

## 2024 Stahlman Beekeeping E-mail Notes Issue #35a

First, the weather has been wet in Raleigh this week. I spoke to Nina Bagley who lives in Columbus, Ohio who shared that it was dry, and they needed some rain. Readers of these notes live in many states and conditions vary considerably. Some of you are feeding bees for winter and some of you are still harvesting some honey. I appreciate the feedback I get from you. Thus, I want to share how my beekeeping skills came into play this week.

I am going to share something rather different from past issues. Have you ever wondered about the future for keeping bees? I know we as beekeepers have faced some challenges keeping bee alive, but have you given any thought to what is behind all the magazine articles you read about research being done?

I am fortunate to live close to North Carolina State University. I am also fortunate to know Tom Krupa, a member of the staff of the College of Veterinary Medicine. I was given an opportunity to volunteer to help with a project being conducted this week. This issue contains a review of what I was called upon to do -- as a beekeeper. I am not in the league with the other individuals working on this project, but as a beekeeper I did have some skills that were needed. It was a learning experience for me.

Hopefully, this is something that might make you aware of some of the things going on in bee labs across the entire U.S. to help us as beekeepers. Much of what I saw I did not really understand. Data collected from this study was a bunch of numbers and scientific methodology that means something to someone. But this I do know; honeybees face an uncertain future without people like those working hard to provide us with information and answers hopefully to deal with viruses and diseases affecting our bees now and into the future.