

Beekeeping Insights # 50 email notes

Often by this time of the year the bees will have moved into the area just below the hole in the inner cover. I am still seeing some brood. For those wanting to treat for Varroa, the time to prepare is now. Usually by Dec. 21 (winter solstice) queens have stopped laying and Oxalic acid is an ideal mite treatment. Follow directions on the Oxalic package. Avoid contact with any of the vapor of Oxalic acid.

On the home front, I had a very interesting opportunity to visit the College of Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina University. Many of you are aware that the only way to treat some bee diseases (AFB and EFB) is to get a prescription from a veterinarian. I checked the web for some medications I have used in the past, and they are no longer available. For those of us who want to save a hive of bees is to become familiar with a veterinarian who is willing to work with you. Your bee clubs maybe of help in identifying one in your area. I was invited by Dr. Gregory Lewbart to participate in a three-hour lab being taught to students regarding honeybees. I learned that many Veterinary schools are adding beekeeping to veterinary education. The result of this will increased literacy among veterinarians regarding honeybee health. You may be counting on the bee inspection program in your state to help you with almost any bee issue that might come up. But they cannot write prescriptions for you to buy the medication you might need to treat for diseases. The US FDA implemented a Directive in 2017 that dictates how certain antimicrobials can be legally administered in animals (including honeybees). If you own and manage honeybees, that includes you!

I can tell you how pleased I was to be included in Dr. Lewbart's lab. The students were exposed to what to expect and learn about beekeepers (beginning, intermediate, and commercial). As I presented my part of the program, I looked out at the students before me. They are so young. They were interested (no one napping). They had questions! Their future is our future and all is looking good from my perspective. After the lab I returned home. Issue # 50 was put on the back burner, and I sat down to write a completely new Issue # 50. I have included questions/answers students asked for and the pdf of the powerpoint presentation I made. You will find it attached to this email.

NC State Presentation Honey Bees 12-3-21.pdf

[https://www.cbbee.org/BeekeepingInsights/2021/NCstatePresentation .pdf](https://www.cbbee.org/BeekeepingInsights/2021/NCstatePresentation.pdf)

Also check out this valuable information:

A-Sustainable-Approach-to-Controlling-Honey-Bee-Diseases-and-Varroa-Mites.pdf

<https://www.sare.org/wp-content/uploads/A-Sustainable-Approach-to-Controlling-Honey-Bee-Diseases-and-Varroa-Mites.pdf>

I have also realized that the complete collection of Stahlman Beekeeping Notes found on the website at www.cbbee.org may be of help to any of the new readers of these notes.