

WCBA

Western Cape Bee
Industry Association



WKBBV

Wes-Kaapse
Byebedryfsvereniging

Capensis

WKBBV VOORSITTERVERSLAG VIR AJV 2015 / WCBA CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE AGM 9 MAY 2015

It is an honor to submit my Chairman's report to the members and to express my thanks to the committee and to everyone who contributed throughout the year.

I extend a warm welcome to all members and a similar welcome is extended to guests and visitors.

Die volgende vergaderings is gehou:

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Issue: July 2015

Meetings for 2015

Three WCBA meeting:

21 (28) August 2015
17 November 2015
19 January 2016

WKBBV-Velddagdatums:

Lente-Velddag – 22(29) Augustus 2015

Please visit our website
www.wkbv.co.za and have a look
at all the interesting articles on
various aspects of beekeeping
forage and diseases.



Photo by Cricket Carstens

(Information regarding pollination to Fruit Growers,)

Various articles in local News Papers by Bee keepers in areas.

MEDIA : SEVERAL APPEARANCES BY members and non-members of WCBA

verskeie lede was by verskillende uitstallings teenwoordig is en word bedank vir die manier waarop hul kennis aan die wye publiek oordra. Dankie vir elkeen se bydrae in die verband.

Die WKVB Webblad is ingestel en het gedurende die afgelope maande aansienlik verbeter en lede kry die geleentheid om advertensies daarin te plaas, asook tersaaklike informasie te kry.

The Beecon of 2014 which was held in Boksburg, Johannesburg was well attended by Management and members of the Western Cape Bee industry Association. The management of SABIO are thanked for the well-structured event.

An entertaining and enjoyable evening was held at the conclusion of the BEECON and congratulations to all who were recognized for their contribution over the years to the Bee Industry. Brendan Ashley Cooper, Beekeeper from the Western Cape was awarded for his continual and enthusiastic hard work in the fight against AFB in the Western Cape

We wish Mike and his team good luck for the 2015 Beecon which are to be held in KwaZulu, Natal.

WCBA also recognises other Bee Keepers from the Province who received trofees/certificates and who are not necessarily members of our Association.

Lede wat gereeld bydraes vir die Byejoernaal publiseer en in die algemeen waarde toevoeg tot die S.A Bye industrie word ook hiermee bedank. bestuur nie, asook Lede van Kaap van wie daar gereeld artikels in die SABIO Bye joernaal verskyn en Tydskrifte soos Die Landbou Weekblad en die weskus se ESCAPE MAGAZINE.

HEUNINGPRODUKSIE:



Photo by Cricket Coetzens

SANDVELD

Oor die algemeen 'n afname in die hele streek.

Goeie reën het tot middel September geval en veld was mooi, waarna droë, winderig en koue nagte veroorsaak het dat die blomme binne 'n week weggekwyn het. Ooste in hierdie gebied wat reeds die vorige seisoen 'n afname gehad het, het verder verswak, Selfs die wilde-ertjie het verskroei. Afname ook by die sandduinbos en Wolfdoring wat die vorige seisoen goeie oeste gehad het. Grootste probleem in die gebied is die ratel en ook die gifstowwe wat tydens bestuiwing gespuit word.

Die skurwebas bloekom en rietbos was egter beter en het die byeboere in die omgewing gered. Op die oog af is bye gesond.

CITRUSDAL, CLANWILLIAM

Uit hierdie omgewing word gerapporteer dat die seisoen goed afgeskop het in Oktober, maar binne 3 weke was die oesskatting af. Reënval was 115ml laer as in 2013 en het tot 'n verdere heuning afname teenoor vorige jare gelei.

Gifstowwe wat in ander lande verban is en hier gedamp word (volgens 'n byeboer),

En die feit dat Sitrusboere hulle eerder op pitlose lemoene toespits weens die gewildheid daarvan in die buiteland en hulle glo dat kruisbestuiwing pitte veroorsaak, is bye nie meer so welkom in hul boorde nie. Die prys van die pitlose vrug is 12 dollar meer per karton as die met pitte. Boere span selfs skadunette om bye uit te hou en plaas die bye wat reeds in oorlewingskrisis is, verder onder druk.

WESKUS

Waar daar reeds tydens 2013 'n afname in vroeë lente heuning oes was was daar geen vroeë heuning hierdie seisoen gedurende Oktober, November en Desember nie en word daar geskat dat dit die slegste oes in 18 jaar was.

Dieselfde geld vir die Renoster en Sandveld wat betref die boegoe en ander donker tipes heuning.

Droogte toestand veral word aan die verliese toegeskryf en byeboere in die omgewing is van mening dat Amerikaanse jongby siekte definitief vir ten minste tot 2% aan afname in produksie veroorsaak het.

BOLAND

Uit die gebied word berig dat van 20% tot 40% minder heuning as vorige jaar ge-oes is. Woorde wat gebruik word is 'dramaties' af. Hoewel boere tot 40% meer Canola gesaai

het, is niks meer opbrengs as vorige jaar gekry nie. 'n ligpuntjie was dat bloekoms by die Bergrivier beter was veral die rivier en bergrivierbloekom - . Sugergum-oeste ook af. Die droogte in die lente het 'n deurdra effek en bloekomoes was 2 weke voor die normale tyd. In die Swartland Noord van Malmesbury is 70% minder as normale heuning as gewoonlik ge-oes.

ROBERTSON, WORCESTER, CERES

Tot 60% minder heuning as vorige oes wat ook reeds minder as vorige jaar was.

OVERBERG

Ook onstellende vermindering van 40 tot 70%. Die opskietlusern het geen heuning gelewer nie. Hoewel daar blomme was, het die wind en droogte alles doodgemaak. Droogste in 30 jaar. Fynbos begin nou en daar word op 'n beter oes gehoop.

OUDTSHOORN

Vanaf Oudtshoorn word gerapporteer dat die lusernosaad 'n beter saadopbrengs gehad het.

Die veldheuning was egter uiters swak. As voorbeeld word genoem dat waar daar tot 8/12/2013 20 Ton heuning geoes is, slegs 2 emmers in

oorstemmende tydperk in 2014 gehaal is. Daar was geen reën nie en geen blomme nie. Die quarrie, num-num en wilde pruim het nie geblom nie.

Hoewel die veld nou pragtig is, word gevrees dat as dit nie reën nie, die serings wat nou begin blom, kan verdwyn. In Gouritz is bye gesond en aggressief. Vangkiste is uitgesit en lyk goed daar sowel as in George. Erkenning aan Frans van der Westhuizen, Nico Langenhoven, Michael McIntyre, Dawid Smit Jan, Herman, Vincent De La Querra, en Danie Vorster wat my mildelik van inligting uit die verskillende streke voorsien het.

OPSOMMEND sou ek se dat daar 'n algehele afname in oeste vanaf 20% tot 70% was wat kommerwekkend hoog in sommige gebiede is.

Die byeboere is dit eens dat die grootste oorsaak die droogte en wind was en hoewel dit nog nie bewys kan word nie, KAN die uitbreek van AFB ook nie uitgesluit word as deel van die afname.

IMPORTED HONEY

Honey are still being imported from other countries and although the currency between the Rand and dollar is higher, imported honey are flooding our shop shelves, which has a negative effect on local bee keepers.

The WCBA LABEL is still available and even though it is a drop in the ocean, it do make a difference to the consumer who is serious about South African Products.

BESTUWING:

Die aanvraag jaarliks styg konstant en hierdie seisoen sal veral 'n groot uitdaging wees om genoeg eenhede te kan voorsien.

Voor en na- bestuings vergaderings is gehou en word weer beplan vir die komende seisoen.

Die WKBV se inspeksiediens gaan nog voort en produsente skakel direk met die inspekteurs. Ek wil hier beklemtoon dat privaatheid gerespekteer word, en uitslae slegs aan die byeboer en produsente beskikbaar gestel word. Nie eers die bestuur word ingelig wie, indien enige byeboer nie aan standarde voldoen nie.

Another positive project in which WCBA and members were involved in from 2010 till 2014 and has led to the publishing of a booklet called Gums and Bees a Roadmap for landowners in South Africa. This booklet contributes to the outcomes of the GEF Global Pollination Project and Honey Bee Forage Project, both implemented by the South African National Biodiversity Institute (Sanbi). This booklet aims to help landowners protect or grow forage resources for honey bees, and to understand why Eucalyptus trees are vital to the beekeeping and agricultural industries in South Africa. Thanks again for the members who spent their valuable time to this project.

AFB (AMERICAN FOUL BROOD) is the biggest buzz word in the history of South African Bee keeping and is also the biggest threat for our industry as a whole. Although the disease has been in our midst since 2009, the recent outbreak report in 2014 raised a huge concern for the health of our bees, beekeeping and fruit production in the Western Cape.

WCBA together with DAFF and the ARC embarked on an intensive conscious driven campaign which included the compilation of A guideline for beekeepers, as well as a roadshow where sessions were held at 9 different towns throughout the Western and Southern Cape. Several Radio and television broadcasts were made where a broad spectrum of beekeepers were interviewed

A special thanks go to the committee members who took part in this grueling three weeks, namely Nico Langenhoven, Brendan Ashley Cooper, Mike Allsopp from ARC and Riaan van Zyl, Daff, as well as those who worked behind the scenes. The passionate way in which you have conducted your different topics, have not only impressed me, but everybody who attended. We will be the first to admit that we don't know all the answers, and that we all have a lot to learn. We also learnt from the different bee keepers in the various areas. We thank the hosts who convened the sessions and arranged attendance.

RIAAAN VAN ZYL WILL GIVE US AN UPDATE OF THE CURRENT SITUATION AND THE MEETING WHICH WAS HELD BETWEEN SABIO, DAFF AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS.

Ek wil graag my komitee lede van die afgelope jaar bedank. Weereens dankie vir jul lojaliteit en bereidwilligheid om met take te help en die verantwoordelikheid te neem.

Nico Langenhoven
Danie Vorster
Johan van As

Dawid Smit
Helena van der Westhuizen

E M Langenhoven
Brendan Ashley Cooper

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Ten spyte van jul eie besige programme, was jul altyd bereid om tyd op te offer om die WKBV te bevorder en sterk te staan wanneer daar soms meer kritiek as dank gelever word.

I have come to the end of my reign and to me the last 5 years were a personal journey and an adventure which I have not experienced before and which I would always treasure. I've learnt so much more of not only bees, but nature as a whole. From being a police official and changed to be a part of the bee keeping family. It is a huge difference - where you were used to give the orders to where I am now – listening to and being humbled by a small little insect, called the bee.

It is time for new blood and new initiatives with more representativity to take the WCBA forward and achieve new heights!!

Ek dank u
LYNETTE BARNES

RAFFINEER BYEWAS UIT OU BROEIRAAM KOEKE

Hierdie metode om byewas uit ou swart broeiraam koeke te raffineer kan met sukses deur die dorpenaar of klein byeboer in sy agterplaas gedoen word. (sien meegaande foto.)

TOERUSTING:

Ou galvaniese vuilgoedtrom soos op foto of enge ander beskikbare metaal drom.

Sement of staal gewig van ongeveer 12 kg. Pas gewig aan indien drom groter of kleiner is. Indien nodig kan die sementgewig self gemaak word. Maak 'n driehoek van 100 mm breë plank. Sit koerantpapier op plat oppervlak en plaas vorm daarop. Koop 3 kg sement en voeg by 9 kg sand. Meng goed, voeg water by en giet in plank vorm. Neem drie stukke No 8 draad van 150 mm elk en buig krom met oog. (Sien regs onder op foto.) Druk een in elke hoek van sementblok terwyl dit nog sag is, soos op foto. Laat staan vir ten minste 10 dae om behoorlik te set.

Een balie hoepel met 1.60m omtrek. Of beplan iets wat u omstandighede sal pas.

Een stuk 500mm x 500 mm skadunet.

1 m No 8 bloudraad om te gebruik as hingsel.

Gebruik saknaald en duursame tou en werk skadunet aan hoepel vas. Knip oortollige hoeke af. Dit lyk nou amper soos 'n outydse meelsif. Sny drie stukke (500 mm lank) van selfde tou en maak sif met skadunet na bo, aan sementblok vas. Aan twee kante moet die afstand tussen die onderkant van die blok en die bokant van die sif ± 300 mm wees. Aan die derde kant moet dit ± 250 mm wees sodat die sementblok uiteindelik skeef in drom hang. Maak twee lissies van tou aan twee kante



van silf. Haak hingsels aan sif.

Die beginsel is dat die sementblok moet alle soliede material na onder trek, maar moet nie teen boom van drom druk nie. Die skewe sementblok sal sorg dat geen was onder die blok vasevang word nie. Die sif sal meeste soliede deeltjies onder die water hou.

METODE:

Maak ou waskoeke (of ander waskoeke) bymekaar totdat twee streepsakke vol is. Plaas drom op yster voetstuk, soos op foto. Tap skoon water in tot 100 mm diep (\pm een derde vol). Indien onseker is oor suiwerheid van water, voeg halfbottel asyn by. Verhit met gas blaasvlam. (Daar kan ook vuur gemaak word met ou afval bynes planke of hout. Ongelukkig is dit dan moeilik om die hitte te reguleer.) Voeg eerste sak met waskoeke by. Sodra water begin kook, roer met stok of plank tot alles 'n papery (soos ontbyt pap) is. Voeg tweede sak waskoeke by en herhaal proses. Sodra alles tot papery gekook het, laat sak sif met sementblok eerste stadig in drom en verwyder hingsel. Indien nodig voeg nog water by tot so 50 mm van bo. Laat alles nou stadig kook (prut). Hou dop dat drom nie oorkook nie. Sodra die papery begin kook, draai vlam laer.

Smeer geskikte houer vir gesmelte byewas met Vaseline. Dit sal sorg dat harde wasblok maklik uitkom. Hou ook ou kombuis meelsif gereed.

Na sowat 'n uur kan eerste was afgeskep word. Verwyder vlam vir \pm 20 minute sodat onsuierhede kan afsak. Skep dan gesmelte was uit en gooi deur meelsif om onsuierhede uit te haal. Plaas vlam terug en laat kook vir nog 3 uur of langer en maak dan vlam dood. Laat afkoel. Voeg kort-kort kookwater by, want die drom se inhoud gaan ongeveer 50 mm sak. Wanneer die inhoud van drom afgekoel het tot alle was geset het (50 tot 55 o C) kan die orige was met troffel verwyder word. Dit sal nodig wees om hierdie was nog 'n keer te raffineer, Moontlik saam met doppies (cappings) uit die heuningkamer wanneer beskikbaar. Wasblokke in houters moet minstens oornag gelaat word om koud te word.

Dit is verkieslik dat die hingsel dan weer aan sif gehaak word en sif plus sementblok uitgehaal word. Skep dan ook alle oorblywende gemors uit. Dit kan as kompos gebruik word. Indien dit nie gedoen word terwyl alles nog warm is nie, sal dit een harde soliede blok vorm wat slegs met moeite uit drom gehaal kan word.

Die hele proses kan van 6 tot 8 uur duur. 'n Goeie beplanner sal baie ander take tussen in verrig, bv. om korwe skoon te maak en te verf, of raampies gereed vir gebruik te kry.

As beloning kan 2 tot 4 kg byewas herwin word.

Vir navrae skakel Nico Langenhoven per e-pos by bolandbye@gmail.com

A reminder to all paid up members that advertising is free for the various services offered on www.wkbv.co.za

Dr Mark Goodwin

Apicultural Research Unit

HortResearch

Diagnosing American foulbrood disease (AFB) in honey bee colonies correctly, can be difficult. The first step, once the bees have been shaken off a frame, is to check the cell cappings for those that are darker than the surrounding cells, sunken or have irregular shaped holes chewed in them. Some experience is required to be able to tell the difference between the holes left in cappings as they are being sealed, holes caused by emerging bees, and those chewed by bees trying to remove a diseased larva. Any suspect cell should be uncapped.

Cells with irregular holes chewed in the cappings will, hopefully, not conceal an AFB diseased larva or pupa. Bees chew the cappings on cells containing larvae with chalk brood disease (caused by a fungus), sacbrood disease (caused by a virus infection) and parasitic mite syndrome (caused by varroa). It is important, therefore to be able to recognize these diseases as well so they can be differentiated from AFB. Every

registered beekeeper in New Zealand should have received a pamphlet with colour photos describing the symptoms of all four diseases. Unfortunately, just because one or most of the cells in a hive with chewed cappings contain larvae without AFB this does not mean that there is not one or more containing AFB infected larvae. Most beekeepers faced with a large number of cells with chewed cappings only uncapped a few and if the cells do not contain AFB assume that the rest do not contain AFB larvae. The only way to be confident that there is not an AFB diseased larva lurking behind a chewed capping is to remove all chewed cappings. In some cases this may mean uncapping a large number of cells.

Just because one or most of the cells in a hive with chewed cappings contain larvae without AFB this does not mean that there is not one or more containing AFB infected larvae

Parasitic mite syndrome (PMS), that occurs with high varroa numbers, makes this even more difficult. PMS may result in more than 50% of cell cappings being chewed or sunken. It would usually be too difficult in these cases to check every cell with a chewed capping. However, beekeepers have found out the cost of not doing so the hard way. Their hives were inspected as the honey was removed and correctly diagnosed as having PMS by the beekeeper checking a few cells. The honey was removed, the hives treated for varroa, the honey extracted and the wet supers stored with the other supers. When the control strips were removed 6 weeks later the PMS had disappeared. It then became obvious that some of the chewed cappings had concealed larvae with AFB and that there was going to be more diseased colonies when the wet supers were used next.



Photo by Ron Moller

The obvious answer to the PMS problem is to not let varroa numbers get high enough to cause PMS. If PMS is present, treat the colonies without removing the honey and only remove it after the PMS has cleared up and the hives have been checked properly. Alternatively, the honey could be removed and the PMS hives treated. Each PMS hive should be numbered along with the honey supers removed. These should not be extracted until after the PMS has disappeared and the colonies have been rechecked. Alternatively the honey could be extracted and the frames returned to their original supers. These could then be located and destroyed if the hive they came from was found to have AFB.

AFB diseased larvae or pupae may take on a range of appearances as the disease symptoms develop. A larva is initially pearly white curled around the bottom of the cell. As the disease takes hold the larva stretches itself along the lower wall of the cell (PMS larvae normally spiral up the cell). The normally plump larva then slumps in on itself as the bacteria consumes its tissues (both chalkbrood and sacbrood diseased larvae remain plump). The AFB infected larva then changes from white to a characteristic coffee (with milk) colour. From there the larva darkens as it dries out becoming a black scale that cannot be easily removed from the cell. If a larva is infected later in its development, or with fewer bacteria, it is able to develop further before dying. Early stage pupae that die can have a structure referred to as a pupal tongue stretched across the opening of the cell (Figure 3). Pupae can also die of AFB much later in their development. Fully formed pupae at the white or pink eyed stage can be found that are coffee coloured rather than the typical white colour. Other than the colour they look completely normal.

Coffee coloured larvae and pupae, and the presence of the tongue are good diagnostic tools. However, the best tool is the ropiness test. A matchstick is used to mix up the larval tissues in the cell. When the stick is withdrawn the larval material will rope out sticking to both the cell wall and matchstick. This does not occur once the larval or pupal remains start to dry out.

Even the most skilled observer will find diseased larvae where the diagnosis is unclear. The colour may not be right or the tissues do not rope out just the right way to be AFB. If this is the case then the first step should be to search through the rest of the brood to see if a larva with more clear AFB symptoms can be found. If there is still doubt take a sample and get it tested in a laboratory. Wrap the match used for the ropiness test in plastic and place in a freezer. Then contact AgriQuality (Ph 0508001122) and they will explain how to submit a sample. This testing service is free.

The second approach is to clearly mark the lid of the hive to indicate that it is a suspect AFB hive. Nothing should be removed from the hive until it has passed a second inspection at a later date.

Not all AFB diseased larvae will be behind darkened, sunken or chewed cell cappings. Some will have cappings with a normal appearance. When these occur in a normal brood pattern they are almost impossible to identify. However, as the brood hatches, the disease cells are usually left behind. It is therefore good practice to uncapped any cells that from their position the bee should have emerged, but has not.

There may also be diseased larvae in cells, which are not capped at all. Either because the diseased cell has been completely uncapped by the nurse bees or because the larva died before the cell was sealed. Unfortunately these are usually much less obvious than larvae behind chewed cappings.

AFB scale (the dried remains of an AFB infected larva on the lower wall of a cell) are probably the hardest of all to see. If present in a live hive, there should be fresh disease material that can be more easily identified. The AFB scale cannot usually be removed without breaking up the cell. If in doubt get a sample tested. To check for scale the frame should be held upside down with the top of the frame towards the observer. The light needs to shine over the shoulder and into the cells. The shape of the scale resembles the rounded end of a bullet.