



www.volusiabeekeepers.org

Founded February 9, 2010

Beekeepers of Volusia County Florida

Newsletter, April 2016

Management Calendar April 2016

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

Blooming Plants

Orange, Sweet Clover, Wild Blueberry, Haw, Fetterbush, Spanish Needle, Galberry, Dog Hobble, Palmetto, Mexican Clover, Butter Mint

May 2016

1. Disease and queen problems should be remedied.
1. Make splits/nucs- new queens available.
2. Control swarming
3. Add supers- the nectar flow began in late March

Blooming Plants

Palm, gopher apple, joint weed, Sandhill Prairie, Clover, Spiderwort/day flower

Club Officers

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Events of Interest to Beekeepers

Volusia County Beekeepers Meeting
April 27, 2016, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Fourth Wednesday of the month
Volusia County Fairgrounds

Volusia County Beekeepers Meeting
May 25, 2016, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Fourth Wednesday of the month
Volusia County Fairgrounds

Need Help? Call a Mentor!

Marlin Athearn 386.428.0838
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New Smyrna Beach

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Stephen McGehee
Beekeepers of Volusia County
'abfnet.org'

A Message from the President

From the President:

Hello.

The days are warming up and you can feel that summer is on its way. The bees are now working from sun up to sun down, they are building new comb and bringing in nectar and pollen to store honey.

Also, during this time it is a good idea to step up your hive inspections to once every 10 to 14 days, looking for queen cells and brood patterns. Many hives in their second year may show a large buildup of brood and queen cells which may reflect a tendency towards swarming. Many beekeepers prepare splits or re-queen with certified queens in early spring to keep their hives from swarming.

If you find your queens missing it may be due to insecticidal yard spraying going on in your neighborhood by yard companies. Weed and insect spraying can be deadly to your hives so inspect on a regular basis.

April and May will produce a strong nectar flow. Citrus, Gall-berry and Palmetto are major nectar plants which start blooming in April and May so honey stores will begin to swell. Make sure that your honey supers are built or ready to go. Bees have been known to fill a new medium super with honey in one week during the nectar flow! The general rule is to add a new super once 8 of 10 frames has been filled. It is important to provide lots of space for your bees to grow and store honey.

We had a busy month. We presented "Backyard Beekeeping" at the News Journal's Home Show at the Daytona Beach Ocean Center; there's been some interest in local honey & allergy treatment through the website; & we are developing a FAQ sheet for the website. I had a computer crash that messed up my book keeping and I lost the website to the grant proposal I spoke about at the last meeting. If I can find it I'll pursue the \$10k grant but for now it's off the table.

Enjoy your Bees! Have a great season.

Bee Healthy, Bee Happy,

Timothy R. Blodgett -President, Beekeepers of Volusia County

Beekeepers of Volusia County, Florida

Meeting Agenda April 27, 2016

Old Business:

- Meeting called to order
- Approval of the minutes
- Follow-up Daytona Home Show Event Donna Athern

New Business:

- Treasurers report

Demonstration: Oxalic Acid Crystals Treatment for Varroa Mites- Stephen McGee

Break

Varroa Mite treatments,

- a. Chemical; Oxalic Acid Fume & Drizzle
- b. Natural; Drone frame & hygienic ankle biter bees

Q&A

Beekeepers of Volusia County Club Meeting
Minutes of 03/23/16

Beekeepers of Volusia County Club Meeting Minutes of 03/23/16

Called to order by President Tim Blodgett @ 6:30pm. 45 in attendance.

Old business:

-Master Beekeeper Marlin Athern updated

City of Ormond Beach Echo Park on Division Road environmental observation honey bee hive. Expected grand opening will be May, 2016. Equipment & bees at D&J Apiary. Volunteers needed to maintain & work on the hives.

The Club has secured a booth for community outreach at the Daytona Beach News Journal's Spring Home Show April 1-3, 2016 10am-6pm Friday & Saturday. Sunday 10am-4pm at the Ocean Center. Volunteers will be needed for the booth.

Welcome to new attendees who introduced themselves.

-The posted agenda was modified for a special presentation by Mario Jacob, owner & commercial Beekeeper at D&J Apiaries, Umatilla, FL. Discussion was on State & National efforts to promote Bee keeping, State legislator funding Bee initiatives, update UF Bee Lab, local trends, & FYI's regarding the complexities of commercial bee keeping on a national basis.

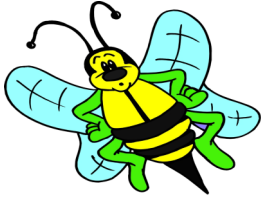
Q&A. In all it was very interesting.

-Snack break & social time.

-Review of GMO damage & backyard hive variations in excess of the Langstrom hives we all use. Review of bee pest problems & a look at the "zombie bee" parasite, Apocephalus borealis.

Adjourned 8:05 pm

Submitted: Tim Blodgett President



Did You Know?

The 15 Most Important Things to Know in Beekeeping

By Blake Shook
American Beekeeping Federation

1. How to properly feed your bee hives
2. Controlling Varroa Mites
3. Feeding pollen substitutes
4. Stay close to the basics
5. Being active in local, state and national associations
6. Bring new people into beekeeping
7. Market and promote honey wisely and honestly
8. Fighting for what is ours
9. Assemble frames correctly
10. Buy carefully
11. Know bees
12. Be willing to change
13. Be cautious of snake oils and unproven or homemade treatments.
14. Re-queen Hives every year.
15. Be careful what chemicals you use and how often you use them

The above was taken from a webinar given by The American Beekeeping Federation (ABF)
Arthur: Blake Shook,
abfnet.org

The American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) is offering first year memberships at no cost.
Check out their website: www.abfnet.org

Products: Queens, Nucs, Honey

S & S Apiaries: Jesse Azam

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