

Yes. We are this season checking to see if setting out flowering plants near the bumble bee houses will encourage the bumble bees to use the houses. Also, since we found that several of the underground bumble bee houses were very wet inside, we have decided to put all the bumble bee houses above ground.

9. Will you continue to use the practice you investigated? Why or why not?

Yes, at the very least, given the good nesting success, the use of wooden blocks for conservation of leafcutting bees will be continued. This coming year will let us know whether the use of wooden houses as nest sites for bumble bees is worth continuing.

10. What do you tell other producers about your project and the results?

Basically we have told others about being awarded a SARE Farmer grant, explained what SARE farmer grants are, and shared with them the same information that we have provided in this report.

11. Explain what you did in your outreach program. Please send a copy of any articles written about your project.

Outreach included telling approximately 150 growers/farmers about the project at the annual Farm Field Day, Jonesboro, ME, July 17, 1996 and at a monthly Downeast RC&D Council Meeting, Cherryfield, ME, Jan. 23, 1997. Also, included with this report is a copy of an article that appeared on the project, focusing especially on the participation by the Mt. Desert Island High School students who made the bumble bee houses, in *The Bar Harbor Times*, May 2, 1996.

12. Enclosed are two slides. Slide #1 shows University of Maine student, Axel Larson putting nesting straws into the leafcutting bee conservation blocks. Slide #2 shows a truck load of bumble bee conservation houses ready to be set out in blueberry and cranberry.