

Joco Beekeepers

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



JOHNSTON COUNTY
BEEKEEPERS
ASSOCIATION

Officers

- President Al Hildreth
- Vice President Barney Biles
- Secretary Thomas Anderson
- Treasurer
- Program Director ThunderHawk Chavis

Directors

- 1st Director Janice Turrisi
- 2nd Director
- 3rd Director
- Extension Agent Brandon Parker
- Webmaster/Social Media Adam Pendergrass

Meeting Information & Agenda

- ✓ For the October meeting 10/16/17 @ 7pm. We have Kenny Jones coming from Cumberland County to be our presenter.
- ✓ Kenny Jones is our Regional Director and also co-Chair for the Certified Honey Producer Program in NCSBA.
- ✓ He will be presenting "An Introduction to the NCSBA Certified Honey Producer Program" at this month's meeting.
- ✓ **May will be accepting orders for club merchandise (tee-shirts & hats)! Know your sizes, colors and quantity! Delivery is in November.**
- ✓ There will be a chance to get a grant for beekeeping equipment from the State of NC www.ncbeekeepers.org/north-carolina-beehive-grant-fund Must be a NC Certified Beekeeper. If you are interested in NCSBA MBP Certification, please go ahead and make sure your NCSBA membership is current. www.ncbeekeepers.org/membership/join-or-renew-now

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This Month's Bee Tips!

From: Nancy Ruppert, Apiary Inspector, NCDA & CS

October

- ✓ Post-treatment assessment for varroa mites (i.e., did your treatment work?).
- ✓ Remove all queen excluders, if present.
- ✓ Combine hives that are weak/have failing queens.
- ✓ Feed thick syrup, if needed, for winter food stores.
- ✓ Limit frequency of inspections after mid-October: bees are sealing cracks with propolis, and waste lots of time/energy if they have to keep replacing it.
- ✓ Add entrance reducers near end of month to keep mice out.
- ✓ Drones being expelled in most hives.
- ✓ Plant (in October and November) herbaceous perennials for future nectar/pollen sources.

Businesses and Services

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

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

Please submit your request to Newsletter@jacobee.org

Native Plants for Bees!

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

Like us on social media 

Johnston County Beekeepers Association NC State Fair Booth Thank you!

If you haven't made it to the state fair yet, come take a look at our booth! Big thank you to May and AI for their hard work and extra effort putting in your time to go the extra mile for the bee club!

Spoiler alert: we were awarded 7th place awesome!

I saw several members win and place in several categories and I wanted to text them right away and congratulate them! But I knew it would spoil the surprise. I can't wait to hear about everyone's winnings!

Thank you again May and AI!



Club Merchandise

FYI: Know your sizes, colors and quantity! Delivery is in November, get it just in time for the Holidays. Thanks, May for keeping up with this monster task.

North Carolina Beehive Grant Fund

Registration opened today! (10/16)

The grant portal is now open! You can upload scans or pics of your id and certificate (which was great because I'm just geeky enough to have mine framed and hadn't been looking forward to taking it out of the frame)! Also, there isn't any need to explain your plans for the hives. Portal link <http://fs30.formsite.com/ADFPTTrustFund/form22/index.html>

What Makes Winter Honey Bee's so Special?

Have you ever wondered why winter bees live longer?

The Answer: Vitellogenin.

Next question; what is Vitellogenin?

Vitellogenin is classified as a glycolipoprotein as it has properties of sugar, fat and protein. The honey bee colony's health is dependent upon the buildup of this protein reserve as it acts as an antioxidant to prolong the Queen and forager's lifespan. It is also used to produce royal jelly and is a vital part of the bee's immune system. Additionally, it functions as a hormone that affects future foraging behavior. Within the worker bees, those with the highest levels of Vitellogenin are given the job of nesting bees while those with exhausted reserves become foragers.

How does this impact my winter bees?

We always recommend feeding bee's sugar syrup with a supplement going into the winter. This is a no-brainer. What we don't touch upon is the protein intake of a colony. The best indicator of adequate protein is the diversity of pollen stores. Colonies that are still rearing brood can easily deplete their pollen stores and begin to delve into their Vitellogenin during a pollen dearth. The upcoming winter generation needs to have built up lipids and proteins stored in their fat bodies (nutrients held in the bees body) so that they may survive without honey stores. Keep in mind that high levels of vitellogenin going into winter will help with the pollen shortage in early spring.

There are many advantages to feeding syrup and protein sources in the fall. There are several nutritional supplements that can be included in syrup to incorporate the needed nutrients to maintain a healthy colony.

Honey B Healthy us used in spring and winter to stimulate the immune system

Amino B Booster is a blend of free amino acids that assimilates directly through the mid gut to the bees'

hemolymph and hemocytes, then transported to the sites where protein is needed for bee growth.

Vitamin B Healthy provides the needed nutrients vital for bee health when pollen sources are scarce or pollen lacks the essential nutrients.

Hive Alive strengthens the bees' immune system and helps bees absorb the nutrients, proteins and sugars needed to increase brood production.

Beekeepers with negligible fall pollen should look to pollen sources to sustain or build up protein reserves. The best pollen source would be that extracted from the colony or from a reputable local supplier, however, there are other substitutes that will provided the needed protein and lipids.

You need to look to sources with protein levels higher than 25% such as our Ener-G-Plus which provides this with approximately 32% crude protein.

Save time with the prepared pollen substitute in patty form.

Honey bees require protein, carbohydrates, lipids, vitamins, minerals and water. Ensure the emerging generation going into winter has an abundant, nutritional diet so they may pack in their fat bodies for longer months. ([link to article](#))

Bad news for bees: three-quarters of all honey on Earth has pesticides in it

About three quarters of all honey worldwide is contaminated with pesticides known to harm bees, according to a new study. Though the pesticide levels were below the limit deemed safe for human consumption, there was still enough insecticide in there to harm pollinators. The finding suggests that, as one of the study authors said, "there's almost no safe place for a bee to exist."

Scientists analyzed 198 honey samples from all continents, except Antarctica, for five types of pesticides called neonicotinoids, which are known to harm bees. They found at least one of the five compounds in most samples, with the highest contamination in North America, Asia, and Europe. The results are published today in the journal Science.

Neonicotinoids, or neonics for short, are among the most widely used insecticides in the world. But they're known to mess with the pollinators' brains, affecting their ability to learn and remember. That's a death sentence for bees, which sometimes fly up to seven miles away from their hive to harvest nectar and pollen, and need to remember their way back. By weakening the insects, the chemicals also make them more vulnerable to parasites and diseases, says study co-author Edward Mitchell, the leader of the Laboratory of Soil Biology at the University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

"These neonicotinoids are extremely, extremely toxic."

These pesticides are partly blamed for the worldwide decline of honeybees, which are key for pollinating crops like apples, berries, cantaloupes, cucumbers, and almonds. More than \$15 billion a year in US crops are pollinated by bees. In 2013, the European Union banned the use of three neonics on crops that are visited by bees. But because these pesticides are used to coat the seeds of crops, much of it leaches onto the soil, contaminating nearby wildflowers and other crops. Even in tiny doses, these chemicals can harm bees. "These neonicotinoids are extremely, extremely toxic," Mitchell tells The Verge, 4 to 5,000 times more toxic than DDT. ([read full article](#))

Did you see this / Funny pages

Just a little reminder that bees come in all colors, shapes, and sizes. #savethebees (pictured here: *Xylocopa* and *Perdita*).



Hive Map

Hey members, if you have not already. Let the webmaster@jacobee.org or at the monthly meeting let me know the address you would like to have show up on the member hive map. It's fun to see how close other beekeepers are to your bee yard as well as bee saturation in your area in addition to how many drones might be mating with your newly hatched queen!

We take privacy in mind! So your address is not displayed or your exact location only a small radius is displayed. I encourage you to get on the map. Talk to the board or your fellow members to find out more. The Hive map is located online (not open to the public) behind a members only password section at <http://www.jacobee.org/members-area/hive-map/>

