

2025 Stahlman Beekeeping E-mail Notes Issue #36a

As winter approaches, I would like to share Issues of how honeybees adapt to confinement within the hive. Some beekeepers deal with really cold winters. Honeybees have adapted to winter life in some very unusual ways as far as humans are concerned. I am not sure how many times one might use the restroom in a fixed period of time - say a day or two. A few years ago, Judi, my wife, and I attended October Fest in Munich, Germany. I can remember a huge crowd and beer served in mugs a whole lot more beer than the kind of glasses we see beer served here in the U.S. The lines to use a restroom were long -- real long and it reminds me a bit like the line I stood in to get my driver's license renewed here in North Carolina. So how does the honeybee handle weather that does not allow for cleansing flights? What issues should beekeepers be aware of to help bees endure a long cold snap.

This issue has two references that link readers to some very valuable information. The article about feeding is far better than any information I could give you about feeding bees and methods. It is long -- 29 pages.

Dana