

## OSU Research Project: HELP!

By Dr. Lynn Royce

This summer I am overseeing work on both new and ongoing projects and looking at a budget shortfall of almost \$3,000. I could use help in the form of both monetary contributions (see President's column on page 2 for details) and new equipment (boxes, lids, bottom boards and frames). Following is a brief summary of three specific projects:

1. Set up our first drone tests that will include three treatments with five colonies each (15 total): a) varroa infested, b) coumaphos treated, and c) low varroa infested (reduce varroa population with non-chemical means. These experiments are to determine sublethal effects of mites and chemicals on reproductive casts.
2. Set up 15-20 purebred Russian queens in the Willamette Valley in stationary sites in Eugene, Summit and Corvallis and evaluate their performance in side by side tests with western bred queens and possibly Russian queens mated with western drones.
3. Continue to evaluate juniper chips as possible mite control. Experimental set up will include six treatment sets: chips in frame in brood chamber, chips in lid, juniper wood bottom board, juniper lids, juniper deep brood chamber, and pine (no control chemicals). Each set will be four colonies and these will be evaluated for mites using sticky boards and for bee population using a frame by frame estimation. We will add two new treatment sets to this experiment: one for screen bottom boards and one for formic acid gel packs.

Numbers 1 and 3 will be done by Debbie Delaney and myself, but we need help to complete #2. We propose hiring Alex Kroger who is already trained to work with bees to help complete the studies. If we could obtain donated new equipment we could hold our costs to the \$3,000.

I believe these are valuable projects and if you could help I would greatly appreciate it.



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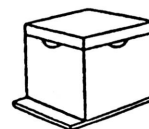
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