

ARIZONA. INSPECTOR OF APIARIES.

Report of the Verde Valley  
Apiary inspection  
trip.

July 11, 1921

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REPORT OF THE VERDE VALLEY APIARY INSPECTION TRIP

Yuma, Arizona,

July 11, 1921

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At the request of the United Verde Copper Co., Mr. D.C. George and Mr. F.E. Todd, of the Commission of Agriculture and Horticulture, visited the Verde Valley for the purpose of inspection of the apiaries for the presence of foulbrood diseases. Mr. Atwater, an Idaho beekeeper, accompanied the inspector on this trip.

Mr. Marston of the United Verde Copper Co., piloted the party to the different apiaries of the valley. His assistance in this capacity is very much appreciated by the party.

The general impression made by the visit was that the bees were not as full of "pep" as they should be with a honey flow on. They did not appear to be working as well as those in the Skull Valley at the same time. However, no very decided evidence of foulbrood could be found on examination.

In a few yards a peculiar yellowish discoloration of a few of the very young larva and their royal jelly was noted. Mr. Atwater and the Inspector after discussing it for a while thought it might be the beginning of European foulbrood. However, no dead brood was present to substantiate this diagnosis. Mr. Woodward and Mr. Tissau stated that they had seen this in times past and had followed the brood thru to maturity and felt certain that it was not a disease. Neither Mr. Atwood nor the Inspector has noted this discoloration in any other parts of the country and hence were skeptical as to the cause. The Inspector has since seen a similar discoloration in the bee yard of Mr. Patterson at Wickenburg who attributes it to the pollen of Palo Verde tree. Samples were sent Dr. Phillips, Washington, D. C., containing brood discolored with this yellow and also brood found dead in other hives.

Dr. Phillips reports that no evidence of disease could be found on the sample, with the yellow discoloration, and that the dead brood had died from sacbrood. The report by the Inspector is that no disease was found that is not common to all apiaries in this State.

While in the valley much discussion was heard about the effects of smelter smoke on vegetation and bees. The Inspector visited the valley when there was no smelter smoke and he has never been in a region where a smelter was in action, he is therefore incapable of passing judgment upon the effects of smelter smoke on bees. However, he feels justified to make this statement: The bees in the valley at the time of his visit did not possess the vigor he has found in the bees of other localities under similar conditions of bloom of honey plants. The reason for this difference he has been unable to ascertain. The beekeeper who has lived with his bees and noted conditions thruout the year should be able to explain this condition better than a few minuted inspection by the Inspector.

Owners of Apiaries, their postoffice address, and the number of colonies of the apiaries inspected are as follows:

Beal, E. S.	300	Thompson Creek
Bell, L. B. Moved to	4	Camp Verde
Calif.)		

Bochat, Ed.	6	Camp Verde
Schupp, C. A.	80	Skull Valley
Colson, C. B.	15	Aultman
Tissau, L.	63	Cornville
Willcox, F.T.	200	Dry Farm, Granit Dell
Woodruff, W.E.	225	Cottonwood
Willard	20	Cornville
Gæberry	<u>6</u>	Aultman

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Frank E. Todd  
Assistant Entomologist.