

From the President:

Hello,

The Bee's are now working from sun up to sun down, they are building new comb and bringing in nectar, pollen and storing honey. During the evening and nights you may observe that many bees are outside the hive, this is normal behavior as they may be just trying to keep cool and not over heat the hive. Bee body temperature reaches 113 degrees Fahrenheit while buzzing their wings. You can differentiate cooling from swarming behavior by evaluating your hive population. If they have room to grow and adequate ventilation they are not swarming. Continue your hive inspections once every 10 to 14 days, looking for queen cells, brood patterns, and hive beetle population. Remember to focus on the presence of uncapped larvae this confirms a healthy egg laying queen even if you do not see the queen.

The months of May and June continue to produce a strong nectar flow. Citrus, Gall berry and Palmetto are major nectar plants that continue blooming May and June so honey stores will continue to swell. Add honey supers as needed. 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 provides unguarded spaces for hive beetles. It is important to provide lots of space for your bees to grow and store honey but we don't want to encourage the hive beetles. Only add one honey super at a time and watch the progress of capped honey. Only harvest capped honey, freeze for 3 days to kill anything else on the frames and dehydrating before extracting is preferred.

Planning ahead is always a good idea in beekeeping. Now is the time to gather your honey extracting equipment and bottling supplies. On average a honey super will produce 30 pounds of honey. Many beekeepers will extract honey in late June or early July. You can expect an average of up to two medium supers per (established) hive or 60+ pounds of honey as long as there are good nectar sources within their feeding area. More on this at the next meeting.

Bee Healthy, Bee Happy,

Timothy R Blodgett -President

timblodgett@netzero.net 407-314-9667

Next meeting Beekeepers of Volusia County: Wednesday, May 24, 2017, 6:30pm Ag Center Auditorium State Rd 44, Deland.

Beekeepers of Volusia County FL Club Officers:

President: Tim Blodgett
Vice-president: Larry Hirt

Secretary: Donna Balo / Assistant Cindy Stretz
Treasurer: Don Ruckett
Web Site/computer: Stephen McGehee/Marlin Athearn / Quentin Prior intern/
Support: Tom Homan
A-V support: Vacant
Refreshment Spvr: Pat Blodgett/volunteers welcome

Library of Beekeeping DVDs are available, see the treasurer to borrow a DVD. Library kept at meeting room.

FYI

Queen Piping (Chirping)

Communication among bees takes place in many ways. One is called Queen piping, the queen vibrates her wing muscles while pressing her thorax onto the comb. She makes a “tooting” sound for about one second, followed by quarter-second pulses separated by quarter second intervals. Workers close to the queen remain motionless perhaps reducing any aggression by the work-ers. Another result of tooting is the “quacking” sound from mature queens that are about to emerge from their cells. The quacking sound is composed of only the quarter-second pulses. Queen piping also causes the workers to prevent the emergence of queens during swarming. Piping communicates the number and status of queens and influences queen emergence.

- from the ABC XVZ of Bee Culture Book

Beekeepers of Volusia County Club Meeting **Minutes of 04/26/17**

Called to order by President Tim Blodgett @ 6:29pm

51 in attendance

Treasurer's report \$1158.11

New attendees introduced themselves.

A resident of DeLand with an acre of land would welcome a beehive on her property; the hive must be maintained by the beekeeper. Tim has contact information call 407-314-9667 for detail

2 chances for winners at the raffle tonight. 50/50 and a bee themed towel & apron set, handmade by Laura McGehee. The winner of the 1st number drawn will choose which they want.

Master Beekeeper Marlin Athearn presented Bee Hive Evaluation & Diagnosis . Emphasis was on normal and abnormal conditions of the Queen, mature & immature,

fertilized vs unfertilized conditions of the Queen as well as egg laying workers and reading diseased states and drone patterns of healthy and unhealthy hives. The slide show was very impressive and next meeting will continue with disease, pest and predator states of the hive. A copy of the slide presentation will be posted on our website by Steven McGehee.

Voted to reimburse Tim Blodgett \$185 for repair of his computer. Thank you.

Beekeeper April Management Calendar & nectar sources reviewed.

At the May meeting Master Beekeeper Marlin Athearn will present Bee Hive Evaluation & Diagnosis - **Diseases**

50/50 raffle announced. The winner of the 1st number chose the towel & apron set rather than the \$53. Nice work Laura.

Business cards available with contact & meeting information made available for newbees.

Adjourned 7:57 pm

Submitted Donna Balo, secretary

A word from the FL State Beekeepers Association:

Bees are stressed with Florida's long drought conditions:

Now is the time to water your plants and make sure sources of water are available for your honey bees.

Honey

Chinese Tallow Trees / aka: "Popcorn Trees" (*Sapium sebiferum*) are blooming in Florida. This exotic invasive species has a great nectar flow your honey bees can forage to yield a light colored quality honey. Lots of flowering plants in urban areas are blooming now, as well as native flowering plants in rural areas. Happy honey harvesting!

Meeting Agenda April 26, 2017

Old Business:

- Meeting called to order
- Queen cloning demonstration Day in the Bee Yard thank you Woody,
- **New Business:**
- Treasurer's report

- Some quick reminders about harvesting honey; capping, freezing, dehydrating, moisture content, Bee Lab Update
- Bee assessment & evaluation for disease states & pesticide poisoning by Marlin Athearn, Master Bee Keeper and former President Beekeepers of Volusia County
- Break
- Bee assessment & evaluation for disease states & pesticide poisoning by Marlin Athearn, Master Bee Keeper and former President Beekeepers of Volusia County
- Bee yard reminders & maintenance calendar review
- Nectar source review & samples for April
- Q&A

Announcements:

Thank you Woody for hosting the Queen Cloning Demonstration April 1, 2017. Pardon my manners for being tardy.

Wax moths: Apparently Spain is working on an idea to reduce plastics pollution with wax moths. Only 10% of plastics are recycled. Wax moths can eat plastic as anyone who tried to store old frames in a garbage bag has learned. The idea is to have wax moths eat the plastic and then dispose of them as fish food at fish farms. Hmmm? Not bad if they can get it to work.

To contribute to the University of Florida Honey Bee Research & Extension Laboratory go to: www.buildthebeelab.com. Update: The main Lab has been completely funded. Next issue funding the Annex. **Thank you for your support !**

Classified ad space is available to sell local honey at the club website www.volusiabeekeepers.org

From Wesh 2 News: May 14, 2017 Stolen bees recovered in California sting operation; A Montana beekeeper has recovered hives that were stolen from him in California

Lloyd Cunniff of Choteau reported 488 hives stolen in January, after he had transported them to California for the almond pollination season.

A tip led Fresno County authorities to find stolen hives worth \$170,000 in a rented bee nursery space, a cow pasture, and hidden in a drainage along a freeway.

From the Web: Mānuka honey

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Mānuka honey is a [monofloral honey](#) produced in [Australia](#) and [New Zealand](#) from the nectar of the [mānuka](#) tree. The honey is commonly sold as an [alternative medicine](#). While a component found in mānuka honey has [antibacterial](#) properties *in vitro*, there is no conclusive evidence of medicinal or dietary value other than as a [sweetener](#).

Identification

Mānuka honey is produced by introduced [European honey bees \(*Apis mellifera*\)](#)^[1] foraging on the mānuka or tea tree ([Leptospermum scoparium](#)) which grows uncultivated throughout [New Zealand](#) and southeastern [Australia](#).^[2]

Mānuka honey is markedly [viscous](#), having the highest viscosity among a range of honeys. This property is due to the presence of a protein or colloid and is its main visually defining character, along with its typical dark cream to dark brown color. To be labeled New Zealand mānuka honey, at least 70% of its pollen content should come from *Leptospermum scoparium*.

The mānuka tree flowers at the same time as [Kunzea ericoides](#), another Myrtaceae species also called kānuka, which often shares the same growing areas. Some [apiarists](#) cannot readily differentiate these species, as both flowers have similar morphology and pollen differentiation between the two species is difficult. Therefore, [melissopalynology](#) as identification for the type of honey is valid only in association with other identification tests. In particular, [L. scoparium](#) honey is dark, whereas [K. ericoides](#) honey is pale yellow and clear, with a "delicate, sweet, slightly aromatic" aroma and a "sweet, slightly aromatic" flavor, and is not viscous.^[4]

Heather ([Calluna vulgaris](#)) honey is also viscous, but the plant flowers in late summer and its mountain distribution in north temperate Europe and central Asia does not correspond with that of [Leptospermum scoparium](#). Therefore, its harvest cannot be mistaken for that of manuka honey.

Food

Mānuka honey has a strong flavor, characterized as "earthy, oily, herbaceous", and "florid, rich and complex". It is described by the New Zealand honey industry as having a "damp earth, heather, aromatic" aroma and a "mineral, slightly bitter" flavor.

Research

There is insufficient evidence from existing studies to conclude that honey helps improve superficial [burns](#) or [leg ulcers](#) compared to a standard dressing. Mānuka honey also does not reduce the risk of infection following treatment for [ingrown toenails](#).

Preliminary studies indicate that [methylglyoxal](#) is an [antibacterial](#) component of mānuka honey.

Adulteration[[edit](#)]

As a result of the high premium paid for mānuka honey, an increasing number of products now labeled as such worldwide are [counterfeit](#) or [adulterated](#). According to research by UMFHA, the main trade association of New Zealand mānuka honey producers, whereas 1,700 tons of mānuka honey are made there annually representing almost all the world's production, some 10,000 tons of produce is being sold internationally as mānuka honey, including 1,800 tons in the UK.

In governmental agency tests in the UK between 2011 and 2013, a majority of mānuka-labelled honeys sampled lacked the non-peroxide anti-microbial activity of mānuka honey. Likewise, of 73 samples tested by UMFHA in Britain, China and Singapore in 2012-13, 43 tested negative. Separate UMFHA tests in Hong Kong found that 14 out of 56 mānuka honeys sampled had been adulterated with syrup. In 2013, the UK Food Standards Agency asked trading standards authorities to alert mānuka honey vendors to the need for legal compliance.

There is a confusing range of systems for rating the strength of mānuka honeys. In one UK chain in 2013, two products were labeled "12+ active" and "30+ total activity" respectively for "naturally occurring peroxide activity" and another "active 12+" in strength for "total phenol activity," yet none of the three was labeled for the strength of the non-peroxide antimicrobial activity specific to mānuka honey.

There have been increasing turf disputes between producers operating close to large mānuka tree clumps, and also cases reported of many hives being variously sabotaged or stolen

One British supermarket has taken to stocking jars of the honey in tagged security cassettes, such were the losses from shoplifting.^[13]

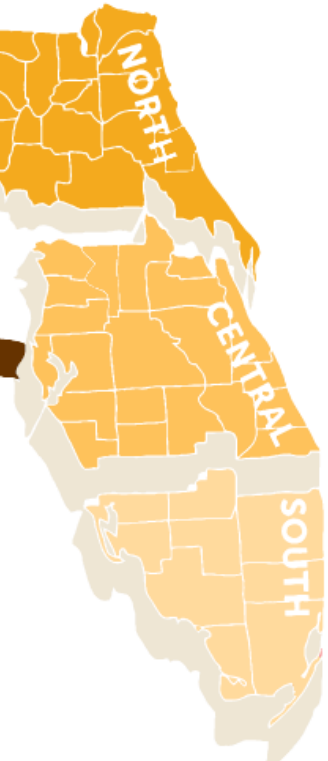
Beekeeper MANAGEMENT CALENDAR

MAY



north - central - south

- Continue to control for swarming.
- Remedy failing queens as necessary.
Queen issues are especially problematic this time of year.
- Super as necessary.



What's Blooming?

- north**
- American Holly
 - Blackberry
 - Blackhaw
 - Butter Mint
 - Cabbage Palm
 - Chinese Privet
 - Dahoon Holly
 - Dog Hobble
 - Fetterbush
 - Galberry
 - Gopher Apple
 - Jointweed
 - Mexican Clover
 - Partridge Pea
 - Possum Haw
 - Red Bay
 - Sandhill Prairie Clover
 - Saw Palmetto
 - Spanish Needle
 - Sparkleberry
 - Spiderwort
 - Swamp Bay
 - Swamp Titi
 - Tuliptree
 - Tupelo
 - Yaupon Holly

- central**
- American Holly
 - Butter Mint
 - Dahoon Holly
 - Dog Hobble
 - Fetterbush
 - Galberry
 - Gopher Apple
 - Jointweed
 - Mexican Clover
 - Orange
 - Palm
 - Palmetto
 - Sandhill Prairie Clover
 - Spanish Needle
 - Spiderwort
 - Yaupon Holly

- south**
- Buttonwood
 - Dahoon Holly
 - Galberry
 - Mangrove
 - Mexican Clover
 - Orange
 - Palmetto
 - Primrose Willow
 - Seagrape
 - Shrubby False Buttonweed
 - Smart Weed
 - Spanish Needle
 - Wild Coffee

Monthly recurring reference materials:

Common Honey Bee Races in North America:

Italian—*Apis Mellifera Ligustica*—Most popular bee—gentle & good producers—prone to rob & drift
Cordova—Subset of Italian—slightly more gentle, more likely to rob, light tan in color easy to find queen.

Caucasian—*Apis Mellifera Caucasicus*, silver gray in color, tend to propolis excessively. About same productivity as Italians.

Carniolan—*Apis mellifera carnica*—dark brown to black, better in northern climates. Less productive than Italians

Russian—*Apis mellifera caucasica*—mite Resistant, a bit defensive, Swarminess and productivity are a bit more unpredictable. Traits are not well fixed.

Buckfast—a mixture of bees developed by Buckfast Abbey. Similar to Italian bees, fast spring build up, resistant to tracheal mites Reference—[Bushfarms.com/bee races](http://Bushfarms.com/bee_races)

***Michigan hygienic, University hybrids & ankle biter varieties not readily available from local producers are not listed.

12 Month Apiary Calendar(TEXT) UF reproduced

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 F continues to bloom in February F 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!!! 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 M, Galberry M , Dog Hobble M, Palmetto M, Mexican Clover M, Butter Mint M 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

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 NeedleAS, Palmetto, Mexican CloverAS, Buttermint, Palm, Gopher Apple, Joint WeedA , RedbayAS, Sandhill Prairie CloverA , Partridge PeaA , MangroveA , Primrose WillowAS , Spiderwort/DayflowerAS A continues to bloom in August AScontinues to bloom in September

August 1- Monitor colonies for varroa (see July)! 2- Treat with Terramycin dust 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 MintS , GoldenrodS , Vine AsterS , SumacS 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 nect

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 CloverN , Primrose WillowN , Spotted MintN , GoldenrodM , Vine AsterN , Smart WeedN , Bush AsterND N continues to bloom in November D continues to bloom in December Nov: Nothing new blooms Dec: Nothing new blooms

Florida Beekeepers are required to register their hives Annually. We advise members to be proactive towards registration for many reasons and especially because it is simply the cheapest liability insurance policy you will ever buy. The following is the Fee Schedule per number of hives:

Number of Colonies	Fee
1-5	\$10
6-40	\$20
41-200	\$40
201-500	\$70
501+	\$100

Payment for hive registrations can be made by mail or online. Go to www.freshfromflorida.com

**BEST MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR
MAINTAINING EUROPEAN HONEY BEE COLONIES ON NON-
AGRICULTURAL LANDS:**

The colony density limits in areas not classified as agricultural pursuant to Section 193.461, Florida Statutes, below, minimize potential conflict between people and honey bees and beekeepers following the BMRs outlined in this document. The honey bee colony requirements /densities may not be exceeded except under a special permit issued by the Director of the Division of Plant Industry in accordance with the requirements of Rule 5B-54.0105(3), F.A.C.

1.

The placement of honey bee colonies on non-agricultural private lands must agree to and adhere to the following stipulations:

A.

When a colony is situated within 15 feet of a property line, the beekeeper must establish and maintain a flyway barrier at least 6 feet in height consisting of a solid wall, fence, dense vegetation or combination thereof that is parallel to the property line and extends beyond the colony in each direction.

B.

All properties, or portions thereof, where the honey bee colonies are located must be fenced, or have an equivalent barrier to prevent access, and have a gated controlled entrance to help prevent unintended disturbance of the colonies.

C.

No honey bee colonies may be placed on public lands including schools, parks, and other similar venues except by special permit letter issued by the Director of the Division of Plant Industry and written consent of the property owner.

2.

Honey bee colony densities on non-agricultural private land are limited to the following property size to colony ratios:

A.

One quarter acre or less tract size - 3 colonies. Colony numbers may be increased up to six colonies as a swarm control measure for not more than a 60 day period of time.

B.

More than one-quarter acre, but less than one-half acre tract size - 6 colonies. Colony numbers may be increased up to 12 colonies as a swarm control measure for not more than a 60 day period of time.

C.

More than one-half acre, but less than one acre tract size - 10 colonies. Colony numbers may be increased up to 20 colonies as a swarm control measure for not more than a 60 day period of time.

D.

One acre up to two and a half acres - 15 colonies. Colony numbers may be increased up to 30 colonies as a swarm control measure for not more than a 60 day period of time.

E.

Two and a half to five acres - 25 colonies. Colony numbers may be increased up to 50 colonies as a swarm control measure for not more than a 60 day period of time.

F.

Five up to 10 acres

50 colonies. Colony numbers may be increased up to 100 colonies as a swarm control measure for not more than a 60 day period of time.

G.

Ten or more acres –100 colonies. The number of colonies shall be unlimited provided all colonies are at least 150 feet from property lines.

3.

Beekeepers must provide a convenient source of water on the property that is available to the bees at all times so that the bees do not congregate at unintended water sources.

4.

Beekeepers must visually inspect all honey bee colonies a minimum of once a month to assure reasonable colony health including adequate food and colony strength. If upon inspection honey bees appear to be overly aggressive the beekeeper shall contact their assigned apiary inspector for an assessment.

5.

Re-queen collected swarms, new colonies and maintain colonies with queens or queen cells from EHB queen producer(s).

6.

Practice reasonable swarm prevention techniques as referenced in University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences extension

document “Swarm Control for Managed Beehives”, ENY 160, published November 2012.

7.

Do not place apiaries within 150 feet of tethered or confined animals or public places where people frequent. (Examples - day care centers, schools, parks, parking lots, etc.)

8.

Do not place colonies in an area that will impede ingress or egress by emergency personnel to entrances to properties and buildings.

9.

Deed restrictions and covenants that prohibit or restrict the allowance for managed honey bee colonies within their established jurisdictions take precedence and as a result supersede the authority and requirements set forth in Chapter 586 Florida Statutes and Rule Chapter 5B-54, Florida Administrative Code. It shall be presumed for purposes of this article that the beekeeper is the person or persons who own or otherwise have the present right of possession and control of the tract upon which a colony or colonies are situated. The presumption may be rebutted by a written agreement authorizing another person to maintain the colony or colonies upon the tract setting forth the name, address, and telephone number of the other person who is acting as the beekeeper.