September’s Ramblings of a Bee Bumbler, from your President

Well Cuba is behind me and so is El Salvador. Both trips were exciting to say the least and very informative. While the Cuban visit to a honey processing facility was cancelled I did get to see a hive of Cuba’s stingless bees at work. In El Salvador I did get to talk to and visit Fausto. He and his family run a ninety-colony operation. We went to two different apiaries and went through some of his hives. Africanized? I don’t think so. A little smoke and a homemade veil was all the protection we wore. They are still using galvanized extracting equipment but not for long. Their honey buyer told Fausto if he does not get a stainless-steel extractor he could no longer buy his honey.

Fausto will have a new 9-18, radial, Mann Lake extractor in October due to the generosity of several Louisiana and Arkansas beekeepers. Thank you all in advance. I look forward to seeing Fausto’s new extractor in operation next year.

There will be a meeting of the Louisiana beekeeping club presidents September 29 at 11:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at Prejean’s on I-49 in Lafayette, Louisiana. Lunch will be provided and we are hoping for a good turn-out. We, the leadership of the LBA, want to take this opportunity to meet the presidents and to hear first-hand the concerns and issues that the various clubs round the state may have. We hope this networking will bring the local clubs and the state organization into a closer working relationship. If the club president cannot attend, we hope a representative of the club will fill in for them.

The fall field day is planned for the 21st of October. There will be something for all levels of beekeepers and gives the public a chance to see just what types of research is going on there. As in the past, lunch will be included in the registration costs. The registration information has been posted on the new LBA website along with a lot of other helpful information. Our Facebook page has also had some revamping and we are doing all we can to keep you, the beekeepers of the state, informed.
The 2018 LBA convention will be held in Pineville, Louisiana this year November 30-December 2, 2017. Registration will open November 1st after we close the books on the field day. While the field day closes us for 2017, the convention starts our fiscal year of 2018. The Thursday start will allow the commercial beekeepers a chance to get an early start and there will be a meet and greet that evening. Hopefully, our vendors will be setting up Thursday morning. I look forward to seeing all of you there.

I know several beekeepers have lost hives due to the hurricane and flooding. And yes we need to keep these fellow beekeepers in our prayers as well as all those that have lost their houses and livelihood. I recommend that beekeepers check with their local FSA office to see about disaster aid due to flooding and colony loss.

Here is hoping for a good fall honey flow. I will start pulling off all honey supers next week and preparing my colonies for winter. Honey prices seem to be climbing a little and hive prices too. I know many of you do not like the aster and goldenrod honey but the bees’ sure do and it makes for good winter stores. A few notes to remember. What is your varroa count? Do you need to treat and what will you use? Have you or are you leaving enough honey stores to get your bees through the winter? Will you be feeding pollen patties, sugar syrup or corn? Are you going to combine weak hives or take a chance they will make it to spring? Have you considered increasing your operation next year and do you have queens lined up? Have you stored your supers correctly and ensured that they are safe from wax moth damage? And then there are always new boxes and frames to buy and assemble. May your honey supers be full, your hives healthy and God bless you and your family.

The LBA is your organization and the Board is here to serve you. If you have suggestions for us to make the organization better or ways to better serve our members, please feel free to contact us. Also, there are several bee clubs scattered throughout the state. Tables listing the LBA board members and the various bee clubs in the state are posted at the LBA website (www.labeekeepers.org). Join your local club and get involved. Help us help our fellow beekeepers be the best stewards of this valuable resource and produce the best honey in the world.

Randy Fair, randy@beebumber.com, 1-318-588-2899

For this beekeeper, your BBB editor, the 2017 summer honey flow has been rather lackluster.

As mentioned in the last BBB, “CENLA had rains every week and I’m sure there were some low areas that flooded.” Since June, the weekly rains have continued and this month we had tropical storm Harvey visiting us with rain every day. Prior to Harvey I’d checked my hives and found that the bees, though foraging and bringing in honey, appeared to be consuming as much as they brought in. What this means is that the fall harvest looks to be pretty slim. In addition, the fall harvest might take place later than expected unless the apiaries dry out in early September.
I harvested this last weekend and from 11 hives I managed 20 gallons of honey. This was the worst fall harvest I’ve had in 17 years! Others in the CENLA Bee Club report similar lack-luster returns from their hives.

The Annual Convention Committee has also been busy planning the 2017 convention for this December and we are already making plans for 2018. This year’s convention is to be held in Pineville, Louisiana with the 2018 convention to be held in the Lake Charles area. I will present more on this following the Baton Rouge Field Day in October.

With this letter,

- I am sharing articles on USDA’s Federal Regulations Updates regarding Apiculture Insurance.
- I am continuing a section that talks to “A Year in the Life of a Beekeeper – My personal view”. This BBB (#5) encompasses January – October.
- And finally, a link to a downloadable PDF of Kelly Beekeeping’s August Newsletter [From the table of contents of that PDF]:
  1. From the Queen's Court by Melanie Kirby
  2. Check Out Our New Website at kelleybees.com
  3. Bee Health: From Boom to Bloom
  4. Bee Science: No Offense, American Bees...
  5. Apitherapy: 10 Uses of Honey that Few People Know
  6. Bee Arts: Honey Sensory Experience Registration Bee Thinking About: The Soil Association

Enjoy.

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**Articles of Interest:**
- Apiary Insurance New USDA Regulations regarding Beekeeping.
- A Year in the Life of a Beekeeper – My personal view (updated with each new BBB)

**Internet Sites You Might Find Useful**

**Commercial Business Advertisements**

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**Articles of Interest**

**Apiary Insurance – New Regulations Regarding Beekeeping.**

**USDA, NEWS RELEASE, No.: RMA-17-071.**

Contact:
Sean Patrick (202) 720-0106 rma.media.requests@rma.usda.gov

Risk Management Agency
1400 Independence Ave, SW, Stop 0801 Washington, DC 20250
www.rma.usda.gov
Apiculture Insurance Expanded to More States
Increased safety net now available to beekeepers in 48 states.
WASHINGTON, July 27, 2017 – Crop insurance for beekeeper operations has been expanded to include 19 additional states and now spans the entire 48 contiguous states. The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Risk Management Agency (RMA) today announced changes to the Apiculture Pilot Insurance (API) plan, ensuring greater protection for the producers’ honey, pollen collection, wax, and breeding stock.
“Expanding this coverage so that more producers can participate in the Federal crop insurance program strengthens the rural economy through a broader farm safety net,” said RMA Acting Administrator Heather Manzano. “This provides increased support for beekeepers who play a critical role in agriculture.”
Apiculture systems are diverse, with varying types of plant species and climate conditions. API is designed to cover the unique precipitation requirements of different regions across the nation. In addition to expanding API coverage, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Board of Directors voted to replace the satellite-based Vegetation Index with the precipitation-based Rainfall Index for API policies. Available since 2009, API was developed through the Federal Crop Insurance Act’s 508(h) process, which allows private submitters to develop innovative insurance products to meet the needs of producers.
Producers have until Nov. 15, 2017 to enroll in API coverage for the 2018 crop year. Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. A list of agents is available at all USDA Service Centers and online at the RMA Agent Locator.
Learn more about crop insurance and the modern farm safety net at https://www.rma.usda.gov.
#
Coverage is based on your selection of coverage level, index intervals, and productivity factor. The index interval represents a two-month period, and the period you select should be the one when precipitation is most important to your operation. You may select a coverage level from 70 to 90 percent.

You select a productivity factor to match the amount of protection to the value of the production that best represents your operation and the productive capacity of your colonies. You do not have to insure all your colonies. However, you cannot insure more than the total number of colonies you own.

By selecting a productivity factor, you can establish a value between 60 and 150 percent of the county base value, which is based on honey production and uses a five-year rolling average of USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) data. The yield data are based on the NASS state average, and the price is the national average honey price for a given year.

Your insurance payments are determined by using NOAA CPC data for the grid(s) and index interval(s) you have chosen to insure. When the final grid index falls below your “trigger grid index”, you may receive an indemnity. This insurance coverage is for a single peril, lack of precipitation. Coverage is based on the experience of the entire grid; it is not based on an individual farm or ranch or specific weather stations in the general area. You can find more detailed information on the NOAA website at www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/monitoring_and_data/.

Tools
You will be asked to make several choices when insuring production from your colonies, including coverage level, index intervals, productivity factor, and number of colonies. You should work with your crop insurance agent to view the Grid ID Locator map and index grids for your area. RMA also encourages you to use the Grid ID Locator, historical indices tool, and decision support tools available on RMA’s website to help you decide whether API is the right insurance coverage for your operation. The Rainfall Index does not measure your direct production or loss. Please review historical indices for your area to make sure that this product will be helpful to you.

Buying an API Policy
You can buy an API policy from a crop insurance agent by the sales closing date shown for each county in the actuarial documents at webapp.rma.usda.gov/apps/actuarialinformationbrowser/. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA service centers and on the RMA website at http://www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html.

This fact sheet gives only a general overview of the crop insurance program and is not a complete policy. For further information and an evaluation of your risk management needs, contact a crop insurance agent.

Contact Us
USDA/RMA
Mail Stop 0801
1400 Independence Ave., SW Washington, DC 20250
Phone: (202) 720-0779
Fax: (202) 690-3605
Email: RMA.Risk-ED@rma.usda.gov
While visiting a CENLA Beekeeper Club member in early February, he made a recommendation that I send out monthly, a notice of what we as beekeepers should/could be doing that month with our hives and what we should be expecting/planning for in the next month. That sounded like a very good idea. Some of this can be found within the chart we’ve passed out at several of our meetings over the last few years: *A year in the Life of a Beekeeper – An Annual Beekeeping Task and Management Calendar*. (*Capital Area Beekeepers Association; Baton Rouge, LA publication*

What I’m presenting with these monthly exposes is directed at the hobby beekeeper, not the commercial, queen breeder or queen rearer, though they too would carry out much of what I’m stating. In all cases, I document all my visits and what I do with a field book. Never trust your memory and this documentation becomes especially useful over time. With that in mind, here is what I’m doing this February and what I’m expecting for March.

**January**
Check colony strength. Check honey stores. Repair or replace equipment. Visit the apiaries/hives at least once a month.

**February**
By early February I am beginning to prepare for the hive build-up, especially if I’m using Italians or hives that I’ve created from captured swarms – these are prone to early population buildup and need food to do so.

It is this month that I move out of my winter mode of checking the hives once a month, to that of every 2 weeks. Sometimes I get antsy and start looking at them every week.
I check for honey stores and if lacking I initiate sugar water feeding (2:1 ratio). Whether I have decent honey reserves or not, I begin feeding pollen concentrates (I use Bee Pro patties from Mann Lake). Check for colony strength. Are the numbers low, moderate or high?

I also do a sampling for Varroa mites, using the powdered sugar shake method but you can do a sampling use sticky boards, visual, drone brood sampling (see my talk from fall of 2016), ether roll alcohol wash. If greater than 2% of the bees are infested, I fumigate with oxalic acid. This spring all of my hives came through the winter with very low mite populations so I didn’t treat them. [I’d recommend that you visit Randy Oliver’s website to become familiar with the treatment options and techniques regarding Varroa mite treatments.]

Download Copies from the Web
Looking at my field book from last year, the earliest swarm capture I made was March 17. With that in mind I believe that swarming season would begin March 1st and that would mean that drones were/are being produced as early as mid-February (it takes about 2 weeks after a drone pupates before it is sexually mature. That would mean that the queens would be pupating out in early March as well. You should be looking for these things to be occurring.

How best to find these things out you might ask? Plan on rotating your brood boxes before the first of March. While doing that you can observe what’s going on inside the hive. It is this time of year that I monitor the presence and development of the drone brood and drones. Through monitoring of them I will know when the queens will be produced.

If you are cognizant of queen rearing, then start preparing to do this. Check for queen productivity.

Continue with your repair or replacement equipment.

**March**

I’m into that time of year when I visit the yards every week.

Continue to check honey stores and colony strength. The bee populations will/are building and they will need plenty of pollen and honey/sugars to help create those large populations, good drones and queens.

If you are into swarm capture, then get ready now. Call and leave your name with the LSU Ag system, local fire and police departments, etc. Be ready to move quickly. Have a container handy to place the swarm in, a ladder, pruning shears, clean water &/or sugar water spray bottle, mosquito netting, nuc box at home, etc. However, before responding to calls ask a few things: How long has the swarm been there? How high is it? What is its size? Get a contact person’s name and phone number and ask them to call you if the swarm leaves before you get there. If you can’t get to it for several hours, let the caller know that and if you can’t make it, tell them that and recommend someone else, if you know anyone. If you make an appointment to come, do so or call. My first swarm capture this season came on Wednesday, March 1st. I captured about 30,000 bees and they are now in a hive with plenty of honey and a pollen patty.

Continue feeding up until the honey flow is on – I began placing patties in mid-February and by February 25th I’d placed a second patty as the first had been consumed. You will know that the honey flow is on when the bees stop feeding on your sugar water and/or pollen patties and you see them bringing in lots of pollen and filling the hive with honey. At that time stop feeding, remove the patties and store them in the freezer until later in the year or next spring.
Make colony increases and prepare and/or make hive splits, nucs and prepare for queen rearing.

Plan on adding honey supers as needed - when I have 7 out of 10 frames full of honey I add another.

Treat for ants and vegetation in the yards.

One thing I didn’t mention in the last newsletter but which I do whenever I find the queens, I make sure they are marked. I do this for new or old, whether in established hives or swarms. You are there, do it and be prepared at any visit to do it. There are established color codes but use whatever suits you.

April
With April the honey flow in Central Louisiana is probably in full flow. At this time of year natural hive production, queen replacements, swarming and the like are occurring. If you value your bees it behooves you to create splits, capture queen cells, build nucs, and if you choose, to sell queens, nucs, and hives that you have created.

Many queens that overwintered and spent their best creating large populations of bees for this spring’s honey flow have become overextended and many die and/or need replacing. This is where the nucs and/or queens you’ve been creating come in handy. I usually replace the queens in those hives that look like the brood pattern is suffering with new queens. Sometimes, I just replace the queens anyway, rather than wait for a possible failure – it can happen quickly and one week the hive looks great and the next it’s being overrun with wax moths. Whenever you replace the queen(s) be sure to monitor that hive for the next few weeks to be sure she’s been accepted and brood production is coming on line.

Continue adding honey supers as needed. Treat for ants and vegetation in the yards.

May
In May I continue with weekly hive maintenance by treating for small hive beetles (I use SHB traps on the top frames and a West trap with powdered lime in the bottom, below a screen), ant and vegetation management, adding supers as needed and most importantly: monitoring the individual hives for brood production and possible pest/diseases. This latter point will entail breaking open the hives to look at the brood pattern/condition. I don’t do this every week but I do it at least twice a month. With strong hives that I’d checked once or twice in mid-March that are full of bees and putting on supers every week or so, I usually break into their brood chambers and check them once this month. Back in February when I’d rotated the brood boxes I was able to examine my hives in depth. Now I do a quick perusal of the frames looking for possible signs of swarming (queen cells), brood production, poor brood production, eggs, uncapped larvae, drone brood, etc.

Though all my hives came through the winter with low varroa mite populations, I have sampled for the mites and have treated all my hives with oxalic acid via fumigation. I do this with all swarms and nucs – once I’ve got them established. As the bee populations’ increase and the
drones come on line, so the mite populations tend to increase. Sample, monitor and treat as necessary. This season, I chose not to use drone brood frames to control varroa mites, but if you choose to do so, be sure to pull them once the cells are capped. It’s always a good idea to break open some of your drone brood and take an inventory as to how many mites you see. I opened 20 random cells in three out of five hives in one yard and counted two mites. That indicates a low count – in those hives. As stated above: [I’d recommend that you visit Randy Oliver’s website to become familiar with the treatment options and techniques regarding Varroa mite treatments.]

This last April I did lose some queens but was able to save all the hives’ bees by either requeening or hive combinations. The nice thing about combining hives is that you can always come back and split those hives and add a new queen – if you have them (queen cells/nucs). I never combine a hive with obvious disease or heavy mite issues with a strong colony. As I treat for mites regularly and requeen often, I usually don’t see hives with major disease/mite issues.

As I do my spring honey harvesting the first week of June, I start documenting how many supers I’m going to pull in June, about two weeks prior to harvest.

**June**

Depending upon the weather, I usually harvest the first week of June. During the harvest I pull those wooden-ware items that need repair or servicing and replace them. I should mention that I try and utilize the efforts of new beekeepers during the season not only to train them but to assist with maintenance in the yards. They often ask for that service and I enjoy their company and help. It may take longer to complete a field check and sometimes they kill a queen or drop a box but that’s part of the journey to becoming a beekeeper (once a few summers back they managed to wipe out three queens and several queen cells – all in one visit!) At honey harvest their assistance is greatly appreciated and I give each of them a gallon of honey when we finish. I should make note here that I “really dislike harvesting and processing honey!” Whenever I can get help and get this part of the business completed I never say “no thanks”.

June generally is the tail end of the honey flow for CENLA – though this season I’m not so sure. The floral sources are changing with the weather heating up and the rains slacking off. Weekly field checks and maintenance continue. Supers are still added when needed.

Swarm season is or has come to an end by this month. In your hives, a good indication of this is the lack of drone production. When the bees stop making drones then they aren’t making queen cells either. If you are trying to raise queens then you will need drones to mate with them.

**July & August**

Due to the frequent rains, I wasn’t able to harvest in early June, but rather in early July. As such, we had a mix of spring honey (more yellowish) and some summer honey’s (amber colored) in our harvest. When harvesting, I always take empty supers with me to place as needed on those hives where all the supers are pulled – which isn’t often. Usually there is an uncapped and partially filled super on the top of any hive.
This season, I’m still seeing some drone brood in some brood boxes so there are queen cells being produced in some hives out there. For the most part however, swarm season is pretty much over. The summer heat and humidity are in place by now with the respective floral sources at this time of the season. For Louisiana, most honeys produced in the summer and fall months is amber-colored, versus the lighter more yellowish spring honey.

Weekly field checks and maintenance continue. Supers are still added when needed. This year I have started using Swiffers in the tops of my hives for the control of SHB’s. I’m still using the SHB traps and the West traps. I use ½ of a 4” x 8” sheet and rotate them out every two weeks. In one hive where I had an aggressive SHB population I placed two full-sized sheets. Of note, though I usually look at the West traps every two weeks, due to the weekly rains, I look at them every week. Reason: often, after a heavy downpour, the trap gets water in it and the lime needs replacing.

I’m still sampling for varroa and have used oxalic acid fumigation twice over a two week period since May in each hive. With the frequent rains we’ve been having it was hit or miss getting to the yards with my truck so at one time I used a battery on a small wagon and long battery cables to apply the charge needed to convert the crystalline oxalic acid to a gas. I avoid using formic acid or MAQ strips in mid-summer due to the heat.

By mid-August I will begin counting the supers that will need harvesting in early September. By so doing you can plan ahead for what you should be expecting at harvest time, both in space needed in/on the vehicle(s) during removal from the apiary and in materials needed in processing at the processing center.

**September–October**

By September I am ready, barring adverse weather, to harvest my supers. This last August looks a lot like August 2016 – a result of hurricane/tropical storm Harvey. An inordinate amount of rain has created conditions where it becomes difficult if not impossible to reach the yards with my truck. What I am seeing in my two yards is that the foraging bees are not bringing in much honey and what they do bring in is being utilized by the hive, resulting in a low super build-up. My last field check-up indicated I will be able to harvest 9 supers from 11 hives – about 22-23 gallons of honey. *This may be one of the poorest fall harvests in my record books! What is important to take note of here is that for established hives with two supers and one or more supers of honey, these hives should be able to go into and survive the winter with no supplemental feeding required. For younger hives, (splits, nucs, this season’s starters, etc., you probably will need to supplement feed them to carry them through the winter. [You should have a field book and be making notes of this.]* In any case, weekly field checks and maintenance continue. Supers are still added when needed.

Two noteworthy comments made to me recently are worth documenting:

1. From [Erik Fain](#) of the Lake Area Beekeepers:
   “One time in particular, I had a hive I thought was a goner and I gave it a frame of brood and I mean it was very dramatic how within a matter of a day or two, that hive just bounded into productivity. I don’t know if you agree...”
with this, but if so, a task that I have in early spring that I think is a good one is if there are hives that are not
building up, I take a frame of brood from a strong hive to give it a boost."

(2) From Billy Jowers of the CENLA Beekeepers: He noted that the flowering “centipede grass” was covered with
honeybees. Here is a website I found regarding this plant: SEEDLAND http://centipedegrass.com/

Centipede grass is native to China and Parts of Southeast Asia and was brought to the US in 1916. It is found in
South America, the West Indies and parts of Africa. It is a slow growing creeping grass and has short stems growing
upward. This makes it resemble a centipede insect and so that is what it is called.

Planting Info For TifBlair Centipede Grass

PLANTING TIFBLAIR CENTIPEDE GRASS instructions -- TifBlair Centipede Grass.

BEST TIME TO PLANT CENTIPEDE SEED CENTIPEDE SEED?
HELP WITH PLANTING NEW CENTIPEDE LAWNS
ABOUT OVERSEEDING EXISTING CENTIPEDE LAWNS

A warm season, thick sod forming, uniform growing, and medium to light green colored grass. Centipede is
probably the lowest maintenance of the warm season grasses. Centipede seed came from Southern China in the
early 1900’s and since become one of the most popular grasses in the southern states.

If I didn’t already have an established lawn I’d consider this grass.

I’ve been told by several beekeepers in CENLA that they’ve had a problem with high
populations of small hive beetles in some of their hives. I too have had them blossoming in at
least three of my hives. The Swiffers, West traps and SHB traps have helped in keeping their
populations under control. I’ve been placing 3-5 Swiffers in those hives and replacing them
every week. The Swiffers were literally covered with the beetles. Stay on these insects else they
can easily overwhelm your hives!

When I harvest I use a leaf blower. This last spring I made a cardinal error in taking my gas-
powered blower to the yard before checking that the fuel lines were in good shape – they
weren’t! I’d started it the day before and put fresh fuel in it. And yes, I only use non-alcohol
fuel and I drain and run the tanks dry in the fall in preparation for winterization. But I forgot to
check the quality of the plastic fuel lines. I’ve since fixed them but I went out and bought a
Black and Decker battery-powered leaf blower, charger and extra battery. Each of the Li-ion
batteries last 20 minutes – more than enough time for removing the supers. Now I won’t have to
carry fuel and worry about the darn things starting up or dying. I should have done this years
ago!

Following the harvest I return the next week and rotate my deeps, place two MAQS strips
(formic acid) between the deeps. Then, after 3-4 weeks, I reduce the openings to the hives to
about an inch. I use rags to do this but you can use just about anything that will work – wood,
metal, grass, etc. (I think I might be the only fellow using rags for this.). At this time I will
examine the brood, honey and pollen stores and often, I replace the queen. Weak hives are either
eliminated or joined with stronger hives. Before joining with another hive I ask why it’s weak.
If it’s diseased it’s better to treat it or illuminate it. If you’ve been managing for varroa that
shouldn’t be an issue. Do a sampling for the mite if questionable. In October, I often provide
Bee Pro patties in the hives so the bees will have a good pollen source for the brood going into
the winter. NOTE: monitor the patties – if you see larvae infesting the patty, pull it and place in
the freezer. Give it to the bees later. Also, if you have a problem with SHB in your hives at this
time, don’t put the patty in hive until the beetles are brought under control.

Why replace the queen at this time you may ask? You want a strong queen/hive going into
the fall and winter thereby providing a good base to begin with when the spring arrives. You plan
for strong spring hives by building strong hives in late summer and early fall!

Starting in October I may start pulling back from visiting the hives every week and begin with
two-week interval checks. I’m looking for food reserves, possible honey build-ups (that can
happen with warm falls that seem to go forever). You may be able to pull honey again but
whatever you do, in this area, always leave the bees all the uncapped honey and one super for
two brood boxes. When you rotated the brood boxes, the box that was on the top should have
been filled with honey – it is now below the brood, which was in the bottom brood box. The
bees now have honey and pollen above and below the brood and what will be the “core” of the
hive during the winter.

If you’ve done your job well, you should have a well-established, well-fed hive going into the
fall. Congratulations – now you can start thinking about repairing all the frames and woodwork
you’ve collected that were damaged or needed repair/painting/replacing. They will need to be
ready come spring. Think about what you might want to order this winter. But that’s months
away.

November – December (See BBB #6)

Internet Sites You Might Find Useful

- Kelley Beekeeping’s August 2017 Newsletter Issue:
  Kelley-Newsletter-August-2017.pdf
- Bee Informed Partnership posted 'BIP National Loss Survey Comparison with NASS
  results'. You may view the latest post at:
  beeinformedteam@gmail.com
- Bee Informed Partnership has posted a new item: 'Lucky-hit Nectar in Creeping Charlie'.
  You may view the latest post at
- Bee Informed Partnership has posted a new item, 'Northern California Summer Update
  2017'. You may view the latest post at
Two articles/links provided by Keith Hawkins: Bees Back from Brink. Web link shared by the Drudge Live app for Windows:


and “Rustler steals 40,000 bees in Britain, biggest hive heist in years”:


From Nola Ducote of the Lake Area Beekeepers: “Found this Facebook group. Has a lot of information on products of the hive that can be downloaded in the file section. Honey, pollen, venom therapy. Join the group if you like but be sure to check out the site and info they have.” https://www.facebook.com/groups/apitherapy/files/

Also, from Nola Ducote, three links to articles worth viewing: “Good for bee stings”:

How to Make Black Drawing Salve Recipe | Wellness Mama

‘Top ten plants that are bad for bees”:
http://www.countryfile.com/countryside/top-ten-plants-are-bad-bees

“Bee Bread”: http://nordicfoodlab.org/blog/2015/9/4/bee-bread

BeeCityUSA.org is a great site for finding materials you can use to teach children about pollination and pollinators, downloadable signage for farmer’s markets, posters, games for children regarding bees and pollination and how to join and become a Bee City – one of 53 cities in the U.S. that have joined the program. Here is their contact information: www.beecityusa.org; beecityusa@gmail.com

Their goal: “The Bee City USA program endorses a set of commitments, defined in a resolution, for creating sustainable habitats for pollinators, which are vital to feeding the planet.”
Commercial Business Ads Information

The Louisiana Beekeepers Association would like to thank all of our sponsors for their business advertisements. We encourage our membership and visitors to our web site to consider the fine products and/or services they offer when selecting a vendor to fulfill their business and/or personal needs.

Over the past five years the number of our newsletter advertisers has steadily increased. In appreciation for their support the LBA has offered vendor booths to these advertisers at our annual State Convention free of charge. Vendor displays have also increased, providing our guests with a convenient venue for purchasing the beekeeping products they might need. These vendors in turn contribute door prizes and auction items to the LBA, making the event more enjoyable for our guests. Those who pre-purchase supplies through the vendors can have them delivered and avoid shipping charges.

Advertising is an important marketing tool for beekeepers and your beekeeping business is important to the Louisiana Beekeepers Association. Give us an opportunity to provide a portion of your advertising needs in 2016.

Remember, for only $25.00 annually you can advertise your company products in six issues of the Bayou Bee Bulletin. Your business ad can also be carried on our web site, labeekeepers.org, for $50.00. Please contact Robert Taylor, our webmaster for details rt@honeybeeremoval.com; Phone: 985-969-4647).

Remit your advertising fee to LBA Treasurer, Ms. Beth Derr; Ph. 936-591-2399; Jefferson, TX 75657; beth@labeekeepers.org and forward your company’s camera ready, 4 inch by 3 inch jpeg ad image to Mr. Tim Haley, LBA Newsletter Editor, at: tamh212@suddenlink.net
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