

2025 Stahlman Beekeeping E-mail Notes Issue #7a

I have been trying to stay up with information about bee losses being reported by commercial beekeepers. The latest report indicates that the figure is now near 62% losses up to February. That is huge. Here in Raleigh, high losses are being reported as well. You might note that I have seen this coming for some time. Mites are a problem but something else is going on! Bees have always been able to manage cold and this past year's weather was milder than most winters I have seen. Old dark comb with so much contamination is a possible problem. The national report in 2012 reported more than 50% of contaminants in the air could be one of the causes for CCD. That issue is something to be considered. I am looking to see what turns up in my beekeeping magazines to find out what is reported on this latest bee loss issue. I am wondering if anyone is studying the amount of contamination in pollen being brought into the hive and fed to young larvae. I hope to hear what you are thinking.

Dana