

2024 Stahlman Beekeeping E-mail Notes Issue #36a

I have returned from a 7-day vacation in Ireland with a 2 day stop in New York City. The world of beekeeping is so varied, and I have been impressed with what I have seen. English is spoken in Ireland, but it is sometime a bit hard to understand.

The Irish are proud of their history and beekeeping lore. This article is about my visit to several beekeeping locations both located not far from the city of Galway located on the western part of the island. This area is unique in so many ways. I have so many photos of the landscape, animals and tourist attractions -- mostly castles. Beekeepers have restrictions on where bees can be kept.

This article is my view of what I experienced from beekeepers I met while there. They are a friendly lot, but quite opinionated. I was asked questions about keeping bees in America. They found it a bit difficult to understand that we kept bees in our backyards. Quite frankly, most don't have backyards. They are chemical free or at least claimed to be. They have a solution for varroa mites that you might find hard to believe.

If any of you have visited Ireland and have some bee information to share with me, I would appreciate your sending it along to me. I am not about to rebuild my hives because I saw what I thought were hives that could withstand cold weather far better than the Langstroth hive. But it is interesting to get new ideas and a different look at how bees are kept.