

2023 Stahlman Beekeeping E-mail Notes Issue #17a

Weather has been an issue this week. After a good buildup of bee populations early this year, we are watching rains and weather patterns cooler than average over a good part of Eastern U.S. I have extracted my spring honey crop which was very good. I have my bees supered for the Tulip Poplar flow which has not been good so far. Trees are still in bloom but cool rainy weather has had an effect on what I had expected.

I will be looking at raising some queens over the next few weeks and I will share some information about my efforts. I am no longer interested in increasing my hive numbers. This spring more or less has taken care of that! Swarms and moving swarm cells to nucs has increased my hive numbers from three to 10. I have been helping my students/friends with queens and frames of brood to help with issues they are having. Comb management is a big issue and I am building a new wax melter (a bigger one). All of this is giving me topics to write about. I have wax capping to melt down, honey to bottle, and hive inspections to do. I hope you and I can keep up the with bee work over the next month before summer heat gets us.

Judi and I will be traveling this summer. I will be taking several trips to Ohio, New York and in July we will be headed to Austria. If any of you have beekeeping friends in Austria or Eastern Germany, I would appreciate a contact or two.

Dana