

2025 Stahlman Beekeeping E-mail Notes Issue #33a

I love the weather we are having in Raleigh. Still warm but comfortable when it comes to working bees. Not very many drones have been observed in my colonies and they are a bit light on honey stores. I am now feeding sugar 1:1 and the bees have been taking the food down quickly. I haven't seen much comb building, but drawn comb is being filled with syrup.

I like to mess around with my bees. I will be sharing some pictures in next month's first issue of what I have playing around with. In the past I raised queen in mini-nucs. This year I dug out some of the mini nuc boxes and frames and used them to raise a few queens. I now am dealing with planning how to over winter mini nucs.

This is not intended to be what normal beekeeping is all about. I am going off the wall this year. I am not suggesting you should do what I am doing. Every queen I have now in 7 hives are doing a good job of producing good brood and all have been gentle to work with. It makes it a bit tough to decide which queens to save. This also gives me something new to try.

Dana