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Treasurer Jim Heald 473-9623

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rene@aaalaw.ca #

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**Annual General Meeting
Tuesday , November 9th @ 7 pm
Kakabeka Legion, Kakabeka
– Highway 11 / 17 -
(~ 1 km east of town)**

. (Early start 6:00 pm if you would like dinner – Legion kitchen will be open!!)

And as Jim always says > “*You can have a beer.*”))

Key business is the election of TBBA Executive and deciding on incorporation.

Members interested in running for office, please contact

Nomination Committee Volunteers;

Mark & Faith Ling at;

haulinpollen@tbaytel.net

**PS > Keep reading, there is FUN bee stuff after the necessary
Annual General guff!!**

Agenda :

Business

1. Policy Review: Incorporation

- YES or NO -

There will be a brief presentation of the pros & cons of incorporation as a non-profit for TBBA. This will be first on the agenda as, based on the results of the vote, some candidates for TBBA Executive may want to withdraw. After the presentation & a focused discussion there will be a vote.

2. Election of Officers

Please contact Mark and Faith,
e-mail above, to stand for office.

3. Review of Club Policy

New membership coordinator position?

3.b. Update "Healthy Bees Working Group" - HBWG - Activities & Next Steps.

Petitions news and more ...,
(Suggest a better title than HBWG.)

'Perks' of TBBA Membership > *Get to hang with such nice people.*

4. Cloud Berry & Honey Bee Pollination in Sweden - Joanne

5. New Business / Gossip / Tall Tales & Honey Harvest Lies

NOTE: Please look at the mailing label on the envelope the newsletter came in. You will see a series of numbers following your name. These tell you your record of recent membership in our club. The last digit indicates the year your dues are paid up to. Only those who have a "0" will be issued ballots at the November Annual Meeting.

The Treasurer will be at the door to take dues if necessary. If there are any questions please call Jim at 473 9623.

Thinking about running for the executive ?

Here's the skinny....,

TBBA Executive Positions and Responsibilities

(From our present TBBA Constitution)

President

- call exec meetings prior to newsletter and regular TBBA meetings
- call special meetings as needed for exec or TBBA
- supply/buy coffee, tea, juice, etc for meetings and workshops
- provide report for TBBA meetings
- coordination of education component of TBBA meetings
- assist secretary with newsletter as needed (all exec)
- book library, including library announcements, do food, for intro bee talk in spring
- assist with library bee talk in spring (all exec)
- assist with and promote other educational functions for TBBA and public (all exec)
- answer beekeepers' questions, or referring them to appropriate person (all exec).
- committee work as needed, logo, policy, etc (all exec)
- forward Provincial Apiarist's e-mails to other beekeepers
- maintain communication with local bee inspectors regarding local and provincial beekeeping regulations and developments

Vice-President

- book community centre or other location for meetings
- get keys, returning keys, paying for hall rental
- maintain up to date address list of beekeepers, both e-mail and snail-mail, with treasurer and bee inspector information
- make labels, do envelopes, buy stamps, and send out newsletters that secretary has done, either by snail or e-mail
- assist secretary with newsletter as needed (all exec)
- assist with education component of TBBA meetings
- assist with library bee talk in spring (all exec)
- assist with and promote other educational functions for TBBA members and public (all exec)
- answer beekeepers' questions, or refer them to appropriate person (all exec).
- committee work as needed, logo, policy, etc (all exec)

Secretary

- record minutes of TBBA meetings
- report minutes for TBBA meetings
- preparation of monthly newsletter
- assist with education component of TBBA meetings
- help with library bee talk in spring (all exec)
- assist with and promote other educational functions for TBBA members and public (all exec)
- answer beekeepers' questions, or refer them to appropriate person (all exec).
- committee work as needed, logo, policy, education etc (all exec)

Treasurer

- manage finances of TBBA
- maintain up-to-date financial record of TBBA
- provide financial report at TBBA meetings
- maintain up-to-date membership records for TBBA
- maintain updated subscriptions to journals, magazines
- arrange for printed materials to be bound and maintained through Thunder Bay Public Library
- maintain current
- assist with education component of TBBA meetings
- assist secretary (Simon) with newsletter as needed (all exec)
- help with library bee talk in spring (all exec)
- assist with and promote other educational functions for TBBA members and public (all exec)
- answer beekeepers' questions, or refer them to appropriate person (all exec).
- committee work as needed, logo, policy, education etc (all exec)

Past –President?

TBBA presently does not have this role - Needed for continuity? - members discussion

Note: To change a 'policy' or the TBBA 'Constitution' a 2/3 voting requirement is needed.

Examples: Implement a Past President? Change the Titles of Financial Secretary to Treasurer, Recording Secretary to Secretary? Add other new positions on the Executive Board? Become a non-profit corporation etc.

Challenges for TBBA in 2011 and beyond

Reflections of TBBA President Joanne Henderson

The changing nature and focus of our club and its involvement with the community has contributed to an expansion TBBA's engagement with the community. Key to the future success of TBBA's impact will be a better sharing of the workload.

The original club policy (*which, when first put together, created much dissension as some members did not want the social aspect of the club to change*), there is no mention of committees, public education and relations, direction, anything!

We have changed and grown greatly as a club since this very simplistic policy was cautiously adopted, and as often happens, the additional responsibilities have been heaped onto a few, because we have neither the time to figure out how to change, nor the means to change, and for that matter, an unwillingness by members in the past to take on the task of reviewing policy and suggesting changes when the exec has been too busy to do so. Thank goodness this attitude seems to be changing!

As the TBBA has grown your Executive is trying to conduct the business in an open and transparent way. To assist in an orderly election there will be prepared ballot books to hand out to paid up members as they come in and register for the meeting.

-Your Executive is recommending only one ballot per membership, (*Our practice has been to recognize a "family" as one membership, but this shouldn't entitle some to two ballots*).

- We are going to suggest Non-voting members, **i.e:** the second family member, should be seated in a separate area to prevent double votes. (*We know some will be uncomfortable with this idea but once the formal voting is done, people can sit anywhere. We might have thought of a better system by the mtg. As always - a work in progress*)

FOR Sale > TBBA Hats & T's

Joanne will be bringing the **hats and T-shirts** to the meeting? If they are not picked up and paid for by those who ordered theirs, they will be sold as they have been sitting here too long

FOR Sale

I have 2 colonies that were started from nucs this past summer. I purchased one nuc from Dean Harroon and the other from Jeanette. Both colonies seem to be doing well and have a good chance of making it through the winter. One colony is in the new polystyrene supers and the other is wooden supers. I have various other equipment for sale as well, (wooden frames, wax foundation, feeding supplies, medication, a large metal cage that surrounds the colonies to keep the bears out, etc.).

johnnie_miners@hotmail.com or call me at home 343-4632.

Rene Larson, V-P TBBA:

I propose that we have a section or page on the website where paid up members can communicate items like this.

Secondly, can we put the elections info on the website?

BEE FUN

From: John Flys <johnflys@millenniuminsurancebrokers.ca>

Subject: Unhealthy Honey Bee Frame

To: Bee@yahoo.com

Received: Monday, October 18, 2010, 2:35 PM

This is an almost hands on learning experience.....<http://www.gigapan.org/gigapans/27538/>

This is one sick frame of bees. Can zoom in for a close-up view of sick & dying larvae. What can you spot... ?

Speaking of sick bees, some of the latest of the continuing investigation of multi-factorial 'colony collapse disorder.'

Iridovirus and Microsporidian Linked to Honey Bee Colony Decline

Abstract

Background

In 2010 Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD), again devastated honey bee colonies in the USA, indicating that the problem is neither diminishing nor has it been resolved. Many CCD investigations, using sensitive genome-based methods, have found small RNA bee viruses and the microsporidia, *Nosema apis* and *N. ceranae* in healthy and collapsing colonies alike with no single pathogen firmly linked to honey bee losses.

Methodology/Principal Findings

We used Mass spectrometry-based proteomics (MSP) to identify and quantify thousands of proteins from healthy and collapsing bee colonies. MSP revealed two unreported RNA viruses in North American honey bees, Varroa destructor-1 virus and Kakugo virus, and identified an invertebrate iridescent virus (IIV) (*Iridoviridae*) associated with CCD colonies. Prevalence of IIV significantly discriminated among strong, failing, and collapsed colonies. In addition, bees in failing colonies contained not only IIV, but also *Nosema*. Co-occurrence of these microbes consistently marked CCD in (1) bees from commercial apiaries sampled across the U.S. in 2006–2007, (2) bees sequentially sampled as the disorder progressed in an observation hive colony in 2008, and (3) bees from a recurrence of CCD in Florida in 2009. The pathogen pairing was not observed in samples from colonies with no history of CCD, namely bees from Australia and a large, non-migratory

beekeeping business in Montana. Laboratory cage trials with a strain of IIV type 6 and *Nosema ceranae* confirmed that co-infection with these two pathogens was more lethal to bees than either pathogen alone.

Conclusions/Significance

These findings implicate co-infection by IIV and *Nosema* with honey bee colony decline, giving credence to older research pointing to IIV, interacting with *Nosema* and mites, as probable cause of bee losses in the USA, Europe, and Asia. We next need to characterize the IIV and *Nosema* that we detected and develop management practices to reduce honey bee losses.

For the full article

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0013181>

Winter Feeding Basics > Three Golden Rules

1. Feed as much as necessary to provide all the winter feed a hive needs
2. Feed as quickly as possible to have the feeding complete as soon as possible before cold weather appears.
3. Feed as thick a syrup as possible to minimize the work required to store the feed for winter.

The WHY...?

1. The syrup must be inverted, (Honey is a simple sugar - cane sugar is not,) evaporated, stored and capped before the cold weather which takes time. Start mid-Sept and the bees should be finished by mid-Oct. Sooner if you are using mass feeding techniques.

2. The two brood chamber colony should weigh between 63 to 73 kilos (140 ~ 170 lbs) going into wintering. These weights should ensure a food supply to carry a strong hive over to spring and the first nectar & pollen flows. Reduce the bottom entrance before feeding to reduce robbing. (Bonus > *Helps to keep out mice.*)

3. The bees will tell you when they have enough - they stop taking the syrup down into the hive. NOTE: *A spell of cold weather will also stop the feeding.*

If you are top feeding, using jars or similar containers in an empty supper, use a wrapping of burlap or other insulation will keep a bit of the cluster's warming around your feeding

IDEA: President Joanne has taken the time to prepare feeding boxes by taking shallow supers - adding fiber-glass insulation, held in place with cut-to-size plastic fencing and adding a central sleeve, (from plastic weeping tile,) that fits her jars and is positioned over the central hole in her inner covers.

4. Sugar / Honey is only half of the bee's food needs. Remember pollen? Hives should have four to six frames of pollen. Pollen is collected during the summer and stored around the brood nest. If concerned pollen stores are light come spring you can order and feed a pollen substitute. (NOT actual pollen or a feed made with real pollen included > *risk of transmission of bee disease!*)

Wintering Outdoors

Golden Rules:

1. Start with a sheltered apiary site.
2. Upper entrance
3. Insulate both the sides and the top

The WHY ...?

1. If your hives are out in the open, add a wind-break to the west / northwest or whichever is the most exposed direction. Over time a winter wind will penetrate the hive stressing the cluster. Your windbreak can be simple - a temporary fence of scrap boards, with a bit of spacing between the boards, built a little higher than the hives, will be fine.

2. The colony cluster gives off water vapour as it eats and breathes. The water vapour rises and if not allowed to escape will freeze into an ice blockage between the frames. Later in the winter as the cluster moves into the second super the ice dam blocks them and they starve. In the spring the ice has melted and the beekeepers wonders why the cluster died while honey was available.

Most commercial inner cover have a upper entrance notch on the deep side. With a third super of insulation on top this entrance is exposed. If you don't have an upper entrance in your inner cover cut a 8 cm x 1 cm space. Alternatively drill a 1" hole above the hand-hold in the second supper.

3. The benefits of insulation are decreased food consumption and mortality. (*What's not to love about tempering the changes in outdoor temperature, protecting from drafts, conserving cluster heat and allowing more cluster movement within the hive. Plus the hive is drier which means less stress.*)

Hives can be wrapped individually or placed in groups of twos or fours. Clustering hives makes efficient use of insulation and the hive's heat retention. (*Placing more than four hives together with three sides protected can stay too warm - the bees remain more active and eating more food.*)

Commercial beekeepers have a standardized system with four hives pushed together on a pallet, wrapped in fiberglass covered with building paper or black plastic. A large sheet of plywood covers an R20 batt over all four

hives. Holes are cut through the insulation to match the inner cover entrances. Small plywood squares with a central slot keep the insulation and wrapping tight against the upper entrances.

Suggestion from "*Beekeeping in Western Canada*" (Bee Maid ~ \$26) R-12 fiberglass - 23" / 58 cm wide batts are placed on 6-7 ft / 2 m sheet of 6 mil black polyethylene. Fold one half over the batt to cover. Then use a medium hot iron over aluminum foil or newspaper to bond the overlapping edge of the plastic. The ends are also sealed but leave the corners open to allow moisture to escape. Use a template to cut the location of your upper entrance. A similar wrap is prepared from R-20 for the top insulation.

QUESTIONS and ANSWERS on WINTERING HONEY BEES

by George Brezina, West Québec, Canada

(Interesting perspective. His advise on bottom entrances is different than most TBBA members.)

- **When to remove the winter packing?**

The hive protection is more important in spring than in winter. A cold spell will chill the brood and set the hive back. In our climate wait till the middle of May or later - not before the tomatoes are planted out.

- **When to wrap the hives for winter?**

Not too early. Cool hive will cease rearing brood and decrease consumption. In West Quebec it may be done in the first week of November (before the deep frost or heavy snowfall).

- **Is the upper entrance essential in winter?**

It depends on the wintering method. Personally, I had better experience with full width of bottom entrance and no upper entrance.

- **Is it necessary to reduce the bottom entrance?**

No. The primary reason for entrance reduction is the defense against robbing. Reduction of the bottom entrance may help to reduce the heat loss if the upper entrance is used.

- **How to protect the hive in winter against rodents?**

Several methods exist. For example the height of the bottom entrance may be lowered to the size of the bee space using a metal strip. Metal screen (1/4") can be used. Care must be taken that the entrance will not get blocked by dead bees / ice.