

THE BEE CAUSE

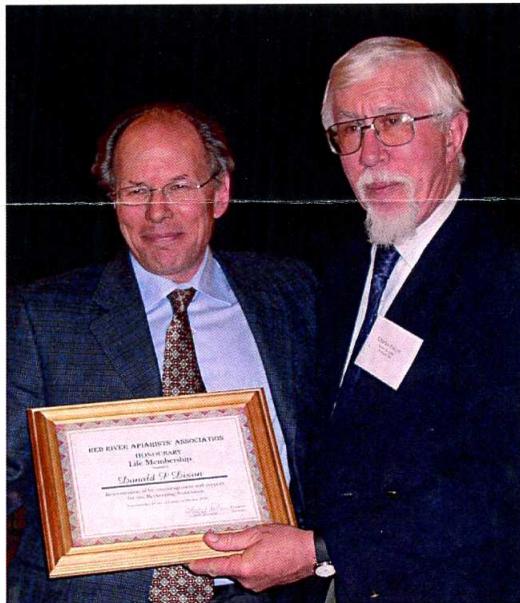
INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Presidents Comments</i>	1
<i>Minutes From Jan 13th Meeting</i>	2
<i>Oxalic Acid Registration</i>	4
<i>Queen Rearing Made easy</i>	5 & 6
<i>A new Pollen substitute</i>	7 & 8
<i>RRAA 2003 & 2004 budget</i>	8 & 9
<i>Classifieds</i>	10

Special Points of interest:

PROGRAM: Ron & Charles will have highlights and updates on the IPM & Trade and marketing. from the convention

NEXT MEETING: Date is February 10th ,7:30 pm @ the River Heights Community Center. Located at 1370 Grosvenor street.



Don Dixon Roast Night

The MBA Convention banquet was the venue for the Roast to Don Dixon, at the Hotel Fort Garry January 29th 2004.

Don Dixon was given a recognition style roast during the CAH/MBA/CAPA Convention, held in the Concert Room of the Fort Garry hotel on Thursday evening. Don has recently been promoted to Director of Soils and Crops. The night was designed to honour Don as our former Provincial Apiarist for the past 25 years. Over 150 guests gathered together for this ceremony.

During the ceremony, Charles Polcyn, President Red River Apiarists' Association, presented Don with a Honourary Lifetime Membership certificate. Charles read the inscription "Red River Apiarists' Association, Honourary Life Membership, presented to: Donald P. Dixon, In recognition of his encouragement and support of our Beekeeping Association, presented this 29th day of January in the year 2004".

In addition, RRAA also presented a gift to Jamie Dixon, for her support of Don while he was away attending functions such as our evening meetings.

Presidents Comments

The January 2004 meeting was well attended despite the cold weather and snowy streets. I regret that I wasn't there, as family business in Mexico kept me away. I soon realized on my return on the 15th, that it would have been wiser to have had more family business time in Mexico. Congratulations to the newly elected executive members of RRAA. They have already been busy with an executive meeting on the 21st of January. Discussions were focused on a way of recognizing Don Dixon's 25 years of assistance to our association at the Canadian Honey Council fund raising banquet, as well as tentative plans for making our organization more financially solvent and discussing some program plans for the upcoming February to May official meetings. The association wishes to express their thanks to these retiring executive members; Doug Henry-Newsletter; Gilles Lantange-2nd Vice-President and Rod Boudreau-Past-President for their work in past years on the executive, as well as welcoming back the returning members; Heather Laird, Dennis Ross, Jim Campbell and Ron Rudiak. A special welcome to the new members of the executive; Judith Roe-2nd Vice-President and Dan Lecocq-Newsletter. Also I feel that the RRAA membership really appreciates the great work done by Jim Campbell, our President for the last 4 years in this century, as well as being President for 3 years in the 1980's. Jim has also been our Manitoba Beekeeper's Association representative since 1994 and has been a vital link to the MBA. I am glad that he is continuing on in the position as Past-President as well as our MBA

RRAA**Executive Members**

President: Charles Polcyn
Ph 284-7064
845 kebir
Winnipeg, MB
Email: charlespolcyn@yahoo.com.

1st Vice President: Heather Laird
Ph 475-2307
1003 Jessie Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3M 1A1
Email: hlaird@mb.sympatico.ca

2nd Vice President: Judith Roe
Ph 895-2266
Winnipeg, MB
Email: N/A

Secretary: Ron Rudiak
Ph 326-3763
Box 1448
Steinbach, MB R0A 2A0
Email: manbeekr@mb.sympatico.ca

Treasurer: Dennis Ross
Ph 878-2924
Group 40, Box 20, RR2
Lorette, MB R0A 0Y0
Email: rosskr@mb.sympatico.ca

MBA Delegate: Jim Campbell
Ph 467-5246
Box 234
Stonewall, MB R0C 2Z0
Email: jaycam@mb.sympatico.ca

Reporter: Ron Rudiak
Ph 326-3763
Box 1448
Steinbach, MB R0A 2A0
Email: manbeekr@mb.sympatico.ca

Past President: Jim Campbell
Ph 467-5246
Box 234
Stonewall, MB R0C 2Z0
Email: jaycam@mb.sympatico.ca

Newsletter : Dan Lecocq
PH 255-1043
166 Desjardins Dr
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Email: dnlecocq@mts.net

Minutes of the General Meeting Jan. 13, 2004

- Jim Campbell opened the meeting at 7:40PM with 26 members and guests present.

Minutes: - Ron Rudiak read the minutes from the December meeting, A motion to accept the minutes was made by Walter Wright and seconded by Rhéal Lafrenière. Carried

Announcements: - The 2004 MBA - CHC - CAPA Convention at the Fort Gary Hotel in Winnipeg will be the highlight of the MBA's 100th Anniversary year and the RRAA's 40th year. Registration is \$100 for the whole convention or \$50 for one day.

- A registration fee will not charged to attend the Anniversary celebration evening in the Crystal Room, on Wednesday, January 28.

- Saturday, On Jan. 31st Sue Cobey will be presenting the queen bee and honey bee breeding workshop at the U of M. Registration is \$75.00 per person and can be done through the Provincial Apiarist, Rhéal Lafrenière.

- David Dawson was on hand to present information on queen rearing after the business session.

Financial Report: - Dennis Ross distributed the financial report for 2003 for discussion. Moved by Dennis Ross and Seconded by Chris Argeriou that we accept the report as presented. The motion was carried.

- Jim Campbell gave out copies of the budget for 2004. Moved by Gilles Lantagne and seconded by Albert Anderson that we accept the budget as distributed. Carried.

Loonie Draw: Thanks to everyone who donated prizes for the loonie draw. The following people were winners:

Gilles Lantagne - Pair of mitts

Emil Rekrut - Travel mug

Andy Lecocq - Golf shirt

Larry McKee - Honda cap

Ron Rudiak - Childs bee story book and a large plastic bee replica

Rhéal Lafrenière - New style plastic frame savers

Election: Rhéal gave the report for the election committee. The following persons allowed their name to stand for election to executive positions in the RRAA.

- Moved by Ted Scheuneman that voting be carried out by a show of hands rather than secret ballot. Seconded by Dan Lecocq. Motion carried.

- Rhéal called for further nominations for each of the positions. No further nominations were made. Moved by Jim and seconded by Ron Rudiak that nominations cease. Carried.

President - Charles Polcyn (elected)

1st Vice-President - Heather Laird (elected)

2nd Vice-President - Judith Roe (elected)

Secretary - Ron Rudiak (elected)

Treasurer - Dennis Ross (elected)

Newsletter - Dan Lecocq (elected)

Continued from page 1

representative. His advice and counsel are always appreciated and thru his efforts our yearly Honey Shows have shown much improvement in presentation and professionalism.

The number of small and medium size beekeeping operations in the metro Winnipeg area keeps increasing. Some of this increase is due to people attending the yearly University of Manitoba Basic Beekeeping Course, or of small landowners wanting to keep a few hives of bees. A reminder that any new beekeeper is required by provincial statute to be registered with the Provincial Apiarist. This can easily be done by a telephone call to the Provincial Apiarist's Office at this number 945-3861. This registration is done for the benefit of all beekeepers that are provided with the opportunity for beekeeping extension information and advice. Another reminder that the U of Manitoba 2004 Basic Beekeeping Course begins on the evening of February 4th, and runs for 10 Wednesdays. The cost is \$75.00. Call 945-3861 to register, or let a friend know who is interested in starting beekeeping. This is a combination hands on and theory/lecture program that started many of us in beekeeping. A bonus aspect of the U of Manitoba program is that it gives those people that complete the course a Free Membership for a year in the RRAA. This gives you 10 issues of our Newsletter, Beekeepers Liability Insurance, 9 meetings on topics of concern or interest and a chance to meet other beekeepers. The topic of queen rearing for beekeepers is always of interest, and David Dawson's straight forward approach is well worth trying. It has worked well for him, as he has had some astounding production colonies in the past years- think 300 lbs. + on a regular basis. Our thanks to Mr. Dawson for his useful and informative presentation. Raffle prizes are usually one of the fundraising parts of our monthly meetings. If members have some quality beekeeping related objects that are suitable as raffle prizes, please bring them to the meeting, or if deemed necessary, discuss it with an executive member.

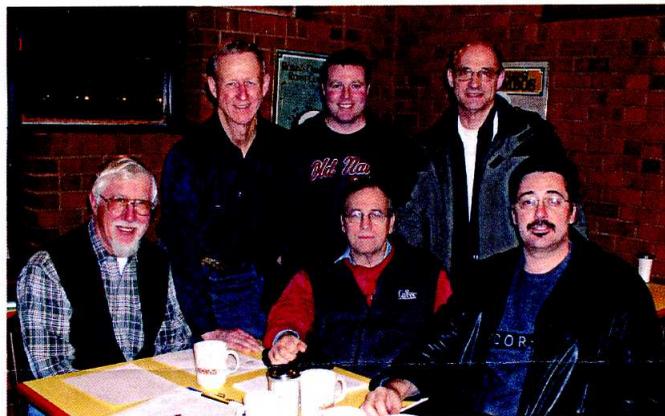
As a new beekeeping season begins for us, an important reminder for all of us is that in buying or selling beekeeping equipment, it is the responsibility of the seller to keep records of that sale and provide that information to the Provincial Apiarist on a timely basis. The purpose of this is to provide traceability in both directions if there develops a concern about the health of the equipment or the bees. There were a variety of topics discussed at the Canadian Honey Council week long meeting at the end of January. Jim Campbell, Ron Rudiak and I will be reporting on the issues that concern us, as well as having a photo journey of that week.

By the time this newsletter reaches all of us, this Manitoba deep chill will be over. The indoor bees are always somewhat lively when I lift the inner covers, as they sense that brood time will soon start again. The room temperature is always between 40 and 42 degrees Fahrenheit. There are always a few more dead bees on the floor to sweep up and perhaps a few feeder jars to consider replacing. The new bee season is beginning.

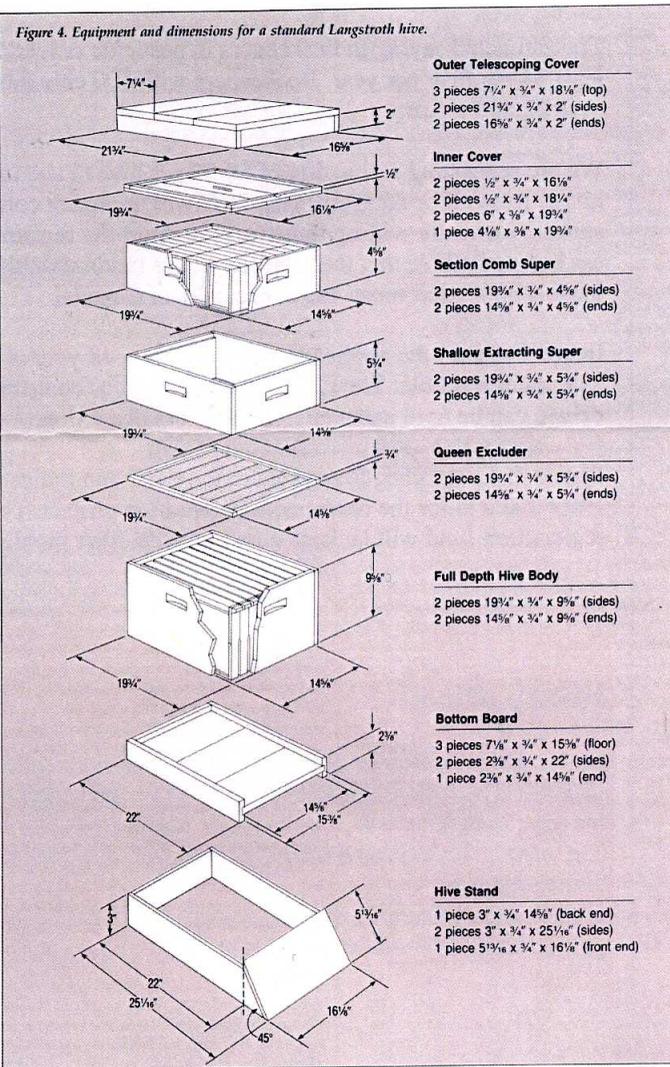
A happy New Year to All.

Charles Polcyn

Your 2004 executive



Standing (L-R): Ron Rudiak (Secretary), Dan Lecocq (Newsletter), Jim Campbell (MBA representative) **Seated:** Charles Polcyn (Chair), Dennis Ross (Treasurer), Rhéal Lafrenière (Advisor).
Missing: Heather Laird (1st Vice President), Judith Roe (2nd Vice President).



Oxalic Acid Registration !

There are a number of good reasons for registering oxalic acid:

1. oxalic acid is showing great promise in field trials in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick.
2. oxalic acid is not a synthetic chemical and will not accumulate in the food chain
3. establishing an official procedure and an MRL for oxalic acid reduces the risk of residues in honey.
4. oxalic acid has been registered in Europe and the data package is available to our industry for registration in Canada - for a fee.
5. The PMRA would accept the European data in addition to Canadian trials.
6. CHC is a not for profit corporation and if we are the registrant in this process, the PMRA has informed us that we may apply for a reduction in the registration fees. This would be a saving to our industry as there would be no fees charged back to the beekeepers or suppliers.

The estimated cost of the project is \$30,000 including fees for the data package, PMRA registration fees, preparation time, consulting fees office service, travel and incidentals.

The estimated saving to beekeepers in pesticide reduction is at least \$4 per hive per year. Beekeepers with 500 colonies could save \$2,000 a year.

We are requesting a donation of \$0.20 per hive (\$100 for 500 hives) from all beekeepers. The CHC will approach corporate sponsors who are willing to partially support the registration process but we believe that the majority of the funds should be from those who benefit most- the beekeepers of Canada.

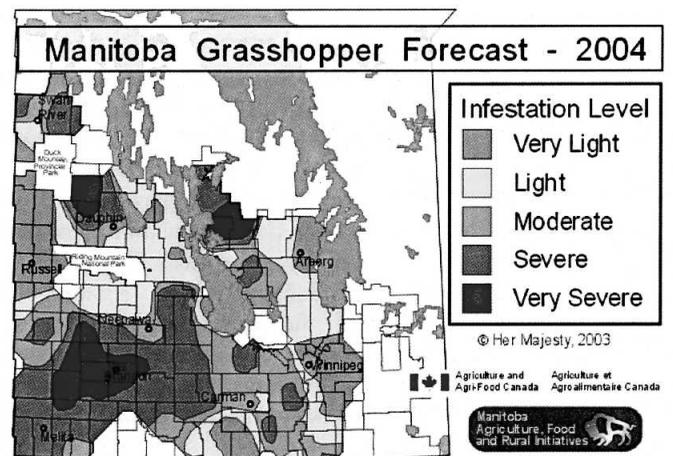
In order to start the application process we need your contribution as soon as possible. The CHC receipt issued for contributions received can be used as an eligible business deduction.

Please make the cheque payable to the CHC and indicate in your letter that it is for the oxalic acid registration project. The oxalic registration fund will be kept separate from other monies and all

payments in and out of the fund will be carefully accounted.

Send cheque or VISA details to
Canadian Honey Council
Suite 236, 234- 5149 Country Hills Blvd NW
Calgary AB T3A 5K8

Manitoba Grasshopper Forecast For 2004



Honey price

International honey continues to be imported into Canada. Large quantities of Chinese product were imported in the fourth quarter of 2003. There is concern that Canadian packers may not be as interested in higher priced Canadian honey. Some producers have held back on selling honey to see how the internal market will develop. The market for exported Canadian honey to the USA remains strong and exports will account for more than 40% of the 2003 Canadian crop.

Honey sales remain in the range of \$1.85 - \$2.00 cents per pound for Canada grade number 1 white honey. Some quantities of golden honey were recently sold for \$1.50 - \$1.65 per pound.

Queen Rearing etc Made Easy

By David Dawson

Introduction

Many of you will have heard of the Demaree method of swarm control wherein a majority of the brood is raised up above the honey supers leaving the queen down below the excluders with a new set of empty combs to lay in. If you ever used this Demaree system you will know that you have to check the brood up top for queen cells. Being isolated from their queen below, the bees up above believe they are queenless and start raising emergency queen cells. If one of these emerges the old queen will swarm, the new one will be unable to get out to mate, and the colony will die. This propensity of bees to raise new queens when well separated from their existing queen can be utilized for queen rearing and I have developed a very simple method to take advantage of it.

Getting Ready

First of all you need a good strong colony with 2 or 3 honey supers well filled with bees even though the supers may not contain much honey. Whether you use a single or double brood, I believe an excluder is necessary for this method. Queen rearing is best done when there is a good honey flow ongoing, so early July is usually a perfect time to start and by this time good colonies should have honey supers on. Bear in mind the strong colony with 2 or 3 honey supers will be your breeder colony so be sure this colony has good characteristics. In 99% of all queen rearing methods being practiced these days, grafting is necessary, so you may as well get used to it now. For those who don't know, grafting is the process of manually transferring very young worker larvae to prepared queen cups. It's very easy to do once you get initial mental blockage of "it's too difficult for me." The Chinese grafting tool is in my opinion the easiest to use but a good many of the ones available at the CO-OP are badly damaged, so be careful. For just a few queens you could use a paper clip: straighten out the wire, hammer about 1/4 inch flat at one end and bend up part of the flattened bit to make a mini scoop. A very fine artist paint brush can also be used but I have found this to be rather tricky. And it is impossible with the brush to pick up larva together with the glob of royal jelly it is sitting on. The other thing you will need is a special frame to hold the queen cups. This is just a regular frame with one or two extra crossbars between the top and the bottom. A single nail at each end of the extra bars will enable them to rotate to a convenient angle for grafting into, after which they can be turned to put the cells in the normal vertical position. Using a dripping beeswax candle, I stick roughly 12 or 13 small thin pieces of wood (about 1 inch square) to each cross bar. Then using the same dripping candle I stick my home made queen cups to these little pieces of wood. Plastic queen cups work very well too, or you can use commercially made beeswax cups. Both are available at the CO-OP. The purpose of the little pieces of wood is so that you can detach the ready-to-emerge queen cells without damaging them. Now that you have everything ready you can go on to the next stage.

The Method

Take with you an empty brood comb. Remove two frames from the top super or if that super is not well filled with bees, take them

from the next super down. I usually take out two combs from the side as these most likely have less honey on them, and then I spread the rest of the combs to leave the 2-comb empty space in the middle of the super. Now remove all the supers, remove the queen excluder and go through the brood until you find a good comb with plenty of eggs and very young brood. Make sure the queen isn't on this comb and then shake & brush all the bees back into the brood box. Close up the combs and put the spare brood comb you brought with you at the side to make up the full complement of combs. Replace the excluder, supers and cover, and then go to your honey house or truck or whatever and quickly graft young one day old larvae into the cell cups. Return to the hive and put the frame of brood and the grafted larvae side-by-side into the space you previously made in the top super. That's all there is to it. The bees soon start drawing down the queen cells and you can have a look two days later to see how many have been accepted. This will give you an idea of how many nucs you will be able to make up. On that two-days-later inspection, check the comb of brood to make sure no emergency queen cells are being raised. It is best to shake the bees off for this as some emergency queen cells can be hard to see.

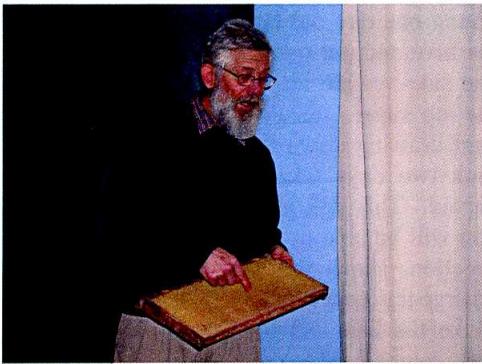
As you will know from your bee books, Queen cells are sealed on the 9th day and the virgins emerge on the 16th day. Bearing in mind the three days in the egg stage and that you will (we hope) have grafted one day old larvae, your queen cells will be sealed 5 days after grafting and the virgins will emerge 11 or 12 days after grafting. That 11 or 12 days seems to vary with temperature so avoid problems I always assume the virgins will emerge on day 10. Consequently I plan to take appropriate action on day 9 or sooner (after grafting) which gives a margin in case of bad weather. Notice I refer to virgins emerging from their cells, not hatching from their cells. Hatching is a term used for when something hatches from an egg-for example, a chicken.

The Cells

Many commercial queen producers use an incubator into which they put the ready-to-emerge queen cells. This avoids the possibility of one of them emerging early and killing off all the others, (which I can assure you from experience is a very annoying occurrence.). What I do is use another colony as the incubator: after all, the temperature and humidity are just right. Again I make a special frame, this time to hold a row of hair curler cages. The curler cages are available at the CO-OP or you may find something suitable at your local supermarket. One end of the hair curler should be permanently closed, and for this I have sliced off old wine bottle corks or a suitable sized dowel oftentimes glued in with epoxy glue. First of all I mix up some pollen with queen candy and drop a pea sized piece of this mixture into the

bottom of each hair curler for the virgin's first meal. I believe this pollen is important as it is the source of the new queen's protein. The workers in the incubator colony may feed the virgin but I like to think I am helping. Remember, the queen at this early stage is still developing, and virgins with the pollen mix always seem much bigger and healthier than those with just regular queen candy. You will recall I recommended sticking little one inch square pieces of wood onto the bars of the special frame before attaching the queen cups. Well, now it is very easy to detach these little pieces of wood from the bar with the mature queen cell attached. They can be then put into the hair curlers with the piece of wood closing off any gap which might otherwise be there.

Most beekeepers who have a few colonies will have at least one which is sub-standard. Good colonies will have 3 or 4 supers



whereas the sub-standard one only has 1 or maybe 2. Since you will need combs of brood to make up nucs for mating your new queens, you could consider completely breaking up this sub-standard colony- it's not going to produce honey anyway, so why keep it? This sub-standard colony is also the one to use as the incubator or brood colony. You will understand why in the next section.

Making the Nucs

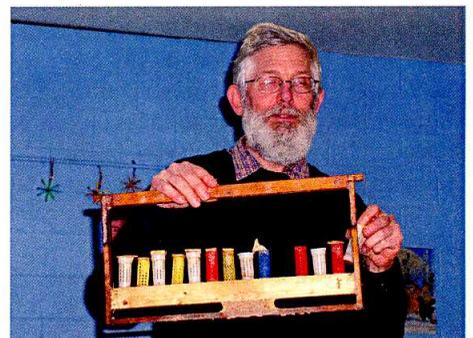
Normally, virgin queens need to age or mature for about a week before flying to mate. This is why one rarely sees eggs laid until about 10 days after the virgin has emerged. I have found it quite acceptable for this aging period to occur while the virgins are being comfortably looked after in the hair curler cages, and again it gives a certain amount of latitude in case of bad weather, work schedules etc. So, a few days after the virgins have emerged and 2 days before you intend to make up your nucs, find and kill the queen in the sub-standard colony making a bunch of nucs, giving each at least one comb of brood and a good shake of extra bees from the honey super. Each nuc should also have at least one honey frame and some empty combs for the new colony to expand into. Take them to a new site at least 3 miles away so the flyers won't all go back to their original site, and introduce one of your virgins to each. At this time, just to be on the safe side, I always liberally spray the bees with very dilute sugar syrup mixed with 1 teaspoon of REAL vanilla essence per pint. I lift up the brood comb, as well as the adjacent combs, and spray both sides. Do not spray the new queen. While the workers are busy licking each other

clean, I just open the hair curler cage and let the queen walk out and go down onto the brood comb (where she would normally be).

When you are shaking the bees out of the honey supers to give the nucs extra bees, it doesn't matter if you leave the original sub-standard hive with practically nothing as there will be a lot of workers out foraging. Leave this original hive with a small comb of brood, some empty combs and give it a virgin too. The comb of eggs and young brood which you originally took from your strong colony and which was used up in the top super next to your queen cells can also be used to make another nuc. The super(s) can be transferred to other strong colonies. Leave your nucs alone for at least a week, after which you could make a very quick inspection just to verify that eggs or brood are present.

What Have I Forgotten.....

1. Never shake your frame of queen cells to get the workers off. Use a brush. Young virgins are very delicate and if shaken they can eventually emerge with no wings or some other deformity.
2. After your queens have emerged from their cells into the hair curler cages, it is a good idea to remove the old cell and the little piece of wood, replacing them with a cork or something similar. Occasionally a young queen will go back into its old cell and get stuck, where it dies. Don't let the young queens escape while you are doing this: they will try.
3. I use a strip of foam rubber to close off the entrances of my nucs when I am making them up and when I am transporting them to their new site 3 miles away. Then I can just open up a couple of inches of the entrance when I'm releasing the queen. Put a loose covering of dry grass or leafy twigs over the entrance so the bees will be confused and re-locate onto their new site. This helps to stop drifting.
4. One of the advantages of this method is that the virgin queens will have developed the same 'hive odour' as all the workers, and as a result acceptance is almost certain.
5. If you have extra virgins, you can leave them in their hair curler cages and just put them in the super of another colony. Then when you check your nucs for eggs and find one has lost its queen, you can just give it another one, remembering to spray with vanilla syrup. It is always nice to have a ready supply of queens, albeit virgins. I have kept virgins in the cages like this for 3 weeks after which they mated and laid eggs just fine.



A promising pollen substitute for honey bees

by **ABDOLREZA M. SAFFARI¹, PETER G. KEVAN¹ AND JAMES L. ATKINSON²**

Summary

A new diet has been developed from knowledge of what is known about honey bees nutritional requirements, the composition of natural pollen and of existing supplementary feeds. Incorporating scientific dietetic principles by which diets for domesticated animals and insects have been developed in the past has resulted in a feed formulation with excellent potential. The Feed (nick-named Feed-Bee) was given to experimental colonies and compared with mixed pollen (collected by pollen trap) and Bee-Pro® (Mann Lake) in patty form. The feed intake for pollen and Feed-Bee was significantly higher than Bee-Pro®. The preliminary results suggest that, Feed-Bee is highly palatable as both pollen and Feed-Bee are equally accepted by bees.

Key words: Pollen, substitute diet, honeybees, feed intake.

Introduction

Major issues confronting beekeeping are to have strong honey bee colonies for over-wintering combined with rapid spring build up in time for early pollen and nectar availability and to provide pollination services on early blooming crops (e.g. in orchards). The possibility of improving the efficiency of beekeeping by maximizing honey production, crop pollination, to overcome pesticide damage and produce strong colonies for package-bee production, lies in the development of an effective pollen substitute to feed the colonies when pollen is in scarce. There are various supplementary diets advocated and commercially available, but most appear to be variously nutritionally poor or unpalatable and are not well tested. Based on the principles of dietetics (House, 1961, Jouanin, 2000, Cohen, 2003, Carter, 2003 Dadant, 2000, NRC 2003), knowledge of pollen chemistry and biochemistry (Roulston & Cane, 2000, Winston, 1987), nutrient accessibility (Baker & Baker, 1983), palatability approach (Macdonald 2002, Cheeke, 1999) and feed cost, a scientifically formulated diet which is relatively inexpensive (2 US\$/kg) was developed. Our overall concern is to develop and test a highly palatable and nutritionally balanced diet for honey bees. After we had arrived at a formulation for a new diet (which we have nick-named Feed-Bee), our primary concern has been to assure its palatability. We

initiated our field research in fall 2003 with "take-down" tests, the results of which are sufficiently positive to warrant being reported now.

To measure the palatability we compared the consumption of Bee-Feed with two other feeds, bee-collected pollen and Bee-Pro® in patty form.

Materials and methods

Twenty eight colonies with one honey super with and a 10 framed brood chamber (3 brood, 4 honey frames, two empty frames) and one honey super (3 honey and 6 empty frames) were equalized at the University of Guelph apiary. The colonies randomly received one of three treatments: pollen, new diet, Bee-Pro®. The pollen was collected by pollen traps at the University of Guelph apiary in May 2003 and kept in a freezer until used for the experiment.

The three feeds, Feed-Bee, bee-collected pollen and Bee-Pro® were fed to experimental colonies in the form of patties. Patties had similar consistency and were prepared as follows:

1. The new diet patty was 330g of new diet powder mixed with sugar syrup (60% w/w) in the ratio of 1: 1.13 respectively.
2. The Pollen patty was 340g of powder mixed with sugar syrup (60% w/w) in the ratio of 1: 0.89 respectively.
3. The Bee-Pro® patty was 370g of powder mixed with sugar syrup (60% w/w) in the ratio of 1: 1.89 respectively.

The patties were spread on wax paper (30 x 20 x 1 cm) and put on the top bars in the hive.

Feeding was done in the fall 2003. There was no brood rearing activity in the hives a week before the initial feeding when all colonies were supplied with patties. At 2-3 day intervals colonies were monitored for brood rearing and feed intake activities, and when the pollen patty was completely consumed, the patties were collected and weighed. During the second feeding the treatments were repeated for all groups. Fourteen days post-feeding all remaining patty material was collected from the colonies and weighed.

Feed duration	1 st feeding		2 nd feeding			
	Given feed (g)	Feed intake (g)	14 days	14 days	14 days	14 days
Feed-Bee	9 days 330	330	280	258.547		
Pollen	9 days 340	340	300	259.84		
Bee-Pro®	9 days 370	0.87	250	26.42		

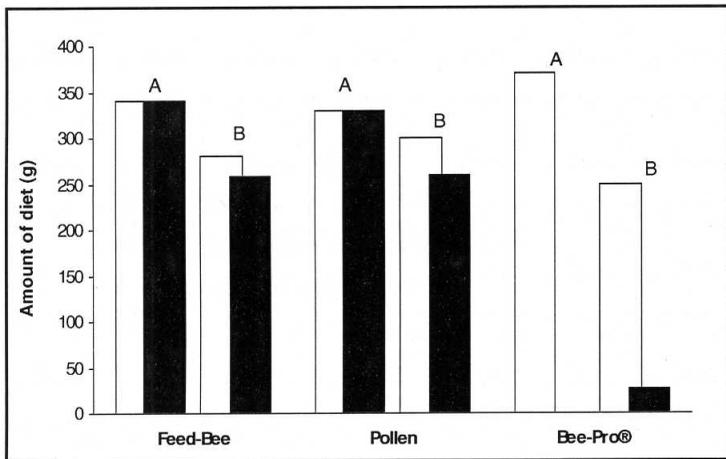


Fig. 1 The amount of Feed-Bee, pollen and Bee-Pro® patties given (□) and consumed (■) at the first (A) and second (B) feeding duration.

Results and discussion

During the 9 day interval Feed Bee and pollen groups consumed their entire patty, whereas, only 0.87g of Bee Pro® was consumed (Table 1 and Figure 1). After the second feeding, the feed intake was 258.54g, 259.84g and 26.42g for Feed Bee, pollen and Bee-Pro® groups respectively. The total feed intake was 588.54g for the Feed Bee group, 599.84g for the pollen group and 27.29g for the Bee-Pro® group. The feed intake was significantly different ($p < 0.05$) between Bee-pro® group and the other two groups. There was no significant difference in the amount consumed between the pollen and new diet groups. There was no brood rearing activity in any of the experimental hives throughout

the feeding trial.

Our results indicate that the new diet and pollen are equally accepted by the bees. Feed-Bee is, thus, as highly palatable as natural pollen and easily provided as patties to colonies in standard hives. We eagerly await spring when the strengths of the experimental colonies can be measured and the worth of our Bee-Feed assessed.

Acknowledgement

We are grateful to Paul Kelly, Andrew Serafin, Hisatomo Taki, Micheal Adjalo nad Jeff Boone for their practical and technical help.

RRAA Proposed Budget 2004

Revenue	
Memberships	1200
Raffles/Sales	125
Miscellaneous	450
Total Revenue	\$1775
Expenses	
Picnic	50
Research (Fingler, etc)	50
Newsletter	700
Meeting & Office	400
Insurance	400
Total Expense	\$1600
Net Profit (Loss)	\$175

Red River Apiarist Association

Statement of Operations for 2003

Revenue	2002	2003
Membership	\$900	\$1,100
40 th Anniverary Social	n/a	\$805
Honey Show	(\$74)	\$866
Donation (Rod Boudreau)	\$100	\$100
Raffles	\$146	\$149
Total Revenue	\$1,072	\$3,020
Expenses		
40th Anniversary Social	n/a	\$756
Barry Fingler Research	\$552	\$166
Bee Cause printing & postage	\$573	\$733
Meeting & Office	\$252	\$540
Service Charge	\$0	\$17
Honey Show	n/a	\$835
CHC-MBA Reception	n/a	\$200
Total Expenses	\$1,377	\$3,247
Net Loss	\$305	\$227
Closing Surplus	\$2,299	\$2,072

Honey Show Summary

Expenses		Income	
Jars	\$90	Table Rentals	\$400
Decals	\$193.80	Sale Of Pumpkins	\$16
Ribbons	\$111.16	Donation MBA	\$450
Insurance	\$300.00		
Prizes	\$136.00		
Total Expenses	\$830	Total Income	\$866
		Profit	\$36

CLASSIFIEDS (Free for members.)

- NEW-**Pine Boards**: (7/8" x 12" x 12') \$1.60 per LFT
- NEW-**Pine Boards clear (no nots)**: maximum 4' lengths (7/8" x 12") \$ 3.60/ linear ft. (will cut to size).
- NEW-**Inner Covers**: excellent for winter & summer, all are 3/8 " plywood sitting in a 7/8" x 7/8" pine lumber frame, (will last 100 years if not abused). Only \$ 7.25.
- NEW-**Hive Top Covers**: Your bees will appreciate this winter & summer and they will reward you for it. Outer frame interlocking corners, hot dipped for durability, topped off with 3/8" plywood & 1" Styrofoam insulation in a 2" deep metal cover. Only \$ 35.00
- USED- **Nuc Box** (1)- 4 compartment 3 standard frame- over winters nucs excellent for indoors \$100.00
Call: Ted Scheuneman 338-6066 (for all above items)

For sale: 6 Ross Rounds in good condition

Wanted : Solar Wax melter large enough to hold queen excluders

Call :Doug Henry @ 757-4694 or email dhenry@skyweb.ca

For Sale: Approx. 200 bottom boards \$3 each; Hive covers with metal tops (need maintenance) \$4 each; 67 Queen excluders with wooden frames \$2.50 each; 50 polystyrene bee max hives - deep hive body with hive covers \$29 each. Call Honey Rock Apiaries (204)388-5164 evenings.

Important Notice: Annual Membership dues will be increasing to \$25.00. Get your renewal done before March 31 /2004 and save yourself \$5.00.



RED RIVER APIARIST'S ASSOCIATION 2004 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM



Please complete and mail with your cheque, for \$20.00, payable to: The Red River Apiarists' Association

Mail to: **Red River Apiarists' Association**

Dennis Ross, Treasurer,

Group 40, Box 20, RR2

Lorette, MB

ROA 0Y0

NAME: _____

PHONE No. _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____

EMAIL: _____

NEW MEMBER [] RENEWAL []