



Local Buzz

President's Message

Jeremiah Farrell, President

This month's meeting will be at the fair grounds. We will be cleaning the bee booth followed by a BBQ. Activities start at 5:00pm. Please bring towels, buckets, brooms and whatever else that you can think of to clean the booth. Thank you.

August 5th Meeting - 5:00 PM

We are at the Fair Grounds!

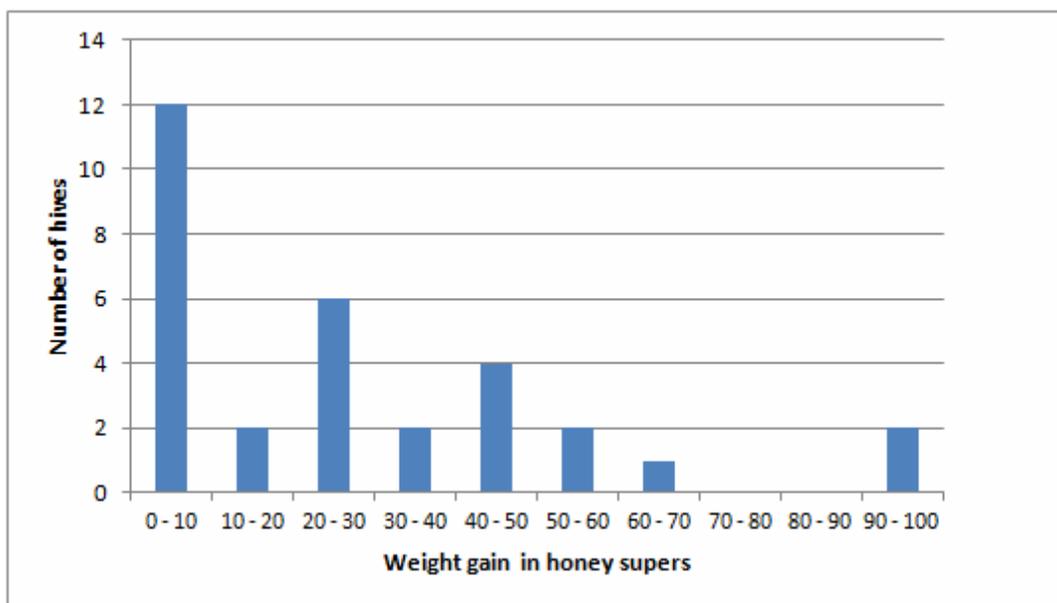
There are still several opening for working the Nevada County Bee Booth. The dates available are August 10th and the 11th. Please contact Karla Hanson <mailto:QueenBeez@att.net> if you can help. Don't worry if you feel you don't have all the answers. There will be an experienced bee keeper on every shift. Shift are 10 to 2, 2 to 6 and 6 to 10.

The clean up for the Fair bee booth will be 5:00PM. The potluck will begin at 6:00PM. The bee club will supply the hamburgers, hot dogs and all the fixings. Members can bring a salad or dessert to share. Tickets for working the Fair bee booth will be distributed at the party. EVERYONE is welcome to attend the Bar b q!!! The more the merrier...

Bee Bits

Randy Oliver, Contributor

As I write these words on July 27, hives in a number of my yards are shaking nectar! Normally when blackberry is done flowering, around the first of July, the bees quickly begin storing a dark, strongly-flavored substance which I assume to be honeydew. But this season, perhaps due to our late June rainstorm, we are getting a light, decent flavored honey stored in some yards.



So, contrary to my fear that this year was going to be a total bust for honey, we are actually pulling surplus honey from a number of hives. I thought that you might be interested in the data from one yard of 31 hives near the recycling center on Loma Rica Road. We weighed the supers when we put them on, and again when we removed them. I've plotted the distribution of weight gain for these hives, which were overwintered colonies.

The average weight gain was 26 lbs. However, you can see that there was a tremendous range, with about a third of the colonies (12 of 31) not gaining any weight to speak of. And then there were two colonies that put on over 90 lbs. Note that these weight gains were only for surplus honey in the supers, which were added after the colonies had already filled the brood chambers with enough honey for winter stores.

Nine of the 31 colonies put on between 40 and 100 lbs of honey. All these colonies were in the same yard, and received identical treatment.

In another test yard, this one stocked with 5-frame nucs on May 20, by July 18 they averaged 11 lbs weight gain, ranging from 4½ to 18 lbs.

My point? Colonies are quite variable in the amount of honey that they produce. If you've only got two hives, no telling whether you're unlucky in having non producers, or lucky in getting a heavy producer. We are seeing mite levels climbing, so time to get out there and knock them back! We're having good luck with MAQS applied as a single strip if honey is on, or 25 g of Apiguard if not.

Right now there is still plenty of pollen, and often nectar coming in. Later this summer, the colonies will likely benefit from some stimulative protein and syrup feeding.



Bees doing trophalaxis on the feeder.



A cell that has two young larvae in it! Twins!



Amazing Story - [Bees: Nature's little 3D printers](#)

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Minutes from Last Meeting

Jack Meeks, Secretary

President J Ferrell opened with Q&A.

Bees like canola nectar and pollen but not corn. Neo-nicotinids may not be as damaging to bees as suspected, varying with the bee species. Roundup glyphosate is not as damaging to bees as it is to bee-friendly plants. Farmers treat remaining Roundup-resistant weeds with Paraquat, which kills bees and larvae 100% at any measurable dilution.



Randy Oliver described attending the Honey Bee Health Summit at Monsanto's St. Louis MO research facility and exchanging views with other researchers and government agencies.

PROGRAM: Dr. Christine Casey, UC Davis Entomology showed bee gardens and types of bee attractive plants for beekeepers to cultivate. Haagen-Dazs funded the garden, which attracts 80+ bee species. There are over 1000 bee species in CA. Good pollen producers are oaks, deer grass and tomatoes.

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The Nevada County Beekeepers Association is dedicated to apiculture education and promotion of the art and science of beekeeping among beekeepers, agriculturists, and the general public. This is a "not for profit" organization. Donations are welcomed.

Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7 PM at the Grass Valley Veteran's Memorial Building at 255 South Auburn Street in Grass Valley. All visitors are welcome. Use the back entrance.

The newsletter is published monthly as a service to the membership. Articles, recipes, commentary, and news items are welcomed and encouraged. Contributions should be received by the 20th of the Month to be included into the next issue. Submit to garyg@newpress.com

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Nevada County Beekeepers Association

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Nevada County Beekeepers Association



c/o Steve Reynolds
10838 Ridge Road
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First Class Mail

August 5th Meeting:
5PM - at the Fair Grounds

Program:
Booth Cleanup and BBQ