

# 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 June Tom Anderson, will be presenting "Honeybee disease, parasites, predators, and their control - Part 2" of his Pests in the Hive presentations.

## 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 July13-15 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](#))

## Native Plants for Bees!

Link for native plants good for bees ([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

June

- ☑ Main nectar flow starts to dwindle---fewer supers needed, unless sourwood nearby: if in area of sourwood, consider harvesting available honey before mid-June sourwood flow to ensure more "pure" sourwood crop.
- ☑ If honey being harvested, put "wet" supers back on hives late in day to limit robbing.
- ☑ Can start late-season splits during last half of June; feed splits initially, even if there is nectar available
- ☑ Continue measures to control small hive beetle population.
- ☑ Keep water for bees constantly available.
- ☑ Make plans for attending NCSBA Summer Meeting in mid-July.

## Club Field Trip

Brent Russel with R & B Apiary invited us out to take a look their commercial bee setting of 56 Hives. He discussed Nucs, requeening, double queen hives, releasing queens, genetics and raising queens. We enjoyed the information given, he also did several demonstrations for us to understand further. We thank him for offering and taking the time at his place to demonstrate.



## Supersedure vs. Swarm: How to Identify Queen Cells

One of the most frequent questions we hear new beekeepers ask is how to tell supersedure cells from swarm cells. While at first it may seem difficult to tell these two types of queen cells apart, with a little help you'll find you can identify which one is which. ([Read full article](#))

## What to do when your dog gets stung

If you have ever seen a dog get stung by a wasp or bee and suffer an allergic reaction, then you have no doubt it can be scary. But how was your dog to know that chasing bugs was a no-no? However, if this happens, the best course of action is to NOT panic. ([Read full article](#))

## The Science Behind Honey's Eternal Shelf Life

A slew of factors—its acidity, its lack of water and the presence of hydrogen peroxide—work in perfect harmony, allowing the sticky treat to last forever.

Modern archeologists, excavating ancient Egyptian tombs, have often found something unexpected amongst the

tombs' artifacts: pots of honey, thousands of years old, and yet still preserved. Through millennia, the archeologists discover, the food remains unspoiled, an unmistakable testament to the eternal shelf-life of honey.

There are a few other examples of foods that keep— indefinitely—in their raw state: salt, sugar, dried rice are a few. But there's something about honey; it can remain preserved in a completely edible form, and while you wouldn't want to chow down on raw rice or straight salt, one could ostensibly dip into a thousand year old jar of honey and enjoy it, without preparation, as if it were a day old.

Moreover, honey's longevity lends it other properties—mainly medicinal—that other resilient foods don't have. Which raises the question—what exactly makes honey such a special food?

[\(Read full article\)](#)

## Bees' favorite plants revealed by Botanic Garden study

National Botanic Garden of Wales research has revealed which plants bees choose for their pollen. Scientists investigated the species honey bees liked most during spring as part of efforts to protect the bees' environment and better understand their habits. Peonies, wallflowers, roses, and hyacinth are among the top 10 favorite garden plants.

Favored wild plants include gorse, willow, hawthorn, oak and dandelion. Research head Dr Natasha de Vere said bees face a lack of habitat brought about by the loss of hedgerows, woodland and meadows rich in plant species. Without a healthy and diverse diet, they are unable to withstand pressures from pests, disease and insecticides. "The main conclusion is that, during the spring, honey bees need native hedgerow and woodland plants, which means we must conserve these habitats," Dr de Vere added. "The research also tells us that honey bees are supplementing this main diet with smaller amounts from parks and gardens - proving what we do in our own backyard is crucial." [\(Read full article\)](#)

## Honey Bees Have Sharper Eyesight Than We Thought

Research conducted at the University of Adelaide has discovered that bees have much better vision than was previously known, offering new insights into the lives of honey bees, and new opportunities for translating this knowledge into fields such as robot vision. The findings come from "eye tests" given to western honey bees (also known as European honey bees, *Apis mellifera*) by postdoctoral researcher Dr Elisa Rigosi (Department of Biology, Lund

University, Sweden) in the Adelaide Medical School, under the supervision of Dr Steven Wiederman (Adelaide Medical School, University of Adelaide) and Professor David O'Carroll (Department of Biology, Lund University, Sweden). The results of their work were published April 6, 2017 in the Nature journal Scientific Reports. Bee vision has been studied ever since the pioneering research of Dr Karl von Frisch in 1914, which reported bees' ability to see colors through a clever set of training experiments. "Today, honey bees are still a fascinating model among scientists, in particular neuroscientists," Dr Rigosi says. "Among other things, honey bees help to answer questions such as: how can a tiny brain of less than a million neurons achieve complex processes, and what are its utmost limits? In the last few decades it has been shown that bees can see and categorize objects and learn concepts through vision, such as the concept of 'symmetric' and 'above and below'." [\(Read full article\)](#)

## Funny pages/Have you seen this?

Beekeeping in The Mountains of China



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