

## Beekeeping Insights Issue # 40 notes

Another weeks has rolled around and the weather has finally cooled. I see farmers harvesting soybeans. That means fall is here! This week's message [taking a look at issues we as beekeepers need to consider for our bees during the winter season]. Hopefully the honey crops are all in and a report from Indiana indicate they had a good year. It all depends upon where you live. The weather in Raleigh is starting to feel like fall. Bees are active bringing in pollen and nectar.

This issue also has some information about absconding bees. It seems to be a typical subject with beekeepers posting items such as "I checked my hives last week and they were doing great. I checked them today and they are gone! " Honey bees have been known to leave a hive under certain conditions -- This year has been hard on bees from July to the present. For the most part, they are very hungry even when they are being fed. A hive with a large population of bees requires a lot of food. Location is everything in conditions like we have had. Fires are burning uncontrolled in parts of the U.S.. Extreme weather seems to be the norm now. I have seen ups and downs in weather but nothing like the past 20 years. Winters have been milder resulting in bees using more winter honey stores. Current beekeeping requires a lot more attention to the condition of honey bees than what I recall from the past.

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