

2022 Stahlman Beekeeping E-mail Notes Issue #8

The variation in weather has been so up and down this year. Spring is around the corner and as I write items for my notes, it is refreshing to look back over the years. I am reviewing all the material I have written to see if anything I have written in the past can be used with a different approach. The fact that new beekeepers are coming on board this year, many topics have to be repeated.

Many of you are writing to me about what you are seeing in your neighborhood and I really appreciate that. Many topics coming up will be about queens, mites, pest, swarming, robbing, honey getting, and monthly management. Since my readers are so spread out -- temperature ranges are drastic. Friends in British Columbia remind me they are under two feet of snow for the next two months while I am talking 60 degrees F.

If you live north of Raleigh, that warm weather talk will be coming your way soon. Check for trees that may be blooming. Check to see if bees are bringing in pollen. The pollen may be from maples and dandelion.

I always have used the blooming period of trees and plants to help me make decisions about what I should be doing at any period of time during the year. If you can find a good local chart for the blooming times of plants in your area, get it. I am in the process of creating a new web site that will allow readers to see the range of beekeeping tasks by season. I work slow but I will share the web site once it is up and tested.

Every week I get invited to bee yards. This week I followed up on previous students/friends that brought problems to me. Both have kept bees for several years and both have had some success. I call these real time problems. I will share what I learned and shared with them.

Dana