

## 2026 Stahlman Beekeeping E-mail Notes Issue #6a

There is music in the air – my bees are returning with pollen and nectar. As each March Day presents a different feel, from warm to cold and back to warm, the bees are humming along not watching the price of gas and all the other things we humans do. It is the miracle of life repeated for millions of years by mother nature.

Beekeeping tasks vary from making decisions about hive increases to cleaning up dead-out hive equipment and finding bees to replace the bees that died. But if the bees are alive, they react to flowers and trees as they have for generation after generation. We humans have found ways to keep them rather than look for wild nests. And as humans we find many ways to do something that is better than the old ways.

Let me point out that it is just another day of work for the honeybee. From winter season, bee populations in hives grow to 6 to 14 frames of brood. Honeybees swarm. They will do it.

Books are filled with methods and ideas on how to keep bees. As an individual, you will have to learn how to best manage the bees you own. Spring comes only once a year. The rest of the year is winding down, and bee populations will begin to decline once the flowering period ends. The hard part about keeping bees is what you do today. Tomorrow may be too late.

Dana