

New For Beekeepers

Pecks Support Pins. There's a new support pin in town. After decades of rusty, poor fitting, bendable metal split rivet pins used as support pins, Tom Peck, a teacher and bee supply dealer had had enough and designed these plastic, colored pins. Removable and reusable and cleanable they insert easily and come in five colors, to keep track of when the foundation was installed. Check frames to be sure pre-drilled holes are large enough to accommodate pins. Available from some bee supply dealers, and from Pecks Bee Suppliers, 5700 Ridgeview Dr., Harrisburg, PA 17112 tpeckbees@aol.com



IBRA released in January this year a Special Issue: **International Studies on Honey Bee Colony Losses.** This is Issue 49(1), ISSN 0021 8839, and contains a comprehensive mixture of evidence based review articles, original research articles, and reports of colony losses in many partner countries of the COST funded COLOSS Network (representing 40 countries, www.coloss.org). The issue is edited by Norman Carreck, Scientific Director, IBRA, and the University of Sussex, UK, and Dr. Peter Neumann, Chair of the global COLOSS network (Prevention of honey bee COLony LOSSes)

32 articles are contained in the 140 page edition, covering honey bee loss studies including losses from pesticides, viruses, nosema, *Varroa*, diversity, colony collapse disorder, and wintering. Losses and analyses are reported from the U.S., Europe in general, Austria, France, the UK, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Scotland, Switzerland, and studies on non-*Apis* bees in Europe. \$30.30 US funds, plus shipping. www.IBRA.org.uk for info on IBRA in general, the Journal Of Apicultural Research and the other IBRA Journals and books, and this particular issue of JAR.



Vermont Flexi Pumps If you have to move honey, or honey and wax slurry, you need a dependable pump. Vermont Flexible impeller pumps in 1¼", 1½", 2" and 2½" can handle the job you have. All are mounted on stainless steel plates, and depending on the model have fixed or variable speeds with motors ranging from 1/3 hp to 3hp. Most are single phase, 10 amp, but variations are available. Output ranges from 1760 lbs to 6 – eight tons per hour. They also have bare shaft flexible impeller pumps and bronze gear pumps in 1", 1-1/4" and 1-1/2" sizes for pumping syrup. For more info visit www.vtflexipumps.com, or call 802.644.5720.



Bee-Z-Smoker

Cool Bee Smoke, Without The Choke. Made by Stinger Innovations, Inc. 40 Davis Drive, Marlow, NH 03456. www.beezsmoker.com. 603-446-7919. infor@stingerinnovations.com

Inspired by having to deal with a troublesome smoker that was hard to light and harder to keep lit, the folks at Bee-Z took a different route to get their smoker lit, and to always have it available when working hives. The photo shows the design. Basically, the traditional smoker can have a heating element in the bottom. When the heat trigger is pressed the element heats up, igniting the wood shavings or wood pellets in the canister. As soon as the fuel is ignited and begins to smoke, the heat element is released, and the built-in-the-handle-fan button is pushed, moving air into the smoker and keeping the fuel burning. As soon as both are released the fuel will quit burning, and to extinguish the fuel faster, simply toss it around a bit and it's out almost immediately. Comes with battery and charger. Battery takes 10 – 30 minutes to recharge. Length of charge dependant on use in the field.