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<http://ejbees.org>

EJ'S NEWS

EJ is East Jefferson Beekeepers Association's Mascot.

Volume 8

Gloria Neal, Editor

July, 2019

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CLUB MEETING at

Jefferson County Library
 Saturday, May 11th
 9:00 a.m.
 Board Meeting

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9:30 a.m.
PROGRAM

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Our July's meeting topic
 will be Techniques for
 harvesting your honey
 supers.

It's early yet, but this will
 give you time to prepare
 for this August activity.
 It will be followed with a
 Q and A time!

THE PREZ SEZ

Greetings Beekeepers,

The little bit of rain we just had reminds me to remind our beginner beekeepers to maintain a source of water for your bees. When water is not kept regularly available bees will go to the neighbor's kiddie pool or the dog bowl and perhaps cause problems.

Now is also the time to make sure you do mite counts so you can be prepared to treat if needed. There are many videos and articles written about how to do the counts and what products to use. Read the directions carefully as some products want to be applied without honey supers in place.

Doing mite counts is a good way for beginners to be doing something important and worth disturbing the bees during the nectar flow happening now.

If you have weak hives that are queenless or otherwise declining neighboring honeybees may begin robbing. In robbing the raiding bees take the nectar and even capped honey. Losing that resource adds additional injury to your efforts. Read up on how to deal with robbing and you might save your self some unneeded losses. I was once able to stop raiding by spraying a water mist over the front of the hive, making them all think it was raining and go home...while it worked it is not a long-lasting solution.

Have a great summer and enjoy the Blackberries! Tony G

REMEMBER!

**AUGUST'S MEETING IS ON THE FIRST
 SATURDAY, BECAUSE OF THE FAIR!**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: Tony Goldenberg

Vice President: Blake Winn

Secretary: David Morris

Treasurer: Harry Prather

Trustees:

Paul Jendrucko

Rich Thomas

John Liczwinko

EJ BEES' WORKERS

These people have volunteered to head committees in 2018:

APPRENTICE CLASSES: Harry Prather

NEWSLETTER: Gloria Neal

gloria@tarboovalleywoodenware.com

MEDIA CONTACT: Gail Moa

WEBSITE: Mike Edwards

MEETING AND ACTIVITY

CO-ORDINATORS:

Tony Goldenberg, Harry Prather, &
Gloria Neal

AUGUST MEETING

CHANGE to
Saturday, AUGUST 3Rd

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

EJ Beekeepers...

July is in full swing and the bees are flying! Nectar and pollen to gather, but along with all that swarm season is still showing its head. While we don't mind catching a swarm that flies in from somewhere else, it's not so good if a swarm gets away from our own apiary.

With all the tell -tale signs that indicate that our colonies are preparing to swarm, and no matter how diligent we are at keeping an eye on our colonies, there's always the one that outwits us.

Another way of determining when our "girls" may be getting the swarming "bug" is backfilling or honey bound frames.

This is when your colony starts filling the broodnest with nectar to shrink it. The queen slows her egg production down and the brood nest becomes much smaller, so , after they swarm, the remaining bees can care for the brood.

One of the best ways to counter this is to add empty frames between the brood frames. While the bees are trying to make the broodnest smaller, you go in and open the broodnest. The bees then draw out the new comb and the queen lays eggs, which delays or sometimes prevents the swarming behavior.

Backfilling→



That's the buzz for July.

Gloria

360-301-1850 gloria@tarboovalleywoodenware.com

BEEZWAX



SUSI'S TIPS AND TRICKS

July's offering of useful hints for beekeepers... By Susan Thomas

- Use a wooden shim (1/8 inch or smaller) diagonally across each inside corner of the top cover as a ventilation spacer.
- Place queen excluder between hive box and top-feeder tray to prevent the bees from building burr comb in the feeder.
- Leave a garden hose out in the sun for the extraction day to expedite cleaning the extractor. To increase storage capacity, connect one or more hoses together. Be sure to turn water off at the hose bib and relieve pressure on the filled hose. You'll have plenty of nice hot water to clean out remaining traces of honey.

If you would like to submit your own tip or trick for possible future inclusion, please send it to richandsusi@cablespeed.com.
East Jefferson Beekeepers Association



BUZZ WORTHY PLANTS FOR JULY

Cucumber
Winter Squash
Summer squash
Oregano
Mints
Lavender
Borage
Russian Sage →



FUTURE CLUB ACTIVITIES

*Jefferson County Fair

If you would like to help make these activities happen, let us know at the club meeting or contact Rich Thomas at:

richandsusi@cablespeed.com

For information on club activities or schedule changes, please check the club website for updates.

<https://www.jeffcobees.org>

Our thanks to Mike Edwards for keeping our website current

JULY'S HONEY-DO LIST

***This is the time of year when you're colonies are buzzing with life...the honey flow season. Your colonies will reach peak population this time of year!**

***This is also the time of year that the Varroa mite infestations are rising to the highest. Be checking the Varroa counts with your white boards or a more precise method, an alcohol wash. A good YouTube I recommend is: Tim Schuler, New Jersey state apiarist, Alcohol wash for mite control.**

***Giving your bees a good water source close by as we go through these months of very little rain is a good idea. They need that water to help cool the colony along with keeping the colony hydrated. They will be more apt to leave your neighbors dog dishes alone, also. Be sure to place some rocks for them to land on, so they aren't falling in and drowning.**

***It may be time to add a honey super to give your bees more room. You may want to add a queen excluder under your super, especially if the comb is drawn out already. Continue to add honey supers to your strong colonies as needed. The main honey flows are winding down at the end of this month.**

***If you see a curtain of bees on the front of your hive on a hot day, this is normal...they are just cooling the hive or themselves.**

***Don't forget to keep grease patties on your colonies. It is a holistic soft treatment that seems to have an impact on the control of tracheal mites. An informative website on grease patties, essential oils, and recipes is: beesource.com**

***If you have just started a honey bee colony this year from a package or nuc, continue to feed your bees until they have drawn out the second story brood box, and have ample food supplies.**

TELLING THE BEES

There was a time when almost every rural British family who kept bees followed a strange tradition. Whenever there was a death in the family, someone had to go out to the hives and tell the bees of the terrible loss that had befallen the family. Failing to do so often resulted in further loss such as the bees leaving the hive, or not producing enough honey or even dying. Traditionally, the bees were kept abreast of not only deaths but all important family matters including births, marriages, and long absence due to journeys. If the bees were not told, all sorts of calamities were thought to happen. This peculiar custom is known as "telling the bees..."



BUZZING WITH



Blake

Bee-lieve me. It's a fact!

16 oz. of honey requires 1,152 bees to travel 112,000 miles and visit 4.5 Million flowers.....

Busy Bees!.....Blake



KEEP BUZZING WITH BLAKE

Oxalic Acid treatments for your bees

For information, call Gloria and leave a message for Blake.

buzzingwithblake@gmail.com

He will return your call....360-301-1850

TARBOO VALLEY WOODENWARE & HONEYBEES

Frank Neal- Ph. # 360-301-0686...

(If stopping by, PLEASE CALL AHEAD)

We have a limited supply of Alcohol wash containers for Varroa counting.

REMEMBER, CLUB MEMBERS GET 5% DISCOUNT.

NEW WEBSITE: tarboovalleywoodenware.com

NEW EMAIL: frank@tarboovalleywoodenware.com