

## What does a nectar flow look like?

Spring nectar flows are winding down in the southeast US and northern California. Looking at the last 8 weeks, strong hives had very good gains:

Location	Start	End	Gain
Lexington, SC	60	190	130
Athens, GA	155	302	147
York, SC	130	189	59
Redwood City, CA	80	93	13

In the last two years in Athens, GA, smaller flows continued until the end of June.

An examination of the last 7 days of the hive in Lexington, SC (See Illustration 4 below) reveals that the evaporation rate of the nectar is slowing down. Compare the slope of the black lines at A and B.

The amount of bees engaged in orientation flight each day appears to be decreasing. This hive is queen-less. At C and D (May 23 and 24), there are good dips, they are decreasing at F and G (May 26 and 27) and don't show up at all at H and I (May 28 and 29). On 5-20 there was a small amount of capped brood. The hive was re-queened on 5-29.

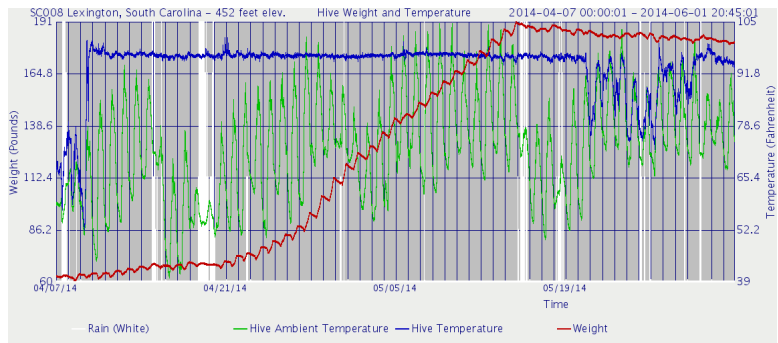


Illustration 1: Lexington, SC - Last 8 weeks

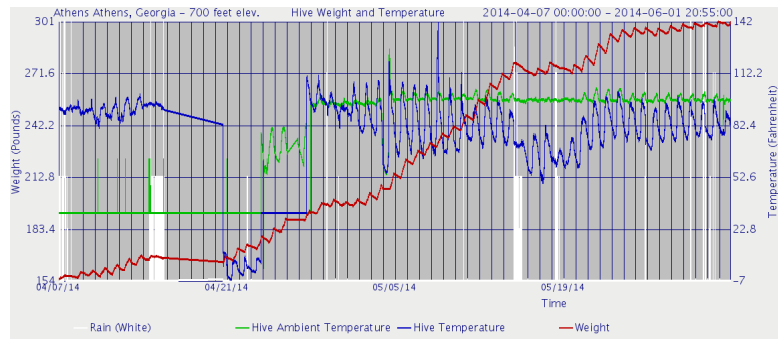


Illustration 2: Athens, GA - Last 8 weeks.

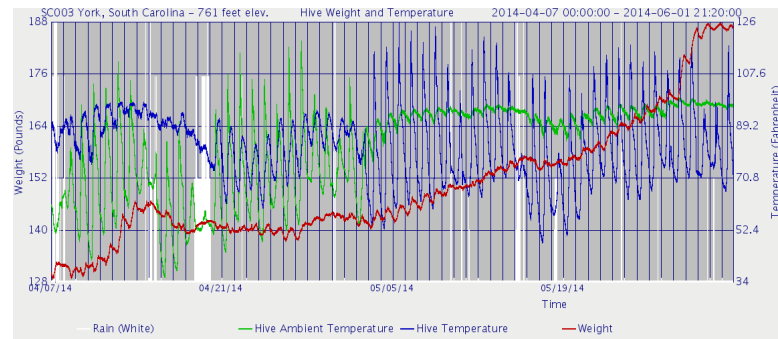


Illustration 3: York, SC - Last 8 weeks.

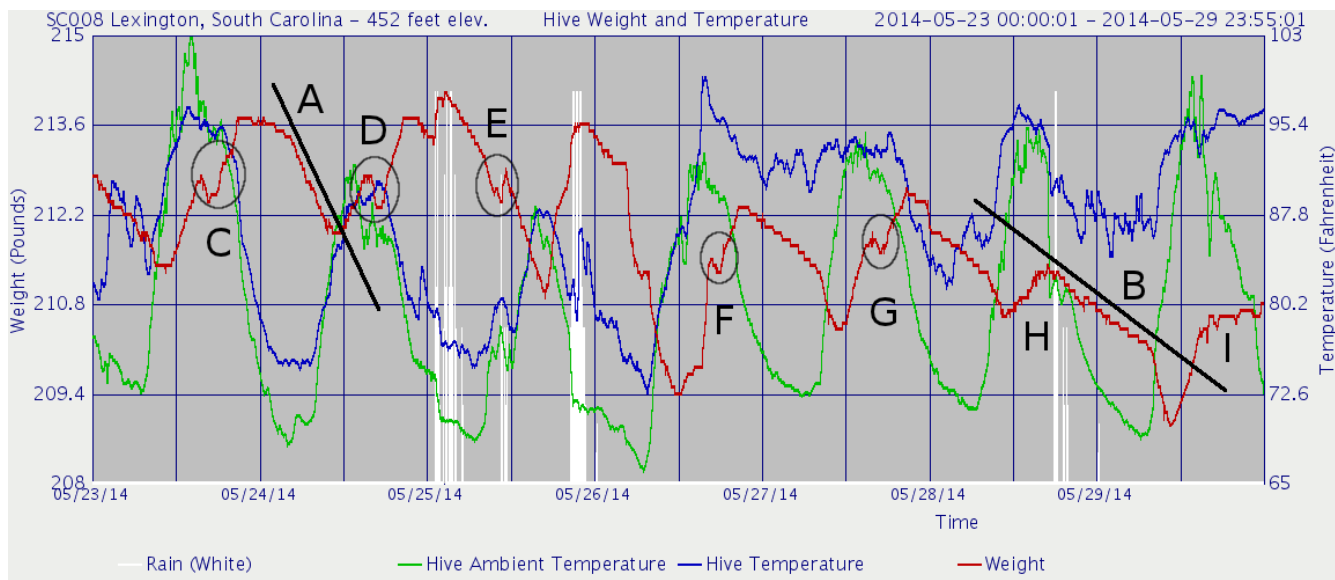


Illustration 4: Lexington, SC. Evaporation rate changes. Orientation Flights decline (hive is queen-less).