

June 28, 2014
Kent Williams

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very informal
considers us his peers
as we have experience
always something to learn
Bees will make you look stupid
if you think you know everything.
Use whatever method you prefer
to raise queens

Difference between raising Q +
breeding Q.

Breeding Q implies that you are
skipping the odds to get what
you want

Need a booming hive of bees by
tax day if want make a good
hoxy flow.
Need bees that start quick.

What is a big hive? 6 frames
of brood.

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honey flow.

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What is a big hive? 6 Frames
of brood.

If you can't see bottom board in bottom box thru frames, that's a good hint.

6 frames brood = 2 lb package

If honey flow is early, need early build up. What he breeds for.

Russians & Carniolans start early but are slow to build up or start late and slow up

Longer they are from your area the more they adapt to local forage.

Cluster will cannibalize brood they can't cover.

Italians are bigger & can keep more brood covered.

12" of brood has 8x amount of brood as 6" brood pattern.

This is called thermal regulation

If temp stays below 35°
for 2 days, it can kill cluster.

Dead cluster with honey 1"
always due to cold.
Too cold to move.

Can raise better Q from own
stock than from buying from
Q breeder.

If you want a specific Quality,
then it is a OK to get
breeder Q.

Keep notes of your breeding
goals

Issue between good Q & Bad Q
is how well they are
mated.

Early April Q usually not
good

Mid May, Mid July Q are
better mated

Well mated Q are the key,
good for 2 seasons
Use your own bees as your
breeders.

If you incorporate purchased
stock, Do it with a purpose

Italians - good stock
Cordova - pretty

90% - 95% of bees will show
hygienic behavior.

Evaluate Q

Spotty Brood pattern
is a sign of hygienic behavior
look in open cells, for eggs
second laying.

If capped cells are spotty, that
is failed Q.

Comments about above from
audience,

If second yr brood pattern is solid
could be that varroo population is down

Pol-line

S. Miss. Commercial keeper
used to use lots of chemicals
illegal, but keep bees alive

Kent after 5 yrs kept breeding
from own bees
with less loss.

Black Q cell virus - 2 wks.
hurt commercial breeders

Bought Q from Kent.

New strain of Kent's + Spruak's
develop.

Pol line - pollinator line
used for Almonds; build up
Quick.

Easily manipulated,
put food out & (keep it
on) - or they will starve to
death.

Clover blooms lack necessary
to survive.

Pol

mostly Italian
builds up
hygiene
good for pollination

Texas @ have African genetics

Know what you want

↳ Russians + Carniolans
good for cold winter

↳ Takes 5 yrs to accimate them
to local climate + plant

Need drones
have temperament + color
influence

Most productive hive is more
aggressive. They are either
foraging or STEALING.

Paralysis? of bald but not shaking
they were stealing + got
hair pulled out
not paralysis. If it was
they would be shaking.

Kent 4 yrs ago
+ crossed lots of different breeds
Tried breeding program.

Mongrel bees did best.

Raise your own queens

Making a plan of what
you want 5 yrs from now.

Make notes.

Even write it on lid and
put it in notes later.

Keep road map.

^{Kent} Grafts out of all bee yards.

Then swaps up between
apiaries.

Doesn't raise Q out of honey
producing yards

10-12 yrs ago

had Russians

Still sees Russian genetics
due to feral colonies of
Russians. Swarms easily

Foragers will kill Virgin Q

⊖ Virgin Q fly up

foragers fly horizontal

If Virgins fly thru foragers
they will be killed.

50-60% Virgin Returns average

70% is Kants Average

Virgins mating after 2-3 days
of rain. Not many
will come back.

Can always blame things on
Weather + Polarizations.

If breeding for color.
listen to this

Main thing is take good
Notes

Always keep just the
big Q cells

Always use WAX foundation

Don't use emergency cells

If confused,

leave bees alone & they
will figure it out.

Q cells capped on day 5-6
it still has the genetics

If ♀ cells short
it might be a food issue
or a mating issue.

Still has SAME genetics.

Sometimes TIME helps
work things out.

failing ♀ will lay drone
brood on worker cells.

Develop bees that will remove
varroa from hive.

Bees will live with large # of mites,
but will get disease.

EFB kills larvae in 4 days

Stinky Brood -

diagnosed with EFB, but is
another problem due to mites.
does not smell.

larvae is too old to be EFB
larvae is stretched out.

5 day larva.

larva is starving. bacteria in gut
is eating all food