



Corrected & revised 5/16/2018

May 2018 News Letter: The next meeting of the Beekeepers of Volusia County will be May 23, 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 04/25/2018

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

48 in attendance

Treasurer's report:

Balance:\$ 1384.96

A projection of financial obligations for the remainder of the year was performed based on best information available. We have \$204 left for future purchases for the remainder of the year not counting other fund raising.

-Meeting called to order 6:30 pm by President Dennis Langlois.

-Lisa Reyes State Bee Inspector reviewed Florida's "Best Bee Practices"

and gave valuable insights to some of the most common confusions when interpreting the Laws. One in particular is a barrier if hive is located within 15 feet of a property line. Safety is the main concern to avoid Bee flight paths with human traffic patterns. She also reviewed issues with deeded communities. “Objection to Bees is usually related to some other home owner issue not necessarily to the Bees”.

- Dennis reported multiple successes with the Bee Hive Thermal devices. He stressed the importance of reporting before and after sticky board results to build a “Citizen’s Science” case for an investigational study by the Bee Lab. (great idea)

-A question arose concerning full disclosure. Tim explained that full disclosure has been fulfilled this includes the sales rep waiving his commission on the club sale of 2 units and gave a briefing regarding the presentation by the inventor that explained costs & expected results. A comment was made that it sounds like a proto type. Tim answered, “yes” but appears to be the best thing on the market at this time for small scale beekeepers with locally sourced materials and manufacturing so the advantages of mass production from China do not apply.

-A committee chaired by Vice Pres. Marlin has been formed to determine a implementation process for the 2 BBH-101’s to be shared by the club.

-Alcohol washes were reviewed and again stressed that this provided unreliable results for monitoring Varroa mites in your hive.

-Samual Ramsey PhD- speaker Club wants this speaker as long as additional funds are raised to cover expenses separate from treasury. Elizabeth will act as treasurer for this project. New Raffle format and Dennis obtaining items from multiple vendors appears very promising. \$107 was raised at the raffle. This exceeds our best 50/50 by double.

-Marlin de-crystallized Jesse’s donated honey and can now be sold for a Bee Lab fund raiser.

Meeting Adjourned 8:00 pm

Submitted: Timothy Blodgett Treasurer

FYI:

A Sharing Table is authorized at each meeting for members to give away or sell items at the back of the room.

JOIN THE MASTER BEEKEEPER PROGRAM TODAY!

The long awaited Apprentice Level online course for the University of Florida Master Beekeeper Program is finally here! If you are interested in joining the UF MBP, this course will be your entrance to the program. You do not need to apply and there are no education or experience requirements to begin.

The second half of the online Apprentice course is still under construction. As such, Part 1 is currently available to begin today. Part 2 will be available by Fall of 2018.

The requirements for the Apprentice level have changed in the new program. Read through the [revised program manual here](#).



<https://ifas-honeybee.catalog.instructure.com/courses/ufmbp-apprentice1>

Agenda: May 24, 2018 meeting

Old Business:

Approval of minutes

New Business:

Treasurer's Report

TBA

Industry Updates for Florida Beekeepers

The Florida Administrative Code (FAC) associated with honey bees and beekeepers ([Rule 5B-54](#)) has undergone some changes that will have an effect on beekeeping operations in Florida. This post will summarize the changes and what they mean for you and your bees.

Defining the Industry

Definitions within codes, laws, and statutes allows for the proper interpretation of our rules. As such, the recent changes to 5B-54 FAC included the addition of many bee-related definitions including nuc, motherline, and top-bar hive among others. Additionally, beekeeping operations can now be defined based on size. As a beekeeper, you may be classified as a 1) backyard [1-40 colonies], 2) sideline [41-100 colonies], or 3) commercial [>100 colonies] beekeeper.

Mark Your Bees

Before these rules changes, all registered Florida beekeepers were issued two numbers on their apiary registration certificate, including a registration number (FL0*****) and a firm number (480****). Moving forward, only the firm number will be relevant. It is this number that you will need to have permanently marked on the outside of your hive bodies.

Additionally, commercial beekeeping operations must visually display emergency contact information at each apiary location that is “visible to the public”. This information will include the apiary owner’s name and phone number.

Selling Bees

As of March 27th, 2018, if you are selling bee colonies (nucs, full colonies, etc.) in Florida you must follow these two steps. First, your queens must come from a certified queen source. This is to ensure European motherlines across the state. Second, you must be certified by the state as a Stock Dealer. As a registered Stock Dealer in Florida, you are **not** required to permanently mark the hives that you plan to sell. Rather, the individual that you sell the colony to will be responsible for marking it with his/her firm number. For information on how to become a Stock Dealer, contact your local apiary inspector. You can find your local inspector [here](#).

-Mary Bammer UF/IFAS University of Florida

Beekeeper MANAGEMENT CALENDAR

MAY

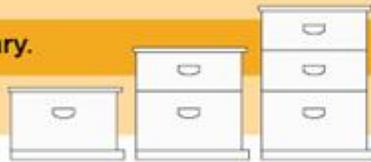


north-central-south

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

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

This calendar is meant to be a reference point for management and is not comprehensive.

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 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 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

***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 FM 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. 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 Gainesville!!! 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 MJ continues 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.