

58 Lockwood Bank
Epworth
Doncaster DN9 1JJ
Tel. (01427) 873423
28-01-2009

Dear Mrs. Smith

Save Our Bees (S.O.B.)

Beekeepers in Crete solved the bee virus problem by including small amounts of garlic into the winter sugar feed. The garlic causes the mites, which inject the virus into the bees to leave the bees. The virus is not killed by the garlic but the chain of infection is broken. Garlic fed to dogs causes fleas to leave and also sheep ticks to fall off. Ticks and mites are closely related.

I have a degree in Botany and Zoology and am interested in pollination. Research is urgently needed into the verroa problem and garlic could be a cheap, simple remedy. Proof is needed. Can your members help by conducting trials? In Crete honey was not affected by the garlic and honey production is back to normal.

I would be interested in any results either positive or negative.

Yours faithfully

(Mrs) M. Alton

RECENT INFORMATION.

If mashed garlic is placed in ethanal the oils dissolve in the alcohol. Place a small dish in the base of the hive, the ethanal evaporates and carries the garlic essence on to the mites. THEY ARE KILLED

This system is widely used in Italy & Greece. I think that sulphur or pepper is added to deter the bees from drinking the alcohol. The honey is NOT affected and the remedy can be used all year.

I enclose a copy of research sent to me by Cliff Jones
FRGS, Naturalist, Broadcaster, Journalist & Lecturer.
The mites are now resistant to pharmaceutical products.

Non Chemical composition treatment

It has now been found a composition that is effective against the *Varroa Jacobsoni acarus* and against many other kinds of mites, that is not a chemical product obtained by synthesis and therefore does not imply the above mentioned drawbacks of the known products. On the contrary, the composition according to the invention is a mixture of natural products that are well tolerated by the bees, as well as by the other animal or vegetable organisms that are infested by mites, and do not contaminate the honey.

Such acaricidal (a chemical agent used to control mites) composition according to the invention is generally made up by a mixture of elementary sulphur, **crushed garlic bulbs** and ethanol.

Garlic bulbs are obtained by the plant of the genus *Allium*, more particularly of the species *Allium sativum*. The bulblets are crushed, milled or more preferably reduced to a pulp to form a mush from which, through the use of ethanol, an alcoholic extract is obtained which contains the garlic active ingredients. Elementary sulphur is used as a fine powder, preferably in the form known as "wetttable ventilated sulphur". Ethanol is both an active ingredient of the composition and the medium for the solution and the suspension of the other components thereof.

The composition according to the invention contains from 20 to 40% by weight of elementary sulphur, from 15 to 35% by weight of garlic bulbs, the balance being ethanol. Depending upon the ethanol amount, the composition appears as a liquid or thick composition which is obtained by mixing the solid components in the liquid medium.

According to another characteristic of the invention, the composition contains also pepper, preferably of the species *Capsicum annum*, of sour and piquant varieties, dried and reduced to powder. The amount of dried pepper in the mixture can be between 1 and 15% by weight of the total. In the preferred embodiment including four components, the composition according to the invention contains from 20 to 40% of elementary sulphur, from 15 to 35% of crushed garlic bulbs, from 1 to 15% of pepper powder, and from 64 to 10% of ethanol, all the components being expressed by weight. **The preferred composition contains 30% of elementary sulphur, 30% of garlic bulbs that have been crushed or reduced to a pulp, 30% of 99% by volume ethanol, and 30% of pepper powder, all the components being given by weight.**

The Italians have a similar solution to this problem which appears thus is one of the many papers I have read: *Dust the brood area right on top of the frames (no need to lift top box off, just tilt up, sprinkle, set back down). Now we've opened the hive, dust with a mixture of 1 cup confectioners sugar mixed with 4-6 finely chopped cloves of garlic or 1 tablespoon of powdered garlic.*

Do this twice, 10 days apart, as often through the year as you like. The garlic will kill Varroa mites. The bees don't like the garlic, and try to move it out of hive, making contact with the mites. The mites also lose their grip on the host bees when dusted with powdered sugar. Italian bees apparently don't like garlic. Strange!