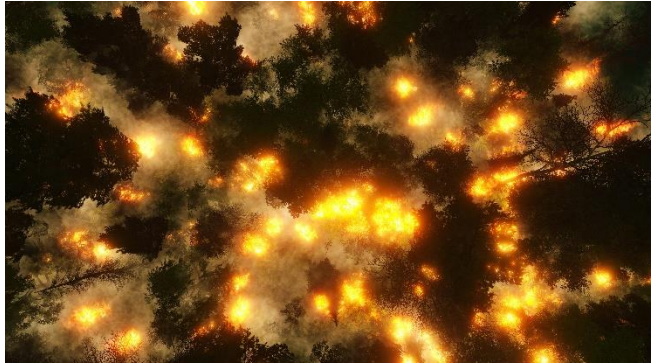


# Disaster Preparedness for Beekeepers

- Bee-ing Prepared with Monica King



# SIX PILLARS OF SURVIVAL



Water



Food



Shelter



Security



Communications



Health

# Water

Needs of Hive – Time of year, size of hive.

A quart to a gallon.

Forage in extreme conditions – over five miles

Dew on plants to cow urine

Water storage needs – 50 gallon water barrel.

Hide as a table. Rainpal spigot.

Southern Arizona Beekeepers - Dr. Tom Seeley talk about "COLONY THIRST" (Nov. 15, 2023)





dza man eating honeycomb and larvae from a beehive.

*tthieu Paley/National Geographic*

## Food for US

Honey

Brood

Wax Worms

# Three Bee Salad



- Includes adult bees, pupae, larvae, pollen among other ingredients.
- Eat-a-Bug Cookbook by David Gordon
- Cornell University - Dad

# White Chocolate and Wax Worm Cookies

- Eat-a-Bug Cookbook by David Gordon
- Also great food for chickens.....Use a bucket of wax to “grow” chicken food.



# Food for the Bees

- How much Sugar? Price/Savings
- Leave enough resources (Dr. Joc Rawls – 100 lbs)
- No Freezers.
- No irrigation.
- Low to NO water. Rainwater Harvesting. Fruit Trees 4K-27K Gallons per year. Leave the Weeds. Heirlooms. Heavy mulch trees and Dead Bees make great fertilizer.



# SHELTER



- AHB will live in practically any void.
- Skeps/Clay pots illegal now but grid down can take advantage. Remove honeycombs from outer edges.
- TBH can be made from scrap lumber



# Security for Us

- Place hives in front of doors. Day defense. Good suits for everyone. Able to close up hive(s) quickly. Shade cloth for quick containment. Screened inner cover, screened bottom board, robbing screen or entrance spinner.
- In Africa used to prevent Elephants in fields.



Beehive fence protects farm from elephants outside Tsavo National Park, Kenya. Credit: Copyright © Lucy King *Save the Elephants*

# SECURITY

- Use Cordovan Italian as genetic base, disperse brood to queenless hives.
- Keep Cordovans for as long as possible, Artificial Insemination.
- Keep small hives?
- AHB Some temperaments better than others. 1 in 20 no matter size severely defensive.
- Open cover in a way to only expose a few frames at a time.
- Work at night with rechargeable red lights.
- Can kill farm animals (and others). Be ready to euthanize. Soapy water sprayer. Black tarp (suffocate).

# Dewey Caron - Bolivia

- When you were talking about keeping Africanized bees in a residential area, I believe you said you keep them small (single deep). And if I can remember correctly, you go in weekly? to pull honey or brood to give them space ..... “YES if people around need to manage more intensely. And keep small. These bees just want to swarm.”
- “We like to try to harvest from about 30 -40 colonies. Now in the spring (late this year due to lack of rain) the bees expand rapidly so we take our colonies and divide 3 ways. Some we buy queens others we let them rear. After the season the bees abscond and we may have 10 or fewer colonies in the "winter" season. Our management is all about splitting at right time so colony builds and then stores honey (otherwise it will swarm).”

 Dewey

Recap of Previous SAZBA Presentation:

Uses AHB Genetics in residential areas

Keeps small by taking frames weekly

Does not treat for mites (uses propolis envelope method. Resins from local popular/gum trees. Red & Blue Eucalyptus)

Does not Feed

Euthanizes extremely defensive hives.

Starts with 10 or fewer hives beginning of season, grows to 30-40, then numbers drop back to around 10 or fewer.

Different type of Varroa in South America...Does not carry virus thus bees can survive higher mite loads of 8-12% .

# Communications



Carrier bees? (joking)



Set up a beekeeper lifeline to other locals near you.

## DO RESEARCH NOW

Venom Therapy – Lyme Disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Breast Cancer, etc.

Propolis – Gum Disease / Tooth Issues, Salve for cuts & burns

Wax for Candles, Salves (local medicinal plants) & Soaps

Honey – Cuts and burns

## Health for US



*By pre-marking the sting sites, BVT can be targeted to specific points on the body.*

# Health for the Bees

- Propolis Envelope
- Mites! Drone Brood Frames and / or cage the queen for brood break.
- Eat the brood....Varroa add spice



# Stock Up on.....

- Quality Suits for everyone in household.
- Gloves & Duct Tape
- Smokers / Bellows
- Extra Equipment / Frames
- Red Lights
- Barrel of Water
- Sugar
- Epi-pen / Benadryl
- Oxalic Acid / Carriers

## Other.....

- How to clean extractor with low water use. Bees? Handcrank...no electric. Crush and strain.
- Jars. Like grandparents – any clean container.
- Wax. No gas/propane. Solar.
- Mead – Burnt Honey from Solar melter. Trade items.



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