



Hi-BEE NEWS

Newsletter for the Hawai'i Beekeepers' Association (Vol. XV) March 2001

Calendar of Events

Directions to the Damon's

HBA Business Meeting, Potluck, Lectures & Classes

12 Noon - 3:00 pm

Sunday, March 25th, 2001

Papakolea (the old Damon Estate)

Please call 239-0232 to carpool.



From Windward (H3) and West side (H1/H2):

Get on I-78 towards Honolulu. Exit Red Hill exit 2. Go straight through 1st stop sign. Turn right at 2nd stop sign onto Ala Napunani. Proceed to the 3rd left street & turn left onto Ala Lonomea #1468. Go through gates & uphill.

From Honolulu (H1/I-78) towards Aiea:

Just after Tripler, exit right "Moanalua Valley/Red Hill" (the estate is visible on hill opposite Tripler/across highway). Stay in far right lane (don't go straight), exit & curve under highway to stop sign. Go straight onto Ala Napunani. Proceed to the 3rd left street & turn left onto Ala Lonomea #1468. Go through gates & uphill.

If lost, call Ian's cell # 478-9654

General membership meeting: Please see last page of newsletter for business mtg agenda.

Brief discussion: HBA queen rearing project, HBA group honey processing, Overview of the web-site, other classes (suggestions, requests, volunteers).

Guest speakers on the fight to protect our bees from foreign diseases and infestation: Gus Rousse, and others.

Class on hive building and repairs: Taught by Ian Damon, Gary Grieve, Homer Leong and Eric Vom Dorp. Class will discuss building from scratch, pre-made hives and hive maintenance plans. Bring your questions, tools and un-made or broken hive boxes, frames and parts. E-mail Ian at damoni002@hawaii.rr.com with questions.

Class on hive management: Taught by Eric Vom Dorp and e-mail questions to evomdorp@aol.com.

Questions & Answers period: Please be prepared by e-mailing to cbd@hawaii.rr.com



President's Cell

Aloha!

I'd like to invite you to a potluck, picnic and educational field day on Sunday March 25th from 12 noon to 3:00 p.m.. There will be instruction there on hive construction maintenance, and hive management.

If I might quote an e-mail from my wife: "...for everyone's notice, we have had a huge response (hope words translate into action!) to attending the March 25th meeting including members of BIBA, the commercial set, even the State guys et al, and people from each of the islands - in addition to about 90% of our Real/ Active members. We have truly enjoyed talking to all the members & non-members and hearing their needs ... and of their delight in the new steps (that the HBA is taking)." We also have two other events percolating (for future membership meetings) that would include a club rearing of queens & teaching, honey processing classes (automated and non-automated), speakers and hands-on demonstrations coming on !! Very exciting things coming on ahead."

To all of you who haven't paid your dues yet. Here's your chance to pay at the 03/25/01 meeting before your dues might go up. If they aren't paid up by the time the voting starts, we'll have to turn you away and you'll miss the lectures, classes, demos, food, voting, etc. I hope to see you all at this meeting!

Aloha & a hui ho ... IAN DAMON, President of HBA



House Bill 1346

Aloha no kakou ... as a commercial apiculturist and professionally trained entomologist-microbiologist, I strongly support House Bill 1346 and any companion bills or other legislation, rules, statutes or policies that prohibit the importation (or transshipment) of live or dead honeybees and used apiculture equipment into (or through the ports of) the state of Hawai'i. However, the current situation involves more complex issues than those addressed in this bill, as outlined:

1. The proposed legislation (as it's related to honeybees) appears redundant as there are already state statutes that are almost identical to those proposed in this bill: see HRS Title 11, Chapter 150-6.
2. The proposed legislation (as it's related to honeybees) is moot and invalid as Federal law prevails over state law in issues of trade: under the recent GATT agreements it is clear that countries free of Varroa mite infestations, or any other disease of honeybees not already proven to be present in the State of Hawai'i, such as Australia, now have the right to import their honeybees into the state (and into the US mainland for the first time since 1922). At this time, the USDA's APHIS is writing a rule that will outline the conditions under which such importations will take place.
3. The proposed legislation (as it's related to honeybees) does not prohibit or regulate the importation of honeybee semen that has not been certified to be free from genomic material (DNA) carrying the "Africanized" honeybee traits, or other traits deemed to be undesirable. The importation of such semen with sperm carrying undesirable genetic traits into the state could be prohibited under existing GATT agreements and APHIS rules.

It is unfortunate that the drafters and sponsors of this bill did not consult with the wider apiculture community here before writing these sections. A'ohe hana nui ke alu 'ia! A hui hou ...
Michael M. Kliks, Ph.D

Apiculture Websites and E-mails



American Beekeeping Federation www.abfnet.org
 Apiservices www.beekeeping.com
 Dadant & Sons, Inc. dadant@dadant.com
 Dancing Bees Acres www.dancingbeeacres.com
 Glory Bee Foods, Inc. www.glorybee.com
 Hawaiian Queen Co www.hawaiianqueen.com
 International Bee Research Assoc www.cf.ac.uk.ibra
 Kona Queen Co www.konaqueen.com
 Mead Makers Digest mead-request@talisman.com
 National Honey Board www.nhb.org
 New Zealand Beekeepers Assoc www.nba.org.nz
 USDA, APHIS Plant protection and quarantine
www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/prh/honeybees
 USDA, ARS (federal research) www.sun.ars-grin.gov/ars/Beltsville/barc/psi/brl



Reminders to All Members with Hives!

By M. M. Kliks

HASS/NASS Survey *It is very important to the HBA and agriculture in Hawai'i that every beekeeper with hives fill out the year 2000 apiculture survey. We must let the state and other members of the agriculture community know that we are out there for their benefit ... and that beekeeping needs promotion and protection for our benefit! All information is kept confidential and cannot be used against individuals for taxation or regulatory purposes. To get an annual beekeepers survey form, call HI Agricultural Statistics Service at 973-9588, or go to www.nass.usda.gov/hi.*

Hawai'i Honeybee Disease Survey *If we expect the USDA to write a special rule to prevent, or severely limit, the transshipment and/or importation of honeybees from New Zealand, or any other area now known to be infected with the Varroa mite, or any other disease that we do not have, then it must be demonstrated that these diseases DO NOT OCCUR in Hawai'i already. Therefore ALL beekeepers, whether members or not, whether they have 1 or 100 hives need to participate in the State DOA's field survey ASAP ... there is very little time left. Call Dr. Tom Culliney at 973-9528 to arrange for him to visit your site and sample your hives. All information is kept confidential and cannot be used against individuals for taxation or regulatory purposes.*

FOR SALE

| |
|---|
| Pierco Frames 1 piece, plastic, white, Western (6-1/45") \$1.00 each MICHAEL KLIKS 988-7203 |
| Little Wonder Extractor (manual) Stainless steel, converts to 300 lb. storage/bottling tank with 1-1/2" honey gate & stand \$250 (original cost \$375) MICHAEL KLIKS 988-7203 |
| Stainless Steel Honey Container - 345 gal (forklift ready) with gate \$2150 FRED SALASSA 842-9133 |

Bee Stuff

A collection of American Bee Journal magazines, Bee World, and other bee-related information (video tapes & books) are available to review for HBA members at:

TRIPLE F DISTRIBUTING 808-842-9133

5 Sand Island Acc Rd # 904 Honolulu, HI 96819

(Hrs: Mon-Fri 8-4:30 pm)

We welcome any donations to add to our library!

HBA Proposed Dues for 2001

The current proposed dues for the categories of HBA membership are:

Regular ... \$15

Family ... \$15 (for 1 Regular plus \$5 for each additional family member, with a maximum of \$25 per family)

Associate ... \$12

Sustaining ... \$50 or more

Corporate ... \$100 or more



Why the Dues Increase?

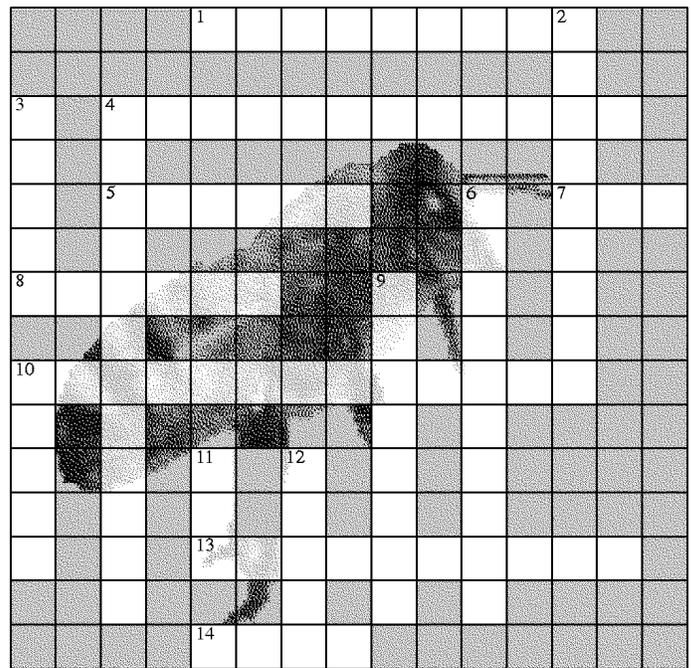
In short, the dues needs to increase to cover increasing costs. There hasn't been an increase in dues since the beginning despite repeated increases in postage rates and the almost doubling of the insurance rates. If we constantly run in the red it is only a matter of time before we run through what little money we have in the bank.

The membership should appreciate, not take advantage of, the

substantial amounts of time, money and effort donated to the club by various members and at least do their part to cover the basic costs including the newsletter and insurance. If the club isn't willing to at least run in the black, something it has not done for a few years, with membership support what is the point of having a club at all? We are only talking about a few dollars to make the club work.

I hear the argument "but we have a little money in the bank why increase now?" Well, that money was a donation by Smokey from work he did protecting Hawaii from foreign bee diseases and parasites, and has already been depleted. I believe since we are now faced with new protection issues that the rainy day nest egg he provided, might be needed in part for something more important than covering the basic costs. The other point people make is "how are you going to spend it?" Well, the budget for 2001 is not much different than the past three years budget, it does include a few new items (if approved) like an increase of money for the website address annual fees (for insurance reasons it needs to be paid for by HBA/cannot be donated), color cartridges to produce the newsletter, and a few more bee journal subscriptions for the library. (These are the known costs at this time.)

The final argument issue I hear is about the insurance. The insurance is primarily meant to cover all that attend the meetings including families, spouses, speakers, guests, etc. and cover the locations sites we hold meetings. Some ask well I am just one person why do I need to pay more because someone else has five family members or are married? In the proposed membership categories, you will see that we made new categories to fairly cover the membership use of the club and to assess the insurance evenly between all those who benefit from it's coverage. You will find that we made it as reasonable as possible and that it is still MUCH lower than almost every other club on the island! Please give this fair consideration when you vote to approve or decline the dues increase. We are trying to offer an association that educates and benefits each of the members but we need support from the very people whom this is all for. Thanks for your consideration ... Carlene Damon.



"Don't Be Cross at a CrossBee"

ACROSS

1. (9) Draw an efficient storage unit.
4. (12) It's just about the bees knees to carry food.
5. (6) Social insect group. Not Tom from the Ag. Dept.
7. (3) Compound _____.
8. (6) Where do they get all that bread?
10. (13) The royal no passing zone.
13. (10) With this, some 2-downs remove their covering.
14. (4) There's a little catch, she dies when she hooks ya.

DOWN

2. (9) A watchful steward.
3. (5) 9 sides when open, 10 sides when closed.
4. (12) Pick one up from Gus.
6. (10) Stack these for more bees.
9. (8) Bees aren't _____ insects. Their social.
10. (5) She's different.
11. (3) Belonging to the superfamily Apoidea.
12. (5) _____-califragilistic box

Bumble Jumble

(Unscramble these words ... answers at end.)

- LLEPON -----
- OHMATXW -----
- RETTNMFAENOI -----
- EURREDUSECP LCSLE -----
- AEWIK -----
- DOROB -----



Apiaries in Paradise: Beware the March Lion!

By Michael M. Kliks, Ph.D



*This is a risky time for beekeepers in paradise. Some of our lowland and **ma uka** tropical fruit trees (citrus, coffee) and ornamentals beginning to have nectar in mid March although some areas of the islands can still have very few nectar sources available and feeding may be necessary. Heavy winds and rain can knock over colonies, remove outer covers and drive water into brood chambers severely damaging the colony ... and we need to watch for indications of swarming, for starvation, dehydration and weather stress that can lead to diseases such as foul-brood and damage by wax moths.*

Feeding and Medicating: Don't let colonies get below 10-15 lbs (2-3 full frames) of stored honey. Feed "light" colonies 1:1 heavy sugar syrup or excess honey (if no foul-brood is present). If you suspect that foul-brood may be present in your colonies or in nearby apiaries treat each colony 3 times at 7-10 day intervals by dusting the ends of the top bars in the brood chamber with 2 tablespoons of Terramycin (TM25) powdered sugar mix (1:8). Alternatively the TM25 can be mixed into the 1:1 syrup at 3-4 tablespoons per colony.

Swarm Prevention and Equalization: Swarming season usually starts late in March so either requeen each colony or check each one to determine if queen cells are present: if there are queen cells on the bottoms of any frames in the brood chamber (usually on one of the middle frames) this suggest a state of "congestion" or crowding. These cells should be removed and the "congestion" ameliorated by removing 1 or 2 frames of brood and/or honey and replacing them with drawn comb. The frames of brood or honey can be given to weak hives according to their needs to "equalize" hive assets

Supercedure: If there are queen cells on the face of the frame this is an early indication of "supercedure" whereby the colony seeks to replace a failing queen with a new one. You can either destroy such cells and re-queen the colony with a new queen or destroy the existing queen and allow the natural supercedure to take place. With a bit of clever manipulation of the queen cells one can isolate them individually in strong queenless hives and produce 4-8 virgin queens for your own use. It will be necessary to "simulatively" feed (using 1:1 syrup) any colony from which the queen has been removed or to which a queen cell is given. While checking for queen cells it is a good time to "equalize" your hives by exchanging 1 or 2 frames of brood and/or honey from a strong donor hive to any weaker ones.

Housekeeping: This is a good time to clean off the accumulated debris from the hive bottom boards and to repair any brood boxes and honey supers and old damaged frames. All supers with frames of drawn comb must be tightly stacked and the top box treated with a few moth balls every week to prevent wax moth infestations from destroying the drawn comb. Remember to remove supers from moth ball treatment at least 3 weeks prior to placing them back on an active hive ... and **mahalo o ke akua** that we don't have **Varroa** mites here!

Questions & Answers Buzz

Q) "I have AFB and want to know if there's a way to get rid of it without using Terramycin?"

A) American Fowl Brood is a bacteria passed via spores. I support the use of Terramycin. I believe that it must be used to effectively treat AFB, the only other way to completely rid the hive and the threat to other hives is by burning the hive. -Eric Vom Dorp

We checked around and there are ways to try to strengthen the hive, but at the end of the day AFB is too dangerous, contagious and problematic not to eradicate it completely. -Carlene Damon

Q) "Why is my honey dark if my wax is new?" My bees feed primarily on Hau and Mangroves."

A) Please bring a sample of your honey and a sample frame to the next meeting so one of the experienced beekeepers can give you an answer.

Q) "I have fat bees!! My bees are having trouble getting through my plastic queen excluder that separates my 2 brood boxes from the honey supers. What do I do?"

A) Many beekeepers chose not to use queen excluders because they feel that they restrict the movement of the bees. Other beekeepers swear by them. In your case though your bees may just be too chubby to fit through the queen excluder, a common occurrence. Eric Vom Dorp recommends to remove your excluder, then observe and learn how to handle your brood ball patterns.

Advertising Rates

Copy, art and payment must be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Contact Fred Salassa or Dovlyn Shyer 842-9133 (fax 842-1184) for info.

CLASSIFIED ADS: 15 words or less, per issue:

| | |
|-------------|---------|
| HBA members | \$ 2.00 |
| Non-members | \$ 3.00 |

BUSINESS ADS: per issue:

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Business card size | \$ 7.50 |
| Quarter page | \$ 20.00 |
| Half page | \$ 35.00 |
| Full page | \$100.00 |



Membership Renewal

Membership in the Hawai'i Beekeepers' Association is open to anyone who has an interest in bees and beekeeping! You do not need to own bees or reside in Hawa'i to join. Annual fee is \$12 per person (due by Jan 1st of each year) ... includes a vote in HBA elections, discounts on other bee-related publications, and a subscription to Hi-BEE NEWS and more! Foreign membership is \$20.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

E-mail _____

Add'l Contribution \$_____. Research / General Fund

Total Amt Enclosed \$_____ Check #_____

Send check to: "HBA" Charles Wong, Treasurer
99-1049 Aiea Hts Dr Aiea, HI 96701

Agenda for General Membership Business Meeting

- 1) Vote to approve the HBA 2001 budget.
- 2) Vote on the following proposed changes to Bylaws.
- 3) Vote on the proposed membership dues.



Proposed Changes To Bylaws

Article 2 shall be written as follows:

Section 1 (Remains the same.)

Section 2

There shall be 5 categories of membership in the HBA. The descriptions of each of the 5 membership categories are as follows:

Regular Member ... Entitled to all benefits of the Association including voting privileges and a newsletter.

Family Member ... A regular member may sponsor persons within their immediate family to be "Family Members". Such person is entitled to "Regular Member" benefits of the Association but is not entitled to either voting privileges or a newsletter.

Associate Member ... Entitled to receive the newsletter only.

Sustaining Member ... An individual who sponsors beekeeping through contributions to the HBA - Such "Sustaining Member" is entitled to "Regular Member" benefits of the Association including a newsletter and additional benefits to be determined by the board, but is not entitled to voting privileges.

Corporate Member ... A business entity which sponsors beekeeping through contributions to the HBA. Such "Corporate Member" is entitled to "Regular Member" benefits of the Association including a newsletter and additional benefits to be determined by the board, but is not entitled to voting privileges.

Section 3 The Board of Directors shall set the dues for each category of membership annually.

Section 4 (Remains the same).

Section 5 The current dues structure for membership shall be listed in the Newsletter.

Minutes

From HBA's previous member's meeting on Feb. 20, 2001: Opened by President Ian Damon at 7:30 pm and adjourned at 8:30 pm. Directors and 10 members were present. The agenda for this meeting was not published in the newsletter, and such business was deferred. Discussed general information. Next meeting on 3/25/01. By Al Santoro, Secretary

If you want your voice to be heard, please turn in your survey by the 3/25 Mtg! A complete Survey Report will be posted in the next newsletter ... Julie Moss

TORTILLA PINWHEELS



- 10 flour 10" tortillas
- 8 oz. pkg. cream cheese
- 8 oz. pkg sour cream
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1 T. canned chili peppers
- 1/4 cup chopped green peppers
- 1/4 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 t. onion powder
- 1/2 t. garlic powder
- 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 small can baby shrimp, drained (optional)

Beat together cream cheese, sour cream and honey until smooth. Stir in remaining ingredients. Spread equal amounts of mixture on each tortilla. Roll up tortillas, place in a covered container and let set for at least 2 hours. Slice about 1" pieces, like you would for sweet rolls, and place on a platter. Refrigerate until ready to serve.



Source: Sue Bee Honey website

Answers to CrossBee

- ACROSS 1. Honeycomb 4. Pollenbasket 5. Colony
7. Eye 8. Stamen 10. Queenexcluder 13. Experience
14. Barb DOWN 2. Beekeeper 3. Cells 4. Packagequeen
6. Broodsuper 9. Solitary 10. Queen 11. Bee 12. Super

Answers to Bumble Jumble

- Pollen Waxmoth Fermentation
Supercedure Cells Kiawe Brood