

THE BEEHIVE

Northwest Ohio Beekeepers

KEEPING LOCAL BEEKEEPERS INFORMED

March 2005

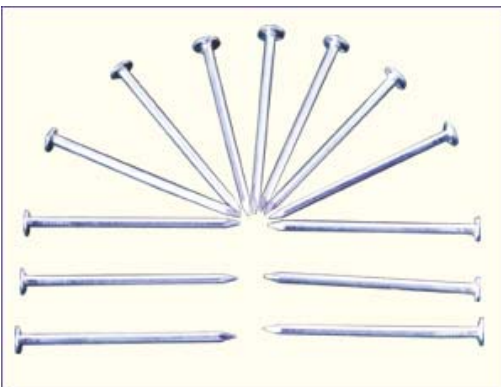
Volume 17, Issue 3

Glue or Nails?

I always read letters to the editor in newspapers, magazines or anywhere else. At best they are informative, at worst they infuriate, but mostly they are just enjoyable to read. It keeps you in touch with other average individuals or at least those that like to write letters. Lists like BeeL prove there are many more folks out there that probably would agree. In this month's issue of Bee Culture there is a letter to the editors where someone, new to beekeeping, mentions his disdain for all the time it takes to nail up a frame or box. I am just the opposite, I find banging nails with a hammer quite relaxing. I will agree though it does take time which is why I invested in a compressor and a pneumatic stapler. (The compressor continues to be one of the best tools I ever purchased. I can't believe how often I use it for a wide range of jobs. I could probably write a complete post on that alone.) Later in the letter the writer seems to criticize



the use of plastic frames/foundation. When I first started keeping bees and assembling frames I found I hated wiring them. My second year I switched to Duragilt. I had great luck with that and, unlike others have reported, have had very few problems with the plastic losing its coating. Most of those frames are still in use. The time savings alone was worth it. I now primarily use plastic foundation and sometimes plastic frames. I have good results and it saves time.



The gentlemen in the letter mentions only using glue to assemble frames, stating that modern glues like Titebond II are more than enough to hold frames together. IMHO he may get away with this on frames only used in honey supers, but I doubt he will be happy in a few years when trying to pry well popolized frames in a brood chamber.

March 22nd Meeting

The topic for the March meeting is Russian queens. We will have a guest speaker and a DVD presentation. It's sure to be interesting and informative. We look forward to seeing you there.

Hostess

March: Al Wischmeyer
April: Kathy Barfell
May: Tim & Dawn Arbeit

The gentlemen mentions he is an engineer (but not a chemist) and touts the bonding strength of modern glues. I disagree. Titebond II is not waterproof. That's why they just introduced Titebond III. The inside of a bee colony is a high humidity area and over time most wood glues will breakdown. If you ever refurbish an old frame you usually notice that when the comb is removed the joints are loose and have to be renailed. If the original nails were not there, the frame would fall apart.

Wood glue 101: Not that long ago there were basically two glues on the market. White glue for crafts and yellow glue for wood. Being a good woodworker I would never have considered switching them. White for crafts yellow for wood, it's the law. Right? In reality they are very close with just some yellow coloring added to make the wood glue. These polyvinyl acetate (PVA) type glues were and still are great. When used on porous materials such a wood and correctly applied they form a bond that is stronger than the wood itself. The only problem is moisture. Researchers then came up with the next generation of glues (Titebond II et al) that were moisture resistant, not waterproof. They will bond much better in areas that occasionally get wet but would also break down when constantly exposed to moisture. I think the new Titebond III will hold up much better. I only hope that the letter writer to BC discovers this product sooner rather than later. There are other types of glues that are completely waterproof. These are polyurethane types that use moisture to activate the bond. Their strength is incredible, however I think they have two drawbacks, at least for use in beekeeping. They are more expensive with a shorter shelf life, and some if not all contain formaldehyde, a probable human carcinogen. (We are producing a food product after all).

I have some pretty good information on this subject. For years I have been using a glue that has had one of the highest moisture resistance ratings (ANSI-HPVA [HP-1-1994] Type 2) available. It is not sold on the consumer market, but rather to industry, primarily the furniture manufacturers. One application it has been used for is to manufacturer butcher blocks/cutting boards (high moisture/food contact). Although I have what I consider a pretty good glue, I still nail everything and if I had to choose between nails and glue, I would go with the nails.

Think Spring!

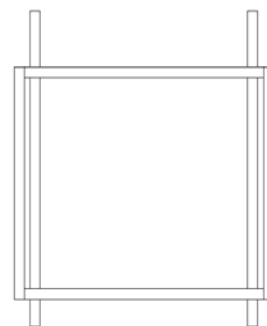
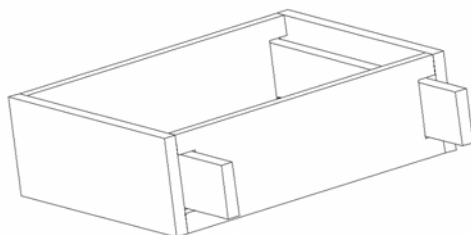
Ron Bogansky

Kutztown, (eastern) PA, USA

Frame Nailing Jig

When assembling more than a few frames at a time a frame nailing jig is a simple but very useful tool for speeding up the process. A simple one can be constructed easily from a 1x6, and 1x4 with a no more than a hand saw, coping saw, and a few nails. No springs or bungee cords are needed.

The pictures below (top view is on the left) tell the story. It consist of a simple box large just large enough that 10 frames fit in it, and two pairs of holes a 1x4 board fits though holding the end bars in place.



Recipe Of The Month

Recipe courtesy the National Honey Board

Cinnamon Honey Buns



Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup butter or margarine, softened and divided
- 1/2 cup honey, divided
- 1/2 cup chopped toasted nuts, optional
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 lb. frozen bread dough, thawed according to package directions
- 2/3 cup raisins

Grease 12 muffin cups with 1 Tablespoon butter.

To prepare honey nut topping, mix together 1 Tablespoon butter, 1/4 cup honey and chopped nuts. Place 1 teaspoon topping in each muffin cup.

To prepare filling, mix together remaining 2 Tablespoons butter, remaining 1/4 cup honey and cinnamon. Roll out bread dough onto floured surface into 18 x 8-inch rectangle. Spread filling evenly over dough. Sprinkle evenly with raisins. Starting with long side, roll dough into log. Cut log into 12 (1-1/2-inch) slices. Place 1 slice, cut-side up, into each prepared muffin cup. Set muffin pan in warm place; let dough rise for 30 minutes. Place muffin pan on foil-lined baking sheet. Bake at 375°F. 20 minutes or until buns are golden brown. Remove from oven; cool in pan 5 minutes. Invert muffin pan to remove buns.

Bruce's Honey Mustard Dressing

Ingredients:

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 3 Tablespoons orange juice
- 1 Tablespoon half-and-half
- 3 Tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 2 Tablespoons honey

Combine all ingredients and mix well. Use on both fruit and green salads.

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Membership is open to anyone interested in bee culture. Dues are \$6 per calendar year. This is a family membership. Everyone is welcome to attend meetings. Members are encouraged to submit articles to the editor for publishing.

Meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Pandora School, Pandora, Ohio. Time 7:30 p.m. Field trips and or picnic in June, July and August as announced in "The Beehive". No Meeting in December

The Associations' book and video library is free to be used by all members. Materials may be withdrawn from the librarian at the meeting and are to be returned at the next meeting.

"The Beehive", serving Northwest Ohio, is the official publication of the Northwest Ohio Beekeepers Association.

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