

Joco Beekeepers

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



JOHNSTON COUNTY
BEEKEEPERS
ASSOCIATION

Officers

- President** Barney Biles
- Vice President** Al Hildreth
- Secretary** Adam Pendergrass
- Treasurer** May Markoff
- Program Director** Thomas Anderson

Directors

- 1st Director** Thunderhawk Chavis
- 2nd Director** Jim Dempster
- 3rd Director** Troy Fair
- Extension Agent** Brandon Parker
- Webmaster/Social Media** Adam Pendergrass

Meeting Information & Agenda

- ✓ The January meeting Jim Dempster and Barney will present on Necessary Equipment and its maintenance - preparation for spring, and where to place your hives for optimum health and productivity. If time remains, Tom A. will fill in with a short presentation on Beekeeper and Bee Yard Safety.
- ✓ Reminder that memberships for 2018 are due ([link](#))
- ✓ Reminder to renew your NCSBA membership for 2018 ([link](#))
- ✓ Meeting topic for January is Equipment & What should I be reading?

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BEE Basics are here!

Starting in this month (January): We will be beginning "BEE Basics" it's a general talk held before each meeting. At 6:30 - 6:55. The purpose is to gain basic info for NEW Beekeepers & Reminders for experienced Beekeepers.

Big Thank You to our 2017 Board Members!

Thanks for taking your time and volunteering for this task!

Bee School 2018

We are excited to announce we are taking signups for Bee School 2018! See details on page 2 of the news letter and also on the web site at <http://www.jocobee.org/beeschool>

Happy New Year!



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

Please submit your request to Newsletter@jocobee.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](#))

Like us on social media 

This Month's Bee Tips!

From: Nancy Ruppert, Apiary Inspector, NCDA & CS
CALENDAR FOR BEEKEEPING IN CENTRAL NORTH
CAROLINA

January

- ☑ Add pollen supplements, if needed; check amount and location of honey stores, and feed (2:1 syrup or fondant) if <3/4 super of stored honey left.
- ☑ Check/repair/replace stored equipment; order wax/woodenware.
- ☑ Order nucs/packages.
- ☑ Keep learning---bee school, read books/journals, etc.
- ☑ Combine or insulate smaller (less than 4 frames of bees) hives.
- ☑ Combine hives where queen has failed, if they're still alive and haven't absconded.
- ☑ Move hives if they'll need to be relocated this year.
- ☑ Bees may need help removing dead bodies from entrance area.

Bee School 2018

2018 Johnston County Bee School! Beginning Beekeeper Class with State Certification Exams.

--> In our 8 week "Bee School" you will have an introduction to bees & extensive fundamentals of beekeeping.

The cost is:

--\$125 - the class for non-members

--\$110 - the class including a 1 yr club family membership

--\$105 - the class including a 1 yr club individual membership

--\$95 - the class for existing club members

So sign up to be a member today! You will receive instruction from experienced beekeepers, a binder of classroom the curriculum, drinks & snacks. At the end of the class, you will have the opportunity to take the written and practical tests to become an NC Certified Beekeeper.

--> The classroom time is 8 weeks long and will be held on Thursdays, for 3 hours a night. At the end of classroom instruction, a weekend field lesson will allow you hands-on experience in the practical setting of a bee yard. (Date TBD).

--> More detailed information may be found the the JCBA website: <http://www.jocobee.org/beeschool/>

--> Sign up form also on the JCBA website:

<http://www.jocobee.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/2018-JCBA-bee-school-registration.pdf>

Master Beekeeper Program Update

QUIZZES and GAMES for JANUARY have been updated. They are located on the NCSBA website (home page and Master Beekeeper Program information pages)

www.ncbeekeepers.org

BEGINNER BEEKEEPING classes, the CERTIFIED GAMES and QUIZZES for January, February and March were designed for you to use these with your class participants. Vocabulary is

stressed throughout to help introduce the new "things" the folks are learning.

For the JOURNEYMAN and MASTER level candidates, these challenges offer a good opportunity for you *to review prior to the testing in New Bern at the Spring NCSBA Meeting (March 1st, 2nd & 3rd, 2018)*

The Irish honeybee was thought to be extinct. But a scientist found them in 300 hives

NEW RESEARCH HAS revealed that the pure native Irish honeybee is not extinct as had long been feared.

It had been thought that the pure form of the native Irish honeybee, *Apis mellifera mellifera*, was extinct. However a new study by a Limerick Institute of Technology (LIT) scientist, which examined bees from around Ireland, has proven otherwise. Post-graduate student Jack Hassett has discovered that millions of the pure native species are living in at least 300 hives in 25 counties across the country.

The researcher found that not only are the bees a pure form of *Apis mellifera mellifera*, the native honeybee for northern Europe and Ireland, but they also have markers that are specific to Ireland. The vast majority of the DNA samples studied showed greater than 95% purity, experts consider anything over 90% to be a pure form of a species.

"The study exceeded all our expectations, and has excited beekeepers across the continent," Mr Hassett explained.

It has belied the myth that there is no native Irish honey bee in existence. Jack explained that this presumption has its roots all the way back in the 1920s when England's bee population was decimated due to disease and bad management and it was wrongly assumed that Ireland's bees had suffered a similar fate. This new study proves that Ireland now has potentially the greatest reserve of *Apis mellifera mellifera* in the world, the honeybee that dominated all northern Europe. He added that the Irish bees could be used to restock parts of Europe where the *Apis mellifera mellifera* has died out or has been crossbred with other species. <http://www.thejournal.ie/native-irish-honeybee-not-extinct-3629473-Oct2017/>

FAO – Honey bee diseases and pests

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger. They have published a good 42 page document "Honey bee diseases and pests".

Download it here: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-ao849e.pdf>