



www.volusiabeekeepers.org

From the President:

Welcome to another season of Bee Keeping in the best State to do it in. I hope you are all well rested and ready to go at it again. If you are a new-bee, welcome. Our website, <http://volusiabeekeepers.org/>, is loaded with info and links for beekeeping. There are calendar reminders of general monthly tasks and native flora that is in bloom based on your State region compliments of UF at Gainesville. Those floral food sources are sparse this time of year and may not be within foraging range of your hive(s). So as a beginner if you have a hives you should be evaluating the need for feeding yours both sugar mixtures or artificial pollen. Last, it's a new year don't forget to renew your State registration at www.freshfromflorida.com.

Beekeepers of Volusia County FL Club Officers:

President:	Tim Blodgett
Vice-president:	Larry Hirt
Secretary:	Donna Balo /asst. vacant
Treasurer:	Don Ruckert
Web Site/computer	Stephen McGehee/Marlin Athern / Quentin Prior intern/
News Letter:	Vacant
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.

Beekeepers of Volusia County Club Meeting
Minutes of 010/25/17

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

35 in attendance

Treasurer's report \$1843.74

New attendees introduced themselves.

A Sharing Table is available at each meeting for members to give away items or sell items.

The 2018 membership dues & renewals are now due unless you already paid. The membership drive will continue until March.

The president posted the proposed by-laws. Suggestions will be incorporated into the draft and posted at next meeting. This will be considered the first reading of the by-laws.

No input was provided regarding the Bank minimum deposit issue. The president will look into the banking problem. F/U at next meeting.

The President is looking into possible issues with the club's 501C3 status. A member offered to look into our status. F/U at next meeting.

Lisa Reyes Florida State Bee Inspector was a no show

A case study of a colony collapse was discussed

The Volusia County Fair Exhibit was discussed

End of year Varroa treatment & Winterizing your hives was discussed

Bee yard reminders & maintenance calendar review

Nectar sources reviewed

Adjourned 8:00 pm

Submitted Timothy Blodgett President

Meeting Agenda January 24, 2018

Old Business:

- Bank Account min. balance issue follow-up
- 501c(3) status
- 2nd reading of by-laws
- **New Business:**
- Treasurer's report
- NewBees
- Golden Queen Catcher Awards
- Election of 2018 Club Officers
- 2nd reading
- Wild hive removal legislation

- Bee College
- Mary Bammer, Extension Coordinator, UF at Gainesville -guest speaker

FYI:

We were well represented at the Ocean Center in the early January cold.



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER ADAM H. PUTNAM

Bee Removal Workgroup

AGENDA

9:30AM – 1:00PM February 2, 2018

Division of Plant Industry
1911 SW 34th Street
Gainesville, Florida 32608
(888) 397-1517

Call-in information: US Toll free: (888) 670-3525
Participant Passcode: 4118982807 then #

Topics to be discussed:

- History of current Rule 5E-14.151 F.A.C.
- Rule revision discussion
 - Training
 - Insurance
 - Contract requirements
 - Tree vs. structure
- Next Steps

1-800-HELPFLA



www.FreshFromFlorida.com

***Efforts are being made to pass a law that will ban Beekeepers from capturing wild hives & swarms. The Beekeepers of Volusia County does**

not capture bees but many of our members do. These laws will criminalize the capture or relocation of wild bees as it has been done by Beekeepers and hand it over to extermination companies. Your input and concerns need to be heard on this matter. Above is the next meeting concerning this issue. Feel free to attend. Please add you name to the Petition link below to have your voices heard before the February 2, 2018 meeting in Gainsville, FL on this subject.

If you copy and paste this website into your browser it will bring you to a petition to stop the pending plan to stop beekeepers from removing/relocating feral hives. Please sign the petition -Tim

https://www.thepetitionsite.com/621/263/189/demand-an-end-to-killing-wild-honey-bees-and-stop-florida-from-making-live-bee-removal-illegal/?taf_id=48484320&c

Dr. Jamie Ellis will be speaking at the Seminole County Agriculture Auditorium 7pm Feb 7, 2018 during the Seminole County Beekeepers Meeting. There will also be a research assistant from the University of Delaware speaking on advancements in Varroa management. All are welcome. A door donation of \$5 will be asked for to support the Bee Lab currently under construction at UF Gainsville



UF Gainesville Bee Lab January 10, 2018

2018 Bee College in the Panhandle

Friday & Saturday, March 23-24, 2018

Blountstown High School

18597 NE SR 69

Blountstown, FL 32424

This could be interesting:


Tackling bees' greatest threat: Lithium chloride could kill Varroa destructor mites without harming bees

copy and paste into your browser:

<https://geneticliteracyproject.org/2018/01/16/tackling-bees-greatest-threat-lithium->

Beekeeper MANAGEMENT CALENDAR

JANUARY



north - central - south

Nosema can be a significant colony problem this time of year.
 Making sure colonies are well fed will reduce nosema spore counts (one million spores per bee is considered a high spore count). Some beekeepers also treat colonies with fumagilin* with varied effectiveness. Recheck spore counts in colonies 2-3 weeks after treatment.

Repair/paint old equipment.

Feed colonies if light.
 Also supply pollen supplements in Central and South Florida if necessary.

**Always follow label instructions.*

What's blooming?

north	central	south
	Red Maple	Willow
		Mexican Clover
		Spanish Needle
		Primrose Willow

UF IFAS Extension UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA | Honey Bee | @UFhoneybeelab #UFbugs

Monthly recurring reference materials:

-Readily available common kitchen Refractometer water content calibration oils:

Sunflower oil (Sainsbury's) 25.0%

Olive oil regular (Sainsbury's) 27.2%

Olive oil regular (Bertolli) 27.2%

Olive oil, Spanish extra virgin (Sainsbury's) 27.0%

Olive oil, Italian extra virgin (Filippo Berio) 27.0%Calibrating a refractometer.

Owing to the remarkably consistent properties of Extra-Virgin Olive Oil, one drop of it on the slide will always read between 71 and 72 on the Brix scale. If you set the lock-nut to show any such oil at 71.5, you will have correctly calibrated the water content scale at the same time.

Queen color codes:

2015, 2020 purple 2016, 2021 white 2017, 2022 yellow

2018, 2023 red 2019, 2024 green

Common Honey Bee Races in North America

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

Caucasian—*Apis Mellifera Caucasica*, 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 PineF , MapleF , WillowFM F continues to bloom in February FMcontinues 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. PlumM , CherryM , OakM , Walther ViburnumM , Sweet CloverM , BlueberryM , HawM , FetterbushM 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, FetterbushM , Spanish NeedleMJ, GalberryM , Dog HobbleMJ , PalmettoMJ, Mexican CloverMJ, Butter MintMJ M continues to bloom in May J continues to bloom in June MJcontinues 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 PalmJ , Gopher AppleJ , Joint WeedJ , Sandhill Prairie CloverJ , Spiderwort/ DayflowerJ 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 nectar

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.
