

2023 Stahlman Beekeeping E-mail Notes Issue #8a

What is up with the weather? Record temperatures here in North Carolina, heavy snow and rain in California and all these systems moving east across the U.S. Normally I am writing about getting ready for spring but spring is here in Raleigh.

I will be writing about swarm control, making increases and other topics in the up-coming weeks. I am starting out by sharing what I am doing with my bees. I have reduced the number of hives I am keeping due to age and other things that happen as we get older. The good side of that is I have realized that three hives are just about right for me to take care of. My goal this year is to be a better beekeeper, work with my bees rather than just care for them, and spend a little time observing what works for me.

I hope you have your equipment ready for this season. Swarming is going to be early! Mites are getting a start just like the bees with this warmer than usual spring. I have adjusted my schedule to fit the weather. I know it is still winter in some of the areas where you may live. That makes keeping bees more challenging because weather is a big factor in what tasks are required for keeping bees. We cannot control the weather! But those of you planning on making increases, the weather will have the greatest impact! Especially if you want the bees to raise new queens.