

2022 Stahlman Beekeeping E-mail Notes Issue #12a

Time is flying and the bees are handling this changing weather better than I am. I picked up 30 packages of bees and loaded them on my pick-up last Sunday near Atlanta, Ga. The temperature was 23 degrees F. I had made arrangement far before the weather forecast indicated this cold weather. The bees had been shook and they were now mine. I have hauled package bees in the past but not under conditions like this. Before leaving Raleigh, I stopped at a local thrift store and bought two heavy bed spreads. (Quilts) Once the packages were on the truck, I covered them with a 1/2 inch plywood sheet and then laid the quilts over the plywood. I then used a plastic tarp to cover the quilts. The bees created heat under the quilts and remained somewhat warm during the almost 500 mile trip back to Raleigh.

This photo shows me checking the load at a rest area. One can see the layers of protection against the cold in this photo. The packages, the plywood and the two quilts and the green plastic tarp.

