

BEES

ALPINE PEST CONTROL

OFFICE 837-3996 OR PHIL WESTERMAN CELL 294-1600

AVERAGE BEE REMOVAL COST \$120 BUT EVERYONE NEEDS A QUOTE

BEES WILL BE KILLED WITH CHEMICALS IN WALLS OR SOAP AND WATER IF BEES ARE OUT IN THE OPEN.

JONATHAN DUBOIS (COMPASS ELECTRIC)ALPINE

CELL 512-801-0969

APPROXIMATLY \$200-\$300 PER JOB, NEED ESTIMATE

DOES & SWARMS & CUTOUTS/HIVE REMOVAL (DOES NOT REPAIR WALLS AFTER CUTOUT)

BIG BEND BEES (TERLINGUA)

CHRIS MILLER 432-371-3340 WEBSITE: BIGBENDBEES.COM

ALPINE APIARIES (62 MI SOUTH ON HWY 118S)

OFFICE 432-371-2748/371-3170 EMAIL: RANCHODEMANANA@GMAIL.COM

SWARMS (HOMELESS BEES)

HIVE REMOVAL AKA CUTOUTS: SERVICE CALL \$280 FOR FIRST 3HRS

USE ORGANIC REPELLENT AFTER CUTOUT SO THE BEES DO NOT RETURN

ACCEPT CREDIT/PAYMENT PLANS

OPEN 24/7 – LEAVE MESSAGE

FIRE DEPARTMENT WILL ONLY COME OUT IF A PERSON OR DOG IS BEING STUNG. THEY WILL SPRAY WITH FOAM.

WEST TEXAS PEST CONTROL (ALPINE) DOES NOT HANDLE BEES.

Bee Swarms and Hives Spring Report 2015

Due to the phenomenal rains and wildflower season this year, our region is experiencing an unusually active swarm season.

Bees function in a group as a single living organism. They propagate by "splitting and swarming" in the spring and when nectar flows are good. Regular honeybees split one or two times a season, in an exceptional year this increases to 3 to 5 times. Africanized Bees split 3 to 5 times in a normal season and exponentially more in a good year.

Swarm or Hive

Swarms- which are balls of homeless bees. These bees have split off and are actively looking for a new home.

Hives- These are bees with food, a nursery of little ones, and infrastructure to protect. The hive may have been in the wall or in the barn or where ever for years, but this year due to conditions they have grown large very quickly. These Hives have a lot to protect, and are hazardous to handle without the appropriate safety gear and knowledge.

Alpine Apiaries and other beekeepers in the area provide apiary services which include the removal of swarms and/or hives. Hives may need a "cut out". This is a service where the structure is cut through, to remove the beehive, by cleaning out all of the comb, honey and bees.

Here is additional information about Africanized Bees which are in our area. This information is from the Texas Apiary Inspection Office at Texas A & M.

Africanized Bees

Africanized Honey Bee

The first introduction of the Africanized Honey Bee into the U.S. occurred in the fall of 1990 in south Texas. This bee, a hybrid from the African honey bee queens that originally escaped from a researcher in Brazil in 1957, had been moving northward slowly for several years as the bees swarmed and absconded. Africanized Honey Bees (AHB) will reflect these behavioral traits more often and more readily than the European Honey Bee (EHB). Texas Apiary Inspection had an aggressive approach to monitoring and regulating commercial honey bee movement in an attempt to slow the spread of AHB in the state. Natural migration of the bees proceeded until by August of 2006, AHB had been detected in 163 of the 254 counties in Texas.

The most important thing people need to realize is the fact that the AHB is just a slightly different honey bee. AHB looks the same, only being microscopically smaller than the EHB. The venom is the same. The behavior can differ.

Habits of AHB

- Less fussy about choosing a home, may be closer to ground, loves water meters, abandoned bee hives
- Swarm and abscond more readily
- More aggressive and more defensive

What Can Cause AHB Reactions

- Vibration of equipment – tractor, mower, weed eater, chain saws
- Pedestrian activity close to hive – does not have to touch hive
- Frantic animals can provoke bees
- Loud noises

Prevent Stinging Incidents

- Bee proof your home – seal and caulk all cracks and small holes in siding, eaves, corners
- Clean up all yard debris and abandoned equipment
- Screen over vents, chimneys, large openings
- Patrol area before mowing or yard work. Colonies can move during the day while you are at work.
- Teach children awareness of their surroundings

What to do if Attacked

A – Alert others in the area

C – Cover head and face, do not block vision

E – Exit get into car or house immediately, do not stop to find bee colony, do not waste time

- Remain calm – keep presence of mind if operating equipment or machinery
- Dial 911 for serious incidents
- If allergic to bee stings, carry an Epi-Pen as prescribed by personal physician
- Remove stingers by scraping with knife or fingernail

Alpine Apiaries, a part of Ottmers Agricultural Technologies LLC 432-371-2748, on FB, ranchodemanana@gmail.com.