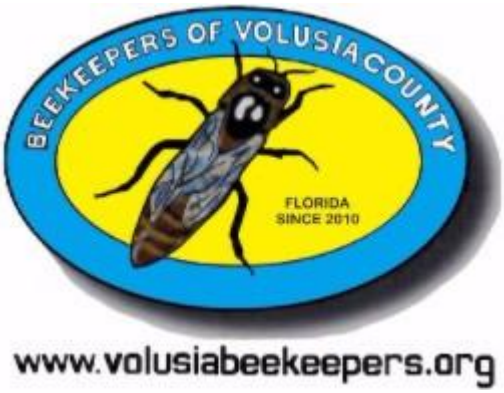


April 2018 News Letter: The next meeting of the Beekeepers of Volusia County will be April 25, 2018 at 6:30 pm. Volusia County Ag Center Auditorium, Fair Grounds, 3100 E. New York Avenue, Deland, Florida 32724.

Beekeepers of Volusia County FL Club Officers:

President:	Dennis Langlois
Vice-president:	Marlin Athern
Secretary:	vacant
Treasurer:	Tim Blodgett
Web Site/computer	Stephen McGehee / Quentin Prior intern/
News Letter:	Vacant
Refreshment Spvr:	Elizabeth Langlois/volunteers & donations welcome

Beekeepers of Volusia County Club Meeting
Minutes of 03/28/2018

Called to order by President Dennis Langlois @ 6:30pm

38 in attendance

Treasurer's report: not called for
Beginning Balance:$ 1408.46

Meeting Date Balance: $1519.97

Ending Balance: $1634.97 3/31/2018 statement

Deposits/Credits $385.00
Checks $60.00

Withdrawals/Debits $98.49

-Meeting called to order 6:30 pm by President Dennis Langlois.
-Mario & Dennis both again emphasized the need for at least monthly Varroa Counts. The procedure was reviewed but no products were available for demonstration purposes. Dennis explained the importance of using sticky boards to observe the effects of the thermal treatment & results that he has obtained. You will see an increase in the sticky board results for a several weeks while dead Varroa fall off bees who reached their life expectancy. So ideally you would get a baseline count first before you treat and check again weekly and/or in 8 weeks to see the results of the treatment. Considering dead Varroa will be falling off of bees that had them before hatching from brood cells don't expect to see reduced Varroa sticky board counts for a full 8 weeks after treatment. Documenting these results is important as this is a new method and does not have published research yet. That makes first hand users the best source of information. The product is based on sound bee science as we know it but we need the results from many users to prove the results of this grass roots solution to a massive bee industry problem.

An improper vote was taken to buy the thermal mite killer. Problems occurred. Problems included: not all questions were answered, literature or supporting studies and details were lacking, motions should be made by members (not the President), full disclosure was not made and non-members were included in the vote. No plan was discussed to determine how or who would administer this program but cat calls from the back of the room assumed the treasurer would add it to his list of unfilled volunteer club jobs he is already doing. The treasurer made it crystal clear he has no intension of filling another job because club members want but won't step up to help also known as everyone's concern but no one's responsibility.

A suggestion was made to meet with the manufacturer at a demo already scheduled in Sanford, followed by establishing how & who will administer this program by committee or discussion before any decision is made to purchase this product. Issue tabled until next meeting. Notice will go out via email to invite members to the demo in Sanford. Discussion for administration to follow at next meeting.

-Update from Mario: Bee Lab is shy $160,000, they still need donations we're almost there. Tim mentioned he received a donation of 30 bottles of Mangrove honey from life time member Jesse Azam of S&S Apiaries to use as a fund raiser & funds to be presented at the summer Bee College. Thank you Jesse! Unfortunately, ½ the bottles have begun to crystallize so Marlin volunteered to put them in his honey house warmer to de-crystallize & enhance their salability. Follow up at next meeting.

-Honey labeling requirement by the FDA has been delayed for 90 days. Comment input ends April 29, 2018. We all need to visit the comment website to voice concern for consumer confusion since there are no additives put in our honey. It is an unnecessary expense too.
The website for comment id https://www.regulations.gov search the word honey it's the third one down. **ID:** FDA-2018-D-0075-0001. An email was issued with details.

-Mario reviewed the ABF's efforts to get exemptions from electronic monitoring of livestock movers that would result in the death of livestock due to lack of moving air in the heat of the day.

-Mario plugged ABF membership and successes in Florida. Mario informed the website is still not working for online membership again. He said he'd inform them again.

Meeting Adjourned 8:00 pm

Submitted: Timothy Blodgett Treasurer

FYI:
The Honey Board will have a Disney Epcot exhibit at the International Flower Festival until May 28, 2018. If there stop by.
A Sharing Table is authorized at each meeting for members to are out of hive give away or sell items at the back of the room.
-Bees change the angle of the bee dance by 1 degree every 20 minutes to account for the earth's rotation.

Bee Facts:
- Japanese Honey Bees will allow a Giant Asian Hornet into their hive then surround it in a ball and flap their wings to raise their body temps high enough to kill the hornet but not themselves.
- To combine different groups of bees place a queen excluder between boxes and a piece of news paper on the queen excluder. By the time the bees chew through the news paper9a couple of hours) they will recognize each other as being from the same hive.
- Best time to work your hive? 10a-2pm, Why? Foragers are out, less bees to deal with.
-How many drones does a Queen mate with? About 20-25. Just once.
-Drones have no stinger & are frequently used to practice handling Queens rather than risk damaging Queens.

Agenda: April 25, 2018 meeting

Old Business:

Approval of minutes

New Business:

New Bees?

Treasurer's Report

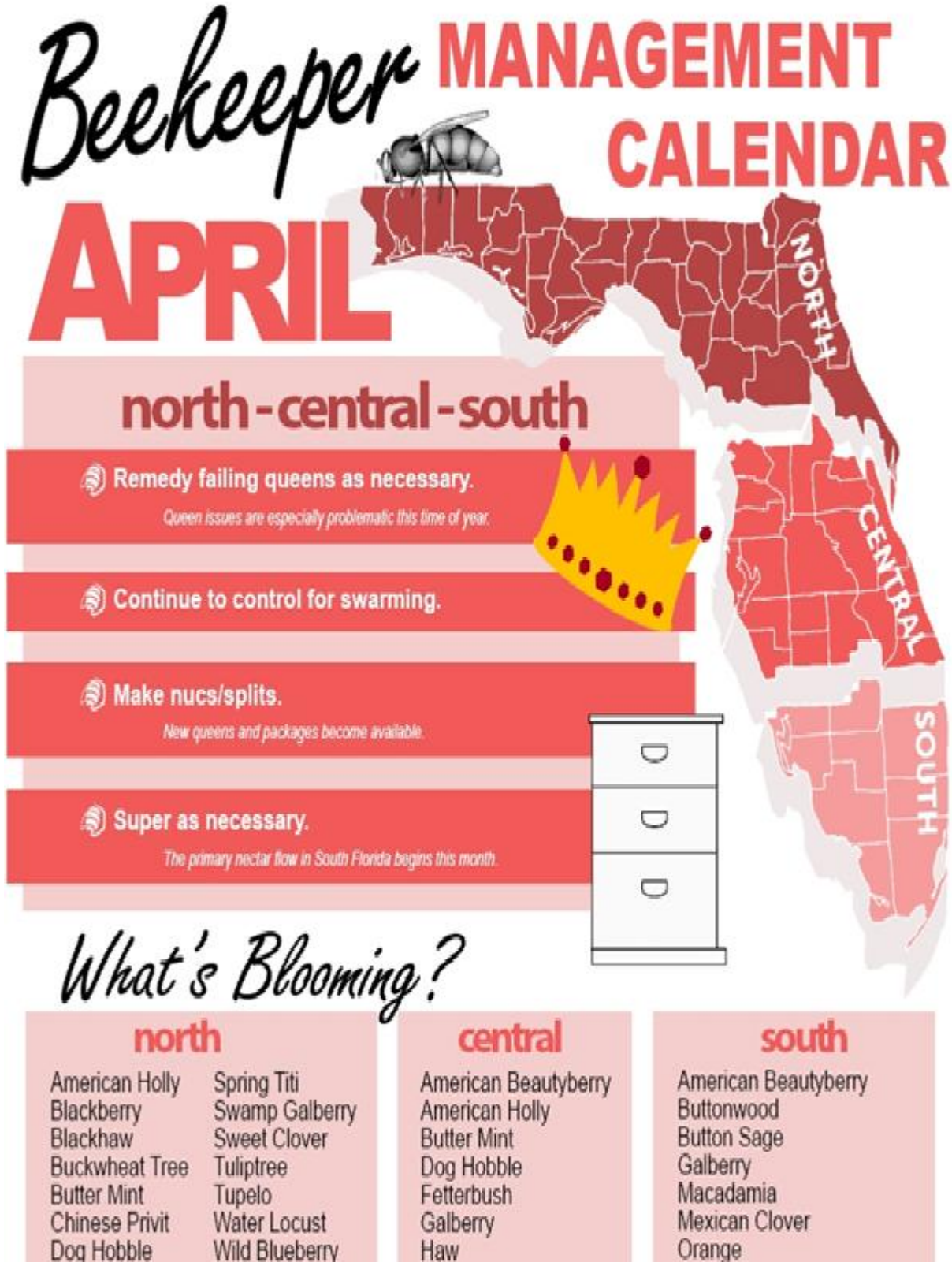
Thermal Varroa Mite Killer BBH-101 Bee Hive Thermal Industries

a) Report on manufacturer's demonstration Commentary by Dennis, Tim, Vern. Q&A
b) Discussion of sharing, cleaning, maintaining & rules of usage if thermal Varroa mite killer is purchased.
c) Motion to adopt

Break

Alcohol Wash demo: Easy Chek Varroa Mite test kit.

Dr. Samuel Ramsey PhD, "What is Killing European Honey Bees". Recent research focuses on visual confirmation of Varroa feeding on "Fat Bodies" of Honey Bees. Discussion to determine funding this key note speaker to present his findings at a future club meeting.



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:

2018, 2023 red, 2019, 2024 green 2020 purple, 2021 white, 2022 yellow

Common Honey Bee Races in North America

Italian—Apis Mellifera Lizustica—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
***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 at the Bee Lab at UF Gainsville!!! 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 or June Thermal treatment for Varroa in late spring.

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 5+ 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 5+ 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 Thermal Varroa Treatment summer treatment due.

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 5+ mites in an ether/alcohol roll for a colony of average strength. Treat if you exceed these numbers. Options include: Apivar, Varroa thermal treatment due Oct-Nov fall treatment
- 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.