



www.volusiabeekeepers.org

Founded February 9, 2010

Beekeepers of Volusia County Florida

Newsletter, June 2016

Management Calendar June 2016

1. Remove and process honey - flow stops
2. Varroa populations begin to grow - monitor colonies closely and treat if necessary

Blooming Plants

Mangrove, red bay, cabbage palm

July 2016

1. Remove and process honey - main flow stops
2. Varroa population begins to grow - monitor colonies closely and treat if necessary. Treatment options include Apiguard, Apilife VAR, Apistan, Mite Away II, Hopgard and Apivar

Blooming Plants

Spanish NeedleAS, Palmetto, Mexican CloverAS, Buttermint, Palm, Gopher Apple, Joint WeedA, RedbayAS, Sandhill Prairie CloverA, Partridge PeaA, MangroveA, Primrose WillowAS Spiderwort/ DayflowerAS,

Club Officers

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Events of Interest to Beekeepers

Volusia County Beekeepers Meeting
June 22, 2016, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Fourth Wednesday of the month
Volusia County Fairgrounds

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

Need Help? Call a Mentor!

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A Message from the President

Hello,

Vacation time is upon us and this would be a good time to anticipate your needs minus your club resources, expand your skills and would be a great opportunity for those who attend the meeting to network with the other club members regarding questions you may have or to hear what they are doing.

During the summer months the threat of swarming tends to be reduced, so you may modify your hive inspections to once every 15 to 20 days, looking for queen cells, brood patterns, and hive beetle population. Remember to focus on the presence of uncapped larvae which helps to confirm a queen right condition even if you did not see the queen.

The months of June and July continue to produce a moderate nectar flow. Palmetto, Magnolia, Crepe Myrtle and various palms are major nectar plants that continue blooming June and July so honey stores will continue to swell. Add honey supers as needed. Remember the general rule is to add a new super once 8 of 10 frames has been filled. Do not add too many supers as this give the hive beetles more undefended areas to hide from the bees.

Remember, don't be too concerned about a blanket of bees on your hives at night during the summer months, they are just trying to keep cool.

Looking ahead, you may want to start planning for hurricane season. How are you going to secure your bee hives during a storm? I screw down the hive tops and use tie downs (metal devices which screw into the ground) and rope or cable to keep the hives from blowing over. Any other ideas?

Enjoy your Bees! Have a great season.

Timothy R. Blodgett
President Beekeepers of Volusia County

Beekeepers of Volusia County, Florida

Meeting Agenda June 22, 2016

Old Business:

1. Meeting called to order
2. Approval of the minute
3. 50/50 Raffle

New Business:

1. Treasurers report
2. Mystery Guest
3. Website Activity
4. What are the bee's doing
5. May-June; hive maintenance & what's in bloom
6. Break
7. Bee Baffles the hive beetle deterrent
8. Hurricane preparation
9. Refractometer/honey moisture content
10. 50/50 winner
11. Q&A

Beekeepers of Volusia County Club Meeting
Minutes of 05/25/16

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

Old business:

Meeting minutes of 4/27/16 were approved by majority vote

New Business:

Regular business was postponed for a guest who showed up to speak on expanding food sources by use of wildflower proliferation. Advantages include a diverse food supply extending honey flow potentials and being more economic than grass along roadways and other under utilized public & private spaces. Various other Q&A regarding differences between central Florida & Tennessee Bee Keeping.

Web activity: Discussion & photos of City of Ormond Beach

Echo Park on Division Road environmental observation honey bee hive, new

FAQ regarding: honey for wounds now on site.

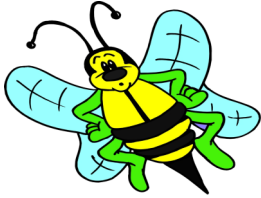
Swarms captured & notice that if you are interested in swarms you need to let me know your limitation. I am establishing a small regional referral network with member getting first crack at swarms except if in structure or too high. I will screen contacts & determine most appropriate referral.

Discussion on bee activity including swarming, nectar gathering, splits, bee gathering outside of hive box, expanding living & honey super space.

Discussion on genetics of “hygienic, ankle biter bees”.

Adjourned 8:00 pm

Submitted: Tim Blodgett, President



Did You Know?

Pest and Pathogens

Summer is here and that means it's ideal weather for pest and pathogens. We are all aware of problems with hive beetles and Varroa Mites but there are other pest and pathogens we should be aware of and knowledgeable in their treatment.

Knowing that I needed some education in this area I went searching and found what I was looking for with the American Beekeeping Federation, www.ABFnet.org. A webinar by Mario Jacob, D&J Apiary, Umatilla, FL is an excellent resource, Mario is a third generation beekeeper

He says Florida is a leader in dealing with pest and pathogens and tells us what to look for and how to keep our bees healthy and strong. The webinar deals with such issues as Varroa mites, hive beetles, Tracheal mites, both types of Nosema, American and European foul brood and a whole list of others.

First year membership in ABF is free and offers a wealth of information. Also, check out D&J Apiary website www.DandJApiary.com

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