



SEMBA NEWS

Vol. 13 No. 2

Newsletter of the Southeastern Michigan Beekeepers' Association

February 2003

Upcoming Events

March 7-8

ANR Beekeeping Program at Michigan State University, Lincoln Room, Kellogg Center
9:00 a.m. to 5:10 p.m.

March 15

65th SEMBA Bee School Waterman Center, Schoolcraft College
8:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.



65th SEMBA Bee School

The 65th SEMBA Bee School will be held Saturday March 15th in the Waterman Center of Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, MI. Keynote speakers include Dr. Keith Delaplane of the University of Georgia and Dr. Zachary Huang of Michigan State University. \$10 single registration or \$15 for a family.

Lower Waterman Center (LWC)
Upper Waterman Center (UWC)

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|------------|--|
| 8-9 a.m. | Registration; coffee & doughnuts; UWC A |
| 9 a.m. | Video; UWC A |
| 9:20 a.m. | Welcome by Jim Goodrich, SEMBA President, UWC A |
| 9:30 a.m. | Economic Threshold for Varroa; Dr. Keith Delaplane UWC A |
| 10:25 a.m. | Introduction to concurrent sessions; Roger Sutherland |
| 10:30 a.m. | First Concurrent Session
Follow up with Keith Delaplane; UWC A
Beginners Seminar; Keith Lazar; LWC B
Bee Management; Edward Nowak, Master Beekeeper; |

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|------------|---|
| | LWC C
Beekeeping Video Selection; LWC D |
| 11:30 a.m. | Introduction to Michigan Honey Queen; UWC A |
| Noon | SEMBA Potluck or lunch on own |
| 1:10 p.m. | Age Related Changes in Worker Honey Bees; Dr. Zachary Huang; UWC A |
| 2:15 p.m. | Introduction to Concurrent Sessions; Keith Lazar, SEMBA VP; UWC A |
| 2:20 p.m. | Second Concurrent Sessions
Follow-up with Zachary Huang; UWC A
Beginners Seminar II; Win Harless; LWC B
Dr. Keith Delaplane; LWC C
Renting Bees for Pollination; Earl Hoffman, Master Beekeeper; LWC D |
| 3:15 p.m. | Third Concurrent Session
Marketing and Added Value of Bee Products; Judy Schmalz; UWC A
Beginners Seminar III; Earl Hoffman and Keith Lazar; LWC B
Bee Diseases; Bill Sir; LWC C |
| 4:10 p.m. | Make Your Own Equipment; Fritz Sanders; LWC D
Concluding Session
Questions and Answers
Hive Raffle; UWC A |



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ANR Beekeeping Program

The ANR Week Beekeeping program will be held on Friday March 7th and Saturday March 8th. Registration is \$15 for a family for both days. See <http://www.cyberbee.net/anr/> for more information. The agenda is as follows:

Friday, March 7

9:00 Registration
9:10 am Video
10:10 am Door Prizes
10:30 am "Integrated Pest Management - Do We Really Have a Choice?"
Dr. John Skinner, University of Tennessee

11:20 am "Landmark Use in Honey Bees"
Frank Bartlett III, Ph.D. Candidate,
Michigan State University

12:00 - 1:30 pm Lunch on your own

1:30 pm "Honey Bees, Pollination and Dogwoods? You've Got To 'Bee' Kidding"
Dr. John Skinner, University of Tennessee

2:30 pm Break
2:40 pm Door Prizes
3: 00 pm Report on Honey Queen Program 2002
3: 20 Michigan Honey Queen Contestants for 2003
Presented by the Honey Queen
Chairperson

3:40 pm "Title to be announced"
Mr. Mike Hansen, Michigan State Apiarist

4:20 pm "Southern Beekeeping Stories - Fact of Fiction?" Dr. John Skinner,
University of Tennessee

Dinner on your own
7:30 p.m. Kellogg Center Auditorium:
Michigan Honey Queen Pageant

Saturday, March 8, 2003

9:00 am Registration
9:05 am Video
10:05 am Door Prizes

10:05 am "Age-Related Changes in Worker Honey Bees" Dr. Zachary Huang, Michigan State University

10:45 am "Why Young Bees Like it Warm - -Flight Development in bees" Jayne Michalek, Perry High School, Perry, Michigan

11:10 am "A Close-up and Intimate Look at Queen Cell Biology" Dr. Wyatt Mangum, Mary Washington College

12:00 - 1:30 pm Lunch on your own
1:30 pm "The Extraordinary Queen: Insect Birth Control" Dr. Zachary Huang, Michigan State University

2:30 pm Break
2:40 pm Hive Raffle

2:50 pm "Getting a Better Understanding of Queen Introduction" Dr. Wyatt Mangum, Mary Washington College

3:30 pm "A Closer Look at the Learning Flights of Honey Bees" Cindy Wei, Ph.D. Candidate, Michigan State University

4:15 p.m. Questions and Answers on any topic



Membership Information

Beginning in January 2003, SEMBA membership costs are \$10.00 for an individual, \$15.00 for a family; \$100.00 for an individual life membership, and \$150.00 for a family membership. If your label has an **N 03**, your membership is due in November. SEMBA membership provides a 25% discount to subscriptions to *Bee Culture*, *American Bee Journal* or the *Speedy Bee*. When you pay your SEMBA membership dues the treasurer will send you a subscription form, with the next SEMBA Newsletter, to complete and send to the journal of your choice.



Submissions to SEMBA News

Send your submissions electronically to smutter@umich.edu, by mail to Rutter/Bowman 1314 Olivia Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, or phone 734-741-0482 (feel free to leave message).



Bees (and Hornets) Need Water

I have a bird bath in my backyard. The bees seem to prefer to take the water from the lava rocks that are in the bird bath. I also add a pinch of salt to the water. On real hot days I change the water whenever it gets very warm and keep it full by adding cold water. One hot day, just

after I changed the water, the bees came back and were taking on water again, when I noticed two hornets come to the water. One came in over the center of the bird bath, where there were no lava rocks, and the water was about one inch deep. She settled down very slowly on the water with just her feet just touching the surface but not breaking the surface tension. She then lowered her body down again not breaking the surface tension with her mouth parts she took in the cool water. When she was finished she was gone in a flash. The second hornet now repeated the same operation. I know water is used to cool the hive/nest but were these two hornets using their bodies as heat sinks also? I watched the bird bath for some time, several hornets came to drink but none repeated this operation. Always more questions than answers.

Bill Surr



Eastern Apicultural Society Conference

The EAS conference will be held August 4-8 2003 at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. See <http://www.easternapiculture.org/programs/2003> for more information. A link is also on the SEMBA webpage, <http://www.sembabees.org> under *other links*.



Food Grade Mineral Oil and Mites

There are several reports on the efficacy of food grade mineral oil (FGMO) as an acaricide to lower *Varroa* populations. A report in the American Bee Journal: P.P. Rodriguez. Food Grade Mineral Oil (FGMO) as an Alternative Treatment for Honey Bee Mites. American Bee Journal 143: 39-41; 2003 AA. Martinez and an online article:

Use of Food Grade Mineral Oil (FGMO) and Integrated Beekeeping practices in the control of *Varroa* infections in *Apis mellifera* colonies. Agustin ARIAS MARTINEZ, Francisco ARRANZ DEL REY, Dra. Pilar DE LA RUA TARIN, Iratxe PEREZ COBO, Dr. Pedro Pablo RODRIGUEZ RODRIGUEZ.

<http://www.beesource.com/pov/rodriguez/fgmo2001report.htm> [viewed 2/14/03]

Sources of FGMO

R. M. Stevenson Co. FGMO (Drakeol 35) distributors. Don Johnson
21005 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48024 Phone #: 248-474-7878
The Price is \$36.00 for five gallons; or approximately \$1.00 per pint.

Drakeol 35, is USP mineral oil. Besides being food grade, Drakeol 35's viscosity is very important

Application:

In experiments, FGMO was sprayed with a Burgess Propane Insect Fogger FGMO was applied in spray form once a month by blowing a steady stream of FGMO spray through the hive entrance. The amount of spray applied and length of time varied according to the size of the colony, generally lasting 4 - 5 seconds per colony. Note: pint glass jar spins on "in place of" the green plastic tank.

Thanks to Earl Hoffman and Bill Jaddatz for this information-eds.



Current Research on *Apis Mellifera*

1. Alloui N, Boucherit MR, Nouicer F. Effect of flumethrine on *Varroa destructor* in honeybee colonies. BULLETIN OF THE VETERINARY INSTITUTE IN PULAWY 2002; 46 (2): 233-237.
2. Cobey S. The extraordinary honey bee mating strategy and a simple field dissection of the Spermatheca - A three-part series - Part 1 - Mating behavior. American Bee Journal 2003; 143 (1): 67-69.
3. Mangum WA. Honey bee biology - Bee adventures in Bangladesh - Part 1. American Bee Journal 2003; 143 (1): 42-45.
4. Moretto G. Mortality of *Varroa destructor* in broodless africanized and carnica honey bee (*Apis mellifera* L.) colonies. Interciencia 2002; 27 (12): 702-704.
5. Robinson GE. Genomics and integrative analyses of division of labor in honeybee colonies. AMERICAN NATURALIST 2002; 160: S160-S172.
7. Wenning CJ. Experimenting with honey bees: Finding queens - Part III. American Bee Journal 2003; 143 (1): 22-28.

SEMBA Bargain Corner

Michigan Beekeeping calendars, \$5.00 plus shipping cost of \$1.50. Contact Mary Sutherland, 734-668-8568, e-mail rsuther@hotmail.com.

New wooden ware, assortment of honey bottles, 4-frame stainless steel motorized extractor, 25 frame galvanized motorized extractor, observation hive, and much more. Desire to sell as package. **Call Charles Bode at 586-725-8163.**

Package Bees from Georgia arriving in Roseville, MI in April 2003. **Call Gerald Dunbar** and leave message at **586-770-9953.**

12 frame motorized extractor with stand, 60 5 gallon honey buckets. **Michael Kielbasa 810-329-3754.**

Please book your **Package Bees.** Order early. Bees should arrive around April 10th or 11th, from Wilbank Apiaries in Georgia. **Call Dave Barber** to arrange for packages, **248-634-7017.**

NEW 1 & 5 Gal. buckets w/ lids, New medium and deep supers and frames available. **Keith Lazar, (248) 815-5522 or Home (248) 626-2483**

Five to seven hives for sale this spring. Contact **John Mio at 248-542-7740.**

Note: ads in the Bargain Corner are free to SEMBA members. To place an ad contact Sara Rutter smrutter@umich.edu or Roger Sutherland rsuther@hotmail.com.



ANNOUNCEMENT!

Bring your used beekeeping items to sell or place in the silent auction at the March 15, 2003 SEMBA Bee School. No charge for SEMBA members.

Southeastern Michigan
Beekeepers' Association
Organized April 1, 1934



Oakland Beekeepers' Club



Schoolcraft Beekeepers' Club



SEMBA Membership
5548 Warren Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105-9425