



Founded February 9, 2010

Beekeepers of Volusia County Florida

Newsletter, August 2016

Management Calendar

August 2016

1. Monitor colonies for Varroa (see July)!
2. Treat with Terramycin *dust* for American foulbrood/European foulbrood.
3. Feed colonies if light.
4. Monitor for and control small hive beetles.
5. It's hot! Ensure adequate colony ventilation.

Blooming Plants

Spotted MintS, GoldenrodS, Vine AsterS, SumacS

September 2016

1. Monitor colonies for Varroa (see July)!
2. Super colonies if strong for B. Pepper flow.
3. Consider treating colonies for Nosema disease using Fumigillin (see north Florida Sept above).
4. If no nectar flow, feed colonies if light.

Blooming Plants

Smart Weed, Brazilian Pepper*, Bush Aster

Club Officers

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Master Beekeepers: Tom Bartlett & Marlin Athearn

Events of Interest to Beekeepers

Volusia County Beekeepers Meeting
August 24, 2016, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Fourth Wednesday of the month
Volusia County Fairgrounds

FL State Plant Inspector, Stacey Simmons
Demonstration
September 22, 2016, 1– 5 pm
City of Ormond Beach Echo Park on Division Road

Volusia County Beekeepers Meeting
September 28, 2016, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Fourth Wednesday of the month
Volusia County Fairgrounds

Need Help? Call a Mentor!

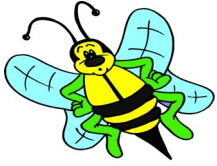
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A Message from the President

Hello,

August is coming to a close and fall is right around the corner. You may be able to harvest honey during fall before the winter months, but remember to leave an ample supply for the Ladies to weather the winter months. In addition to the honey in the brood box, I usually leave a medium super of honey (30 + pounds of honey) on my hives to keep the bees well stocked for the winter. Last winter was mild but a prolonged cold without enough honey can kill a hive due to starvation. During August and September continue to perform your hive inspections at the two to three week intervals. Remember your honey bee biology and focus on a queen right condition. During the fall, Varroa mites may be on the increase; it's a good idea to perform a couple of mite counts to see if you need to treat. Also, if you start to notice bees walking around in front of your hives with deformed wings, your bees may have deformed wing virus which is a strong indicator of a serious Varroa mite issue and treatment is recommended or you may lose your hive.

What a difference a month makes. I just reported no mosquito transmissions in the last meeting and look what happens in Miami. A bunch of cases & I'm already out of date. But it does give us a snap shot of things to come. It happened near the coast as do outbreaks in our area. Mosquito control reacted with a vengeance with adulticides & larvicides, day & night and treatment as well as monitoring were targeted and concentrated to affected areas. Add this to what you already know. Next

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HEAVILY FOCUSED ON BEEKEEPING 101. Sorry for the short notice but with the next big nectar flow & availability of queens coming next month and a healthy new brood of New-Bees in the club, now seems to be the best and only time we can do this if new hives are to be successful this fall. See the Agenda for a list of topics we hope to cover & expect some "show & tell" extras like; pollen collection, propolis collection, etc.

Subject matter for this month's fair review topics will be crafts & photos. If you have previous entries at home please bring them in to share as examples since none of mine got better than 2nd place.

Only 3 more meetings until the Fair.

Tropical Storm season is upon us! Did you secure your hive(s).

Enjoy your Bees! Have a great summer.
Bee Healthy, Bee Happy,

Timothy R. Blodgett -President Beekeepers of Volusia County

Beekeepers of Volusia County, Florida

Meeting Agenda August 24, 2016

Old Business:

- Meeting call to order
- Approval of the minute
- 50/50 Raffle

New Business:

- Treasurers report

- Top Bar Hives

- Smokers/sweet water spray/queen clips & cages

- Nucs/Hive bodies, tops, bottoms, screens, baffles, frames

- Break

- Work shops/tools/carpentry/DIY

- Photos & crafts for the fair Demonstration

- 50/50 winner

- Q&A

Beekeepers of Volusia County Club Meeting
Minutes of 07/27/16

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

49 in attendance.

50/50 raffle announced

Minutes approved

Treasurers report \$1970.

New attendees introduced themselves

Membership \$15 family / year

Presentations of appreciation for those who provide snacks at the meetings

In memory of beekeeper & member of the club, John Dombrowsky fellow members toasted his memory with mead.

University of Florida South Florida Bee College is Aug 12 & 13, 2016 in Davie, FL. How to raise queens & pests of the hive classes are offered Aug 11

Tasks of the Beekeeper for July & August & bee food sources discussed.

Presentation of the Zika Virus-Mosquito Management in FL/

In preparation for the Volusia County Fair, a demonstration of how to prepare chunk honey & comb honey was done.

Stacey Simmons FL state plant inspector announced a program 09/22/16 1-5pm at the City of Ormond Beach Echo Park on Division Road

50/50 raffle

Adjourned 8:14 pm

Submitted Donna Balo, secretary



Did You Know?

My teacher says bees have five eyes. She's creepy.

I agree she sounds kind of creepy. But here's the problem: she is right. All types of bees really do have five eyes.

The two big eyes on a bee are called **compound eyes** because they are made up of thousands of tiny lenses. Each lens (called a **facet**) sees a small part of a scene and, all together, the lenses form an entire picture. You can compare it to a tile mosaic where tiles of different colors are put together to form a picture.

But the picture is not flat. All the facets are on a different part of a curved surface. This means the bee can easily see movement in any direction. Bees don't see as well when everything holds still, which is why holding still can often prevent stings. Although bees see movement very easily, their eyes don't form a clear image the way ours do.

Bee eyes also don't see the same colors we do. They can see ultraviolet light, but we can't. They cannot see red, but we can. In other words, they are better at seeing short wavelengths instead of long ones.

The three other eyes are called simple eyes or **ocelli**. They are at the top of the bee's head in a triangular pattern and are very small. These eyes don't see images but can detect light, especially changes in light. The ocelli help bees escape danger because if something is swooping down to eat them, the shadow created by the predator alerts the bee that something is wrong and gives it time to fly away. The compound eyes together with the ocelli make it very hard to sneak up on a bee.

Now, want to creep out your teacher? Tell her bees have hair growing out of their eyes! It's true.



Products: Queens, Nucs, Honey

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Mario & Shelly Jacob

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