Dr. David Tarpy: Properly mated queens are fertilized with over 5 million sperm. "81% of commercially raised queens are fertilized with less than 5 million sperm, and 19% are fertilized with less than 3 million."

Why: Average 30% of Ohio Colonies died over winter - With the average age of beekeepers being over 60 years, we need to work with new younger beekeepers to adopt beekeeping management practices based on recent research - An influx of new younger beekeepers will add more members to local clubs, OSBA, and add stability and sustainability to Ohio Beekeeping

Mission: To develop Northern adapted honeybees that are productive and sustainable in Ohio’s environment and be more resistant to disease and mites.

Build networks between clubs, beekeepers and researchers - Networks of influence (effect)

Keep current on the latest beekeeping research

Ohio Queen Initiative Goals

- 2012 Goals
  - Produce Northern Adapted Queens within Ohio
  - Transport honey bee genetics within Ohio
    - Day old Larvae - 3 hour transport limit - Joe Latshaw
    - 48 hour queen cells - 10 hour transport limit - Larry Connor
    - Queen cells - Ohio Clubs with Joe Latshaw's Larvae
    - Virgin Queens
    - Mated Queens
  - Train Beekeepers:
    - how to create Nucs
    - how to overwinter Nucs in Ohio
    - to requeen package bees in June
  - Train interested beekeepers how to produce queen cells
  - Develop beekeepers skills and confidence
2012 Ohio Queen Initiative Activities

- Beta Test small production runs of transferring queen larvae and 48 hour queen cells – Debug Process
- Club workshops held by OSBA
  - Larvae transport training
  - Cell starter and finisher training
  - Nuc creation training
- Prototype Evaluation Project – Debug Process
  - 3 or 4 clubs or groups of ~20 beekeepers with 200 queen larvae or 48 hour queen cells
- Evaluation Production Run (6 clubs have volunteered)
  - ~5 or 6 Clubs or groups with 200 beekeepers with ~500 queen larvae or 48 hour queen cells

Required OQI Club Resources

- Nuc creation experience
  - How many Beekeepers?
  - Required bee and brood resources?
- Queen cell starter – finisher experience
  - How many beekeepers?
  - Required bee and brood resources?
- Nuc hardware for number of queens to evaluate
  - Type of nucs
    - 3 frame - 4 frame - 5 frame – 10 frame with follower boards
  - Type of over wintering system
    - 5 frame double – 8 frame double – 10 frame (single or double)
- Locations for nuc and cell starter
- Drone resources ~100 per queen

Key Elements for Success of the Club’s Queen Rearing Operation

- The Club board must embrace the project
- Need club membership’s support
- At least 2 or 3 members with the desire to develop above average queen rearing knowledge and skills
- A core group of volunteers to assist with the nuc maintenance and workshops – Too much for 2 or 3 members
- Creating and stocking nucs – Need membership support
- Club workshops are learning opportunities, confidence builders and necessary to get all the work done
- Record keeping required
OQI Advisory Board

- Jim Kerns: Colony Evaluations
- Roy Hendrickson: Queen rearing classes
- Joe Latshaw: Genetics/Queen rearing classes/queen stock Eval
- Joe Kovaleski: Queen rearing classes
- Tim Arheit: Queen Evaluations/queens
- Barb Bloetscher: Pests
- Dana Stahlman: OSBA President
- Dwight Wells: OQI Project Manager

2012 OQI Budget

Expenses

- Admin
  - Office Supplies $250.00
- Travel Expenses $2000.00
- Printing Expenses
  - Tri-fold $250.00
- Web Site Inkind
- Speaker (TBD) Expenses
  - Meeting Expense $1000.00
- Hardware Expenses $500.00
  - Grafting Supplies
  - Project Evaluation Equipment
  Total $4000.00

Income

- Queen cells/larvae
  - $2.00 pay back seed money (Three Year Payback)
  - $2.00 pay to OQI
  - $1.00 to Local participating Clubs

1/11/2012

JL Be Cell 6  -3
Do they need frames

Andy Anderson, Clerk
County