



APIARY NEWSLETTER

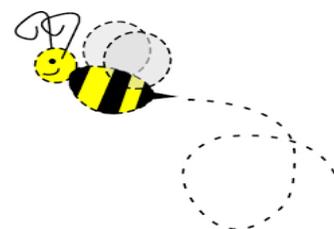
Migratory Beekeepers

A letter has been sent from the California Department of Food & Agriculture regarding new regulations for apiary shipments destined to California:

“In 2000, CDFA began allowing reconditioning of rejected shipments at the Needles Border Protection Station (BPS) to accommodate reconditioning needs of numerous rejected apiary shipments. This arrangement was intended as a temporary solution to ensure the entry of adequate numbers of colonies to meet California’s pollination requirements. The reconditioning of rejected apiary shipments at the Needles BPS, located on Interstate 40 and adjacent properties, has resulted, however, in numerous bee sting incidents, some requiring emergency medical treatment, to CDFA personnel, commercial truck drivers, and the general public. This activity constitutes a public nuisance and as such, will no longer be allowed at the Needles BPS or any other CDFA BPS location.

All apiary shipments will continue to be inspected, and any shipment not meeting CDFA’s entry requirements will be rejected. Reconditioning, if opted, must occur at a location not associated with a CDFA BPS facility. All rejected apiary shipments will continue to be subject to inspection after reconditioning and must meet CDFA’s entry requirements before being permitted to enter and proceed to a destination.

We understand this action may result in inconvenience to beekeepers and California’s agricultural producers who rely on out-of-state apiary shipments for pollination services. We are providing this notification now to enable those impacted to develop an alternative, safer site for reconditioning prior to the migratory movement of apiary shipments next season. Although CDFA will not be involved in an effort to procure alternate reconditioning locations, we are willing to assist and encourage communication and cooperation among those affected, including beekeepers, producers, apiary inspectors in other states, and the California county agricultural commissioners’ offices to resolve this situation.



Migratory Beekeepers (Continued)

Our goal is to assist the affected industries as much as possible while ensuring that apiary shipments entering California meet all applicable quarantine requirements. As part of our effort to assist stakeholders, staff from our Border Protections Program conducted a detailed analysis of traffic flow to determine the best time for apiary shipments to enter California with the least delay for inspection. Regardless of the Border Station involved, the best time to enter California with apiary shipments is after 3:00 PM Monday through Saturday. Please note that the volume of traffic at the CDFA Border Stations on Sunday is normally high and therefore Sundays are not recommended for entry into California with apiary shipments.

Please remind stakeholders in your state that reconditioning of apiary shipments is no longer allowed at the CDFA BPS and therefore it is more important than ever that apiary shipments are thoroughly cleaned and inspected before being shipped to California in order to avoid unnecessary delays of delivery.

If you have any questions related to this correspondence, please contact Courtney.Albrecht@cdfa.ca.gov or (916)-403-6647.”



NEWS FROM THE HILL

Honeybee Trypanosome Parasite Research

Mary-Kate Williams is an Arkansas native and is currently a Master's student working with Dr. Szalanski at the University of Arkansas, Department of Entomology. She is studying honey bee trypanosome parasite occurrence in feral and managed honey bee populations across the United States. Microorganisms such as the trypanosome parasites *Crithidia mellificae* and *Lotmaria passim* have been overlooked concerning honey bee health in the United States. These trypanosomes have been attributed to reducing a honey bee's ability to overwinter inside the hive, thus limiting the number of productive colonies the following spring. The most reliable way to



detect presence of honey bee trypanosomes is to use molecular diagnostics. After analyzing 1,585 honey bee colonies from eight States (AR, HI, MS, NM, NY, OK, TX, and UT), 8.20% of the screened honey bee colonies were infected with *L. passim*. In Arkansas, 9.7% of 196 honey bee colonies were positive for *L. passim*. The results from Williams's study support that the honey bee trypanosome parasite *L. passim* is widespread in both continental United States and Hawaii, and that more attention should be directed to this honey bee parasite for understanding its biology and developing control methods.

Mary-Kate Williams can be contacted via email for questions concerning this research at: mfwillia@uark.edu

Veterinarian Feed Directive



Dr. Heidi Ward with UA extension Service has held three training course for veterinarians in the state to date. This training included Apiary staff, Jon Zawislak, and Dustan Clark (Extension Veterinarian).

Dr. Ward lead the training and has been a vital role in the transition. The training sessions have been held in Little Rock and Fayetteville.

The link below will provide a list of veterinarians in Arkansas that willing to work with bees. Hopefully this list will continue to grow to meet the needs of beekeepers around the state.

www.beevets.com



Tips for Preparing Hives for the Winter



Cold weather is approaching! One of our apiary inspectors, Danny Brewer, has come up with some suggestions for getting hives ready for the Winter:

- * Remove empty supers. Make the space inside the hive match the size of the colony.
- * Check for a laying queen.
- * Check for colony size and combine small ones. Come Spring it is better to have one live colony than two dead ones.
- * Check for honey stores. If your hives are too light, it's time to start feeding with a vengeance.
- * Assure that the honey frames are in the right place. They should be on both sides of the cluster and above it in a Langstroth hive. Move frames around if necessary.
- * Reduce hive entrances if you haven't already. It's time for mice and other small creatures to find a snug and warm overwintering place— one filled with honey is especially attractive.
- * Remove weedy vegetation from the base of the hive. Vegetation is a convenient hiding place for creatures who may want to move into the hive, and it can be used like an entrance ramp or step-ladder.
- * If you live in a wet area, make sure your lids will keep out the rain. Make any needed repairs now.
- * If wintertime moisture is a problem in your hives, add a quilt box above the brood boxes.
- * If high winds are a problem, you may consider adding a skirt around the base of your hive to reduce drafts. Although you want adequate ventilation, you don't want a wind tunnel; secure your lids with heavy stones or tie-downs. You may want to shield upper ventilation holes from side winds. Consider providing a windbreak.
- * If extreme cold is a problem, consider wrapping your hives with insulation or tar paper...but, again, don't forget the ventilation.
- * If winter flooding is a problem, move the hives to higher ground now while the weather is still dry.

