



OREGON STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Speaker
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For the Portland Chapter of the Oregon
Society of American Foresters

What is the Oregon State Beekeepers Association

- ❑ The OSBA is an Agricultural organization
- ❑ The purpose of this association is to unite the beekeepers of Oregon in an effort to improve beekeeping in the state.
- ❑ It is organized exclusively for charitable, education, and/or scientific purposes.
- ❑ We work closely with OSU to support their research and we are working with OSU Extension to develop an Oregon Master Beekeepers Program.

Current Status of the Honey Bee

- ❑ There has been much press about the health of honey bees over the last few years
 - Primarily about CCD or Colony Collapse Disorder
 - More of a problem outside of the Northwest
 - No solid cause identified at this time

Colony Collapse Disorder

- A probable cause is a combination of
 - Viruses - x Paralysis V, Deformed Wing V, etc
 - Dysentery - Nosema Apis & Cerana
 - Mites -Varroa, Tracheal
 - Pesticides
 - Fungicides
 - Nutrition
 - Neonicotinoids
 - Stress

Why should you care?

- According to the USDA

Bee pollination is responsible for \$15 billion in added crop value, particularly for specialty crops such as almonds and other nuts, berries, fruits, and vegetables.

About one mouthful in three in the diet directly or indirectly benefits from honey bee pollination.

What can be done?

- Nutrition
 - Variety of pollens and nectar food sources
- The commercial use of bees
 - Places them in a mono culture
 - Almonds, Apples, Peaches
 - Moving Stresses
 - 3 weeks in 1 crop 3 weeks in another
 - Climate change cold to warm to cold
 - Trucked thousands of miles
 - Exposure to pathogens from other colonies
 - Sprays – pesticides, herbicides, fungicides

Benefit to Bees in a Forest Environment

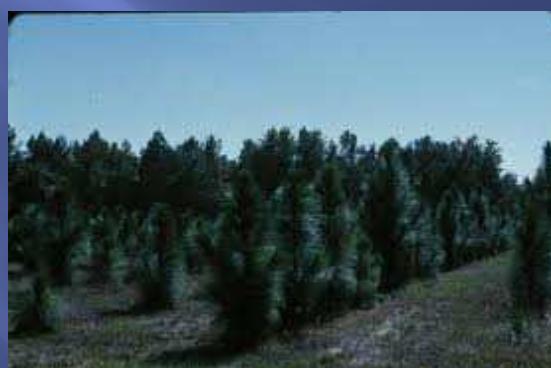
- Hosting bees on forest land provides
 - Nutritional variety for the bees
 - Healthier food sources
 - Less exposure to pathogens
 - Less cross contamination from other bees
 - Move only twice a year or not at all
 - Less Stress

Benefits to the Forester

- Security
 - It may be considered a benefit to have someone you trust periodically visiting your property
- Re-Planting support
 - When replanting bees will help the undergrowth spread by pollination
 - Gives Deer and Elk more to eat than your seedlings
 - Better erosion control
- Honey
 - The bee keeper will readily share any crop he gets
- Other???

A Good Site

- On the edge of a meadow thinned area or clear-cut
- Facing East or South
- Road Access



What to Expect

- If you decide to host bees
 - The beekeeper will need
 - A few hundred square feet at most for 5 -10 hives
 - Near a road
 - Year around or summer only
 - Regular visits while the bees are there
 - At least every 1-2 weeks in summer
 - Once month in the dead of winter
 - What about the Smoker?
 - Alternative exist- like liquid smoke
 - Sugar water in a spray bottle

Forest Apiary



Hives On A Trailer



Bear And Electric Fence



Plants Bees Are Attracted To

- Cascara
- Dewberry



Plants

- Blackberry
- Snowberry
- Fireweed



Plants

- Thistles
- Scotch Broom



Plants

- Oregon Grape
- Salal



How To Find A Beekeeper

- Contact the OSBA
 - Tel#'s and Emails are listed on the web site
- Google - Oregon Beekeeper
 - The OSBA will be in the top 1 to 3 hits
 - Look under
 - Officers and contacts or
 - Branches
 - Regional Representatives
- Let me know if any of your other chapters are interested in this.

THANK YOU

Questions?