

## 2023 Stahlman Beekeeping E-mail Notes Issue #1a

Welcome to 2023 Bee Notes. The format has changed this year. I will be publishing 52 issues again this year. This is the beginning of the 5th year of these weekly notes. This newsletter is sent free to anyone wanting to receive it. Contact me personally at my email address: stahlmanapiaries@aol.com to request being added to the mailing list. If you desire to be removed just let me know to remove you. I do not sell my email list to anyone. Last issue for 2022 was sent cc (my mistake).

One New Year's resolution I made was to take samples of pollen coming into my bees at least two times a week or when pollen is being gathered here in Raleigh. I have a friend Suzy Spencer who has asked me to help her with pollen several times. I am not a professional pollen person but have since 1993 been collecting pollen samples and have purchased some expensive lab equipment to help see things I look at. A few years ago -- maybe more than a few years I bought equipment to do artificial insemination. I figured out that it is easier to buy queens from breeders than try to do it myself because of the time involved. My bee library contains 5 books that deal specifically with pollen and pollen identification. Because I am always trying something new, credit Suzy with a number of items that will show up in my notes this year.

I am working on a plan to expand my effort of cataloging pollen from different regions of the readership and posting pollen grains from plant sources this year in these notes. My microscopes allows me to check for pollen in very small samples either gathered from traps, the legs of bees or honey. I will cover this in more detail in Issue # 2. I would be interested if any of my readers are doing something along this line as well.