

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Spring Management



# Intro

- 1<sup>st</sup> session will be Spring Management
- 2<sup>nd</sup> session will be Summer Management
- 3<sup>rd</sup> session will be Fall Management



# Goal

- Knowledgeable Beekeeping Able to get their Bees through the 2<sup>nd</sup> year and beyond
- The Final Part of Basic Beekeeping
- Begin the move into Advanced/Journeyman



# Beekeeper Terminology

- Deep: Brood Box usually 9 5/8, 8 frame or 10 frame
- Super: Honey Box, w/frames for extraction, usually 6 5/8
- Supering: the act of putting a honey box on top of deeps
- Bee Book: Binder w/beekeeping information
- Honey Bank: Storage of deep frames of honey/pollen for emergency feeding
- Reversing: Swapping bottom brood box with top deep
- Leveling: Transfer of brood frames between hives to equalize all hives



# Beekeeper Terminology

- Stimulate: Feeding the bees syrup and pollen to encourage the bees to buildup earlier than normal.
- Comb honey, cut comb, ross rounds : are beewax comb full of honey with caps on and sold or used with extracting.
- Split: Taking one hive and splitting into 2 hives.



# Hive Production Schedule

Date	Day	Frames of bees	Frames of Brood	Remarks
3/7/20	0	8	2	
3/14/20	7	8	2	
3/21/20	14	9	3	
3/28/20	21	10	4	
4/4/20	28	11	5	
4/11/20	35	12	6	
4/18/20	42	13	7	Test mites
4/25/20	49	14	8	Add super treat formic
5/2/20	56	15	9	



# Hive Inspection

- Your good enough now to observe more information/2<sup>nd</sup> year hive
  - Amount of capped brood vs eggs and larvae
  - Your temperatures to help make sense of bee activities
  - Test more often about every 3 weeks for mites.
  - Make better records. Recorded observations of bees activities.



# Brood Rearing

- What causes queen to brood up in winter
  - Temperatures night vs day
  - Sunlight with warmer temps
  - No long term cold weather
  - Good pollen in hive
  - Lots of bees



# Why do you feed pollen

- Stimulate brood rearing
- No pollen coming in
- Lots of bees and small amounts of brood



# Feb thru March

- Spokane normally has a warm spell in early Feb.
- Watch the weather forecast 15 days
- March usually sees a general warm up but can get a cold snap beware of temps and length of time



# Feb thru March

- Feb check hive weight, location of cluster
  - Winter stores
  - Cluster should be in second deep
- March check hive for location of brood
  - Check stores with brood
  - Spring inspection



# Stimulation vs Normal Growth

- Stimulate to accelerate brood growth
  - To make a split
  - Early nuc production
- Pollen patties and sugar substitute
- Daytime vs night time temps and day above 50 nights high 30's



# Spring Cleaning

- If you have a dead out from fall or winter do a mite check on the dead bees.
- We have found when we do these we find lots of mites
- Clean all your equipment prior to putting in new bees
- Replace comb as needed



# Dead-out Replacement - Increase Nucs vs. Packages

## • Package Bees

- 3 lbs = 10500 bees, one queen
- Less parasites and bee hive diseases
- Workers are not queens daughters
- Package on comb will produce honey

## • Five Frame Nucs (Nucleus hive)

- 4-5 Frames of brood, one queen
- Unknown amount of parasites & diseases
- Will need mite treatment – maybe 2
- Many bees w/more emerging soon



# Spring Feeding

- Syrup 1 to 1-Don't feed unless we have non freezing (+40 degrees) nights and warm days (+55 days)
  - Inline feeder
  - Entrance feeder
  - Jar on type of frames
- Winter Patties
- Pollen Patties
- Candy Boards
- Honey from your honey bank
- Fondant
- Honey B Healthy
- Sugar



# Spring Cleaning

## Reversing

- Clean bottom & Frames
- If weak – remove 2<sup>nd</sup> deep
- Push the bees and brood to bottom by switching frames or swapping boxes.
- Plus up weak hives



# Spring Cleaning

## Leveling

- Level load your hives to make them all equal
- Level to maximize honey flow
- Swarm prevention measure
- Equitize the capped brood, larva and eggs, frames of bees and stores



# Checking Your Hive



Top hive body full of bees in a tight cluster on middle frames



Bottom hive body with bees cleaning up frames notice loose cluster. Work your bottom first.



# Bottom Hive Body

- Gently remove the frames carefully to keep them in order and clean frame rests and bottom board. Having an extra box is great to hold removed frames
- If weather allows you can start moving brood etc from top box to the bottom. Remember keep the brood in order and don't separate it.
- Put a honey frame on the outsides and if you have a pollen frame put in next to the honey.





From Top Box  
Good brood frame with pollen,  
bees and food

From Top Box  
Another brood frame with  
capped Brood, eggs and  
pollen



# Honey Frame



Nice pollen frame with brood and bees



# Moving Frames Discussion

- Note cluster and order of frames
- Keep cluster in tack
- Don't switch brood frame order
- Brood is normally oldest to newest
- Make life easy for your queen



# Treatments

- Weather
- Mite load
- Amount of bees and brood
- Potential treatments
  - Formic Pro-daytime temp 55+, 40+ night
  - Apivar-anytime just need to have 42 days, plus 20 for honey supers
  - Oxalic Acid-no brood or little brood



# Questions

