



W.A.S.

JOURNAL

THE WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY
OF NORTH AMERICA

VOLUME 16 NUMBER 4

October 1996



Western Apicultural Society of North America

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Individual-----\$10.00	Commercial----\$50.00
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All membership inquiries, dues payments, new memberships and renewals should be addressed to the treasurer. (Address and phone number above)

Publication Schedule

The Journal is published quarterly on a regularly scheduled basis:

October following the conference with a submission date for material of October 1st.

January with submission deadline of January 10th.

April with conference information and a submission date of April 1st.

July with final conference details and a submission date of June 15th.

Articles, news, letters to the Editor or President, or other items of interest are not only welcome but solicited from the membership on a regular or one time basis.



Board of Directors

Each state/province in Western North America is entitled to elect one Director on the governing board of the Society. Directors meet before and after each general meeting and set policy and guidelines for the operation of the business of the Society. Throughout the year they serve as the liaison between the Society officers and the members in their respective states. They are responsible for recruiting new members, keeping track of state concerns and advising the membership of their activities through this Journal. The board currently consists of the following members:

Washington

Claud Dilly, 1350 N Balda Rd, Oak Harbor, WA 98277 (206) 675-8756

Oregon

George Steffensen, 1634 Fish Hatchery Rd, Grants Pass OR 97527 (503)4744305

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Joe Erickson, 27931 Man O' War Trail, Evergreen, CO 80439 (303)674-7394.

Nevada

Tom Muncey, 1927 G Street Sparks, NV 89431 (702)358-1308

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Alberta

Ed Hansen 12425 134th St. Edmonton AL T5L1V3 455-6208

Other states and Provinces

Vacant.

W.A.S. Has gone On-line ! !

You can reach W.A.S. (Ron Neese, Treasurer) on the internet at: was@mother.com. If you have any suggestions or ideas about how to use our internet connection to better benefit, send an e-mail note to the above address. The Journal Editor can be reached at burtsbs@nccn.net

THE EDITOR'S CORNER

The mailing list

Please keep us informed of your *current* mailing address. We would like to insure that you receive your Journals and must have a correct mailing address to get it to you. If you move, change addresses or post office boxes, don't forget to send us a change card. Some names have had to be deleted from the mailing list as we have no valid addresses. This includes several "Life" members.

Your editor is looking for contributions to your Journal. I am receptive to articles by members, articles found by members that they would like to share, art work, cartoons or humor, photos that will halftone nicely, honey cookery recipes, and most anything else of interest that you would like to see in the Journal. I want to hear from you with suggestions and would like to do a "Letters" page. We are looking for more advertisers too, so those of you who would like to run an ad or just your card as a booster item, check out the advertising agreement on the inside back cover. Don't forget to send in your WAS dues and to notify us of any change in your mailing address--Burt, (916) 273-0736, Fax (916) 273-0495 e-mail: burtsbs@nccn.net

WESTERN APICULTURE SOCIETY MINUTES, DELEGATES AND DIRECTORS MEETING

August 5, 1996

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by President Russell Messing. Officers, Directors, Delegates and members attending were: Nancy Stewart, Secretary; Tom Muncney, Director NV.; Burt Spangler, Journal Editor; Ron Neese, Treasurer; Fred Stewart, member; Maycelle Muncney, member; Richard MacDougall, Delegate, Charles Duncan, member; Kevin French, member; Eric Mussen, Past President, Editor Proceedings; Ian Farber, Director B.C.; Michael Burgett, Vice President/Director OR.; Russell Messing, President.

The minutes were approved as printed in the Journal on a motion by C. Duncan, seconded by B. Spangler. The President reported on the current

conference registration figures and that the prepayment of registration fees has been very useful. Vice President, M. Burgett, reported that Lou Alexander died. He was a Past President of the Society. The Secretary's report was a summary of the year's correspondence.

B. Spangler, Journal Editor, reported that four issues of the Journal were published on time and within budget, but that printing costs will be going up. Ads have helped the budget, but have not been actively solicited, other than printing a form in the Journal requesting an ad. M. Burgett, Sites Committee Chair, made the following site proposals: 1997: Arizona (Eric Erickson, WAS contact); 1998: Washington (Steve Sheppard, WAS contact); 1999: British Columbia (in conjunction with APIMONDIA, Mark Winston WAS contact). B. Spangler moved and N. Stewart seconded that the sites report be accepted. Carried.

Auditor's report was made by B. Spangler and placed on file. The Auditor had recommended in 1995 that Treasurer compile detailed conference income and expenses each year and that is being done. C. Duncan moved the Auditor's report be accepted. T. Muncney seconded. Motion carried.

C. Duncan moved we charge \$20.00 for this year's T-shirts. D. Burgett seconded. Motion carried. The Treasurer, R. Neese reported that membership is up due to a mailing to past members, enclosing a stamped return envelope. This was supported by a \$100.00 donation by Fletcher Miller. The Treasurer made a detailed financial report and it was placed on file.

M. Burgett moved we adjourn at 4:25 p.m. C. Duncan seconded and the motion carried.

Minutes by Nancy Stewart, Secretary

WESTERN APICULTURE SOCIETY GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

August 8, 1996

The General Meeting was called to order by the President, Russell Messing, at 2:36 p.m. R. Neese moved and C. Duncan seconded the motion that the minutes of last year's meeting be approved as printed in the Journal. Motion carried.

Secretary, N. Stewart, summarized the year's correspondence: 6 phone inquiries, 7 mail, sent 10 Journals and 7 brochures. Two inquiries were from out of the U.S. The Society also receives "sales" information (trucks, eg.), requiring no response.

The Treasurer, R. Neese, reported on membership, which is up. There are 41 Individual

members, 14 Senior, 24 Couple memberships, 57 Lifetime memberships, 25 Couple Lifetime, 4 Associations, 5 Associations, Permanent, 3 Commercial, and 11 to whom we send complimentary Journals. The Treasurer gave a detailed financial report and it was placed on file.

The Journal Editor, B. Spangler, gave his report. He was given a hand of appreciation and much credit for the good conference attendance.

Sites Chair, M. Burgett presented the following proposals: 1997: Arizona; 1998: Washington; 1999: Vancouver, B.C. (and hinted at the possibility of Alaska for 2000).

The Auditor, B. Spangler, read his report and placed it on file.

E. Mussen moved the Audit Report be accepted as given. T. Muncey seconded. Motion passed.

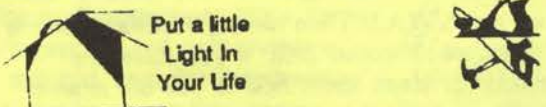
Nancy Stewart, substituting for Olive Jones as Nominations Chair, presented the following slate: President: Eric Mussen, Second Vice President: Steve Sheppard; Secretary: Nancy Stewart; Treasurer: Ron Neese; Director for CA: Ardith Eggman, John Thiemann, Charles Duncan. It was reported that other directors may be needed, but they may have to be appointed by the President because our information on which Directors are due to be appointed at the meeting is incomplete.

At the 1995 Directors and Delegates meeting, the Board of Directors passed a recommendation that the Society be allowed to hold its annual conference any time during the year, rather than being limited to the month of August. R. Neese moved that the General Meeting accept the recommendation. C. Duncan seconded. The motion carried.

Journal Editor, B. Spangler will include a survey in the next issue to ask members for times of year they prefer for the conference - survey to be mailed to the Secretary.

R. Neese moved the membership accept the nominations slate presented earlier in the meeting. M. Burgett seconded. Carried

After it was mentioned that the CA caucus had voted a few years ago to alternate Directors between Northern and Southern California, both John Thiemann and Ardith Eggman withdrew their names from consideration leaving Charles Duncan (from Southern California) as the lone nominee. Russell Messing nominated Claude Dilly for Director from Washington. Michael Burgett nominated George Steffensen for Director from Oregon. R. Neese moved the nominated slate be elected. T. Muncey seconded. The following officers



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and directors were elected: President: Eric Mussen Vice President (vacant, but Eric Erickson will act as program chair) Second Vice President: Steve Sheppard Secretary: Nancy Stewart, Treasurer: Ron Neese, Directors: CA - Charles Duncan, WA - Claude Dilly, OR: George Steffensen.

George Steffensen moved we approve the next three years sites as presented by M. Burgett. B. Spangler seconded. Motion carried.

Ron Neese moved we adjourn. V. Philippi seconded. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Submitted by Nancy Stewart, Secretary

WESTERN APICULTURE SOCIETY MINUTES, DELEGATES AND DIRECTORS MEETING

August 8, 1996

The meeting was called to order by President, Eric Mussen at 4:05 p.m. Those in attendance were Mike Burgett, Past President; Charles Duncan, Director CA; George Steffensen, Director OR; Ardith Eggman, member; Ron Parsons, Delegate; Fred Stewart, member; Burt Spangler, Journal Editor; Ian Farber, Director B.C.; Claude Dilly, Director WA; Tom Muncey, Director NV; Ron Neese, Treasurer; Nancy Stewart, Secretary; Eric Mussen President; Russell Messing, Past President. The President's comments included praise for Russell Messing for a fine conference. Those present unanimously agreed.

R. Neese moved the minutes of last year's meeting be approved as printed in the Journal. C. Duncan seconded. The motion passed.

President Mussen made the following appointments: Auditor - Burt Spangler, Sites Chair - Mike Burgett, Nominations Chair - Olive Jones (upon her agreement), Parliamentarian - Ron Neese, Journal Editor - Burt Spangler. Membership and Resolutions Committees are unfilled. However, Ian Farber volunteered to write articles on the conference for Gleanings and ABJ.

Twenty more copies of the Proceedings will be printed - we ran out at the conference. These

copies will be sent to those who did not receive one and for publicity.

After discussion about the Board buying a microphone setup for future conferences and the difficulties of hooking it up at different locations, it was recommended that each speaker have a pointer, allowing him/her to stay with a mike if needed.

R. Neese moved and C. Duncan seconded that the Journal allowance be raised to \$1500.00. Motion carried.

C. Duncan moved that the Treasurer establish a non-refundable advance registration fee for the 1997 WAS Conference to be paid by May 1st and after May 1st registration will be 20% higher. N. Stewart seconded the motion and it carried.

To increase membership, Ardith Eggman suggested each WAS member endeavor to recruit one more member by one on one communication.

After compliments expressed by Board members for the gracious staff at the hotel and the helpfulness of the tour hosts, C. Duncan moved that the Secretary send letters of thanks to our tour hosts and the Kona Surf Resort Hotel, with WAS pictures included. T. Muncey seconded. Carried. The President adjourned the meeting at 5:27 p.m.

Submitted by Nancy Stewart, Secretary

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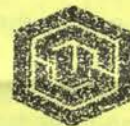
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Fall President's Message

by Eric Mussen

The 1996 Annual WAS Conference in Hawaii was magnificent. It was truly remarkable, not only because of the exotic setting (we nearly had the facility all to ourselves), an excellent program, and great exhibitor support, but because a substantial number of people were able to bring all the pieces together while they worked at distances up to 3,000 miles apart. Thank goodness for e-mail, and special thanks to Russ, Terry, and Mike K. for all the local organizing and support they provided before and during the Conference.

We ran short on Proceedings this year. That was not done on purpose, but I purposely did not order more than I thought would be needed. Each one cost about \$4.50 to print, and nearly the same amount to ship to the conference. Obviously, we can not print many extra Proceedings and keep the conference expenses in the black. I will have some more printed and sent to Nancy for distribution, especially to those who did not get one at the Conference.

This brings up a topic that you have heard in the past and will likely hear in the future: early preregistration. We mandated that 1996 Conference participants send a non-refundable \$200 advance many months before the event. We had to know if we were going to Hawaii. This year, your Delegates and Directors felt that a similar approach to the 1997 Conference would be very beneficial. No, we don't need \$200 per person this time, but we would like to receive \$100 from each person who intends to meet with us, on or before May 1st.

Early responses do two things for us. First, they give us a better idea of how many people will be attending the conference. We have to make room reservations many months in advance. The size of the meeting rooms depends on the size of the crowd. Second, we would obtain some "up front" money that we can use to make deposits on facilities, transportation, tours, etc. that have to be booked and partially paid for way ahead of the meeting dates. You haven't lived until you have tried to organize and run one of these conferences!

Next year's conference will be held in Tucson, Arizona. The Program Chairman is Dr. Eric H. Erickson, Jr., Director of the Carl Hayden Bee Research Center in Tucson. The Center is one of the "national bee labs" administered by USDA/ARS (Agricultural Research Service). Dr. Erickson has

a substantial number of scientists working with him at the center, each contributing in different areas of honey bee research. It has always been extremely interesting for me to visit the lab and discuss "what's new" with the scientists. The lab operates an AHB out apiary surrounded by a chain link fence. The bees greet you before you go through the gate. If enough people want to go see those bees, Dr. Erickson will make it a "tour" on the program. These bees are not a joke. If your bee suit is not absolutely bee proof and taped off, you will not be allowed inside the fence. We are still trying to determine how to get ALL the bees off of us before getting back onto the charter bus.

Dr. Erickson has been involved with quite a few visiting groups before, such as the Apiary Inspectors of America, American Association of Professional Apiculturists, American Bee Research Conference, American Honey Producers' Association, and the American Beekeeping Federation. He is negotiating with the Windmill Inn at St. Philip's Plaza, at the moment. The facility has 122 suites (only) and is within walking distance of many shopping and eating opportunities and close to the "bee lab." The Inn has meeting facilities that will just about perfectly match what we require for a lecture room, exhibits room, and place for a banquet. He will try to tailor our Conference to our needs and our regular meeting format, as much as possible. It should be a very enjoyable and educational conference.

If you have never been to southern Arizona, you have missed out on seeing some of the most interesting habitat and ecosystems in the country. Obviously, there are vast areas of desert and it would be difficult to find many of the plants and animals because they are spread so far apart. Enter the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. Yes, a portion of it is housed in buildings (a good place to be later in the day, when the desert gets hot). But a great deal of the plants and animals are on display outside, where they appear to be pretty natural. I still like the humming bird house the most. Bring your camera with a close-up lens. The birds get so used to people that you have to be careful not to carry one out on your hat or shoulder as you leave the enclosure. If you thought of the desert as barren, with only a few rattle snakes, roadrunners, gila monsters, and cacti around, be sure to schedule an extra day or two around the conference to learn what a fascinating place the Saguaro National Monument really is. Hope to see you there!

As a final note, if you enjoy receiving those "off the wall" door prizes or having an opportunity

to bid on silent and/or boisterous auction items, then plan to bring some to the next conference. We usually can get a few, big, nice items from corporate sponsors, but the lion's share of the goodies come from year around shopping for bargains by Helen Mussen and a few other very dedicated members (haven't you noticed that the Mussens never bid on anything?). Please join us in that endeavor. Everywhere you go, just keep your eyes open for something bee related. Small and inexpensive is good, nice is better. Remember, you have to haul it (them) to the meeting and then someone else has to haul it away, so keep it reasonable. Thanks, from Eric.

Exposure = Resistance

By Eric C. Mussen, Extension Apiculturist,
Entomology, UC Davis

While there is still lively debate over whether or not sublethal doses of antibiotics, or pesticides, can lead to selection of resistant target species, there is no doubt that prolonged exposures to the chemicals accelerate selection for resistance.

For nearly forty years, beekeepers have been using Terramycin (TM) as a prophylactic treatment or cure for both American and European foulbroods. Forty years is an extremely long time to use a single antibiotic against a microbe and not induce resistance.

In the case of honey bees, I believe that most colonies have a reasonable, natural resistance to American foulbrood. When nutritional stress or exposure to overwhelming amounts of inoculum (robbed during dearth periods) overcomes the natural resistance, the beekeeper intervenes, reducing the bacterium to manageable levels for the bees.

Those relatively short-term exposures to TM in powdered sugar eliminate nearly all the susceptible bacteria. The surviving bacteria usually are eliminated by the bees. If an infection is brought into the colony, again, the bacterial population will be mostly susceptibles and the treatment will work, repeatedly.

Recently, beekeepers from various parts of the country and world have reported instances in which Terramycin no longer prevented or cured American foulbrood. Up to this time, Dr. Shimanuki and his staff at the Bee Research Laboratory in Beltsville have not been sent any samples that are totally resistant to oxytetracycline.

We are playing a different ball game, now. The vegetable shortening extender patty, developed long ago to prolong the effectiveness of a TM treatment, found new life as an aid in depressing the reproductive success of the honey bee tracheal mite. For that reason, patties now are apt to be found in hives most, or all, of the year.

Recent bee journal articles have documented that colonies given antibiotic extender patties outperformed those given patties formulated only from shortening and sugar. When beekeepers first began using antibiotic patties, they stated that they noted the least amount of foulbrood ever. Now, that observation seems to be reversing itself, quickly.

In my opinion, we are asking for a real problem with resistance, if antibiotic patties are going to be used to dispense TM to a colony over a period of time longer than that covered by the two to four spring and one or two fall powdered sugar applications. The longer the antibiotic is in the hive, the longer the selective pressure is applied to the bacterium, and the quicker we will induce resistance.

My advice is to limit antibiotic treatments to spring and fall, only. Use patties without antibiotic the rest of the year to keep tracheal mites in check. Terramycin has worked extremely well for us for decades, so let's not lose it through inappropriate over use. The exact same thing can be said for the Apistan (fluvalinate) products.

AUDIT REPORT

An audit on the financial records of the Society was performed at Woodland, CA on August 1, 1996 by Burt Spangler, duly appointed auditor.

The accounting system has not changed since previous reports, consisting of a computerized system, generating the generally accepted financial documents: General Journal, Trial Balance, Balance Sheet, Income Statement, and General Ledger, which were reviewed as a preliminary audit function.

Basic entry documents are the checkbook and receipt book which are recorded manually. Checks are substantiated by a file of invoices, each keyed to the individual check. Both checks and receipts serve as input items to the General Journal and are entered into the computerized program.

The system leaves no room for mathematical error, so the audit itself was confined to a random check of input to the basic program. No entry errors were detected.

The current system provides an adequate record of the financial affairs of the Society and is

recommended for continued use. No audit exceptions are recorded as a result of this review.

In past years no record of detailed conference receipts and expenses have appeared in the Association financial record as accounting was accomplished at the Conference Committee level and a balance only, as was reported by the committee, was posted to the Society records. For the last conference the treasurer has generated a complete financial accounting of the conference receipts and expenditures and plans to continue this practice with the 1996 Conference. This should provide a more complete financial record which will be a valuable management tool for future conference planning.

No recommendation for change in either system or method is made as a result of this audit. The treasurer is to be commended for the accuracy and thoroughness of the records. Burt Spangler, Auditor

Obituary

Brother Adam, 98, perhaps the world's leading expert on honey bees, died September 1, 1996 in a nursing home near the Buckfast Abbey in southwestern England. Born as Karl Kehrle in Wurttemberg, Germany, Brother Adam was sent to the Buckfast Abbey by his mother at the age of 12, in 1910. He took full vows and became the chief abbey apiarist in 1919. By the 1930s he traveled as far as North Africa in search of new bee strains, and from 1950 to 1981 researched in North Africa, the middle east, and Mediterranean Europe. As recently as 1988, porters carried him up 19,340-foot Mt. Killimanjaro to inspect wild beehives. Then, newly appointed Buckfast abbot David Charlesworth halted the abbey's involvement in research--and Brother Adam's career--in 1992, to emphasize honey production instead. -- Animal People, October 1996, Box 960, Clinton WA 98236.

Honey and Pollination

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AT WHAT TIME OF YEAR WOULD YOU PREFER WAS TO SCHEDULE CONFERENCES?

A change in our bylaws now allows us to schedule conferences at times other than the usual August dates. We would like to hear from the membership as to when it would be most convenient for each to attend a conference. Please consider the following:

- 1___ Stick with the late August dates.
- 2___ Anytime school is out.
- 3___ Summer months, June, July, August.
- 4___ Fall months, September, October
- 5___ Winter months, November, December, January, February.
- 6___ Spring months, March, April, May.
- 7___ Cooler months in hot locales and summer in cool areas.
- 8___ Anytime the conference committee can make a favorable arrangement.
- 9___ It doesn't matter, I'll come whenever it is.
- 10___ It must be at a specific time for me to attend. Specify those dates or times:

Please clip or copy this survey and mail it with your comments to:

Nancy Stewart
WAS Secretary
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If you had rather call her number is:
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The 1997 W.A.S. annual meeting will be held in sunny Tucson, Arizona. Meeting dates have not been set, but they will likely be in the latter half of August. There is much to see and do in Tucson and around Arizona. Some activities might be most enjoyable if undertaken as a group tour, while others may be more suited to individual adventure.

This questionnaire is intended to give the meeting organizers a clear idea of the interests of the membership. If you plan to attend W.A.S.-97, or think you might, please complete the questionnaire. Then tri-fold it with the address on the back showing, affix a postage stamp and drop it in the mail before November 1, 1996.

Circle Appropriate Response

DO YOU PLAN TO ATTEND W.A.S. 97? Yes No Maybe

In the boxes to the left indicate your order of interest in the following activities by numbering them. Number 1 would be of highest interest and so on. Leave those of no interest blank. To the right indicate whether you would like to participate as part of a tour or go on your own.

Tour

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-----|----|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Visit an "Africanized Honey Bee" Apiary and Feral honey bee study site. You will be required to furnish your own protective clothing. (1/2 day event) | Yes | No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Open House at the Carl Hayden Bee Research Center. (1/2 day event) | Yes | No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Shopping trip to Nogales, Sonora, Mexico. (1 hour drive one way; all day event) | Yes | No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Old West towns of Bisbee and Tombstone, Arizona. (all day event) | Yes | No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sabino Canyon (a desert oasis), Mt. Lemmon and the town of Winterhaven. (a long afternoon) | Yes | No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. (exciting exhibits of plants, animals and geology of the region. (1/2 day or all day event) | Yes | No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | San Xavier del Bac Mission. The finest example of mission architecture in the U.S. (1/2 day event) | Yes | No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Colossal Cave. Used by prehistoric man and train robbers. (1/2 day event) | Yes | No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The Grand Canyon. (minimum of 2 days) | Yes | No |

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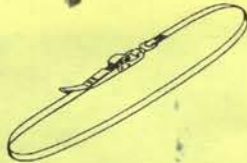
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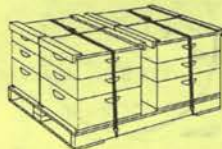
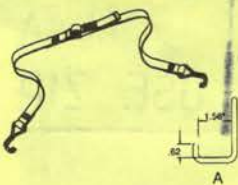
No tools to carry, no cutting bands to inspect hives, no pulling staples and cleats, no destruction of woodenware, no non-reusable steel banding scrap, no bent staples due to renailing, no split cleats, no cracked or brittle banding to discard.



9 ft. strap (5 to a box) \$35.95/box
12 ft. strap (5 to a box) \$40.95/box
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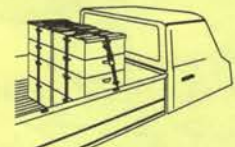
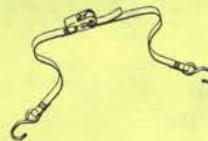
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For easy transportation of Beehives, made especially for pallets. 1" pallet hook attached to each end. (Hooks are low profile and fit snug against pallets.) See detail A above.

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