

# Joco Beekeepers

A monthly newsletter brought to you by the  
Johnston County Beekeepers Association



JOHNSTON COUNTY  
BEEKEEPERS  
ASSOCIATION

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## Meeting information

**Third Monday each month 7:00 pm.**  
Johnston County Agricultural Center  
2736 NC 210 Hwy  
Smithfield, NC US 27577 ([Map It](#))

## Meeting Agenda

For April Tom Anderson, will be presenting Varroa mites and control methods. This is part 1 of his Pests in the Hive presentations. Part two will be the June meeting.

## Door Prizes & Snacks for Meetings

We are looking for additional door prizes and help with snacks & drinks if you have something to bring show up and let the people at the sign in desk know. Or schedule it with the board, email them at ([JCBAboard@jacobee.org](mailto:JCBAboard@jacobee.org)).

## NCSBA Summer Meeting Registration Now Open

Advance registration for the NCSBA 2017 Summer meeting in Winston-Salem is now open. Come help celebrate 100 years of the NCSBA! (<https://www.ncbeekeepers.org>)

## Businesses and Services

Businesses and Services offered by JCBA are listed on our website at ([click here](#))

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## Have a story? Would you like to be featured in the newsletter?

Please submit your request to [Newsletter@jacobee.org](mailto:Newsletter@jacobee.org)

Like us on social media 

## This Month's Bee Tips!

From: Nancy Ruppert, Apiary Inspector, NCDA & CS

April

- ☑ Nectar flow is often heaviest this month: make sure that all medications are out of hive unless required for bees' survival, be prepared to add new supers every 7-10 days, and remove feeders from all except new or weak hives.
- ☑ Bees should be very busy; closely examine hives that are not, and trim weeds that may be hindering flight.
- ☑ Swarming usually heavy---continue prevention/capture measures.
- ☑ Look closely at brood pattern; replace queen if needed.
- ☑ Have everything ready to install nucs/packages that you've ordered; **feed upon installation.**
- ☑ Consider adding queen excluder to prevent brood in honey supers.

## Funny pages/Did you see this?

You just might be a beekeeper if:

- 911 calls you for an emergency.
- You get stung and it's your fault.
- You're sad when you get stung only because you know the bee will die.
- Driving around with bees in your window doesn't bother you.
- You go to the store for eggs and come back with a car full of sugar.
- Your freezer has no room for meats.
- You're excited when the news reports a high pollen day.
- You avoid mowing the lawn because of the dandelions.
- You know your queens birthdays but not your wives.
- You misspell words like "beehave" & "beecause".
- The post office has you on speed dial.
- You know what "propolis" is.
- People act surprised when they hear you did "splits".
- You know the "waggle dance".
- You mention installing a nuc in your backyard and people stare.
- You smell like smoke but you haven't been camping.
- Your car is covered with mustard spots.
- The neighbors report every hornet nest.
- You plan weddings & vacations around honey harvest.
- A pound of honey cost you eight hundred dollars!!

## NCSBA Born & Bred 2017 Queen Rearing Workshops

The NCSBA is offering a program of advanced beekeeper education in the field of queen rearing and colony management in cooperation with the NCSU Apiculture Program and the NCDA&CS Apiary Inspection Service. The daylong course will be offered in Greenville, NC on May 6 and

again on May 20 in Statesville, NC. The cost is \$75.00 per participant and enrollment is limited. ([Enroll Now](#))

## Bee protection bill filed in NC House

Some House lawmakers are seeking limits on the use of a common pesticide to protect the health of North Carolina's beehives. House Bill 363, titled the Pollinator Protection Act, would allow the use of neonicotinoid pesticides only by farmers, licensed applicators and veterinarians. The chemical would be banned for unlicensed home, garden and landscape applications, which constitutes about 25 percent of their use. The proposal would also require the North Carolina Pesticide Board to study the long-term costs and benefits of neonicotinoids, including the use of seeds coated in the chemical, which is water-soluble and can leach into neighboring soil. ([link to full article](#))

## Commonly Used Fungicides Linked to Increased Mortality in Honey Bees

Fungicides commonly used in almond orchards can be harmful to almond growers' primary pollinator: honey bees. According to new lab research [published this week in the Journal of Economic Entomology](#), the fungicide iprodione, when used alone or in combination with other common fungicides, leads to a significant reduction in the 10-day survival rate of forager honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) when they are exposed at rates similar to aerial spraying in the field. "Given that these fungicides may be applied when honey bees are present in almond orchards, our findings suggest that bees may face significant danger from chemical applications even when responsibly applied," says Juliana Rangel, Ph.D., assistant professor of apiculture in the Department of Entomology at Texas A&M University, and a co-author of the study. Rangel and colleagues tested the effects of fungicides on honey bees via a wind-tunnel experiment, in which groups of honey bees were exposed to various dosage levels and combinations of fungicides, sprayed and carried through the wind tunnel at speeds simulating aerial crop dusting. They were then removed to separate habitats and monitored daily over a 10-day period. They tested an iprodione fungicide on its own and in combination with boscalid, pyraclostrobin, and azoxystrobin. The trials were repeated three times in September, October, and November 2015. ([read full article here](#))

## Native Plants for Bees!

Link for native plants good for bees ([click here](#))