

Intermediate Beekeeping Course
taught by
Tim Schuler & Jeff Burd
May 18th & 19th or June 8th & 9th

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Office of the State Apiarist, is pleased to announce that in 2018, it will be offering two intermediate beekeeping courses on May 18th & 19th or June 8th & 9th at the NJ Public Health, Environmental & Agriculture Lab, 3 Schwarzkopf Dr, Ewing Township, NJ 08628

Beekeeping is full of challenges and to be successful, all beekeepers need to keep up-to-date on the latest strategies, consistently be refining their craft, and always be honing their skills. This class is designed to meet those goals and many more. **This class is not for the beginner**, but for beekeepers that have had at least two years of experience keeping bees.

The following skills are prerequisites before taking the course:

- Several years keeping bees
- Understands the annual lifecycle of the honeybee
- Understands honeybee terminology
- Ability to see eggs

Topics to be covered:

- **Do you think like a beekeeper?**
- **Easy splitting of colonies** for swarm control and increasing numbers
- **Manage colonies to prevent or minimize swarming**
- **Varroa Mite management** - The most important skill for successful beekeeping. Evaluate your mite levels using an alcohol washer. Strategies for control, biology of the mite
- **Basic queen rearing using a cloak board**
- **Bees wax processing** – make your own lip balm
- **Is feeding necessary?** When, why, how of feeding bees
- **What is the nosema and Varroa level of your hives?** Each student will bring in a sample of his or her own bees for Varroa and nosema analysis. Alcohol wash to estimate mite load.
- **Good Neighbor Best Management Practice**

Student Registration Form

Intermediate Beekeeping Course

I understand I will be working with live bees, appropriate personal protection equipment **is my responsibility. I am responsible to bring my own food and water, no lunch will be served and it is too difficult to leave and get food and return.** The morning sessions will be lecture and lab, the afternoon will be hands-on in the bee yard.

Signature _____

Student Name _____

Student Address _____

Student Cell Number _____

Student E-mail _____

Students Automobile License Plate _____ Needed to Pass State Police Check Point.

May 18th & 19th June 8th & 9th **(Circle the dates of the class that you will attend.)**

Please print clearly! Each class is limited to 25 students.

**Class location: NJ Public Health, Environmental & Agriculture Laboratory
3 Schwarzkopf Dr, Ewing Township, NJ 08628**

Please fill in the above information and return to:

**ATTN Tim Schuler
New Jersey Department of Agriculture
Division of Plant Industry
P.O. Box 330
Trenton, NJ 08625**

**You must enclose a check or money order for \$300.00
Payable to: NJDA Division of Plant industry**

Intermediate Beekeeping Courses
NJ Public Health, Environmental & Agriculture Laboratory
3 Schwarzkopf Dr, Ewing Township, NJ 08628
May 18th & 19th or June 8th & 9th

Instructors: Tim Schuler, Jeff Burd, and the Plant Industry Lab Staff

Tim Schuler started keeping bees as a young boy with his dad, John P. Schuler, and his brother in Prospect Park, Pennsylvania, a small suburb of Philadelphia. Tim graduated in 1982 from Delaware Valley College, Doylestown, PA with a BS in Animal Husbandry. He began his career helping to manage a large cattle and hog feed lot in central NJ. In 1986 he began working for the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) as an Animal Health Technician in the Division of Animal Health. In 1989 and 1990, Tim served a short time as a bee inspector for the NJDA, during Jake Matthenius's 42-year tenure as State Apiarist. In 1991 Tim started a side business managing 300 colonies of honeybees, providing pollination services to South Jersey farmers and producing honey in Warren County NJ. In 2007 he took his present position of State Apiarist with the NJDA Division of Plant Industry. He has taught beekeeping to beekeepers, non-beekeepers, Rutgers University undergraduates and subsistence farmers in poor countries. He inspects colonies throughout the state for diseases and pests, helping beekeepers keep strong healthy colonies of honeybees and promoting New Jersey's beekeeping industry in any way he can. In 2016 he was awarded the Divilbiss award by the Eastern Apicultural Society for his efforts in beekeeping education.

Jeff Burd has been a hobbyist beekeeper for nearly ten years. He is the current president of the New Jersey Beekeepers Association, the immediate past president of EAS and the Mercer County Board of Agriculture. Jeff became an EAS Certified Master Beekeeper in 2015 at Guelph, Ontario.

Jeff maintains 26 hives in Hopewell, Ewing and Lawrence Townships in Mercer County. He teaches an Introduction to Beekeeping class at Mercer County Community College twice each year. Jeff was also an assistant Instructor for the Rutgers Bee-Ginner class with Tim Schuler and Bob Hughes for three years.