

**Greetings;**

**Annual Potluck Picnic; 7:00pm.**

**Bring your plate , fork, spoon and a covered dish to pass and share. Make a new honey dish and have it evaluated by a panel of experts, or just some comfort food. Share and enjoy with the other members.**

**Bee Yard; 6:00 pm.**

**Rotating hive boxes, Mite check, pull entrance reducers, cut weeds under bear fence and add honey supers. Here is your chance to see and help preform these important hive procedures on honey producing hives.**

**Pollen and Pollen Trapping;**

**Don Fiedler will present on his experiences while pollen trapping as well as his use of the pollen trapped. This may be a health and income source often overlooked by beekeepers.**

**Bear fencing;**

**I will try to explain how to erect a efficient a and mostly bear proof fence around your bee hives. Remember we can build a very effective bear fence but nothing is perfect. Bear are very smart and inquisitive to say nothing of their strength and agility. If you don't have a fence you either have or will have a bear problem. I have had bear on my deck attached to the house so just because your hives are close to the house is not enough. Ask Russ Neterval about bear in the house yard where he had never had a problem. Bear are always hungry and if they get a taste they will be back even if you scared them away. If bear once get into your hives they must be delt with in a permanent way. Build a fence first, Make it HOT and keep the weeds off from it!**

**If you have bear get into your bees and call the DNR they will usually come and trap the bear then haul it away to become a problem for someone else, build a hot, tight fence to eliminate the problem before it is a problem.**

**Bear are stronger than you can even believe. To build an enclosure that bear can't tear apart will either break the bank or at least make you very popular with your banker. Bear are agile they can jump unbelievable heights and distance. Bear easily climb trees that lean over your fence and drop down into the yard. Bear can and will dig under fences that are too high. They will reach hives that are closer than 3 feet inside the fence tip them and short out the charger. Bear have a long and thick hair coat to insulate them from the electric charge. The fence must get them in the nose or tongue before the rest of the bear gets to the fence or they will go through. Once a bear is shocked by a fence with a large enough electric charge, BEFORE going through they have the ability to feel the charge before getting shocked and will respect it.**

**The fence charger must of at least 5,000 volts or larger. This is a large charge but will cause no lasting damage to you or the bear. The charge has been converted to DC current by the controller and is delivered in pulses so that both you and the bear can get away. Electricity must be in constant supply from either a standard auto battery or a 120 volt plug in depending on the type of charger you buy. The fence charger is no better than the ground connection you fasten it to. The directions you receive with the charger will usually indicate you need at least 3 ground rods 6 feet long 6 feet apart hooked in series or more. That is good if you are placing a permanent installation. In a temporary installation you can usually get by with only one ground rod and may only need 3 foot. The secret is get the ground rod into moist earth. Place it in the lowest point of the enclosed area and hope. You can always haul a bucket of water to pour on the ground rod to help.**

**The fence must contain 3 or more wires, be tight and grass/ brush free. The bottom wire needs to be between 8 and 12 inches above the ground. The middle strand a foot up and the top strand another foot up. This makes the fence about 3 foot high. The bottom strand is to keep the bear from crawling under and the top to keep from leaning over. If you can keep the grass down place the bottom 4/6 off the ground and place another wire not connected to the fencer but to the ground rod in the 12 inch position. This lower wire will help keep out skunks and coon out. The three hot wires need to be connected in series but not to the extra wire connected to the ground. There are many other ways to increase the chances of a good circuit. Chicken wire lain flat on the ground and well grounded or even just a single strand of fence wire.**

**To build the fence use at least 4 steel t posts, one in each corner. Drive the steel posts in on a small angle. On each post place an insulator on the outside of the post for each wire. The wires are wrapped around the insulator and the post then twisted around itself. Go outside the other 3 posts and through the insulators back to the start post. Pull the wire very tight and wrap around the insulator and post them itself. Do this with each wire bottom up. The posts angle will provide some spring to help keep the wires tight. Place regular electric fence posts between the steel posts as needed. Usually only one is needed in each section. Done right all wires will be reasonably tight and not need any more support. Connect the ground to the green terminal, the line(fence)to the red. Hook up power supply and test fence with a tester. Remember you need at least 5,000 volts to keep bear out!**

**ADS;**

**Handmade Bee Equipment, Bee equipment repaired**

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