

Beekeeping Basics

What to do in May / June???

Review paper Monthly Beekeeping Activities for Central NC

We are now firmly in 'the flow'

Almost everything is forgivable right now

Check your hives:

- Queen activity – you don't have to see her, but you have to see signs that she is there and active
- Look for capped brood, larvae, eggs – look for the large white larvae and look in a counter-clockwise wheel pattern looking at younger (and smaller) larvae, until you see the tiny eggs
- Resources – should see pollen next to brood, or on the upper/outer edges of the frames; and nectar / honey also on the edges of the frames in the brood nest, and / or more predominately on the outer frames of the box
- Remember to add a 2nd Deep when you have 7-8 frames of brood
- Remember to add supers when you have ½ filled second deep

Replace any faulty queens:

- Missing
- Poor laying pattern

Look for Small Hive Beetles (SHB)

- Install traps

Ensure water is available for bees – Deep Summer is coming!

Research mite load testing methods NOW

Order mite treatments NOW

Plan feeding methods / get materials together

Order entrance reducers – need during the Dearth

Notes: