



THE BEELINE

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February / March 2008

MSBA Winter Meeting & Honey Show Feb 16, 2008

***at
Howard County Fair-
grounds***

***Friendship, MD
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President's Message

by Steve McDaniel

Our February meeting is traditionally our best-attended meeting of the year, with nearly two hundred beekeepers gathering at the Howard County Fairgrounds. Of course, we always have a great program, and this year is no exception.

Vice President Adele Morris has lined up some terrific speakers bringing Dr. Gordon Wardell all the way from Arizona to tell us about his research on honey bee nutrition. Kirsten Traynor, recently returned from eighteen months in Europe studying the healing properties of honey and bees will reveal some of the ways honey bees improve human health. Our old friend Bart Smith will regale us with stories of his "bee wrangling" at the Beltsville Bee Lab. A panel of experienced beekeepers will share their techniques for dealing with mites without using toxic chemicals. This meeting will be like a one-day short course!

Speaking of short courses, this is the season to read some books, take some classes, and get new people into beekeeping. Many local bee associations are sponsoring classes this year, and they need **you** to participate.

How can you be a bee ambassador? Volunteer to help with your local group's course. Teach a class, distribute flyers, or make refreshments. Talk to your friends and neighbors and get them to take the course. Go to a school, church, or scout group and encourage kids to come and bring their parents. We know that beekeeping is a great family activity, and more people than ever are aware of the importance of honey bees as pollinators. Talk up the fun and fascination of bees. We need more bees, and we need more beekeepers!

In February, you won't be tempted to spend the day in the beeyard, so come to Howard County, meet beekeepers from all over the state, order bees or equipment from our vendors, and eat some birthday cake. Help us kick off our centennial year with a splash!

Mark your calendars:

COMING EVENTS

MSBA MEETING SCHEDULE:

Winter Meeting: Feb 16, 2008

Summer Meeting: Jun 2008 - TBD

Annual Meeting and Honey Show

Nov 2008, Md Dept of Ag. Hq, Annapolis, Md. Date: TBD

(Vendors are welcome at meetings. Please notify Steve McDaniel, President or David Morris, Secretary one week prior to meeting date. It is requested that vendors donate an item to be a door prize when attending MSBA meetings.)

Upcoming Local/ National / International Meetings:

BUMBA Short Course:

Begins 13 Mar 2008
Watkins Park Nature Center
Largo, MD

MCBA Short Course:

Begins 28 Feb 2008
Holiday Park Senior Center
Wheaton, MD

**2nd International Forum on
Apitherapy** "APIMEDICA and
APIQUALITY 2008"
9 to 12 June 2008.
Rome, Italy

EAS 2008 Short Course and Conference
August 4 - 8, 2008
Murray State University, Murray, Kentucky

###

Winter Meeting:

Directions:

From Frederick, take I-70 East to the intersection with Rt. 32. Take Rt. 32 South to the stoplight at the intersection with Rt. 144. Turn Right and go about 1/2 mile to the Fair Grounds.

From Baltimore and points north: Take the Baltimore Beltway to I-70. Go West on I-70 to the intersection with Rt. 32. Follow directions above.

From Washington and points south: Take the Washington Beltway to I-95 North to Rt. 32. Take Rt. 32 North (exit for Columbia) and continue to (about 10 miles). Turn left onto Rt. 144 and go about 1/2 mile to the Fair Grounds.

At the Fair Grounds watch for the yellow "BEE MTG" signs.

###

Lunch Menu:

**Lunch service will not be
arranged for this meeting.**

Meeting attendees should plan to bring their own lunch (brown bag it!) or go to nearby fast food establishments

Coffee & refreshments will be provided during breaks.

###



Maryland State Beekeepers' Association

Winter Meeting

February 16, 2008
Howard County Fair Grounds
West Friendship, Md.

The MSBA Winter Meeting is open to the public.

8:30am	Refreshments, Coffee, Donuts, etc.	
9:30am	Opening and Welcome	Steve McDaniel President
9:45	Md. Apiary Inspector's Report	Jerry Fischer Md. State Inspector
10:00	Update on the NASA Hive Scale Research Program	Dr. Wayne Esaias EAS Master Beekeeper Research Oceanographer Goddard Space Flight Center
10:15	Honey Bee Nutrition and the Development of the MegaBee™ Food Supplement	Dr. Gordon Wardell Tucson Bee Lab Tucson, AZ
11:15	Health from the Hive: So Much More than Honey	Kirsten Traynor Middleton, MD
12:15	Lunch (On your own at local restaurants)	
1:30	Feeding Supplements and Hive Management	Dr. Gordon Wardell Tucson, AZ
2:15	Honey Bee Disease Diagnosis at the Beltsville Bee Lab	Bart Smith Beltsville Bee Lab
3:15	Panel Discussion	
4:30	Adjourn	Steve McDaniel

###



Dr. Gordon Wardell is well known to the more experienced beekeepers in Maryland. “Gordy” was Maryland’s last apicultural extension officer, working at UMD, in College Park from 1988 to 1996. When support for apicultural extension ended Dr. Wardell moved to Tucson, AZ, ran an Africanized Honey Bee removal service, and began conducting contract research at the USDA Carl Hayden Bee Research Center in Tucson, on honey bee nutrition, his specialty. He also has performed research on essential oils for parasite control. Proper honey bee nu-

trition is critical to honey bee larvae, since they only have six days to develop. Dr. Wardell will speak about the nutrition and its affect on hive health.

Dr. Wardell also has extensive experience with beekeeping overseas. He spent six years in Indonesia developing local beekeeping programs, has helped train beekeepers in the likes of Nepal and Uruguay. He is presently the Director of the Sensible Alternatives for the Environment (SAFE) Research & Development and lives in Tucson.

Kirsten S. Traynor recently returned from 18 months abroad in Europe as a German Chancellor Scholar of the Humboldt Foundation. During her stay, she was based at the largest bee research institute in Europe. She traveled extensively to speak with scientists, researchers, medical doctors and beekeepers, gathering information for a book on the medicinal benefits of bee hive products. Numerous of her articles have appeared in American Bee Journal (see her article “Bee Breeding Around the World” in the February ABJ.) Her informative and entertaining presentation will help beekeepers benefit from the healthful products of the hive, while underscoring how to better market products to consumers.



Lose weight, increase your energy, alleviate arthritis, and knock out superbugs. Beekeepers hold the key to good health in the hives they tend.



Bart Smith has been in charge of honey bee disease diagnosis for the Beltsville Bee Lab for almost six years, since he retired from the Maryland Department of Agriculture where he served as the State Apiary Inspector. If you send in a diseased bee sample to the Bee Lab, Bart makes sure the lab work is done and a diagnosis made. In addition to his duties in the lab, Bart is also

the "Bee Wrangler" for the research colonies at the Beltsville Bee Lab. In his past position Bart was a very active speaker around the state, at local clubs, short course, schools and gardening groups. But when he moved to the Bee Lab those speaking duties were taken over by Jerry Fischer and it has been impossible to drag Bart out of the lab. But, at last we are pleased to announce that we've wrangled the wrangler back to speak at our meeting about the diagnostic services available for all beekeepers and beekeeping at the lab. Come & learn from a true master beekeeper.



Dr. Wayne Esaias, Maryland beekeeper and member of MSBA and Howard County Beekeepers Assoc., will give an update and exciting news about his research into the effect of climate change and urbanization on the nectar flows of Maryland and its affect on beekeeping.

Winter Meeting Weather Policy

In the event of a major winter storm, listen to WBAL (AM 1090) or WTOP (AM 1500) for announcements. If a Snow Emergency Plan is in effect in Howard County, then the meeting is canceled. The Howard County Fairgrounds was selected as the site for our Winter Meeting largely because it is easily accessible in mild winter weather.



From Bee Culture Magazine's "CATCH THE BUZZ":

Will the Weslaco lab close in 2009?

Word has it that USDA-ARS will close the entire Weslaco Agricultural Research facility as of September 2009. This is one of several money-saving efforts USDA is considering to make up a \$86 million shortfall in their budget. Closing the Weslaco facility would save about \$10 - 13 million. Apparently the powers that be are not displeased with the Honey Bee Research program at the lab, but other research areas located there have been noted as not performing as expected. The decision is expected to be made by the end of September, 2008.

What this will do to USDA efforts to implement, finally, a long range 5 year plan focusing on honey bee health has not been addressed, nor has there been any mention of short term efforts addressing the current crisis on Colony Collapse Disorder.

This message brought to you by Bee Culture, The Magazine Of American Beekeeping. www.BeeCulture.com

Seinfeld All Wet!

By Steve McDaniel

Have you seen Jerry Seinfeld's "Bee Movie?" If not, don't waste your money. It is a turkey, earning a big, fat "F" from this reviewer.

I just do not understand why people persist in putting out false information about bees in the name of art or entertainment. Real bees are more fascinating than any fake claptrap I've ever seen, and this movie has to rank as the worst. Fortunately, even kids could see how bad it was (most found it boring), and it has long since left the theaters.

Jerry Seinfeld stars as Barry Bee in the movie he wrote. Maybe if a woman had written it, the sex roles would at least be accurate. In Seinfeld's twisted version, male bees do all the work of the hive, and they have to choose one job that they will be stuck in their whole lives. The females, in his alternate universe, parade around in "beehive" hairdos and look cute, like something out of "Hairspray."

An elite group of macho male bees do the job of pollinating, using guns that shoot the stuff at the flowers. If they don't do their work, the flowers don't bloom.

Barry lives in an apartment with his sister, mother, and father. Apparently, nobody told Seinfeld that male bees who mate drop dead on the spot. Barry falls in love with a human woman, finds out that people eat honey and sell it in stores, and persuades the bees to go on strike.

I went to see the movie when it came out last fall because I planned to sell honey at craft shows and knew customers would ask me about it. One lady said she saw Seinfeld on a talk show promoting his movie, and she believed that he knows everything about bees. "He even knew about Colony Collapse Disorder," she said, "and it is caused by cell phones!"

It was easy to summarize my critique of the movie. "Don't believe anything you saw in it," I would tell

them. "Absolutely everything in the movie was wrong."

Last summer, the National Honey Board had a table at EAS with all kinds of materials for beekeepers to buy to tie their product to the "buzz" about the movie. It is hard to believe that anyone who knows anything at all about honey bees would want to be associated with such garbage. I hope the movie lost a bundle of money. Maybe the next time Hollywood people make a film featuring bees, they can at least tell the truth.

###

For Sale: Maxant Extracting Equipment

1. Chain Uncapper Model 1700 with Sideliner Conveyor System
2. 20 Frame Radial Extractor Model 4000-20
3. Gravity Clarifier Model 30-24
4. Honey Pump (110; 3/4 hp) and Rosedale Canister Filter

All in good condition; \$3000.

Contact: David Papke 717-246-2339 or

dcpapke@aol.com

(more information and pictures available at Winter Meeting)

###

Check your mailing label.

If your "member thru date" is **2007** please bring your dues up-to-date. Contact Jon Bealer at the meeting or mail \$10 dues to:
Jon Bealer, Treasurer MSBA
702 Monkton Rd
Monkton, MD 21111-1114

Howard County Leads the Nation in Nectar Flow Study

By Wayne Esaias, Article from *Howard County Nectar Collector*

What began as a backyard honey bee project has grown rapidly to a county-wide, then state, and now a national research program. The enthusiastic participation by Howard County beekeepers and other MD beekeepers in the Scale-Hive Network showed that scale hive records are useful for monitoring how climate change is affecting Nectar Flows.

Based on the early results, NASA has funded a three year national program, joint with USDA and USGS, and with collaboration of MAAREC, Univ. Arizona, and MSBA, to combine satellite observations of vegetation and other climate measurements, together with honey bee forage information such as from scale hives, to address several important issues. First, the information will be used to improve predictions of how far north the Africanized Honey Bee might be able to over-winter and establish permanent populations, as an Invasive Species. Second, as part of the Invasive AHB study, an interactive geo-mapped data base of satellite-derived climate and honey bee forage information will be established, at USGS, which will help research and managers address how climate change is affecting nectar flows, honey bee health, and health of native pollinators. Third, it will help to preserve current and historical scale hive records of the environment, sampled as only our honey bees can. This project has important public education aspects as well.

State and local management offices and beekeeping groups will be able to use this information to improve beekeeping and track environmental changes that affect the health of our pollinators, and will join in making this a national effort. A high priority this spring is to get more measurements, both within Maryland and across North America. The more data, the better the scientific results within the first 3 years.

At the end of 3 years results will be available, and the procedures should be up and running, and will likely be continued by other agencies. Volunteers from over 25 states will help in 2008, and there has been great cooperation from the USDA Bee Labs, state honey bee research and extension scientists, and the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign. Think of a modern map of honey bee forage and nectar flow dates for MD and N.A.

The 2007 Maryland study is described on the Goddard website <http://honeybeenet.gsfc.nasa.gov>, where you can see the data from MD and elsewhere.

Your records confirmed the dramatic advancement in the central MD nectar flows (now estimated to be 25 days earlier since about 1970), and that the rate of advancement of scale hive dates (~ 0.57 days/yr) is virtually identical to the rate of change in spring green up for Highland seen in the satellite data. Data from our neighboring states and around the country over the next few years will show how extensive these changes are. The 2007 study also showed that the spatial differences in the dates of the nectar flow appear to be related more to regional climate rather than to land use category. Scale hives in highly urban areas tended to have the same dates as those in nearby mixed forested regions.

The biggest differences were associated with elevation change going from the coastal lowlands to the Piedmont region. Within the 2007 study area, the peak was May 27 ± 3.6 days for sites higher than 300 ft., and was May 10 ± 2.4 days for sites lower than 300 ft. Chevy Chase, at 300 ft, was significantly earlier (8 d) than the elevation relationship would predict, likely due to an urbanization effect and nearby lower elevation forage sites. Only one site (College Park) reported dark tulip poplar honey, and this may be due to the fact that the first hive deteriorated, and the replacement (on May 3) collected nectar mainly from the second half of the nectar flow. I hope that 2007 scale-hivers can continue their measurements, and that more will join in. If you have further questions, please ask. If you are interested in scaling one of your hives, please get in touch. We particularly need observations from Western MD, Southern, and the Eastern Shore. We can give you information and encouragement, but its basically still a 'bring your own scale' situation.

###

EARLY SPRING MANAGEMENT

Reprinted in part from MAAREC Pub 3.1

Early spring management is primarily concerned with sufficient food stores and secondly with disease and mite control. Colony stores can be evaluated by tipping the hive from behind to assess weight, or checking the location of the cluster in relationship to available foods. Colonies should not be opened until the temperature is above 40°F, preferably when the sun is shining and during midday so that the bees have adequate time to recluster if necessary. When checking the location of the cluster, avoid disturbing it. Having adequate supplies of honey and pollen located above and to the sides of the cluster is of primary importance since once brood-rearing begins early in January the cluster may not leave the brood area to maintain contact with its food reserves. In the fall, bees normally cluster between the combs near the bottom of the stored honey. During the winter, they gradually eat their way upward between the combs. As the cluster reaches the top of the hive, food reserves are depleted. Bees will not go down in cold weather to get to food even if it is present. If the cluster is near the top of the hive, emergency feeding may be necessary. Check closely to see how much honey is available to the bees on either side and above the cluster.

Colonies found to be short of stores before late March or early April are difficult to deal with. Feeding sugar syrup in early spring may cause problems for colonies in cold climates. In cold weather bees may not take syrup. Also, the bees have problems inverting the sucrose and handling the excess water. Combs of honey in storage, from colonies with a surplus, or from dead colonies can be used to feed bees if you are certain they are free of disease. Place the frames of honey as close as possible to the cluster without disrupting it. Or, if available, an entire super can be placed on top of the needy colony.

A second way to supplement food stores is to feed sugar candy made by using the following recipe:

- 15 pounds of sugar
- 3 pounds of glucose or white corn syrup
- 4 cups of water
- 1/2 teaspoon of cream of tartar

Dissolve the sugar in the water by stirring and heating the mixture until the temperature rises to 242°F on a candy thermometer. Let the syrup cool to 180°F, then beat until thick. Pour the candy into molds lined with

wax paper. The mold should be about 8 by 10 by 3 inches thick. After the candy has hardened, place the cake of sugar on two small half-inch square strips of wood in an empty super above the cluster of bees. Cover the candy and the space around it with cloth or newspaper to keep it warm. Dry granulated sugar may be poured around the hole of the inner cover or spread on a piece of paper above the frames. However, in order to take full advantage of the sugar, colonies must be strong, temperature warm enough so the cluster can be broken, and adequate moisture available. Any dead colonies should be closed up so they are not robbed during periods of warm weather.

Once the daytime temperatures increase enough to allow easy movement of the cluster and occasional flights, then a heavy sugar syrup is recommended (2 parts sugar to 1 part water by volume or weight). Feed only inside the hive. A pail or jar over the hole in the inner cover works well since the top of the hive is the warmest area, and is the place where the bees are normally clustered and raising brood. Usually about six holes made with the tip of a 4 d nail are sufficient. Surround the feeder with an empty super, and cover it with several layers of burlap or newspaper.

The syrup can also be fed by using a division board feeder or poured onto both sides of an empty drawn comb, getting as much syrup into the cells as possible, and placing it close to the cluster. The entrance or boardman feeder does not work in cold weather. The syrup gets too cold and the bees will not move down to access it unless the weather is very warm. Feeding sugar syrup in the spring may not only save the bees from starvation, it also acts as a stimulant for brood rearing.

CAUTION: once you begin supplemental feeding, it should be continued until natural supplies of nectar become abundant, otherwise the bees may starve. Pollen must also be present to raise brood. Check to see that sufficient supplies are stored in the brood area. Pollen supplies can be increased or supplemented with pollen substitutes that are available from bee supply dealers.

During April, colonies should be thoroughly inspected and cleaned up. This will make management during the rest of the season easier. However, be careful not to chill the brood.

When the temperature is above 50°F and there is little or no wind, brood may be hastily examined, but should not be exposed for more than a minute or two. When the temperature is around 60°F, it is safe to remove frames, and thoroughly examine colonies. In addition to checking food stores, you should look for brood (an indicator of the presence and quality of the queen) and disease. Clean out the entrances and scrape the bottom boards. Remove propolis and burr comb from the frames. Replace old and damaged combs as you find them. Reverse the hive bodies if necessary; the queen may be locked in the upper hive body which limits the size of the brood area. Do not reverse the hive bodies until the weather has stabilized and there is little chance of a sudden drop in temperature. Colonies lost during the winter should be picked up as soon as possible, and the cluster of dead bees removed before they mold and decompose, spoiling the combs. There is no need to try to remove all the dead bees from the cells. They will dry up and can then be shaken out or left for the bees to remove. Equipment to be stored may be placed on active colonies which will remove the dead bees in the spring. Honey that remains will absorb moisture and ferment. If you are certain it is free of disease, use this honey on colonies needing winter feed or feed to newly installed packages or nucs. If ETO fumigation or radiation is not available, combs from colonies which have died from American foulbrood should be destroyed. The hive bodies, supers, bottom board, and lid may be saved by scorching or boiling in lye water.

Colony stores during April must be carefully monitored. As fresh pollen becomes available, it serves as a strong stimulus for brood rearing. As a result, the size of the brood area may increase faster than stores are replenished. At this time of year colonies often run a tight line between available food and starvation. If April is warm and good flight weather occurs, no feeding may be necessary. However, if the weather inhibits flight activity, strong colonies with large brood areas will deplete food stores rapidly. Anytime that a colony has less than 20 pounds of food (3 full depth frames of honey), it

should be fed. Sugar syrup (1 part sugar to 1 part water by volume or weight) will be the best source of food at this time.

Due to the introduction of varroa and tracheal mites into the United States, mite control is necessary if colonies are to survive. Honey bee mites are now so wide-spread that beekeepers should assume their bees are infested even if they have not seen mites. Typically, colonies are treated for mites in the late summer or early fall. However, it may be highly advantageous to treat, especially varroa, in the spring. Also, if colonies were not treated for mites the previous fall, they should be treated in the spring. Although we don't understand why, treating mite infested colonies with teramycin seems to help them do better. All drug and chemical control treatments must be completed before supers are placed on colonies and the honey flow begins.

For more complete information on controlling honey bee mites, visit the MAAREC website or see the following MAAREC bulletins:

- Varroa mites
- Tracheal Mites
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) For Beekeepers
- Chemicals Approved for Legal Use in Honey Bee Colonies

MAAREC, the Mid-Atlantic Apiculture Research and Extension Consortium, is an official activity of five land grant universities and the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The following are cooperating members:

University of Delaware University of Maryland
Newark, Delaware College Park, Maryland
Rutgers University The Pennsylvania State University
New Brunswick, New Jersey University Park, Pennsylvania
West Virginia University USDA/ARS
Morgantown, West Virginia Bee Research Lab
Beltsville, Maryland

* * * * *

Participants in MAAREC also include state beekeeper associations, and State Departments of Agriculture from Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.



Honey Roasted Nuts

- Makes 3 cups -

Ingredients

- 3 cups nuts
- 1/2 cup honey
- 2 Tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1/2 teaspoon grated orange peel
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Directions

Combine all ingredients; mix well. Microwave at HIGH (100%) in 600 to 700 watt microwave oven 4 to 7 minutes or until nuts are toasted, stirring halfway through cooking time. Spread nuts on foil to cool.

Nutritional Information Per Serving

Calories: 424 Calories from Fat: 67% Carbohydrates: 29.9 g Cholesterol: 7.77 mg Dietary Fiber: 2.46 g Fat Total: 33.8 g Protein: 7.25 g Sodium: 35.3 mg



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John Romanik, 81, Beekeeper, Friend

John Romanik, forty- nine year resident of Howard County, well respected retired educator, noted beekeeper, the Bee Beard King of Maryland, and World War II veteran, died at his home in Ellicott City on November 26th. He was 81 years old. His health had been declining since he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in the spring of 2002.

John Romanik was a well known beekeeper in Howard County and throughout Maryland, and had articles published in the America Bee Journal. He was passionate about educating the public regarding the benefits of honeybees, and their relative docility. To that end, he became the Bee Beard King of Maryland, and between 1983 and 1996 he donned 111 bee beards at places such as Harbor Place, the Maryland State Fair, many Honey Festivals and beekeepers meetings. Mr. Romanik was featured on Evening Magazine, Channel 2 News, Howard County Cable TV, in The Baltimore Sun Magazine, and The Gettysburg Times in this dramatic form of education. He was a founding member of the Howard County Beekeeper's Association in 1976 and served as its Vice President and then President. Mr. Romanik was a member of the Maryland State Beekeeper's association and served as its secretary from 1976 to 1985. He was also a member of the Central Maryland Beekeepers Association and the Eastern Apicultural Society. Mr. Romanik traveled throughout the country and world attending beekeepers conferences. Some of the countries that he visited for beekeeping include Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Poland, Slovakia and Switzerland.

Mr. Romanik is survived by four daughters and sons-in-law, Mary Nell and Milton Myers, and Kathleen Romanik and Vince Romano of Ellicott City, Christina Romanik and Paul Parnell of Roanoke, Virginia and Clare Romanik and Armen Kanayan of Washington, D.C., a sister Julia of Finleyville, Pennsylvania, eleven grandchildren and his former wife, Ann Hennessy of Rock Hall, Maryland.

Memorial Donations may be made to: Howard County Conservancy, P.O. Box 175 Woodstock, MD 21163 www.hcconservancy.org and The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, Church Street Station, P.O. Box 780, New York, NY 10008

Book Review:

Make *Increase Essentials* part of your Beekeeper's library.

After hearing Dr Larry Conner speak at the last MSBA meeting, I added his book, *Increase Essentials*, to my Christmas wish list. I was pleased to receive the gift. The book is 129 pages, filled with good beekeeping advice, and is well written and easy to read.

Dr Conner starts with the question "Are you just getting by, or are you doing your best with your bees?" He systematically advises ways to improve your beekeeping practices; discusses the biology of an increase; and then discusses making increase nuclei.

A discussion of the ideal nucleus follows where Dr Connor makes a strong case for making summer increases including:

- Best queen rearing conditions Spring /Summer
- Strong colonies after early honey flow / need swarm prevention.
- Break the mite cycle
- Queen rearing from local stocks
- Management advantages

Dr Conner further discusses swarming theories and how beekeepers should handle / use swarms and use them to their advantage, including using late season swarms to boost weaker colonies. He also notes the concerns of using package bees & queens from southern states due to the spread of Africanized bees and the use of banked queens in packages and early season queen sales.

Increase Essentials is logically presented and Dr Conner adds substantial interest to the book with his stories (My first swarm) and examples of swarm /nuclei management in beekeeping (Vermont beekeepers Webster and Palmer).

This book can guide you to better beekeeping.

John Moyer, Editor

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