Beekeepers of Volusia County Florida

Founded February 9, 2010

September 2013

PROPOLIS

The information that glues us together

President's Corner

From the President's Hive Stand

Hello Beekeepers of Volusia Co. I hope everything is going well with you and your bees. Sorry I dashed out of the last meeting but my nose looks almost as good as new now and many thanks to Mike and Tom for taking over the meeting. Dr. Ellis is going to try again in January; we can only hope he makes it this time (third time's a charm). Karen Wassmer will be at our Wed. meeting to give a presentation on apitherapy, it should be fun and informative. She gave a similar presentation at the March Bee College last spring and it was impressive.

It's time to get organized for the Volusia Co. Fair in November. Last year we had the booth covered every night by over 15 different club members and had an observation hive available almost every night. This year I hope we can get a hive there every night. Just like last year the honey show applications must be into the fair office NLT Oct. 11 2013, you can get the form off of the Fair web site.

Best Wishes
Marlin Athearn
President: Beekeepers of Volusia Co. Fl.

Events of Interest to Beekeepers

Beekeepers of Volusia Country meeting
Wednesday, September 25, 2013
6:30 pm—Volusia County Ag Center

Beekeepers of Volusia Country meeting
Wednesday, October 23, 2013
6:30 pm—Volusia County Ag Center

Florida State Beekeepers Annual Convention
Thursday October 31, thru Saturday, November 2, 2013

Volusia County Fair—November 7-17, 2014

Deformed Wing Virus

Shortly after your last Fall honey harvest is the time to focus on the presence of Varroa mites in you colony. Historically , during this time, the queen may reduce her egg laying and hive colony may start to decline. Since the colony has less workers, the varroa population may exceed the number of workers. One strong indication of this is Deformed Wing Virus.

The symptoms of adult bees with this virus are easily noted. Adult bees emerge with wings that appear twisted, wrinkled, smaller than usual, and in a word deformed. The presence of this virus is associated with Varroa mites feeding off of developing worker pupae. When worker pupae are infested, it is thought that the Varroa infestation is severe, and finding workers with deformed wing virus is a sign of serious problems. Adults with this virus cannot fly and do not live long in the hive.

Many Treatments are available today to reduce the number of Varroa mites in your colony.

Need Help? Call A Mentor!

Marlin Athearn : 386-428-0838 mjathear@volusia.k12.fl.us—New Smyrna Beach
Tom Bartlett: beekeeper7501@aol.com—386-756-2571—Port Orange
Don Kent:Doggonekent@gmail.com, 386-672-0995—Ormond Beach
Mike Hays: haysmj2527@gmail.com, 386-290-5476

"The happiness of the bee and the dolphin is to exist For man it is to know that and to wonder at it. Jacques Yves Cousteau

Florida Management Beekeeper Calendar – Central Florida

Used with permission of University of Florida Honey Bee Research and Extension Laboratory

Month	Management Calendar	Blooming Plants
January	1- Feed colonies if light (colonies can starve!) 2- Nosema can be a significant colony problem this time of year. You can treat colonies for Nosema disease using Fumigillin. Colonies may need as much as 4 gallons of medicated syrup to control *Nosema ceranae*. 3- Repair/paint old equipment	Sand Pine[F], Maple[F], Willow[FM] [F]continues to bloom in February [FM]continues to bloom in February and March
February	1- Feed colonies if light (colonies can starve!) 2- Can treat colonies for Nosema disease using Fumigillin. 3- Can treat with Terramycin or Tylan for AFB.	Plum[M], Cherry[M], Oak[M], Walther Viburnum[M], Sweet Clover[M], Blueberry[M], Haw[M], Fetterbush[M] [M]continues to bloom in March
March Note: Citrus blooms in March. Make sure your colonies are ready. Talk with your growers about their pesticide habits.	1- Attend UF Bee College in Marineland March 8 & 9!!! 2- Colony Populations begin to grow! Add supers and/or control swarming as necessary. 3- Can treat with Terramycin or Tylan ***dust*** for AFB/EFB. 4- Make nucs/splits.	Orange, Spanish Needle
April	1- Disease and queen problems should be remedied. 2- Make splits/nucs – new queens available 3- Control swarming 4- Add supers, the nectar flow began in late March	Orange, Sweet clover, Wild Blueberry, Haw, Fetterbush[M], Spanish Needle[MJ], Galberry[M], Dog Hobble[MJ], Palmetto[MJ], Mexican Clover[MJ], Butter Mint[MJ] [M]continues to bloom in May [J]continues to bloom in June [MJ]continues to bloom in May and June
May	1- Continue to inspect for colony maladies but don't treat for diseases while producing honey 2- Continue swarm control 3- Super as necessary	Palm[J], Gopher Apple[J], Joint Weed[J], Sandhill Prairie Clover[J], Spiderwort/ Dayflower[J] [J]continues to bloom in June

Florida Management Beekeeper Calendar – Central Florida

Used with permission of University of Florida Honey Bee Research and Extension Laboratory

Month	Management Calendar	Blooming Plants
June	1- Super as necessary for late flowers 2- Varroa populations begin to grow – monitor colonies closely. The economic threshold is 60+ mites/day on a sticky screen or 17+ mites in an ether roll. Treat if you exceed these numbers.	Mangrove, Red Bay, Cabbage Palm
July	1- Remove and process honey – main flow stops 2- Varroa populations begin to grow – monitor colonies closely. The economic threshold is 60+ mite/day on a sticky screen or 17+ mites in an ether roll for a colony of average strength. Treat if you exceed these numbers. Option include: Apigard, ApilifeVAR, Mite Away II.	Spanish Needle[AS], Palmetto, Mexican Clover[AS], Buttermint, Palm, Gopher Apple, Joint Weed[A], Redbay[AS], Sandhill Prairie Clover[A], Partridge Pea[A], Mangrove[A], Primrose Willow[AS], Spiderwort/Dayflower[AS] [A]continues to bloom in August [AS]continues to bloom in September
August	1- Monitor colonies for varroa (see July)! 2- Treat with Terramycin d***ust*** for AFB/EFB 3- Feed colonies if light 4-Monitor for and control small hive beetles 5- It's hot! Ensure adequate colony ventilation	Spotted Mint[S], Goldenrod[S], Vine Aster[S], Sumac[S] [S]continues to bloom in September
September	1- Monitor colonies for varroa (see July)! 2- Super colonies if strong B. Pepper flow 3- Consider treating colonies for Nosema disease using Fumidil-B. Colonies may need as much as 4 gallons of medicated syrup to control *Nosema cerana.* 5- If no nectar flow, feed colonies if light	Smart Weed, Brazilian Pepper, Bush Aster Note: Brazilian Pepper blooms from September through October and is a significant fall source of nectar for bees.
October – December	1- Varroa populations peaked in Aug/Sept. The economic threshold is 60+ mites/day on a sticky board or 17+ mites in an ether roll for a **colony of average strength**. Treat if you exceed these numbers. Options include: Apiguard, ApilifeVAR, Mite Away II 2- Can treat colonies for Nosema disease using Fumigillin. Colonies may need as much as 4 gallons of medicated syrup to control *Nosema cerana*. 3-Monitor for and control small hive beetles (options include Checkmite+, GuardStar, Hood traps and West Beetle traps) 4- Feed colonies if light (colonies can starve!) 5-Can treat for tracheal mites (mix vegetable oil and powdered sugar until doughy (not sticky to touch): place a pancake-sized patty on top bars of brood chamber.	**Oct:** Spanish Needle, Mexican Clover[N], Primrose Willow[N], Spotted Mint[N], Goldenrod[M], Vine Aster[N], Smart Weed[N], Bush Aster[ND] [N]continues to bloom in November [D]continues to bloom in December **Nov:** Nothing new blooms **Dec:** Nothing new blooms

Beekeepers of Volusia County

Next Meeting

Wednesday
September 25, 2013
6:30 PM

Volusia County Ag Center
See E-mail for Information

Check Out Our Website

www.beekeepersofvolusiacountyfl.com

Club Officers

President—Marlin Athearn—mjathearn@volusia.k12.fl.us– 386-428-0838
Vice President —Mike Hays——haysmj2527@gmail.com-386-290-5476
Treasurer ———Ron Kull-——kullrp@yahoo.com———386-451-2978
Secretary ——Donna Balo———balo_d@hotmail.com———386-738-1954
Master Beekeeper—Tom Bartlett—Beekeeper7501@aol.com—386-756-2571

Local Beekeeping Suppliers who are members of the Club

1. **Jester Bee Co.— Mims, Fl. Nucs, Queens, Queen Cells—Kevin@Jesterbee.com**
   Please call us at : 870 243 1596 with your order.

"When someone shares something of value with you and you benefit from it, you have a moral obligation to share it with others."…
Chinese Proverb

Beekeepers of Volusia County, Florida

Meeting Agenda

September 25, 2013

Call to order and welcome:

Marlin Athearn—President

Business:

Welcome

Approve August minutes

Treasurers report

Volusia Co. Fair Organizing

Bee video ordering

Apitherapy by Karen Wassmer

Dismiss and close

Beekeepers of Volusia County Club Meeting
Minutes of 08/28/13

Called to order by Marlin Athearn, president @ 6:33pm

48 in attendance

Mike Hayes vice-president conducted the remainder of the meeting

Bee Inspector Lisa in attendance; she is training 2 new inspectors.
She discussed the Best Management Recommendations (BMRs)
Bee inspectors are a good resource for an education in beekeeping while they inspect the hives

Public Day in the Bee Yard at Cracker Creek went extremely well & was well attended. An extraction demo & a hive building class were featured

Introduction of 5 new attendees.

Treasurer's Report $1715.54

Discussion to cover expenditures for speakers, further information will be gathered .

Members are encouraged to join the Florida Beekeepers Association.

Elaine Schoch discussed attending the University of Florida South Bee College. Beekeepers of Volusia County won1st place in photography, 1st place in art, 2nd place in Mead, 2nd place in honey cakes. Best of Show in Art.

All bee sales in the state of FL must be purchased from a certified beekeeper, documentation is required at the time of the sale.

Volusia County Fair Nov 7 - 17th. Beekeepers should begin to plan for entries. At future meetings helpful hints will be discussed in preparing for the fair. Volunteers are needed at the Club's booth.

Master Beekeeper Tom Bartlett spoke about requeening best practices & Africanized Bees among other topics.

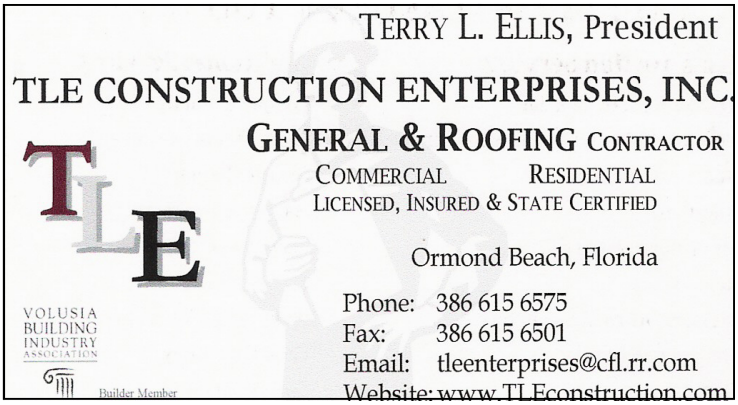
Motion & approval of $500 education fee for brochures & cards which will be available to those that visit the Club's booth at the Volusia County Fair.

Tim Schoch is the Webmaster. The site is growing. Members are encouraged to send articles and photos.

Adjourned 8:10pm

Submitted by Donna Balo, secretary

Businesses of Members



" The bee is more honored than other animals, not because he labors, but because she labors for others—Saint John Chrysostom

Beekeeping —Classifieds

1/8 wire for sale, 3 feet wide, $2.50 per running foot—Don Druckert <ndruckert@cfl.rr.com>

Want to sell Beekeeping related goods or services? E-mail the Newsletter at Beekeeper7501@aol.com

INVERTEBRATE CONSERVATION FACT SHEET

Southeast Plants
for Native Bees

Pollinators are a vital part of a healthy environment.

Native bees are North America's most important group of pollinators.

Patches of flowers can be grown almost anywhere and will form an important food resource for bees.

Aster (*Symphyotrichum*) with a metallic sweat bee. *Photo by MJ Hatfield*

Pollinators are a diverse and fascinating group of animals. In addition to their beauty, pollinators provide an important link in our environment by moving pollen between flowers and ensuring the growth of seeds and fruits. The work of pollinators touches our lives every day through the food we eat. Even our seasons are marked by their work: the bloom of springtime meadows, summer berry picking, pumpkins in the fall.

Native bees are the most important group of pollinators. Like all wildlife they are affected by changes in our landscapes. The good news is that there are straightforward things that you can do to help: providing patches of flowers is something that we all can do to improve our environment for these important insects. Native plants are undoubtedly the best source of food for bees, but there are also some garden plants that are great for pollinators.

This fact sheet will help you provide flowers that these vital creatures need and make the landscape around us—from small urban backyards to large natural areas—better for bees. On the back you'll find a simple guide to selecting plants for bees.

For more information, visit our web site, www.xerces.org, where you will find other fact sheets and more detailed guidelines on how to enhance habitat for pollinators. You'll also find information about the *Pollinator Conservation Handbook*.

Written by
Eric Mader and
Matthew Shepherd

The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

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www.xerces.org

Choosing the Right Flowers

To help bees and other pollinator insects—like butterflies—you should provide a range of plants that will offer a succession of flowers, and thus pollen and nectar, through the whole growing season. Patches of foraging habitat can be created in many different locations, from backyards and school grounds to golf courses and city parks. Even a small area planted with the right flowers will be beneficial, because each patch will add to the mosaic of habitat available to bees and other pollinators.

In such a short fact sheet it is not possible to give detailed lists of suitable plants for all areas of the Southeast. Below are two lists of good bee plants, the first of native plants and the second of garden plants. Both are short lists; there are many more bee-friendly plants. However, these lists, combined with the following notes, will get you started on selecting good bee plants. Your local chapters of the Wild Ones, the Native Plant Society and native plant nurseries are worthwhile contacts for advice on choosing, obtaining, and caring for local plant species.

- **Use local native plants.** Research suggests native plants are four times more attractive to native bees than exotic flowers. In gardens, heirloom varieties of herbs and perennials can also provide good foraging.
- **Choose several colors of flowers.** Flower colors that particularly attract native bees are blue, purple, violet, white, and yellow.
- **Plant flowers in clumps.** Flowers clustered into clumps of one species will attract more pollinators than individual plants scattered through the habitat patch. Where space allows, make the clumps four feet or more in diameter.
- **Include flowers of different shapes.** Bees are all different sizes, have different tongue lengths, and will feed on different shaped flowers. Consequently, providing a range of flower shapes means more bees can benefit.
- **Have a diversity of plants flowering all season.** By having several plant species flowering at once, and a sequence of plants flowering through spring, summer, and fall, you can support a range of bee species that fly at different times of the season.

Native Plants

Native plants should be your first choice to help our native bees. Listed below are some plants that are good sources of nectar and pollen for bees. This list is not exhaustive; there are many other plants good for bees. Individual species have not been included. Not all of these genera will have species in your local area, but they do represent plants that will grow in a variety of environments. Use a wildflower guide or contact local nurseries to find your local species.

Aster	*Symphyotrichum*	Magnolia	*Magnolia*
Beardtongue	*Penstemon*	Milkweed	*Asclepias*
Beebalm	*Monarda*	Mountain mint	*Pycnanthemum*
Blanketflower	*Gaillardia*	Partridge pea	*Chamaecrista*
Blazingstar	*Liatris*	Rattlesnake master	*Eryngium*
Blueberry	*Vaccinium*	Redbud	*Cercis*
Carolina rose	*Rosa*	Rosinweed	*Silphium*
Chaffhead	*Carphephorus*	Sourwood	*Oxydendrum*
Crownbeard	*Verbesina*	Sunflower	*Helianthus*
Giant ironweed	*Vernonia*	Twinberry	*Myrcianthes*
Goldenrod	*Solidago*	Tuliptree	*Liriodendron*
Joe pye weed	*Eupatorium*	Wild plum	*Prunus*

Garden Plants

Flower beds in gardens, business campuses, and parks are great places to have bee-friendly plants. Native plants will create a beautiful garden but some people prefer "garden" plants. Many garden plants are varieties of native plants. This list includes plants from other countries—"exotic" plants—and should be used as a supplement to the native plant list. As with the native plants, this list is far from exhaustive.

Basil	*Ocimum*	Majoram/Oregano	*Origanum*
Catnip	*Nepeta*	Mexican sunflower	*Tithonia*
Cosmos	*Cosmos*	Purple coneflower	*Echinacea*
Giant hyssop	*Agastache*	Pincushion flower	*Scabiosa*
Lavender	*Lavandula*	Rosemary	*Rosmarinus*

For more pollinator conservation information, go to www.xerces.org

Beekeepers of Volusia Country, Florida

Membership Registration Form—2013

_____

Name

_____

Address

City_____ **State**____ **Zip Code** _____

Telephone Number _____

_____

E-mail address: Important - Much business is done by electronic mail

1. Regular Membership (includes family members) $15.00 [ ]

2. Lifetime membership—$250.00

Please make checks payable to Beekeepers of Volusia County, Florida

Bring to meeting or mail to:

Ron Kull, Treasurer, 2525 Palm Dr.
Port Orange, FL 32128,
Phone: 1-386-451-2978
E-mail: Kullrp@yahoo.com

Meeting Information…