

Y.B.K.A. eNews

AFFILIATED TO THE BRITISH BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Volume 14 : May 2010

Welcome to the May 2010 eNewsletter : Issued 28th April 2010

Once again I am distributing two versions of the newsletter. If you get the text only version I suggest that you visit the Y.B.K.A. web-site (www.yorkshirebeekeepers.org.uk) and view the pictures on the download.

I've had no feedback about the 2 versions - If would be useful if somebody from each district association could let me know which version you are using so that I can make sure that your members are getting a quality product. Luckily a few reader do contact me about articles so at least I know that somebody is reading this.

I hope you find it useful.

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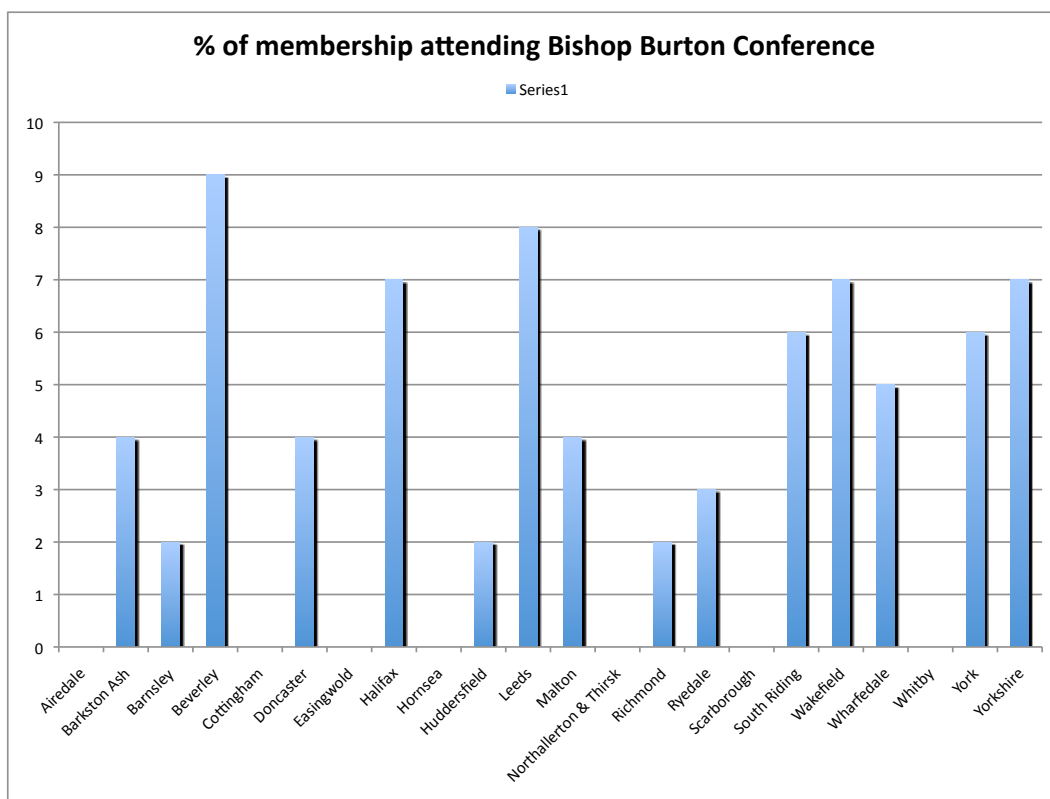
Dr Dorian Pritchard clarifies some issues

A project in Kirklees

A Message from Our Chairman

I start, I'm afraid, reiterating my warning from last month - hives stolen. This month despite members diligence there have been another 6 hives stolen within the county. Four stolen from Osgoodby Nr. Selby and another two from just south of Doncaster. Please be even more aware that this is happening and take all the precautions you can to ensure your not the next victim.

On a lighter note we once again enjoyed a great day out at the Y.B.K.A conference day at Bishop Burton College. Three really top class speakers and already I have received several emails of congratulations to our sub committee on the quality of the whole event. My only disappointment is the fact that even though we host this event annually, there are still some associations that do not attend and if we wish to continue to get the support of these international speakers all associations within the county must send attendees.



I had a great idea given to me only last week to come some way to solving this problem. Each association runs a raffle or two during the winter months, and one of the prizes is a couple of tickets to the event for the winners sponsored by the association. I thought this was an excellent way of not only getting more members to attend, but also giving the event a higher profile to our new members.

With all the seasons' blossom and the oil seed rape now nearing its nectar producing peeks I hope you are all ready for a hopefully fruitful early spring/ summer crop. It would be nice after two rather poor years for us all to get a bonus bumper harvest to sell to our customers. Wishing a great 2010 season to all

Happy beekeeping

Dave Shannon
Y.B.K.A Chairman
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May

The weather looks like being much better for May and the hives are really buzzing. The much delayed autumn sown Oil Seed Rape will be in flower at the start of the month and we beekeepers need to be on the ball to make the most of this crop, particularly if our hives are out in the honey desert that is the English arable farm. The nectar and pollen should begin to come into the hive thick and fast. This is the peak of the egg laying season for the queen. The hive should be bursting with busy buzzing bees.

May brings the start of the spring honey flow from sources such as oilseed rape, sycamore, horse chestnut, bluebell, top fruit, etc. and in order to derive maximum benefit from these the colonies must be strong. The beekeeper's skill is in keeping colonies as strong as possible from May until August to ensure the maximum honey crop and avoiding swarming. We have no way of predicting what the weather is going to be like or how long good foraging conditions will last, therefore we must endeavour to maintain our colonies as strong as possible so that they can make the most of any flow. This means that we must deter or delay swarm preparations at least until the spring flow is over and exercise effective control over swarming if or when it comes.

Never open a hive unless you have a reason for doing so and have a plan worked out in advance for what you are going to do and what equipment you require to have on hand. In early May the colonies should be checked in order to see that the queen is laying well and in a strong pattern. There is no need to find the queen, just check for the presence of patches of eggs. There should now be drones in the hive. Bees work best when they have some drones. You also need drones to mate any queens produced; drones do not become fertile until they are twelve to thirteen days old.

Check that the queen has plenty of space in which to lay. In a double brood chamber you might have to remove surplus stores of sealed honey and replace them with drawn comb. Do not give frames with foundation at this time unless you are prepared to feed syrup to simulate a nectar flow. Always try to do what nature intended. When do bees in the wild require to draw new comb? During a nectar flow or after they have swarmed. If you don't have a supply of drawn comb the alternative is to scarify the cappings on combs of stores with the corner of your hive tool to encourage the bees to move the stores, thus creating room on the periphery of the present brood nest into which the queen can expand.

You must also always give the bees plenty of space to store nectar which takes up much more space than honey does. When there is a strong nectar flow it is essential that the beekeeper wander through the apiary on a warm evening. The smell is intoxicating, though not always pleasant, as the bees work to reduce the nectar to honey.

Inspect the hive weekly.

Swarming may occur this month so read up on what to do - read the article below.

[Bill Cadmore, Editor](#)

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Regional Bee Inspector
Regional Bee Inspector **Ivor Flatman**, tel. 01924 252795, e-mail ivor.flatman@fera.gsi.gov.uk
NBU office: National Bee Unit, The Food and Environment Research Agency, Sand Hutton, York, UK, YO41 1LZ
Email: nbu@fera.gsi.gov.uk
Telephone: 01904 462510
Web site: <https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/beebase/>

Welcome to beekeeping!

How to transfer your bees from a 6 - frame nucleus hive into a full hive

You'll soon get your bees.

Here is what you will need to transfer the bees into a beehive.

Hive floor and entrance block.

Brood box

Five deep frames and foundation, or four if using a WBC hive.

Frames should be DN1 with narrow spacers or DN4 Hoffman self spacers

Crown board.

Empty super to hold feeder

Feeder

Roof

A Note about frame spacing

The nuc frames may or may not be Hoffman, nor will they necessarily have spacers - so you'll need to have 12 spacers to put onto the supplied brood frames from the nuc colony just in case - or you could check on which frames they'll arrive.

Collecting the nuc to take home

1. Collect your nucleus hive of bees in the evening, when the bees have stopped flying.
2. Place nuc hive in position on the hive stand.
3. Open the entrance.
4. Leave bees to fly and to settle down for a few days.

Decision: Do you want to run your hive warm way or cold way?

Warm way, with the frames parallel to the entrance allows you to work the hive easily from behind. Cold way requires you to twist if working from behind.

Putting the nuc frames into a hive

1. Choose a warm sunny day when the bees are flying well.
2. Move nuc hive to one side and place your new hive on the stand, with the entrance block in place to reduce the entrance.
3. Place three frames of foundation, with spacers, in brood box.
4. Open nuc hive and gently smoke your bees.
5. Lift out first frame of bees, add spacers if needed, and place in hive.
6. Continue to transfer frames of bees, making sure that they are the same way round as in the nuc hive.
7. Add the last three frames of foundation with spacers to the brood box.
8. Shake any bees still in the nuc hive into the new hive.
9. Fit crown board and empty super.
10. Fill in a new hive record card.
11. Fit roof.
12. The same evening, give the bees a feeder full of syrup, 2 x 1kg sugar mixed with 1½ litres of water. If you feed when the bees are flying you may cause other bees to rob the hive.
13. Continue feeding until the bees have drawn out all the frames of foundation.

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SWARMING

What is swarming?

Swarming is the honeybees method of reproduction. Swarming acts to increase numbers of honeybee colonies by producing a new queen to head the old colony, while the old queen leaves to found a new one, or to head new colonies themselves. Not every colony of honeybees will swarm every year. The factors that contribute to swarming include genetic as well as environmental influences.

Some examples of these possible factors include, overcrowding, overheating, reduced levels of queen substance (distributed amongst the workers perhaps from an ailing queen or indeed if overcrowding is occurring) or even a strain of bees with reputed 'natural swarminess'.

The reason why swarming needs to be controlled by the beekeeper is that the prime swarm headed by the original queen will leave the hive with half or more of the workers to set up home elsewhere. This means the rapid loss of half the bees that act as foragers and therefore half the nectar gathering, honey producing workforce! The old queen leaves the hive to allow the completion of raising and if prudent, subsequent swarming of one or more new queens thus giving honeybee reproduction!

In order to try and prevent swarming the management of the colony has to be such so as to offset the above factors. Give the bees plenty of room, super early. Try to keep a young vigorous queen which should allow for enough queen substance to keep the workers happy to stay put! The double edged sword is that such queens can be reputed to head 'swarmy' colonies?! Last but not least, if your bees are hell bent on swarming they will do just that. This said, ensure that you have an Artificial swarm / swarm control strategy in mind to use should you find (swarm) queen cells during a regular inspection.

When a swarm initially leaves the hive, often the bees only travel a short distance and hang up on a nearby tree branch or the likes. At this stage the scout bees are out searching for a new home and the bees in the swarm are clustering around the queen to keep her safe. Before leaving the hive the bees have taken on board the equivalent of a substantial packed lunch, gorging themselves with honey stores to enable them to quickly set up home at their new site! The longer it takes to find a new place to call home the more of these stores are used and the more restless and hungry the bees get, hence the relative docility of a new swarm as opposed to one that has been 'hanging' around for some time.

The BBKA provides some excellent information on swarming, links to which are provided below;

[SWARMS](#)

[SWARM CONTROL FOR THE BEGINNER](#)

[COLLECTING A SWARM](#)

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The Beekeepers pub

The beekeepers pub is as essential to beekeeping as the smoker. Besides the odd guest beer and decent pork pies there needs to a tolerance for wellington boots, a tolerance for women who evidently have more to occupy their lives than wearing long eye lashes, a tolerance for men who don't always shave and give a low priority to buttoning their shirts symmetrically and a tolerance for noisy argument. This is the place to assemble after a meeting or an apiary session to debate the issues of the day. This is where new beekeepers start to feel that they belong as the more established beekeepers allow them to buy a round. It's the place where we hear of the motives behind why someone keeps bees, their problems and their lack of understanding. This is where we find unanimity about the failings of the BBKA and continue the arguments about

top or bottom bee space, smoke or not to smoke. This is where new ideas germinate, are nourished and built upon and then are destroyed in a single sentence. It's all just pub talk. For every hundred new plans and ideas, ninety-nine may be of no value, but that means that one is of some value and that one can alter the direction of our beekeeping.

So at the White Goose, within easy drive of Leeds, Yorkshire, around a corner table we come across the following.

Jack 'I think that all this research into breeding hygienic bees is a load of b_____cks'.

Rob 'Here he goes again'

Harry 'Surely if we are ever to get our bees to live with varroa then the bees need to adapt so that they can groom the varroa off their thorax during the phoretic stage. Otherwise we will be treating for varroa until kingdom come.'

Rob 'Ai up - someone's been doing his modules'

Margaret 'I thought the research was about breeding bees that will remove diseased brood, including brood infected with varroa mites'

Jack 'I think you're right Mags. But even if they did breed a bee that could live with varroa, how are we ever to use it. We can't even guarantee breeding gentle bees, no matter how much we try and beekeepers have been trying for hundreds of years. How would we ever keep a hygienic gene pure in the local gene pool.'

Rob 'Ay, but you can breed testy bees no trouble!'

Jack 'Bloody hell Rob, There's nought wrong with my bees - They are as gentle as any bees in Yorkshire'

Margaret 'Do you want a top up Jack and you Harry, Rob?'

Jack 'Cheers Mags - Just a half - no make it a pint of Landlords'

Harry and Rob 'Same here - thanks'

Margaret returns from the bar. Rob just gets a half.

'Cheers Mags'

Silence

Margaret 'Shouldn't we be pleased to see that at last there is some properly funded research being done to deal with the problems in beekeeping'

Jack 'You're right. But I wonder whether the research is aimed in the right direction. The thing is varroa is not a sustainable species in its present form. It is obviously unsustainable for a parasite, and that is what varroa is, to kill its host. There are three possible long term outcomes - one - honeybees and varroa cease to exist, two - honeybees adapt or evolve so that they can coexist with varroa or - three - varroa evolves so that it becomes less deadly to the western honeybee *apis mellifera*. Of the two positive outcomes it seems to me that it is the third outcome that is the more likely. The rate of adaption or evolution depends upon,

amongst other things, the time period between each generation. For the honeybee this is two to three years. In contrast the varroa mite has eight or so generations each year. It is the varroa that is far more likely to adapt as it undergoes 20 generations while the honeybee undergoes one'

Rob 'Aye - well we have already seen varroa change to become resistant to pyrethroids'

Jack 'Exactly. So you admit I might be right'

Rob 'No way - I'm not about to alter a habit of a lifetime now'

Harry 'Last summer some beekeepers were saying that varroa seemed to be less virulent'

Jack 'I heard that - If it was true then it could be that varroa itself was subject to some control on its population, such as a virus. Who knows - I'm just saying that to my mind the answer to the varroa problem lies with varroa, rather than trying to adapt honeybees.

Margaret 'Surely the authorities would have worked this out. How can we sitting in a pub know the answer when scientists and the government are getting it wrong.'

Jack 'We don't know the answer or at least I certainly don't. I just think there are other questions that have yet to be addressed. Never underestimate the ability of authorities to make a right cock up. Look at devolution'

Silence follows this non sequitur.

Margaret 'Right Rob - it's time we were off. You've got things to do at home'

Rob 'OK love'

Margaret and Rob leave

Harry 'She keeps him on a tight leash'

Jack 'Aye - She does right'

End

Pay no heed - it's just pub talk.

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Queenless ?

I've had a nervous time of it after my last inspection revealed worker bees but no breeding activity. I've never been good at spotting the queen among the crowd of hurrying bees, but I'd convinced myself in the last few worried days that she isn't in residence. Despite a general air of pessimism I'm still hoping that I'll find some eggs and grubs when I look through the hive today and, sure enough, the first frame I lift out has some creamy spots among the dark wax. Excitement turns to squinting and muttering as I have a closer look at the cells.

The middle of one frame has a group of bees clustering around it. At the bottom of the little wax hexagons sit a variety of things: there are little white flecks that are barely visible in the weak sunlight. These are eggs, laid in the last day or two. Grubs, a few days older and curled into U-shapes to fill the cells, sit alongside them. Some cells have already been covered over with a cap of brownish wax, but those are the ones that are giving me pause.

Normally a worker bee is held suspended in a capped cell for almost two weeks before they're born. The cap of the cell is flat, distinguishable from a cell full of stored honey mostly by its

colour. Honey cells are white, brood cells are made to look dirty by the presence of tiny air holes. These cells have the dirty colour but they're domed, not flat. And domes mean drones.

Worker bees are most accurately described as female if you really have to ascribe them a gender, but they don't normally take any role in the breeding process. Their job is to tend to the queen and her offspring, rather than contribute directly to the population. As they have female body parts, their natural drive to reproduce has to be suppressed. This is done by the queen producing a pheromone known as queen substance, which is passed around from worker to worker, inhibiting ovulation and communicating the identity of the queen as it goes.

This is fine as long as there is a queen to produce it but now, as I strongly suspect there is no queen, the workers begin to work out that they can get in on the egg-laying act. Thanks to a very peculiar quirk in honeybee biology they can lay eggs without any males around to fertilise them and they will develop into new bees, but only males. A hive with workers but no queen can quickly turn into a hive full of drones and, as drones are completely useless when it comes to foraging for food or processing honey, that's not a desirable state of affairs for anyone. I had hoped that the protruding but empty cell I saw last time I was here was evidence for the birth of a new queen but my continuing inability to find her plus this unwelcome parthenogenesis has convinced me that this colony is now a republic: queenless, rudderless and, without some swift action, futureless.

Not a lot I can do in spring. What do you think ?

Laying Worker ?

Dear Bill and Ben,

Sorry to trouble you and I appreciate this may be beginner's nerves.

George and I went through our hives this weekend for the first time this year. We both started off with new nucs last June and this was our first overwintering. We both did brood-and-a-half with the half underneath as recommended by Ben. We both did Apiguard in September and oxalic acid drizzling at New Year.

Both colonies have survived. George's colony looked pretty good. We saw the queen in the brood box (marked green), and a nice rugby-ball shape of brood, pollen and honey as per the books. We put a queen



excluder on the brood box and moved the super above it. Fine.

I'm worried about mine, though. There are loads of bees - similar to September numbers, and about double Richard's. However, I went through twice and couldn't find the queen, and although there's plenty of unsealed brood it is scattered randomly about the frames, not a nice rugby-ball shape. Also, there seems to be rather a high proportion of drone cells, and quite a lot of adult drones on the frames (some with misshapen wings presumably due to Varroa). Photo attached.

The outer 4-6 brood-box frames were loaded with unbroken capped stores; I pierced/scraped these in an oval shape, as you were discussing at the last meeting.

Maybe this is all OK but do you think I have a problem? It occurred to me it may be:

- a) Everything's OK and we just missed spotting the queen
- b) The queen has been superseded and I have a new one that I need to find and mark
- c) I've lost my queen and have laying workers.

I wondered if there was any chance I could get one of the more experienced XBKA members to pay me a visit some time and have a look?

Regards,
Henry.

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Congratulations

Gerry Collins getting his 50 years + award for beekeeping at Doncaster BKA. Presented by our chairman A. Woodward.

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Bishop Burton

What an excellent conference - you can always tell when things have gone well, members continued to chat and discuss the talks well after the official ending time - and would have gone on doing so if we had not been gently urged to leave by the conference manager at the college.

Lots of YB.K.A. members took advantage of the opportunity to hear the 3 quality speakers we had lined up for the conference and came away from the day really impressed by the talks and the extremely high quality of the speakers, especially the two research scientists, who were rated by many as "the best we've ever had".

The new format for the day was also well received reducing the day from 5 presentations to 4 and building in time for the members to discuss what they had heard and to give their own views and experiences. This also allowed new and experienced beekeepers to share and exchange ideas. What was especially good about the two scientists who spoke was that they made their talks equally suitable for both new and experienced beekeepers. One down-side was that we didn't really have enough time to ask questions of the speakers.

Talk 1

Dr Jamie Ellis explored CCD looking at the problems we have with the decline in colony numbers not as a sudden event but actually part of a pattern that has been going on for many, many years. He defined a healthy colony as one having an adult to brood ratio of 2:1 whereas in CCD the ratio is reversed and the colony cannot sustain itself. He listed 12 possible contributory factors to CCD concluding that it was probably the result of all of these factors to some extent or another. As superbly entertaining talk.

Talk 2

Dr Steve Martin gave an illustrated tour of his units study of the arrival and spread of varroa in Hawaii. The island provided the ideal opportunity to study how varroa spread could effect the levels of viruses and other pathogens within colonies and should provide a fascinating insight into why varroa is such a threat to our bees. The unit is concentrating on Deformed Wing Virus but the samples collected will yield a wealth of information.

Talk 3

Jamie Ellis ranged across the topic of Small Hive Beetle giving some delightful insights into it's biology and the interactions between SHB and the honeybee. The photography and video was excellent and really excited conference attendees. The happy conclusion was that we, in the U.K., probably don't need to worry too much about SHB.

Talk 4

Willie gave a vigorous argument for beekeeping with empathy and understanding of the bee colony. Once again he argued that the biggest problem facing the bees was the beekeeper and made the plea that we work with the bees rather than against them. His discussion of hive moral tied in very nicely with the ideas expressed by the two other speakers.

Link

Dr. Jamie Ellis

Some excellent resources can be found on

<http://entnemdept.ifas.ufl.edu/honeybee/index.shtml>

“Wonderful Things About Bees”

Professor Robert Pickard

This lecture, sponsored by Y.B.K.A., was delivered to a packed house at Wharfedale B.K.A. The audience was drawn from several district associations and included several visitors from Harrogate and Ripon B.K.A. What follows is my very brief summary of the talk, not a definitive record of exactly what was said.

The cheerful and entertaining style adopted by Prof. Pickard ensured a lively and interesting talk which ranged far and wide over issues relating to beekeeping; My notes have 18 sub-headings. The general theme of the talk was to compare our developing human society with the social organisation of the honeybee with a series of analogies being drawn between the two species. Throughout the talk we returned to the idea that life on planet earth was fairly fragile and that further ‘socialisation’ might be the only way in which humankind might survive. From ‘Big Bang’ theory to colony vigour the concept of dynamic equilibrium was illustrated as being central to the health of the planet and of the beehive.

Comparisons of bee pheromones with human use of the internet; experiments using robot bees to explore the waggle-dance; bee-brain research, virgin queens on vertical pulley systems, colour systems and flower development, the bees relationship with wax moths and many many more issues were woven into an enjoyable and provoking talk which was hugely enjoyed by the audience.

While I would have liked to argue about some of the points made the way in which Prof. Pickard used science to illustrate points of comparison between bees and humans was very well done. I especially liked the discussion of contracts made between bees and other species and the idea that humans could learn a lot from the ways in which these mutually beneficial arrangements helped keep that important dynamic equilibrium so necessary in nature.

If you get the opportunity do go to a talk by this man.

Bill Cadmore

Honey Wanted

Yorkshire Honey bought at top prices

I'll pay £2.10 / lb in the bucket for clean filtered honey

Also COMB HONEY wanted

email ybkanews@ntlworld.com for more details

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British Bees - Dorian Pritchard

The report, in the printed copy of the Y.B.K.A. Newsletter, of Dr Pritchards talk to Y.B.K.A. did not give an adequate or accurate account of the presentation. The following statements should clarify the situation.

1. Dr Pritchard is indeed a geneticist, but has also been a beekeeper for 30 years.
2. The statement of Randolph and Sheppard (not Shepherd) is reported as if it is correct. The point of Dr Pritchard's talk was to prove that it very definitely is not.
3. The mention of Iceland refers to the voyage of Pytheas of Marsalias, who drank a honey-based drink probably in Iceland, in 344BC, not 7BC. The latter is the date it was reported by Strabo.
4. *Apis mellifera* is the name of the honeybee species as a whole. The point is that Dr. Pritchard was dealing with *Apis mellifera mellifera*, the northern subspecies.
5. The temperature quoted, 1520 C, is rather on the high side for bees. That is the temperature at which molten iron runs out of blast furnaces. It should read: "15-20° C". (It is amazing the effect a simple 'typo' can have - I'm sure that all readers realised this mistake immediately. Ed.)
6. The stores of body fat are an anatomical or physiological feature, not a behavioural one, although they creation derives from specialised behaviour of northern bees.
7. The thrust of Dr. Pritchard's argument was that the honeybee almost certainly arrived in Britain during the Mesolithic period, i.e. prior to 6,500BC, and about 7000 years before the Christian monks and the date of "500AD+" given by the leading government entomologist (David Sheppard). Furthermore, it almost certainly arrived under its own power and was not originally brought in by human settlers. This means that it should be classified as native to Britain and therefore be eligible for protection under conservation laws, such as the Wildlife and Countryside Act. The "establishment" however, refuses to accept or even consider this argument and so it remains unprotected.

Dr. Pritchard's conclusion of an early and natural arrival for the honeybee is supported by a range of arguments and data, including actual specimens of honeybees from the Bronze Age onward. Another argument, that bees could have been first introduced from the Iberian Peninsula by settlers in the Bronze Age, is rendered unlikely by a study of British beehives, which suggest they originated in northern Europe, without any indication of Mediterranean influence.

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YORKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION**EVENTS CALENDAR 2009/10**

EVENT	VENUE	DATE
BBKA Module tutorial	Normanby Pavilion GYS	19 December 2009
BBKA Module tutorial	Normanby Pavilion GYS	9 January 2010
BBKA Annual Delegates Meeting	Stoneleigh Warks	16 January 2010
YBKA GPC meeting	Normanby Pavilion GYS	5 February 2010
BBKA Module tutorial	Normanby Pavilion GYS	20 February 2010
YBKA Spring Conference	Normanby Pavilion GYS	6 March 2010
BBKA Module Examinations	Normanby Pavilion GYS	20 March 2010
YBKA Honey Judges workshop	Normanby Pavilion GYS	27 March 2010
BBKA Stoneleigh Conference	Stoneleigh Warks	16,17,18 April 2010
YBKA Bishop Burton Conference	Bishop Burton College Beverley	24 April 2010
YBKA GPC meeting	Normanby Pavilion GYS	7 May 2010
YBKA Queen Rearing course	Normanby Pavilion GYS	12 & 13 June 2010
YAS Countryside Days	Great Yorkshire Showground	15 & 16 June 2010
YBKA GPC meeting	Normanby Pavilion GYS	18 June 2010
Great Yorkshire Show	Normanby Pavilion GYS	13, 14, 15 July
YBKA GPC meeting	Normanby Pavilion GYS	24 September 2010
YAS Countryside Live	Great Yorkshire Showground	23 & 24 October 2010
YBKA GPC meeting	Normanby Pavilion GYS	3 December 2010
YBKA AGM	Normanby Pavilion GYS	4 December 2010

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Y.B.K.A. Executive Committee

Chairman / Honey Show Organisation

Dave Shannon

01302-772837

dave_aca@tiscali.co.uk

Vice Chairman / Newsletter Editor

Bill Cadmore

01132160482

bill.cadmore@ntlworld.com

Secretary

Brian Latham

01132643436

brian.latham@ntlworld.com

Treasurer

John Whittaker

01937 834688

johnmartinwhittaker@hotmail.com

Equipment Officer

Peter Hoskins

01132554853

peter.hoskins7@ntlworld.com

Education/Examinations

Wendy Maslin

01482 656018

wendy@maslin.karoo.co.uk

BBKA Delegate

Tony Jefferson

07749731945

stoneleabees@yahoo.co.uk

Information Officer

Vacant

Environment and spray liaison officer

Alan Woodward

01302-868169

janalan44@btinternet.com

Web Master

Eli Shannon

eliboosha@tiscali.co.uk

YAS Representative

Michael Badger

0113 294 5879

buzz.buzz@ntlworld.com

Phil Gee

pjgphilgee@aol.com

NBU Representative

Ivor Flatman

01924 252795

07775 119436

ivor.flatman@fera.gsi.gov.uk

Executive

Join the GPC

Why not join us - we're a friendly bunch who like to get things done and who wish to get YBKA doing more and more for it's members. We argue a lot but always reach an agreement that we think will give members best value. Some of us go to the pub - some of us have lives.

We need a communications/publicity/press officer - the job involves searching the press for new things of interest to our members and making sure that they get passed on via the newsletter and making sure that we get lots of publicity for what we're doing in the press, on radio and hopefully on T.V.

We also need a spray liaison officer - whose job it is to work with NBU, farmers and district officers to ensure that everybody who needs to know about sprays and spraying does so.

We could also do with somebody who is really good, and experienced, at applying for grants and other forms of funding.

Why not join us - contact any committee member or email Dave Shannon.

We could do with some more female committee members but we'll take men as well !!!

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Hives Stolen

Please be aware that somebody is stealing hives. Eight have been stolen in the last two weeks.

Do what you can to protect yours. Branding our writing on everything with permanent pen will help. You should also take regular photographs of your apiary so that you can prove what was there - just in case - and make sure that the photographs show any identifying marks.

The people who are stealing these hives must be beekeepers - so if you hear of somebody selling lots of colonies or nucs (a double brood can be broken down into 4 to 6 nucs) then talk to your local district committee members.

If we do discover that one of our members is involved then they should expect to be thrown out of the association

YORK & DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL AUCTION
SATURDAY 15TH MAY 11.00

MURTON MUSEUM OF FARMING
A GREAT PLACE TO SELL & BUY GOOD QUALITY BEE EQUIPMENT
AND THIS YEAR WE HAVE BEES FOR SALE
0% COMMISSION FOR SELLERS
5% COMMISSION FOR BUYERS

TO SELL, RING NIGEL DAVIES ON 01904 468001
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL!!!

Bees for Change

Bees for Change is a project which is seeking to fund and set up 10 complete apiaries and extraction facilities throughout Kirklees. The project aims to provide opportunities for young people and the unemployed to become involved in beekeeping enterprises. These enterprises will run from beekeeping to honey production, cooking with honey and making hive products for sale.

The first three sites are probably going to be a local girls school, in an old canal lock cottage and at Oakwell Hall. In fact the girls school project has already started.

Beekeepers are needed to work on the management board for each project and to act as advisors. The degree to which the beekeeper gets involved will depend on how each group works. The general concept is that the beekeeper will be the guide to the group, directing tasks but not having to do all the work.

If you are interested in getting involved in a project in this area then please send your details to jane.platts@yahoo.com or ssuellis@aol.com

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