

Nectar Flow Starting Across State Flows reported from Charleston and York

Cool temperatures and wet weather for the first half of the week meant more lost early spring nectar. Finally, on Thursday, conditions improved and nectar started flowing – except in Aiken.

Table 1. shows weight gains for hives for the last two days, March 22nd and 23rd, when temperatures and conditions were good:

Hive Location	Gain (lbs)
Peachtree City, GA	2.4, 3.5
Athens, GA	3
Clover, SC	3.6
Charleston, SC	1.2
Aiken, SC	0

Table 1: Weight gains on March 22 and 23

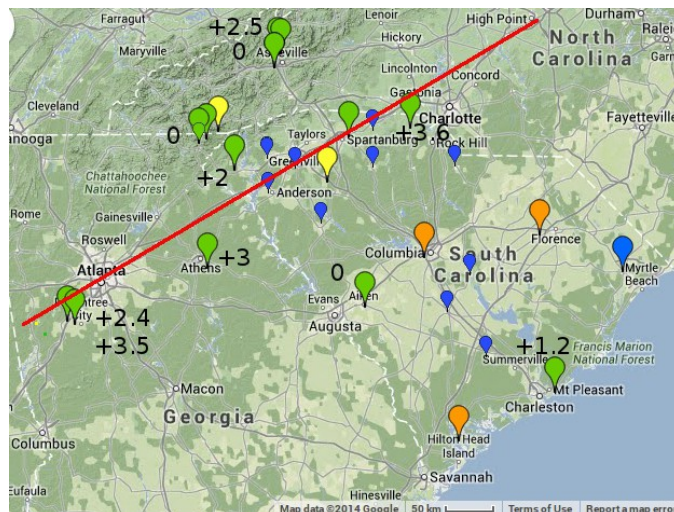
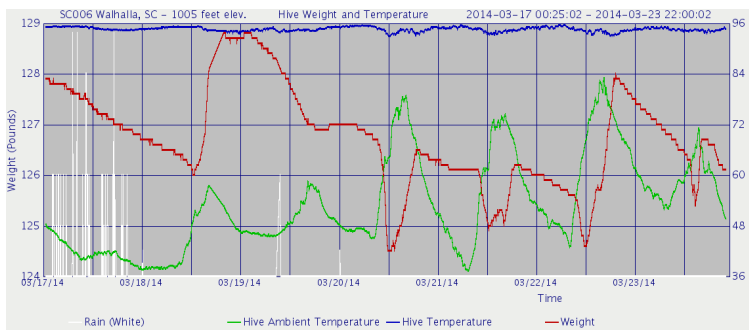


Illustration 1: Weight gains showing nectar flow occurring below red line.

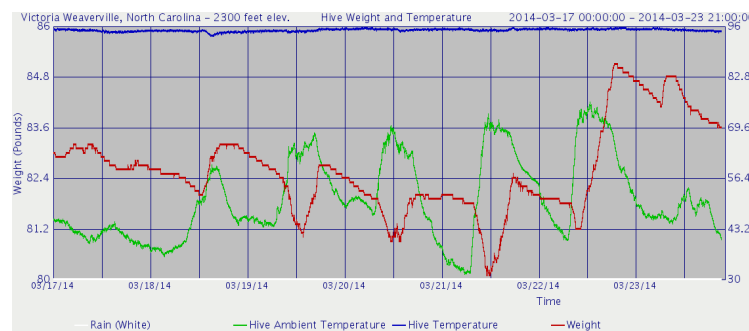
Illustration 1 is a map of the same hives with a red line, below which occurred the gain due to nectar.

The gains in Walhalla (see Graph 1) and Asheville (see Graph 2) are possibly due to water, not nectar. Note that they occur erratically or only on one day.

Why was there no gain in Aiken? Hives to the west, northeast and southeast all had gains – why not Aiken?



Graph 1: Walhalla's weight gain may be water. The hive gained weight on the 18th and 22nd but not on the 19th-21st, even though temperatures were warm and bees flying.



Graph 2: Gain in Asheville was probably water.

Hives near Clover, SC (York), Peachtree City, GA (Sharpsburg), and Charleston, SC (Awendaw) all gained weight.

The hive in Aiken lost about 3 pounds.

