



OHIO INFO BEE



Ohio State University Extension Service
Ohio Department of Agriculture

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Special Interest Points

- Web Sites -- really sounds interesting
- Registration -- our numbers are increasing
- Swarms -- and more swarms

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Spraying for Soybean Aphids and Mites

James Tew

Soybean aphid. Increasingly across Ohio, soybean aphids and soybean mites are becoming a problem. Spray programs are necessary to keep these pests below economic levels. Common insecticides for controlling the soybean aphid are: *Warrior* (lambda-cyhalothrin), *Asana* (esfenvalerate), *Lorsban* (chlorpyrifos), *Mustang* (zeta-cypermethrin) and *Furadan* (Carbofuran). Under the right conditions, all of these materials will kill bees.

Spray applications are on an "as needed" basis. Much of Ohio is already past the flowering stage, but some areas are still in flower and spraying is on-going.

Soybean mites. The weather has been dampening mite populations on soybeans to some extent, but frequently materials such as *Lorsban* (chlorpyrifos)

continued on page 3

Terramycin Resistant American Foulbrood

John Grafton

It has been known that American Foulbrood was at some point going to be resistant to Terramycin (TM). In 2003 the first "moderately tolerant" sample results were returned from the USDA lab on a few samples from Ohio. In 2004 of the samples tested 54% were determined to be moderately tolerant. The question remained as to when the first fully resistant sample would be found. The answer came on July 11, 2005 when a sample result came back with a 14MM zone of resistance. On the resistance chart anything 29MM or less is considered resistant to TM.

The sample was from a hobby beekeeper in northwest township of Williams county. The Ohio Dept. of Agriculture is currently working with this particular beekeeper, the USDA and the FDA to control this incident and to gain approval for other antibiotics.

The disease, while posing no health risk to humans, is caused by a spore forming bacteria known as *Paenibacillus larvae*. Only the spore stage is infectious to honeybees. All castes of honeybees are susceptible to the disease;

continued on page 3

WEB SITES

John Grafton & James Tew

It seems there is a web site for any subject imaginable. We are not going to try to list all the ones for beekeeping. Rather we will highlight the "official" ones for the writers of this newsletter plus a couple of others that are related.

The *Ohio Dept. of Agriculture* apiary program can be found at www.ohioagriculture.gov Then go under programs to regulatory. Then drop down to Plant Industry under which you will find the apiary program. This site has the various information sheets available, an application for registration, a list of all the county inspectors, county by county breakdown of last season inspections, links to other sites, and yes you can even e-mail us thru the site.

The Ohio State University, Honey Bee Lab in Wooster can be found at www.beelab.osu.edu . This site also has a number of information sheets available, links to other sites, news and events, information on the bee garden, an audio of queens piping, and is also e-mail connected.

Bees and Pollination at <http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/agnic/bee> provides selected web resources about honey bees, beekeeping and pollination by bees, including an "Ask the Expert" option. The resource is provided by Ms Connie Britton, OSU Library at Wooster and Dr. James E. Tew, Department of Entomology, The Ohio State University, Wooster, Ohio 44691. This bee page is part of the USDA National Agricultural Library's electronic information system. For information on any agricultural topic, search: <http://www.agnic.org/agnic/index.html>

The Ohio State University, Rothenbuhler Honey Bee Lab in Columbus which can be found at the web site <http://iris.biosci.ohio-state.edu/honeybee/breeding> This site highlights the activities of Sue Cobey and the bee breeding programs being carried out at the lab. The site lists courses and training for instrumental insemination. It also has links to other sites, including some that are not listed at the other "Ohio" sites.

Going outside of Ohio an interesting site is for the *USDA Beltsville Bee Research Lab*. It can be

found at www.ba.ars.usda.gov/beelab It has information concerning disease research as well as links to the other USDA labs. By using the various drop down lists there is a wealth of information and links to many sites.

Some local clubs and inspectors have their own site. If your bee association does or if as an inspector you have a site send the address to John at the address listed and we will try to put together a list to be distributed.

REGISTRATION

John Grafton

Paraphrased section 909.10 of the Ohio Revised Code states that anyone owning or possessing bees in Ohio must on or before the first of June, or within ten days of coming into ownership of bees, register them with the Director of Agriculture. As of June 6, 2005 there were 2589 current registrations, this compares with 2016 for the same period a year earlier. Final registrations for 2004 were 3018 registrants. The department will soon be mailing a second notice to those who were registered previously and are not currently. These people will also be notified that they owe a ten dollar late filing fee in addition to the registration fee.

SWARMS

John Grafton

It is too late to discuss swarm control—they have already flown. Many calls came in from all areas of the state. They also seem to be building up very well from the reports that we are getting. Many people report having to add a second story or even a super to the swarms soon after capture. This brings on thoughts of honey production. Beekeepers and inspectors from around the state indicate that the boxes are filling up fast taking beekeepers by surprise.



Soy beans Aphids continued from Page 1 . . .

and *Cygon* (dimethoate – discontinued) are still being applied to control this pest.

Protective measures.

Most Ohio beekeepers do not get a significant flow from soybeans so little harm is done to beehives. Hives situated near the field could suffer from accidental drift. Obviously, moving the hive(s) would eliminate the problem or alternatively covering the hive with plastic or burlap would offer some protection. Note that the summer temperature is high and a covered hive might suffer more from excessive heat than from pesticide spray drift. Hives should not be covered any longer than is necessary. Spray applications early in the morning or late in the afternoon would be helpful. Applying sprays on windless days would also be helpful, but such weather can't be predicted.

Presently, I have not heard of any serious kills from soybean spraying, but beekeepers should be alert and protect their hives as much as possible.

Pest Control Procedures in the Wilbanks Apiaries, Claxton, GA

James Tew

I had the opportunity to talk with Reg Wilbanks, owner of Wilbanks Apiaries in Claxton, Georgia. He runs 6000 colonies and 15,000 mating nucs during an average season. They produce about 20,000 packages per year and produce about 60,000 queens. They earn 85% of their annual income in a nine-week period during the spring season.

Wilbanks suggestions and recommendations:

1. When removing and reinstalling frames, keep frames in the same order as the bees build them. In this way, the bee nest is always organized by the bees system.
2. Requeen every year. (Mr. Wilbanks requeens all 6000 of his colonies every year.)
3. For Varroa control, Mr. Wilbanks uses Apistan® and ChekMite® strips and rotates

them from year to year. He follows label instructions.

4. For Small Hive Beetle Control, Mr. Wilbanks uses ChekMite® strips on a Wilbanks "*Beetle Board*." The board is 3 ½" wide by 10 ½" long and is made of thin plywood (about 3/16" thick) with spacers on either end ½" wide x 3 ½" long and 3/16" thick. A full-length ChekMite strip is stapled or tacked between the spacers and the board is pushed into the hive with the strip downward. Beetles hide under the 3/16" space next to the chemical strip. The bottom board must be clean for this device to work. Mr. Wilbanks follows label instructions for installing and removing strips. The Beetle Board is reusable and does not require modifying corrugated board – plus the full-length strip is subsequently available for traditional Varroa control procedures.



Figure 1. A Wilbanks Beetle Board

5. Keep everything clean. Every one of the thousands of frames at Wilbanks Apiaries is scraped and cleaned every year. Bottoms boards, tops, and inner covers are scraped clean. Low quality combs are discarded. Mr. Wilbanks feels that a colony that is organized, clean, and headed by a young queen is a healthy colony.

Terramycin continued from page 1 . . .

however worker larvae are particularly susceptible. The disease spreads in one of four methods; 1) nurse bees transmit bacillus spores to young larvae 2) honey is stored in contaminated cells 3) bees are exposed to contaminated honey 4) the same equipment is used for both diseased and healthy colonies. Diseased colonies left untreated will gradually die and subsequently the honey will be robbed out by other bees in the area, thus spreading the disease to those colonies. This may in time affect pollination and crop production in the area.