

## 2023 Stahlman Beekeeping E-mail Notes Issue #26a

I have spent time away from my bees and I returned to the U.S. to experience these 90 + degree days. Judi and I have a lot to be thankful for!

The one thing that you may find interesting is comparing human behavior with bee behavior: Honeybees have a built in compass -- they know where home is.

As humans, Judi and I had to depend on airlines getting us to where we were going. Our flight from New York to Amsterdam was diverted to Paris. Not only did we have to change planes, we had to go thru customs -- passport checked along with baggage before departing for Munich. Arrived in Munich with less fuss but then faced the return trip to home.

Munich baggage check -- I got taken aside because my backpack contained honey. They made me empty the backpack -- they took the jars and wanted to open them to just make sure it was honey. (The jars were sealed by the way). Because I bought small jars, they were allowed on the plane. I was then screened again thru the metal detector and allowed to board. Guess what, same thing happened when we boarded the plane to New York from Amsterdam. Bringing honey home is a problem. Then I got to U.S. customs and again, my bag was checked. Our bags with clothing sailed thru all inspections without problems. I wonder just how those guard bees inspect returning bees to their hives. Certainly they do not line up in lines that snake around for what seems like go on forever -- passport check -- where did you come from -- what did you buy --make sure you get in the right line, the right gate. And all the time worrying about missing your connecting flight.