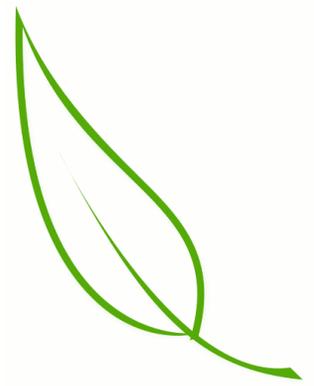




February Report

2018

Brad Alexander



Drones/Satellites/IR Imaging

- Training date yet to be determined
- Jon plans to deliver the drone when he comes to the AGM

Vapona Monitoring

- The monitoring unit costs **\$5808.6**, which can be used as an in-kind contribution for grants.
- It will **not** detect any pesticides or Paraformaldehyde.
- See the link for specifications.
http://www.raesystems.com/sites/default/files/content/resources/Technical-Note-106_A-Guideline-for-Pid-Instrument-Response_0.pdf
- Danica and I have worked out some funding applications. We are applying for \$100,000 in grants (Total includes all bee health studies under a single umbrella project) In which case our 30% contribution would be ~\$30,000 + the use of our Vapona monitor.
- This work will need to be done in order to approach the project from a producer health and safety standpoint. Risk management is a key focus for CAP funding, and the risk needs to be quantified.

Peace Forage Seeds Project

- We will need to decide how much we are willing to contribute. It was originally \$3,000/year from each partner, then we added the weevil genetics and it brought the cost up considerably.
- Considering that the cost increase is our doing, and knowing that Saskatchewan is financially struggling, I was thinking that we could offer \$10,000+/year.
Note: Peace River will likely contribute \$5,000/year.
Year 1: \$16,543.30; Year 2: \$18,523.30; Year 3: \$16,873.30; Year 4: \$19,018.30; Year 5: \$16,378.30

PGRs

- We will need four locations for the small trial plots.
- We would like to start field trials this year. The ideal fields would be brand new (1st Year) but we can make due if need with what we have (I don't expect many acres are going in this year).
- Tom is working on a more comprehensive trial proposal.

Weevils

- Ben2's field will work perfectly for the trial, he is in the "flow zone" where the resistance may be present, but the population is still heavily representative of the standard populations.

Our Spicy Solution

- The oils are having some negative effects on the survival of the bees
- All of the dry spices appear to be bee-safe
- The clove treatments allow the parasites to emerge but they do not stick around to parasitize new bees
- The cinnamon is by far the best treatment.
 - It is effective in the lab at a miniscule rate of 1% by volume
 - No reparasitism! Many parasites remain entombed by the coating on the cocoon.
 - Cinnamon is also showing promise in chalkbrood control!