

Joco Beekeepers

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



JOHNSTON COUNTY
BEEKEEPERS
ASSOCIATION

Officers

President Al Hildreth
Secretary Thomas Anderson
Treasurer Evie Vose
Program Director David Massengill

Directors

1st Director Ronnie Fish
2nd Director Janice Turrisi
3rd Director May Markoff
Webmaster Facebook Newsletter Adam Pendergrass

Meeting information

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

September Meeting Agenda

The September 19th meeting will feature 'Fall Colony Management' presented by Evie Vose.

NCSBA 2016 State Fair Honey Booth Sign up!

It's State Fair Time! That means it is time to sell HONEY! The NCSBA will be selling North Carolina Honey at the 2016 NC State Fair. This is the largest fund-raising event for the NCSBA and we need your help to make this a success. We need volunteers to help set up and work the booth selling honey during the Fair. ([Click Here - Read more + Signup sheet](#)).

CLUB Gear

The next time we will be taking orders is at our October 17th meeting just in time for the holidays. Please bring small bills or checks made to JCBA

Businesses and Services

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

Like us on social media



In this Issue

Officers	1
Directors	1
Meeting information	1
September Meeting Agenda	1
NCSBA 2016 State Fair Honey Booth Sign up!	1
CLUB Gear	1
Businesses and Services	1
Like us on social media	1
Have a story? Would you like to be featured in the newsletter?	1
September Bee Tips!	2
The Zika virus & Beekeeping in North Carolina <i>NCSU Entomology</i>	2
'Like it's been nuked': Millions of bees dead after South Carolina sprays for Zika mosquitoes <i>The Washington Post</i>	2
Why is Goldenrod so important for your bees? <i>Mountain Sweet Honey</i>	3
Hurricane prep for bee hives <i>ScoutBee</i>	3

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

Please submit your request to Newsletter@jacobee.org

September Bee Tips!

Starting in August continuing into September this is prime time for invasive wasps and yellow jackets. Installing an entrance reducer can help by giving the guard bees more control over the entrance.

Golden rod is slowing down and the Asters are getting ready!



The Zika virus & Beekeeping in North Carolina *NCSU Entomology*

Barely a day goes by when Zika virus is not in the news headlines. As of August 31st 2016, the CDC has reported 2,717 confirmed case of Zika virus in the U.S. New York was #1 with 625 cases (23% of the total) but these were all travel-related (not acquired in the U.S.). Florida ranked #2 with 507 travel-related cases (19% of the total) and has the distinction of being the only state with locally acquired mosquito-transmitted cases of Zika virus (30 cases). North Carolina remained at #13 with 48 travel-related cases, where there has been zero cases of locally-transmitted Zika virus. To put this in perspective, Puerto Rico has reported 13,791 locally acquired cases of the disease.

Most of you have probably read about the recent aerial spraying for mosquitoes in South Carolina that resulted in death of reportedly 3 million bees in a commercial bee yard.

This has led to a lot of people asking about whether this could happen in North Carolina, and the tragic incident serves as a learning experience about the importance of communication.

North Carolina has not used aerial spraying for mosquitoes in years (although that does not mean that individual municipalities or even private citizens have not done so). State-organized aerial spraying was done during true public health emergencies (typically after hurricanes). Even at that time, the standard practice was that before any aerial spraying took place, efforts were made to:

Determine where spraying was actually needed (or expected to be needed, based on flooding). Identify the location of hives and to contact beekeepers in the area. In some cases, hives were moved or covered during the actual spray operations... ([Read More](#))

'Like it's been nuked': Millions of bees dead after South Carolina sprays for Zika mosquitoes *The Washington Post*

On Sunday morning, the South Carolina honey bees began to die in massive numbers.

Death came suddenly to Dorchester County, S.C. Stressed insects tried to flee their nests, only to surrender in little clumps at hive entrances. The dead worker bees littering the farms suggested that colony collapse disorder was not the culprit — in that odd phenomenon, workers vanish as though raptured, leaving a living queen and young bees behind.

Instead, the dead heaps signaled the killer was less mysterious, but no less devastating. The pattern matched acute pesticide poisoning. By one estimate, at a single apiary — Flowertown Bee Farm and Supply, in Summerville — 46 hives died on the spot, totaling about 2.5 million bees.

Walking through the farm, one Summerville woman wrote on Facebook, was "like visiting a cemetery, pure sadness."

[A common pesticide may be a menace to pollinators. Know how to protect them.]

A Clemson University scientist collected soil samples from Flowertown on Tuesday, according to

WCBD-TV, to further investigate the cause of death. But to the bee farmers, the reason is already clear. Their bees had been poisoned by Dorchester's own insecticide efforts, casualties in the war on disease-carrying mosquitoes.

On Sunday morning, parts of Dorchester County were sprayed with Naled, a common insecticide that kills mosquitoes on contact. The United States began using Naled in 1959, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, which notes that the chemical dissipates so quickly it is not a hazard to people. That said, human exposure to Naled during spraying "should not occur."

In parts of South Carolina, trucks trailing pesticide clouds are not an unusual sight, thanks to a mosquito-control program that also includes destroying larvae. Given the current concerns of West Nile virus and Zika — there are several dozen cases of travel-related Zika in South Carolina, though the state health department reports no one has yet acquired the disease from a local mosquito bite — Dorchester decided to try something different Sunday... ([Read More](#))

Why is Goldenrod so important for your bees? *Mountain Sweet Honey*

In the South, Goldenrod is basically the last true nectar and pollen source for your bees for the season. Goldenrod tends to mature at different stages. In our area, we can expect a 4 week to 6 week Goldenrod maturity.

The Goldenrod is NOT a real marketable honey. The honey actually has a bitter smell to it. But there are some people in this world that appreciate Goldenrod honey.

The honey produced will change the smell within your hive almost immediately and will remain in the hive until the Goldenrod honey is consumed by the bees in early spring. Goldenrod does not smell sweet as you would find during the traditional nectar flow from Spring to Summer. The nectar is extremely important nectar flow that will affect your hive in several ways:

(1) The nectar flow will stimulate the queen to produce more brood. Higher brood count is better so that your hive will go into winter with a very healthy colony that will be able to adequately warm the hive during those cold winter nights.

(2) The nectar will be turned into capped honey within the hive. The honey will also increase the honey stores to adequately feed your hive during the winter months.

Pollen is also important! The pollen will be consumed during the fall and winter months which will help sustain the bee's health.

We have Goldenrod in and around our bee yards. We attribute our success, in part, due to Goldenrod fields around our bee yards. Yes, it is a weed, but an important food source for your bees. [Author - Read More.](#)

Hurricane prep for bees *ScoutBee*

Hurricane season starts June 1st and ends November 30th with the peak period is from August - October and it makes you think after seeing the flooding in Louisiana, is my bee yard ready for a hurricane? High winds, rain and possible wide spread flooding? How can I give my bees the best chance at survival? After reading a write up from a beekeeper in central Florida it's as easy as a few cinderblocks and a ratchet strap. If you need to raise the hive higher simply add more blocks under the hive seems simple right? Are you prepared? Do you have any tips to share? ([Article](#))

