

# **FORMIC ACID TREATMENTS**

## **SEMINARS FOR 2005**

### **TIPS FOR THE PRACTICAL BEEKEEPER**

A COMPLETE FOUR-HOUR COURSE ON:

- Status of formic acid use in the USA, Canada and worldwide.
- Testing for resistance and treatment efficacy.
- Effect of screen bottoms on fumigation and evaporation treatments.
- Why we use formic acid.
- Various methods of treatments.
- When to treat, missing the “Cue” and re-infestation.
- How to eliminate negative aspects for which formic acid is blamed.
- Safe use and handling of liquid formic acid.

The speaker, Bill Ruzicka, is a professional engineer who in 1980 became a bee breeder. He operates 260 hives for pollination and bee stock production in the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia Canada and produces 500 super nucs for Alberta each year. He is a keeper of “Vernon Bee Stock.” His operations are highly mechanized and extremely organized reflecting his years as an aircraft engineer. Bill holds a patent to the biological control of Varroa using the fungus *Hirsutella Thompsonii*. In search for a better formic acid treatment suitable for a commercial operation, he evaluated many existing methods of treatment and compiled a set of principles for successful treatment. The formic acid treatment he developed is now used in Canada, USA, New Zealand, Argentina and Spain. In 2002 thirty seminars were held in New Zealand and in 2003, Bill held 30 seminars and spoke at 4 state conventions in the USA. In 2004, 15 seminars were held in Canada and in the USA in both national and state conventions.

#### **COMMITTED AND AVAILABLE DATES AND LOCATIONS FOR 2005:**

**Year Round MODESTO CALIFORNIA** Practical instruction and courses

Register with: Matt Beekman      Tel: 1 (209) 988-2823      Email: [mattbeekman@usa.net](mailto:mattbeekman@usa.net)

**Deadline to book fall seminars is Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> / 05 – in order to have it published in the November issue.**

If you wish to organize and reserve a seminar for 2005, please print and read “*How to book and Organize a Seminar*” available from the seminars link on the main menu of the [www.mitegone.com](http://www.mitegone.com) website and then contact Bill or Susanne at [billruzicka@mitegone.com](mailto:billruzicka@mitegone.com), phone: 1-250-762-8156 or fax: 1-250-763-1206.

**October 6<sup>th</sup> – 6pm. SALMON IDAHO** – County Commissioner Annex / Meeting Room.

Register with: Dan Mudd      Tel: 1 (208) 756-2863

**October 13<sup>th</sup> – 6pm. MARION NORTH CAROLINA** – County Administration Office.

Register with: Ray Revis      Tel: 1 (828) 652-3524      Email: [revisinc@wnconline.net](mailto:revisinc@wnconline.net)

**October 15<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> IN FLORIDA – FOR OTHER STATES** You would have to fly me to your state meeting if you wish as Iowa did. I am available for local consultation and courses. I need volunteers to test a low dose acid application as a repellent for the small hive beetle.

Register with: Susanne Ruzicka      Tel: 1 (250) 762-8156      Email: [sruzicka@mitegone.com](mailto:sruzicka@mitegone.com)

**November 10 – 12<sup>th</sup> – FLORIDA STATE MEETING** - St. John's Agriculture Center near St. Augustine. Informal personal consultations about what's new in formic acid treatments with Bill Ruzicka.

Please book in advance by:      Tel: 1 (250) 762-8156      Email: [sruzicka@mitegone.com](mailto:sruzicka@mitegone.com)

**December 10<sup>th</sup> – Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> FLYING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS AND BACK.**

I can alternate dates and flights to one or two seminar locations.

Register with: Susanne Ruzicka      Tel: 1 (250) 762-8156      Email: [sruzicka@mitgone.com](mailto:sruzicka@mitgone.com)

**January 10<sup>th</sup> – Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> (2006) A.H.P.A CONVENTION – HOUSTON TEXAS**

Date and time to be announced.

Register with: Jerry Brown      Tel: 1 (785) 778-2002      Email: [brownhoneyfarms@hotmail.com](mailto:brownhoneyfarms@hotmail.com)

**January 20<sup>th</sup> – Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> (2006) IN CALIFORNIA FOR THE ALMOND POLLINATORS**

Almond Pollination is the best time to treat with acid. I will be available for personal instruction, consultation and group seminars.

Register with: Susanne Ruzicka      Tel: 1 (250) 762-8156      Email: [sruzicka@mitgone.com](mailto:sruzicka@mitgone.com)

For those who are unable to attend Bill's seminars, he created a News Bulletin and a 32 page Formic Acid Handbook and Manual of Treatments suitable for personal study or local bee club presentation. These articles are **available free** on the Internet by visiting [www.mitgone.com](http://www.mitgone.com). Click on the "New Information" tab on the left side of the homepage or scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on the "Print the 32-Page Handbook on Formic Acid Use" link. The handbook in tabloid production is available to clubs by mail for \$10 USD for 20 copies including postage.