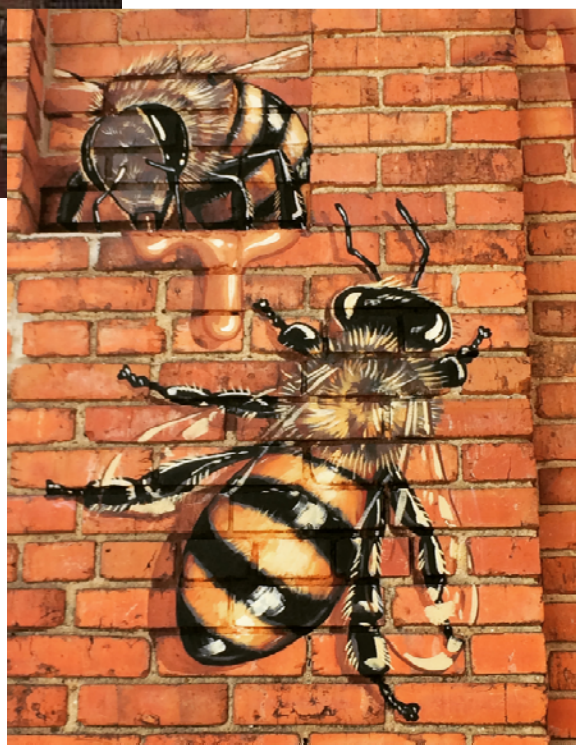
Excerpt form American Family Life Magazine, April 2022

Artist Matt Willey decided to raise awareness of bees and improve human interaction through his painting. He now travels the globe painting bee murals, a project he calls "The Good of the Hive". His goal is to paint 50,000 bees and he is currently around 8,500! He has completed 34 projects around the world.

"*What started out as raising awareness of the importance of bees has evolved to include pollination and food systems. Bees are also the symbol I use for defining the hive as us. Every living creature on earth is part of one hive. I want to help integrate that into our consciousness, and bees are a tenacious symbol of perseverance and a higher sense of purpose—of always working for the greater hive." Matt Willey*



Burt's Bee's Global Headquarters in Durham, North Carolina



https://www.thegoodofthehive.com/

New Beekeepers - Informational Page

Things to do to start preparing for your bees:

1. Order your bees.
2. Get your apiary site ready.
3. Assemble your boxes and other equipment.
4. Tools - gather all your tools and have them in a container. A five gallon bucket works really well.
5. Practice lighting your smoker. Even experienced beekeepers can find it difficult sometimes.

Helpful video for installing Package Bees & Nucs: Installing Packages and Nucs (lcbaor.org)

Honey Bee Suite A good website for all kinds of information. Want to know how to do something or what something means visit their website. https://www.honeybeesuite.com/how-to/

Find other useful information: Kamon Reynolds from Tennessee. He has a practical, down to earth style, and in addition to having a ton of good info, he speaks regularly at state beekeeping conferences https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkoAuqRakc1TtvXxL4Kr76Q

OSU Honey Bee Lab Videos

Lighting a Smoker	Finding the Queen
American Foulbrood	Chalkbrood
Swarms	Package Installation
Sugar Candy	Oxalic Acid Vaporizer
Early Spring Inspection	How to Mark a Queen

[3]
In the Bees with the OSU Honey Bee Lab

Wooden Ware Assembly

How to Assemble a Frame
Assembling a Standard Bee Box
How to Install a Wax Foundation

Educational Videos for New Beekeepers

Glory Beekeeping 101

GloryBee | Beekeeping 101
Articles: “About Bees” “How to Keep Bees”,
“Swarming, Extracting, & Other Common Bee Issues”

Beginning Beekeeping Videos

Shonnard's Nursery in Corvallis has a series of beginning beekeeper videos available on YouTube.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9qbDVPNB12i2yzh7L5h9ng/videos

Other Informative Links

Learn How to Diagnose Brood Diseases
Life Cyce of the Honeybee
First 21 Days of a Bee’s Life
How Varroa Destructor Devastates Honey Bee Colonies

Two Bees in a Podcast

Two Bees in a Podcast is hosted by members of University of Florida's Honey Bee Research and Extension Laboratory.

Learn about honey bees, beekeepers, researchers, and specialists from around the world in educational, fun, yet practical episodes!

Hosted by: Dr. Jamie Ellis, Professor of Entomology, Department of Entomology & Nematology, University of Florida

https://entnemdept.ufl.edu/honey-bee/podcast/

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. To place an ad, contact Nancy Ograin by the 1st of the month. 541-935-7065 or via e-mail nancy.ograin@gmail.com.

For Sale
Starter Colonies

Includes telescoping top, inner cover, ventilation box, 2-3 boxes (1 deep and a western or 3 westerns), bottom boards & misc. management equipment plus an established colony ready to grow. **$325**.

Questions welcomed! If interested, **please contact** Kelly Goodwin at kgoodwinus@yahoo.com or 541-925-3028.

FOR SALE
Bee Packages, Nucs, Vaporizer
Locally Raised Queens

3lb. packages with 2022 queen*	**$160**
4lb. Packages with 2022 queen*	**$200**
Nucs (Deeps) - 3 frames of brood and 2 frames pollen and honey with 2022 queen*	**$175**
Pro vap 110 oxalic acid vaporizer	**$400**

*Queens are Carniolan/hybrid mix

Contact: Brian (541)520-6566

Support Dr. Sagili's OSU Bee Lab

Oregon State Beekeepers Association has set up a fundraiser to help raise monies for Dr. Sagili's research and students. You can make a difference by donating today and help in raising research funds. Every little bit helps! Thank You!

Donate Here

Fundraiser by Rebecca Fain : Help Us Save The Honey Bees (gofundme.com)

2022 LCBA New/Renewal Memberships

Now is the time to renew your membership for 2022. Please support our club again this year by renewing your 2022 dues.
Pay online at:
http://www.lcbaor.org/membership.htm

$25 per year per calendar year (Jan-Dec 2022) 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.

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

NEWSLETTER CONTACT INFORMATION

The LCBA newsletter is published eleven times a year by the Lane County Beekeepers Association, 130 Hansen Lane, Eugene, OR 97404. Sample copies may be requested from the editor. For advertisements, please contact the editor or the association treasurer by the first of the month.

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Links

http://www.lcbaor.org/

https://orsba.org/

https://
extension.oregonstate.edu/mb

Friday in the Apiary
https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mb/friday-apiary

Bee Informed Partnership
https://beeinformed.org/

Honey Bee Lab
Pollinator Health
Oregon Bee Project
PolliNation Podcast
Bee Diagnostics

Honey Bee Health Coalition

Tools for Varroa Management & Supporting Videos
https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/

Best Management Practices for Bee Health
https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/resources/hive-health-management-practices/

Varroa Management Decision Tool
https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroatool/

https://www.honey.com/

Honey Bee Health
Resources, Research and Beekeeping videos
https://bee-health.extension.org/

Beltsville Bee Lab
How To Send A Sample To Beltsville, MD for Diagnosis
The go to for American foulbrood.

Residential Beekeeping: Best Practices for Nuisance Free Beekeeping in Oregon
https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9186

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