

Flows start in South and Mid-Atlantic, continue in Minnesota. Orientation Flight.

As can be seen in Illustration 1, *Cumulative rainfall amounts for last 7 days*, last week was much dryer. Nectar flows started in Maryland, north Georgia and South Carolina and continued in Minnesota. In South Carolina, hives in Aiken and Walhalla are gaining. But in western North Carolina, in Asheville, hives are still losing weight.

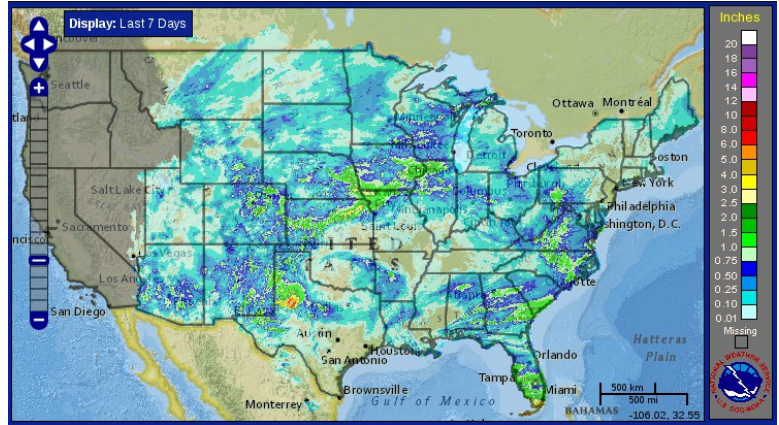


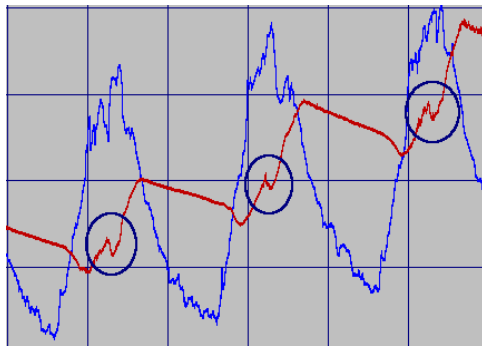
Illustration 1: Cumulative rainfall amounts for last 7 days.

In north Georgia, USA, GA004 in Rabun Gap, gained about 10 lbs in three days. See Graph 1.

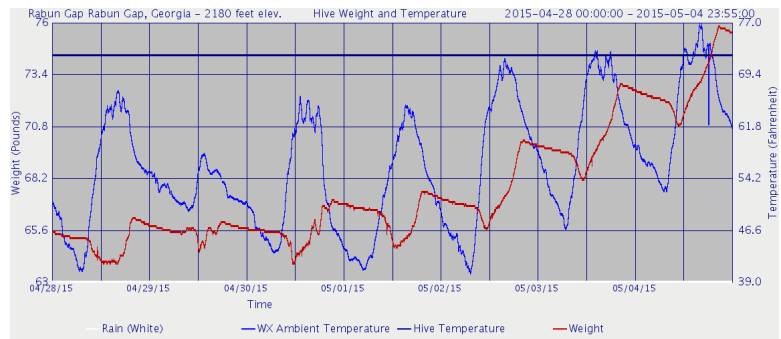
Hives in Aiken and Walhalla (see Graph 2), South Carolina, and Highland, Maryland (see Graph 3) also started gaining weight this last week.

Orientation Flight.

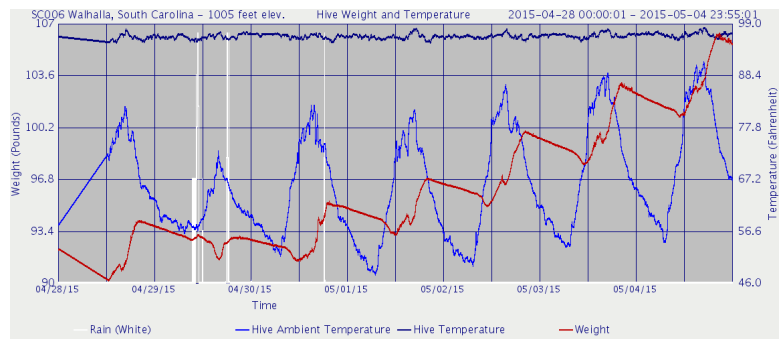
Below is a closeup of the first three days in May from Graph 2 of Walhalla, SC.



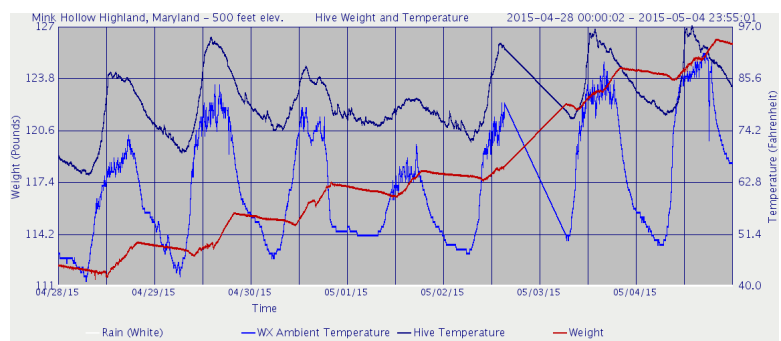
The dips in the weight curve each afternoon (circled in dark blue) are caused by orientation flights that occur during the hottest part of the day, and not by temperature instability of the scale. Orientation flight can best be seen during periods when nothing is coming in as the gains from strong nectar flows can mask the dip. The size of the dips on Graph 2 during a nectar flow indicate that this is a strong hive.



Graph 1: Hive GA004, Rabun Gap, GA USA gained 10 lbs.



Graph 2: SC006, Walhalla, SC USA gained about 15 lbs.



Graph 3: Mink Hollow, Highland, MD gained about 14 lbs.