

Meeting Notice PEI Beekeepers' Association (PEIBA)

Tuesday, April 19, 2011

Charlottetown Research Station

440 University Avenue

7:00—9:00 pm

Meeting Topics:

- 1) Spring Management of Colonies (Daniel Ficza)
- 2) Presentation Made to PEI Blueberry Growers (David MacNearney)
- 3) Status of Queen Imports from Hawaii (Chris Jordan)
- 4) Overview of Bee Projects in PEI for 2011 (Peter Dillon)
- 5) Safety Net Programs for Beekeepers (Dave Aiton)

Miticide Strip Collection

Beekeepers are asked to bring their spent (used) miticide strips to the April 19 meeting for collection and disposal. These strips should not be thrown into the normal waste bin. The PEIBA will pay for the \$25.00 disposal permit fee and the tipage fee for disposing of the material. **Beekeepers are asked to please place all strips in clear plastic bags and bring them to the April 19th meeting.**



PEI Beekeepers' Association (PEIBA) Membership Fees Structure

Number of Colonies	PEIBA Membership
25 or less hives	\$25
25 to 99	\$50
100 to 499	\$100
500 to 999	\$200
1000 to 1499	\$300
1500 to 1999	\$400
2000 or more	\$500

Please bring payment to any meeting of the PEI Beekeepers' Association, or forward to Roxanne Bentley, payable to PEI Beekeepers Association, 616 Barbara Weit Road, RR 2, Summerside, PE C1N 4J8

Dear PEI Beekeeper,

April 14, 2011

This is to inform you that there have been recent instances of small hive beetles (SHB) found in shipments of honey bee queens originating from Hawaii into Canada. On April 7, 2011 one live SHB adult was found with packaging material associated with queens in Manitoba and SHB early larval instars of SHB were found in queens received in Alberta and Manitoba. Provincial Apiarists will be working closely with the CFIA and importers to ensure that Hawaiian queens are examined for SHB. Although there are protocols in place to mitigate the risks of introducing and spreading the SHB from Hawaii, beekeepers who receive queens from Hawaii are asked to take the following steps to ensure that the queens that you have received are free of SHB.

- Examine the inside and outside of each queen cage and shipping box.
- Pay particular attention to the area between the cage candy and wax paper, the groove along the length of the cage and any crevice or tight space on the cage or in the shipping box.
- Eggs of SHB 2/3 the size of a honey bee egg, white and elongated and typically laid in clusters.
- Larvae of SHB, range in size from a 2 mm to 11 mm in length and white to tan in colour with a dark tan head, forked process at the hind end, and three pairs of legs.
- Adult SHB are 5.5- 5.7mm in length, 3.2 mm in width, dark brown almost black, round, with clubbed antennae (i.e. the last three segments of the antennae larger than the previous ones). The body is covered with hard, short wings (elytra) that don't cover the full length of body, thereby exposing a small part of the dorsal side of the abdomen.
- Extra safety precautions you may want to consider:
- Transfer the queens to new queen cages before introductions to your colonies. Then, old queen cages and all associated packaging material should be incinerated or frozen at -18°C for a minimum of 72 hours.
- Don't bank queens in shipped cages in a queen bank unless you transfer them to new cages or you inspected them and they were free of SHB larvae.
- If you store queens in their shipped cages in a honey house, place queen cages in a room away from your general storage area to protect hive boxes from infestation by any crawling SHB larvae.

Shipments of queens from Hawaii into PEI are scheduled to begin April 27 and will continue until at least May 18. If you find (or have reason to suspect) a small hive beetle with your shipment of queens, immediately contact the Provincial Apiculturist office:

Chris Jordan
PEI Provincial Apiarist
PEI Department of Agriculture
440 University Avenue
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