

## 2025 Stahlman Beekeeping E-mail Notes Issue #14a

Bees season is underway. I picked up package bees and will use two packages to start bees on beeswax foundation vs. Plastic foundation. Some of this experiment will depend on bee population but these two colonies are going to be used most of the year to build wax foundation in frames. Thus, I will have feeders on them until they won't build comb. Queens will be evaluated to make sure both colonies are almost equal strength. I am in the process of melting down all black and dark comb. My solar wax melter is working.

I would suggest that anyone with a lot of comb frames from Dead Out colonies cull the old comb before the wax moth get it.

I will be in Western North Carolina for several bee club meeting this weekend and into next week. I have some stops scheduled for Winston Salem, Boone, Asheville, and Southern Pines. Ohio is a very compact state, but North Carolina is stretched out from the ocean to the mountains and the beekeeping environments varies considerably. I was in Rutherford County in November shortly after the hurricane and will be back for another visit scheduled in May which will give me plenty of Western North Carolina recovery efforts to share with you.

Dana