



Alamanace County Beekeepers

June 2016 Newsletter

Monthly Meeting

June 16th @ 7:00
Potluck @ 6:00

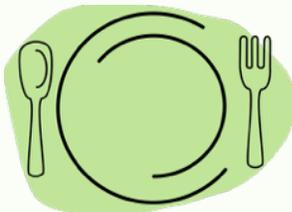
The Many Uses of Beeswax

Sylvia Willis, Beez Needz

Sylvia Willis will tell us what she knows about using up that beautiful beeswax that's about to be harvested.



Come let your creativity be sparked!



A dinner hour will precede this month's meeting. Bring a bite to eat and enjoy an early social hour!

NCSBA Summer Conference : Healthy Bees in Hickory! July 7 - 9

 NORTH CAROLINA STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Beekeepers from throughout NC will convene in Hickory next month to learn more about keeping honey bees healthy.

The slate of presentations and workshops is impressive. Dr. Marion Ellis, retired professor of entomology at the University of Nebraska, will be a featured presenter. Check out the details at the link below, and register online.



<http://www.ncbeekeepers.org/education/statewide-conferences/2016-summer-conference>

This Month in the Bee Yard

Nancy Ruppert

- Main nectar flow starts to dwindle. Fewer supers needed, unless sourwood nearby. If in area of sourwood, consider harvesting available honey before mid-June sourwood flow to ensure more “pure” sourwood crop.
- If honey being harvested, put “wet” supers back on hives late in day to limit robbing.
- Can start late-season splits during last half of June; feed splits initially, even if there is nectar available.
- Continue measures to control small hive beetle population.
- Keep water for bees constantly available.
- Make plans for attending NCSBA summer meeting in July.



<https://growingsmallfarms.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/CALENDAR-FOR-BEEKEEPING-IN-CENTRAL-NORTH-CAROLINA.pdf?pwd=no>

Lack of Nectar Might Explain the Recent Incidents of Aggressive Bees

There have been anecdotal reports from ACB members recently about honey bee irritation with beekeepers — who are getting chased and stung multiple times — sometimes without any obvious reason [to the keeper]. A week of rain ended the nectar season early. Use caution in your apiary. Surely we'll learn more at the June meeting.

Notes from May's Meeting

Don Hopkins brought his extensive knowledge, experience, and presentation talents to talk to ACB members about helping honey bees fight mites and diseases. Thanks very much, Don!

Tractor Supply in Burlington is looking for local honey to sell - 336-586-9222.



Additions to the ACB Website

If you haven't been to the website lately, you might want to take a minute and take a look. Geoff has posted some eye-catching and interesting content that could be of benefit to you and the honey bees you're working on keeping.
Thanks, Geoff!

[Website](#)

- <http://alamancebeekeepers.org> and
- <http://alamancebeekeepers.org/resources/>

Blooming in the Piedmont



The pedigree of honey
Does not concern the bee;
A clover, any time, to him
Is aristocracy.

From *The Complete Poems of Emily Dickinson*, 1924



Photo source : http://www.waldeneffect.org/blog/Summer_nectar_flow/

Bees in the News

Click on titles to link to articles.

[Nation's Beekeepers Lost 44 Percent of Bees in 2015-16](#). Bee Informed, 5/10/2016.

“Beekeepers across the United States lost [44 percent of their honey bee colonies](#) during the year spanning April 2015 to April 2016, according to the latest preliminary results of an annual nationwide survey. Rates of both winter loss and summer loss—and consequently, total annual losses—worsened compared with last year. This marks the second consecutive survey year that summer loss rates rivaled winter loss rates.”

[Rett Davis: Mosquito spray isn't bee-friendly](#). Rett Davis, Times News, 3/18/2016.

If you're spraying for mosquitoes this summer, remember insecticides usually contain pyrethrum or permethrin, both of which are lethal to honey bees. Please follow — or have applicators follow — Rett's recommended precautions.



[Truck carrying bees, tractor trailers crash on I-85, cause major delays](#).

WBTV, Charlotte, 6/7/2016. State troopers called on a local beekeeper to come help out at the crash site. Not a good scene for some of the bees.

[‘Covered with bees, and a swarm pursuing’: Man dies after being stung more than 1,000 times in Arizona park](#). Michael E. Miller, Washington Post, 5/27/2016. Article relates the sad tale of this hiker's demise, and provides information on other aggressive bee attacks in the western US.

Is it Honey Bee or Honeybee?

The everyday dictionaries we most commonly use spell honeybee as one word.

However, the Entomological Society of America has a more authoritative method for writing and spelling insects' common names.

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If you want to know more, check out this article, sent by Geoff Leister: [Is it Honey Bee or HoneyBee? Bed Bug or Bedbug? House Fly or Housefly?](#)

It'll be honey bee for me from now on!
Thanks, Geoff!

Toxic Free NC Keep the Hives Alive

Monday, June 20th, 11:00 AM

Toxic Free NC will be hosting a rally and press event in Research Triangle Park at the North American HQ of Bayer Crop Science on June 20th.



The goal is to call attention to the role of neonicotinoids in honey bee die-off. Bayer is a major producer of neonics.

For more information about the event and about Toxic Free NC, visit their website:

<http://www.toxicfreenc.org/help-toxic-free-nc-keep-the-hives-alive/>



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Webmaster : Geoff Leister
Newsletter : Cynthia Pierce