

## Spring comes to the Lower Piedmont 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 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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 is a map of the same hives with a red line, below which occurred the gain due to nectar. The area below the red line is the Lower Piedmont.

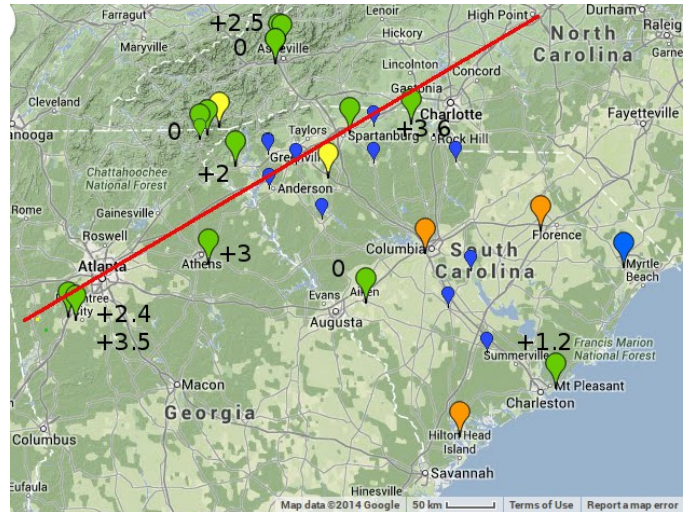
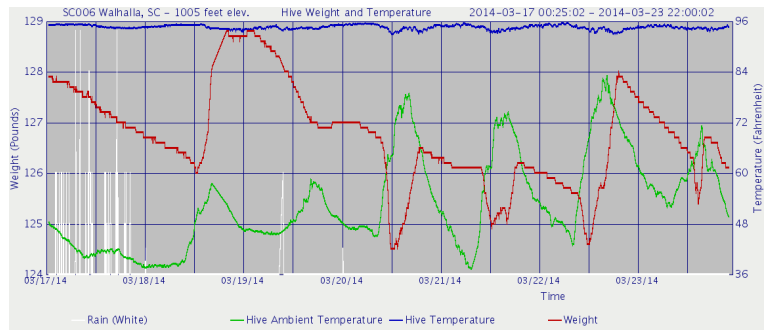
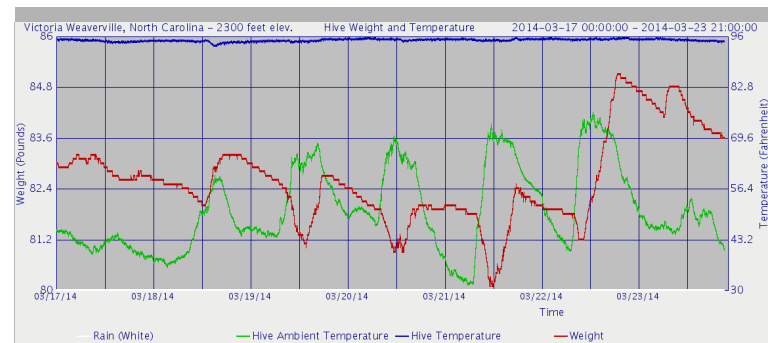


Illustration 1: Weight gains showing nectar flow occurring below red line.

**Water or 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.



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



Graph 2: Gain in Asheville was probably water.

**Why not Aiken?**

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

The hive in Aiken lost about 3 pounds.

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

