

# **Beekeepers of Volusia County FL Club Officers:**

January 2019

President:	Dennis Langlois	Dennis2021@yahoo.com	<u>407-330-8542</u>
Vice-president:	Marlin Athern		
Secretary:	vacant		
Treasurer:	Tim Blodgett		
Web Site/computer	Stephen McGehee		
News Letter:	Vacant		
Refreshment Spvr:	Elizabeth Langlois/volunteers & don	ations welcome	

January 2019 News Letter: The next meeting of the Beekeepers of Volusia County will be January 23, 2019 at 6:30 pm. Volusia County Ag Center Auditorium, Fair Grounds, 3100 E. New York Avenue, Deland, Florida 32724.

## **Beekeepers of Volusia County Club Meeting Minutes:**

No minutes due to Winter break November & December

Treasurer's report:

\$20 dues are now due. Payment by check or cash to Beekeepers of Volusia County. Please provide a current, legible email address when making payment to assure you are credited appropriately. Pay the Treasurer at the meeting or by mail to: Tim Blodgett Treasurer, 2707 Timberlake Avenue, Deltona, FL 32725. Any problems feel free to call me 407-314-9667.

As required by the club by-laws I will submit the Club's annual financial review for fiscal year 2018 at the January meeting.

Balance: \$540.73

Agenda for January 23 meeting:

1) Welcome new-bees

- 2) Financial report –annual requirement
- 3) Election new officers –all positions are open
- 4) Outreach updates Donna Athern

# FYI:



Beekeep	er MANA	GEMENT CALENDA		
north-c	entral-south			
ৰু) Feed colonies if light. Also s	supply polien supplements in Central and South Floi	rida Il necessary.		
<ul> <li>Nosema can be a significat</li> <li>Making sure colonies are well fed will reduce spores per bee is considered a high spore of</li> <li>Repair/paint old equipment</li> </ul>	ant problem this month. e Nosema spore counts (one million ount).			
*Always follow label instructions.		44 - 96111		
What's Blooming?				
north	central	south		
Maple Wild Mustard Sand Pine Willow	Maple Wild Mustard Sand Pine Willow	Maple Spanish Needle Mexican Clover Wild Mustare Primrose Willow Willow		
UF IFAS Extension	s)Honey Bee 🔽 🔽	@UFhoneybeelab #UFbugs		

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

#### 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 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

# From the State: 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.

-Mary Bammer UF/IFAS University of Florida

# 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 most local producers are not listed.

## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

## DIVISION OF PLANT INDUSTRY

## BUREAU OF PLANT AND APIARY INSPECTION APIARY INSPECTION SECTION

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR MAINTAINING EUROPEAN HONEY BEE COLONIES

1. This is a voluntary program designed to minimize the threat of Africanized Honey Bees (AHB) in Florida and to dilute any feral AHB populations that may become established in Florida as our gentle managed colonies are our best line of defense against AHB.

- 2. Beekeepers participating in this program must sign a compliance agreement with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- 3. Beekeepers will maintain a valid registration with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services/Division of Plant Industry (FDACS/DPI), and be current with any and all special inspection fees.
- 4. A Florida apiary may be deemed as EHB (European Honey Bee) with a minimum 10% random survey of colonies using the FABIS (Fast African Bee Identification System) and/or the computer-assisted morphometric procedure, ie. universal system for the detection of Africanized Honey Bees (AHB) (USDA-ID), or other approved methods by FDACS on a yearly basis or as requested.
- 5. Honey bee colony divisions or splits should be queened with production queens or queen cells from EHB breeder queens following Florida's Best Management Practices.
- 6. Florida beekeepers are discouraged from collecting swarms that cannot be immediately re-queened from EHB queen producers.
- 7. Florida Beekeepers should practice good swarm prevention techniques to prevent an abundance of virgin queens and their ready mating with available AHB drones that carry the defensive trait.
- 8. Maintain all EHB colonies in a strong, healthy, populous condition to discourage usurpation (take over) swarms of AHB.
- 9. Do not allow any weak or empty colonies to exist in an Apiary, as they may be attractive to AHB swarms.
- 10. Recommend re-queening with European stock every six months unless using marked or clipped queens and having in possession a bill of sale from a EHB Queen Producer.
- 11. Immediately re-queen with a European Queen if previously installed clipped or marked queen is found missing.
- 12. Maintain one European drone source colony (250 square inches of drone comb) for every 10 colonies in order to reduce supercedure queens mating with AHB drones.
- 13. To protect public safety and reduce beekeeping liability do not site apiaries in proximity of tethered or confined animals, students, the elderly, general public, drivers on public roadways, or visitors where this may have a higher likelihood of occurring.
- 14. Treat all honey bees with respect.

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:

Α.

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.

Β.

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:

Α.

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.