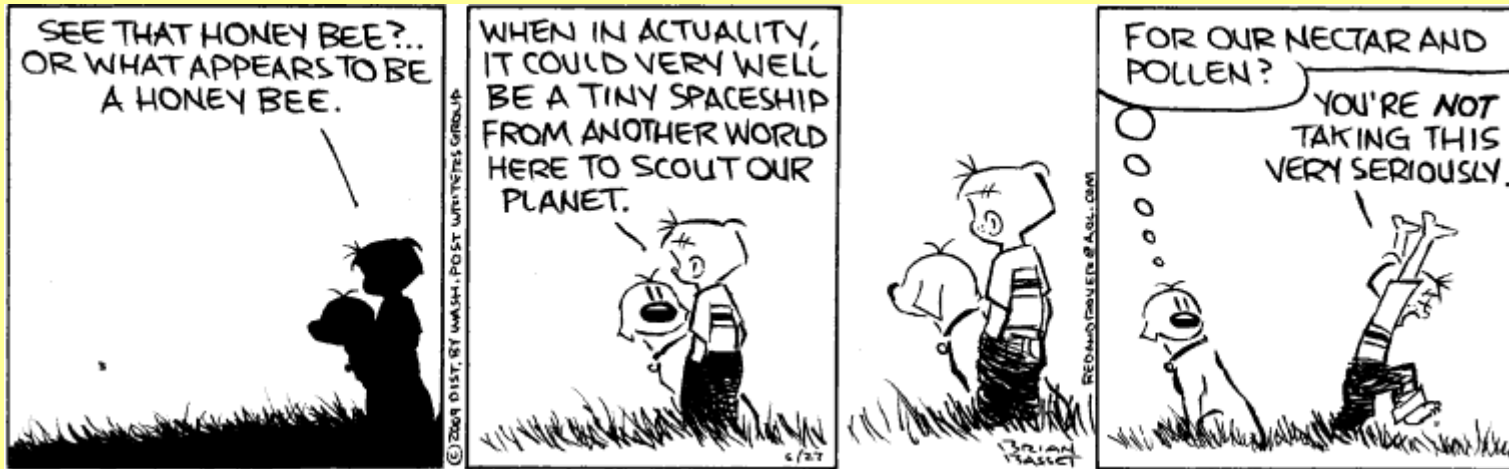


Recent Honeybee Research



Dr. Alan Eynon
Trinity Valley Beekeepers

September 2009

Origin

- 2009 American Bee Research Conference
- 4-6 February 2009
- University of Florida in Gainesville

- Abstracts were published in the June 2009 American Bee Journal article “Proceedings of the American Bee Research Conference”

Optimum Time for Feeding

Frank Eichen and Henry Graham, Honeybee Research Unit, Weslaco, Texas

<u>Month Started</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Start Strength</u>	<u>End Strength</u>	<u>%</u>
Sept 2007	30	6.8 frames	8.4 frames	+31.9
Octo 2007	28	6.3	8.0	+27.3
Nove 2007	28	6.1	6.7	+10.3
Dece 2007	28	7.0	6.3	-9.1
Janu 2008	25	6.8	5.6	-13.5
Control (not fed)	28	6.3	4.3	-31.1

Sub-Lethal Effects of Hive Chemicals

Keith Delaplane, U. of Georgia

- Many chemicals we use on our hives leave residues
- Residues are not nice of themselves, but they also may interact to harm bees
- Compared to non-treated hives, significant negative effects were found:
 - Apistan and CheckMite decrease brood area
 - Apistan and copper naphthenate* slow bee learning
 - Copper naphthenate and Amitraz suppress bee memory
- These chemical effects could be contributing to CCD

* a wood preservative

New Morphometric Techniques Permit Differentiation of Bee Species and Subspecies Based on Wing Venation

- Automatic Bee Identification System (ABIS) developed by the University of Bonn in Germany
- ABIS uses features in bee forewing images to discriminate between bee species and subspecies
- Correctly identified africanized bees 99.98% of the time, using only a picture of the bee wings and taking less than two minutes
- The software is free. No special lab needed.

Trapping Small Hive Beetles in the Top and Bottom of Honeybee Colonies

- Most traps are made to sit on the bottom of the hive
- We find many beetles under the top of the hive
- Previous studies of top versus bottom found that bottom worked better, but used different kinds of traps
- This study used the same kind of trap at the top and the bottom of the hive, and found no significant difference
- The study suggests that the best method is to trap at both the top and the bottom simultaneously

The End



Cecil is an avid foe of entomology.