



**The New Jersey  
Beekeepers Association**  
[www.njbeekeepers.org](http://www.njbeekeepers.org)

# **Welcome New Beekeeper!**

## **2017 Member Handbook** **and Reference Guide**

*NJBA offers substantive learning about all aspects of beekeeping, mentoring from  
experienced beekeepers and practical experience-based events*



# The New Jersey Beekeepers Association

[www.njbeekeepers.org](http://www.njbeekeepers.org)

Dear New NJBA Member,

Welcome to membership in the New Jersey Beekeepers Association (NJBA). You've joined at a critical time for the Association. Since an alarming rate of honey bee colony loss was reported over a decade ago (dubbed Colony Collapse Disorder [CCD]), membership in the Association has almost tripled and hovers around 1,200 members. Many Garden State residents have become interested in beekeeping since the widespread media attention accorded the honey bee in recent years, highlighting the need to help this embattled state insect responsible for approximately one third of the food that we eat.

Whether you were attracted to beekeeping in order to help the honey bee, produce honey, beeswax or other hive products, to have a managed pollinator for your garden or just out of curiosity, you will come to find that beekeeping will sharpen your observation skills and you will become much more interested in learning when nectar and pollen sources are available, learning the names of trees, shrubs and plants that you may have paid little attention to in the past, and tracking the weather in conjunction with caring for your bees. One of the truly engrossing facets of beekeeping to me is I am always learning something new, despite the fact that I have been keeping bees for over 25 years.

There is a wealth of information available from experienced beekeepers at your branch and state meetings. We've all made rookie mistakes, but many of these can be avoided by attending meetings and asking questions. I encourage you to attend meetings and ask for help if you need it! A great source of information is our annual beekeeping calendar, available from your branch president or online at <https://www.njbeekeepers.org/store/>. Click here, for informative YouTube videos, or [here](#) for Podcasts, and [here](#) for a "getting started" guide specific to New Jersey.

The Association promotes and supports all aspects of beekeeping in the state. If you have skills such as writing, public relations, curriculum development, web updating, blogging, photography, videography, meeting planning or any other skill you think the Association could benefit from, consider volunteering. Volunteers for Public Relations, Financial Review and the Honey Queen Program are especially needed. Contact me, [president@njbeekeepers.org](mailto:president@njbeekeepers.org), to find out how you can help.

I look forward to meeting you. Please introduce yourself at the next state meeting!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet A. Katz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janet A. Katz, President



# The New Jersey Beekeepers Association

[www.njbeekeepers.org](http://www.njbeekeepers.org)

The New Jersey Beekeepers Association was founded in 1902. Comprised of 10 branches, we have over 1,000 members. The Association is governed by our Constitution and By-Laws and is governed by an executive board. The elected officers, a president, three vice presidents, a treasurer and a recording secretary, are elected at the annual winter meeting, typically held in February. The Constitution and By-Laws are up-to-date, revised by the Executive Board and voted on by the General Membership just a few years ago.

The New Jersey Beekeepers Association (NJBA) is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(5) agricultural, all-volunteer organization dedicated to the promotion and support of all aspects of beekeeping in New Jersey. The NJBA works to educate the general public on the benefits and importance of beekeeping, teach our members how to become better and more successful beekeepers, and strives to dispel myths and misinformation regarding the honeybee. The NJBA is open to beekeepers or anyone interested in beekeeping or allied activities without discrimination as to sex, race, color or creed.

Beneath the state organization, there are ten branches throughout New Jersey. This provides a regional aspect to your membership. You can choose your primary branch based on the programs and training that they offer along with how local they are to you. Any NJBA member can join any or all of the branches by paying the branch membership fee(s).

The NJBA usually holds four meetings every year at various locations throughout the state. The state meetings are tied to the seasons of the year. The Winter meeting, typically held in February, is when the winners of the state Honey Show are announced. This is also the meeting when officers are elected. The Spring meeting is usually in May. The Summer meeting in August is when we have the annual picnic and equipment auction. The Fall meeting is typically held in September or October.

The state meetings frequently have renowned speakers making presentations to the membership. Some of the recent speakers have been Thomas Seeley, Randy Oliver, Dennis vanEngelsdorp and Jennifer Berry to name a few.

The NJBA publishes a state newsletter 6 times per year. It is filled with the most current information about the state organization, upcoming state meetings, the state apiarist report, news regarding the honeybee in New Jersey, and ads for beekeeping supply companies and suppliers of queens and nucs.

If you are interested in catching swarms, the NJBA has a page for all members to register to have your name listed in the counties from which you will collect swarms. Your dues need to be current to be listed. In early spring, you will receive an e-mail with instructions on how to list yourself.

There are a number of opportunities to help within the NJBA. Run for an officer position, offer to serve on one of the many standing and ad hoc committees, help out at one of the quarterly meetings, volunteer to work on the web site, and on and on and on. Your help will always be appreciated.

# 2017 New Jersey Beekeeping Association Executive Board

(Please note that ALL elected state and branch officers can be found on the website: [www.njbeekeeper.org](http://www.njbeekeeper.org))

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
<b>OFFICERS</b>		
President	Janet Katz	president@njbeekeepers.org
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Jeff Burd	jeff.burd@comcast.net
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Chris Yates	cmyates@cmyates.com
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President	Isidore Venetos	crazynjbees@live.com
Treasurer	Charles IIsley	treasurer@njbeekeepers.org
Recording Secretary	Janie Edmonds	jpemonds@gmail.com
Corresponding Secretary	Joe Alvarez	secretary@njbeekeepers.org

---

## **COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

EAS Director	Eloise (Lou) Naylor	lou209@me.com
Public Relations	Joe Alvarez Frank Mortimer	phytaman@verizon.net frankmort@gmail.com
Financial & Operational Review	<i>*Volunteer Needed!</i>	
Honey Queen Program	<i>*Volunteer Needed!</i>	
Scholarships	Ray Markley	rambeeman@aol.com
USDA Grant	Joe Alvarez / Loretta Cheswick	
Annual Honey Show	Cynthia Werts	cynthiawerts@aol.com
NJ Beekeeping Advisory Board	Grant Stiles	bigbuzz11@yahoo.com
Membership	Martha Doris	m.doris@comcast.net

---

<b>NJ APIARY INSPECTOR</b>	<b>Tim Schuler (609) 462-7820</b>	<b>Tim.Schuler@ag.state.nj.us</b>
----------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------

---

## **BRANCH PRESIDENTS**

Central	Geff Vitale	geff.vitale@gmail.com
Essex	Joseph Treimel	sailbeejoe@aol.com
Jersey Cape	Jerry Futrell	futrell@verizon.net
Mid-State	George Sereduk	george.sereduk@comcast.net
Morris / Somerset	Bonnie Pylar	bpylar@gmail.com
Northeast	Frank Mortimer	frankmort@gmail.com
Northwest	James McCaulley	plantdork@comcast.net
Raritan Valley	Maria Jablonski	mjablons67@gmail.com
South Jersey	Beth Ann Hall	sjbeecharmer@gmail.com
Sussex	Debbie Cowell	drc@warwick.net

# NJBA Programs and Committees

- ASSOCIATION MEETINGS: Four state meetings are held during the year in the fall, winter, spring and summer. The fall and spring meetings are typically sponsored by one of the branches and usually involve speakers, such as Dr. James Tew who spoke at the Fall 2016 state meeting sponsored by the Mid-State branch, or hands-on workshops such as the Spring 2013 meeting where there were demonstrations of inspections, checking for mites, how to apply mite treatments and how to harvest honey from a hive. The winter and summer meetings are run by the state Association. The winter meeting has speakers and the auctioning of Best of Show, Best Exhibitor and Division winning entries in the annual honey show. There is a “Tricky Tray” of first place winning entries. The summer meeting is a picnic and auction of beekeeping equipment. Members can bring used beekeeping equipment for auction. These two auctions are the primary fund raisers for the state Association.
- ANNUAL PICNIC & AUCTION: Typically held in August, this is a fun event where members can bring beekeeping equipment that is in good shape to auction. Members have found bargains on everything from woodenware, to feeders, foundation, glassware and extracting equipment. A portion of the proceeds of each sale goes to the NJBA. A relaxing atmosphere with a BBQ, lots of bee talk and the opportunity to find a bargain or find a new home for that equipment you no longer use.
- ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: Once you have joined one of the branches of the New Jersey Beekeepers Association, you are eligible for an Associate Membership at any of the other nine branches at a cost of only \$8 annually. This entitles you to receive their emails and newsletter, if they have one, as well as attend their meetings. Most branches welcome members from other branches to their meetings even without an Associate Membership.
- SWARM PAGE: Swarm season in New Jersey typically runs from late April through June. As a service to the public, the NJBA maintains a list of beekeepers who are willing to collect hanging swarms or to remove honey bees from insides structures. The list is compiled each March and is open to members in good standing, i.e., that have paid their dues for the year. Members are contacted by email in early Spring with information on how to list themselves. It is imperative that you have experience collecting swarms before listing yourself on the page. It is also suggested that you have experience with structural removals before listing yourself on the page, and that you are prepared to not only remove the bees, but remove all the honey, comb and brood, leaving the structure clean and ready for repair. The page is located at <http://cjba.njbeekeepers.org/> and is programmed by Geff Vitale of the Central Jersey branch.
- BEEKEEPING COURSES/WORKSHOPS: Beginning beekeeping classes are offered by several of the branches including Essex, Jersey Cape, South Jersey and Sussex. Typically, most courses/workshops start in late winter or early spring. Check the Education page on the NJBA website for current information: <http://www.njbeekeepers.org/Education.htm>.
- SCHOLARSHIP: Ray Markley, a NJBA past president and member of the Mid-State branch, oversees the scholarship program. The Association offers scholarship awards to branches for New Jersey youths between the ages of 12 and 22 for attending any of the courses/workshops offered by the branches. In the past, the Essex, Jersey Cape, South Jersey and Sussex County branches have offered courses/workshops in the winter/spring months. Details can be found on the Education Page of the NJBA website.

# NJBA Programs and Committees

- **HIVE REGISTRATION**: New Jersey law requires that all bee yards in the state where bees are overwintering be registered annually with the New Jersey Department of Agriculture. You can register or update your registration at [http://www24.state.nj.us/AG\\_Apiary/Apiaryapp.html](http://www24.state.nj.us/AG_Apiary/Apiaryapp.html). Please read the directions before you start the process.
- **BEEKEEPER NOTIFICATION**: With certain restrictions, New Jersey law requires that pesticide applicators notify registered beekeepers when pesticides that are labeled as hazardous to bees are applied within three miles of a registered bee yard. A link to the registration form can be found at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/pcp/bpo-bee.htm> and must be submitted annually prior to March 1, 2017. A list of registered bee yards can be found at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/pcp/bpo/beelist.pdf>.

## To report pesticide damage:

**NJDEP** – During working hours (609) 984-6568; after hours 1-877-927-6337

- **ANNUAL WINTER LOSS SURVEY**: Working with our State Apiarist Tim Schuler the Association conducts an annual survey of winter losses. The brief survey is mailed to all members on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Members are asked questions on feeding, treating for mites, origin of dead hives. The survey asks members to note how many hives were alive on Thanksgiving and how many were alive on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Tim Schuler uses the data to help determine the best treatment types and times and feeding needs and communicates the data collected to all members.
- **NEWSLETTERS**: The Association publishes six newsletters per year. New members receive the newsletter in hardcopy format via regular mail. However, members may opt to receive the newsletter electronically, in PDF format, via email. Just send an email to [EmailOnly@njbeekeepers.org](mailto:EmailOnly@njbeekeepers.org) stating your delivery preference. The newsletter editor is Central Jersey member Angelo Trapani, who welcomes contributions. As of the beginning of 2017, we are in search of a Newsletter letter editor.
- **HONEY & HIVE PRODUCT PAGES**: Located at <http://www.njbeekeepers.org/BeeProducts.htm>, members in good standing can list their honey, hive and beekeeping services and links to their websites, if they have one. Send the pertinent information to [info@njbeekeepers.org](mailto:info@njbeekeepers.org), making sure to indicate the name your membership is listed under and your branch.
- **THE ANNUAL HONEY SHOW**: This is a chance for all members in good standing to enter their honey, beeswax and hive products in a competition for ribbons and bragging rights. There are 23 classes of entries from extracted, comb and creamed honey to beeswax blocks, candles, novelty items and tapers to cosmetics containing beeswax and photography. Details on the honey show are published in the December-January issue of the Association newsletter, and can be found on the NJBA website.

# NJBA Programs and Committees

- **LEGISLATION:** There were two bills that NJBA championed that have very positive ramifications for beekeepers in the state. Sponsored by Assemblyman Ronald S. Dancer, A1294 extends the Right to Farm Act protections to commercial beekeepers. A1295 preempts municipalities by establishing the State's exclusive authority with regard to regulation of apiary activities. There were both passed by the Assembly in June, 2014. The Senate versions of the bills, S1328 and S975 were also passed, thanks in large part to the efforts of dedicated, impassioned beekeepers to make sure they passed. *We are still waiting, in 2017, to have the New Jersey Department of Agriculture draft the regulations and work with us (NJBA) to produce a product ready for review by beekeepers and the public.*
- **HONEY QUEEN PROGRAM:** During 2012, an NJBA Honey Queen Workgroup was formed headed by Grant Stiles and members Mark Muller, Tim Schuler, Gary Schempp, Charles Ilsley and Joan Morris. Their goal was to define the program, its administrator, the duties of a honey queen or princess, document a program and funding allocated. After the Workgroup made their recommendations and received funding from the NJBA Executive Board, a committee needed to be formed. Morris-Somerset member Joan Morris did some preliminary work on creating the program, including attending a how-to Webinar provided by the National Chair. We are currently seeking a member to chair the committee and solicit members from the other branches as they work in 2017 to get the program up and running.
- **BEEKEEPING CALENDAR:** The Association is offering "A Year in New Jersey Beekeeping" calendar. Written by our State Apiarist Tim Schuler, designed by Northwest Member Rebecca Wunderlich and edited by NJBA President Janet Katz, the calendar has information covering the basics of what New Jersey beekeepers should be doing each month. In addition to information about bee-friendly plants and common mistakes to avoid, the calendar contains about three dozen member photographs relating to beekeeping. Calendars are available from your branch at \$10 each or online at <https://www.njbeekeepers.org/store/> that can be directly mailed to you.
- **BROCHURES:** Created by several members of the NJBA, including Rebecca Wunderlich responsible for the design and layout, and State Apiarist Tim Schuler, these brochures are provided to the branches each year for use at outreach events they participate. This includes county, state and 4-H Fairs, community events and talks to such groups as garden clubs, retirement homes and schools. The state Association participates in the annual NJ League of Municipalities Conference and NJ Flower Show, where these brochures are also distributed. Your branch president has a supply of these brochures if you would like a few to distribute as a talk you are giving to the public.



## **BEEKEEPING CLASSES / WORKSHOPS**

Below is a partial list of the beginning beekeeping classes/workshops that are offered throughout the state. It is strongly recommended that you take a beekeeping class, if you have not already done so. These classes will teach you the basics needed to be a successful beekeeper such as honeybee biology, equipment needed, diseases and pests, how to work a hive and what to look for when doing a hive inspection.

For current listings, please visit: [www.njbeekeepers.org/education.htm](http://www.njbeekeepers.org/education.htm)

The NJDA (New Jersey Department of Agriculture) is currently working to develop a beginning beekeeper class with State Apiarist Tim Schuler, and the updates will be posted on the NJBA website and sent to members via e-mail and some information detailed below.

### **Essex County Branch of NJBA**

#### ***Basic Beekeeping***

Classes are taught at:  
Garibaldi Hall, Essex County Environmental Center  
621B Eagle Rock Avenue  
Roseland, NJ 07068.

This course will take you through a full year of beekeeping, and teach you everything you need to get started, from equipment, through management, biology, pest control, and harvest. Class size is limited to 40 students. For more information, contact Patty Gamsby, [bjornlass@aol.com](mailto:bjornlass@aol.com), (973) 396-8996.

### **Jersey Cape Branch of NJBA & Rutgers Cooperative Extension**

#### ***Bee-ginners Beekeeping Workshop***

Workshop Classes are taught at:  
Rutgers Cooperative Extension Office  
355 Courthouse-So. Dennis Road, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210  
Workshops begins February 10, 2017 for eight consecutive Friday nights from 7 PM to 9:30 PM.  
Contact Joe Alvarez at [phytaman@verizon.net](mailto:phytaman@verizon.net) or (609) 675-4489 for more information

### **Mercer County Community College – West Windsor Campus – Center for Continuing Studies (Non-Credit)**

#### ***Introduction for Beekeeping for the Hobbyist***

Classes offered in March and October  
Five classroom sessions on consecutive Thursday nights; and a Saturday or Sunday field trip to local bee yard. Tuition \$84, plus textbook: \$20  
Contact Jeff Burd for more information: [jeff.burd@comcast.net](mailto:jeff.burd@comcast.net) or [http://www.mccc.edu/services\\_ccs.shtml](http://www.mccc.edu/services_ccs.shtml)

### **South Jersey Branch of NJBA**

#### ***Basics of Beekeeping Course***

Classes are taught at:  
Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Cumberland County  
291 Morton Avenue, Millville, NJ  
Classes begin February 4, 2017 for six consecutive Saturdays from 9 AM to 11 AM.  
Contact Ned Morgan at [ned.morgan@comcast.net](mailto:ned.morgan@comcast.net) or (856) 451-2800 extension 1



# BEEKEEPING CLASSES / WORKSHOPS

## **Sussex County Branch of NJBA**

### ***Introduction to Beekeeping***

The Sussex County branch typically offers a short course at the Sussex County Fairground Administration Building in January. Contact Debbie Cowell – [drc@warwick.net](mailto:drc@warwick.net)

## **NJ Department of Agriculture Office of the State Apiarist**

### ***Intermediate Beekeeping Training***

June 23 and June 24, 2017

Instructors: Tim Schuler, Jeff Burd and Plant Industry Lab staff

For information contact Tim Schuler, [Tim.Schuler@ag.state.nj.us](mailto:Tim.Schuler@ag.state.nj.us)

## **Eastern Apiculture 2017 Conference**

July 31 and August 1, 2017 in Newark, DE

Beginners: Two-day course, for new beekeepers and those with one to three years of experience. Includes two apiary practice sessions.

Intermediate: Two-day course that is a “soup-to-nuts” coverage of issues encountered by beekeepers in their second to tenth years of beekeeping.

Intermediate/Advanced: One-day course will cover microscopy (disease, pollen ID, bee anatomy). Another one-day course will cover bee disease and hive inspection issues.

Half-day courses: Native bees; Solving practical issues in feeding honey processing and colony inspection.

Visit the EAS website: <http://www.easternapiculture.org/> for more details or contact the NJ

EAS Director: Lou Naylor at her e-mail address: [Lou209@me.com](mailto:Lou209@me.com)

## **Delaware Valley College Doylestown, Pennsylvania**

Classes include ***Introductory Beekeeping, Intermediate Beekeeping, Queen Rearing***. Contact them for more information. <http://www.delval.edu/continuing-and-professional-studies/non-credit-certificates-and-courses/beekeeping1>

# Resource Guide for Beekeeping Information

## PERIODICALS

- *American Bee Journal* <http://www.dadant.com/journal/>
- *Bee Culture* <http://www.bee-culture.com/>

## REGIONAL BEEKEEPING ORGANIZATIONS

- American Beekeeping Federation <http://www.abfnet.org>  
Eastern Apiculture Society <http://www.easternapiculture.org>

## BEEKEEPING BOOKS (Recommended)

[In Alphabetical order by author]

*The Beekeeper's Handbook* Fourth Edition by Alphonse Avitabile and Diana Sammataro. Paperback, 272 pages. Publication date: May 13, 2011

*Beekeeping for Dummies* Third Edition, by Howland Blackiston. Paperback, 432 pages. Publication date: March 2, 2015

*Natural Beekeeping: Organic Approaches to Modern Apiculture* by Ross Conrad and Gary Paul Nabhan. Paperback, 240 pages. Publication date: June 13, 2007

*Honey Bee Biology and Beekeeping* by Dewey M. Caron and Lawrence John Connor. Publication date June 28, 2013

*First Lessons in Beekeeping* by Keith S. Delaplane. Paperback, 176 pages. Publication date: September 1, 2007

*The Backyard Beekeeper - Revised and Updated: An Absolute Beginner's Guide to Keeping Bees in Your Yard and Garden* by Kim Flottum. Paperback, 208 pages. Publication date: February 1, 2010

*The Hive and the Honeybee* revised edition by Roy A. Grout. Hardback, 1324 pages. Publication date: July 1992

*Beekeeping Basics* by Mid Atlantic Apiculture Research & Extension Consortium (MAAREC). Free pdf download available at <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/freepubs/pdfs/agrs93.pdf>

*The ABC & XYZ of Bee Culture: An Encyclopedia Pertaining to the Scientific and Practical Culture of Honey Bees* 41<sup>st</sup> edition by Amos Ives Root (Author), Ann Harman (Author, Editor), Dr. Hachiro Shimanuki (Author, Editor), Kim Flottum (Author, Editor). Hardback, 911 pages. Publication date: May 1, 2007

*Honey Bee Democracy* by Tom Seeley. 280 pages. Published October 10, 2010.

## NEW JERSEY EQUIPMENT & HONEY BEE SUPPLIERS

*(Please note that the appearance of a vendor's name in the Handbook supplier list does not imply endorsement of, or assurance of, quality by the NJBA)*

Please visit [www.njbeepkeepers.org](http://www.njbeepkeepers.org) for an expanded listing

Company Name	Location	Telephone #	Equipment	Queens	Packages	Nucs
E & M Gold	Tinton Falls, NJ 07724	732-542-6528		Y		Y
Harvey's Honey	Monroeville, NJ 08343 *Official Mann Lake Distributor	856-358-1010	Y	Y		Y
S & F Honey Farm	Flemington, NJ 08822	908-782-7525	Y	Y	Y	
Larry Saums	Milford, NJ 08848	908-735-6946			Y	
George Schaefer	Flemington, NJ 08822	908-782-7912				Y
Stewart's Apiaries	Dorothy, NJ 08317	609-805-7581		Y		Y
Stiles Apiaries, LLC	Fords, NJ 08863 *Official Mann Lake Distributor	732-661-0700 Stileshoney.com	Y	Y		Y
Charles Toth	Somerset, NJ	732-873-2989		Y		Y
Wayne Sommers	Toms River, NJ	732-597-3715			Y	
Wilson's Honey	Freehold, NJ	518-497-6723			Y	

•

## BEEKEEPING EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS

- Better Bee, Inc.: [www.betterbee.com](http://www.betterbee.com)
- Blue Sky: [www.blueskybeesupply.com](http://www.blueskybeesupply.com)
- Brushy Mountain Bee Farms: [www.brushymountainbeefarm.com](http://www.brushymountainbeefarm.com)
- Dadant and Sons, Inc.: [www.dadant.com](http://www.dadant.com)
- Glory Bee: [www.glorybee.com](http://www.glorybee.com)
- Mann Lake Ltd.: [www.mannlakeltd.com](http://www.mannlakeltd.com)
- Pigeon Mountain Trading [www.pigeonmountaintrading.com](http://www.pigeonmountaintrading.com)
- Walter T. Kelley Co.: [www.kelleybees.com](http://www.kelleybees.com)

## HONEY LABELING INFORMATION

The label that you put on your bottles, jars or containers of honey must contain at a minimum certain information. Your labels must communicate the following:

- The “Common” Name of the Product

The word “honey” must be visible on the label. The name of a plant or blossom may be used if it is the primary floral source for the honey. Honey must be labeled with its common or usual name on the front of your package. [i.e. “Honey” or “Clover Honey” or “Wildflower Honey”]

- Net Weight

The net weight of your product (excluding packaging), both in pounds/ounces and metric weight (g) must be included in the lower third of your front label panel in easy-to-read type. [i.e. Net Wt. 16 oz. (454g)]. When determining net weight, use the government conversion factor of 1 ounce (oz) = 28.3495 grams or 1 pound (lb.) = 453.592 grams. Round after making the calculation not before. Use no more than three digits after the decimal point on the package. One may round down the final weight to avoid overstating the contents. When rounding, use typical mathematical rounding rules.

- Ingredients

Single ingredient products (such as honey) do not have to name that single ingredient when already used in the common or usual name on the front panel. However, if there are ingredients other than honey, you must list them in an ingredient statement. Some exceptions are spices, flavorings and incidental additives (additives which have no functional role and with minimal presence in the finished product) which have special rules. The type size for ingredient listings must be no less than 1/16 inch as measured by the small letter “o” or by the large letter “O” if all caps are used in the declaration. There are exemptions that allow smaller type sizes for small packages.

- Contact Information

The label must let consumers know who put the product on the market and how to contact that person. The name and the address of the manufacturer, packer or distributor of a packaged food product are required to appear on the label of the packaged food. This information, sometimes referred to as the “signature line” must appear on the front label panel or the information panel. If space permits, include full address and telephone number. The information must be in a type size that is at least 1/16<sup>th</sup> inch tall.

For more information on labeling, please visit the National Honey Board at: [www.honey.com](http://www.honey.com)

Once on this site, visit pages for honey industry and honey testing and regulation and honey labeling.



## **WEBSITES TO KNOW**

### **New Jersey Beekeepers Association**

**Website:** <http://njbeekeepers.org>

### **New Jersey Department of Agriculture Bee Inspection Program**

**Website:** <http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/beeinspection.html>

This website provides the hive registration form, the New Jersey statues regarding beekeeping, and various beekeeping fact sheets prepared by the state apiarist.

### **Mid-Atlantic Apiculture Research & Extension Consortium (MAAREC)**

**Website:** <https://agdev.anr.udel.edu/maarec/>

MAAREC is a task force that has been established with representation from the departments of agriculture, state beekeeping organizations, and land-grant universities from each of the following states: New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Virginia. Also participating in the task force is a representative of the USDA/ARS (Beltsville Bee Lab, MD). The focus of MAAREC research has been on the identification of alternatives to chemical controls and promotion of less reliance on chemical pesticides for mite control. Included is research of integrated approaches to reduce mite pressure and development of an economic injury level (threshold) for fall mite control within an IPM framework. Sampling method efficacy for measuring mite numbers in bee colonies is also a high priority. Research objectives take into consideration apiary inspector and beekeeper input through the MAAREC Task Force and the use of tools such as beekeeper surveys to identify the most effective ways to assist beekeepers in understanding and making sound management decisions for mite and disease control.

### **The Bee Informed Partnership**

**Website:** <http://beeinformed.org/>

The Bee Informed Partnership is an extension project that endeavors to decrease the number of honey bee colonies that die over the winter. The project proposes to help beekeepers keep colonies alive by initiating several levels of surveys. These surveys will document which management practices beekeepers use and the degree of loss suffered by those beekeepers. Using methods developed by human epidemiologists, we will compare the effectiveness of different management practices by calculating and comparing the losses suffered by those that did or did not use a particular management practice. In recognition of the fact that the most appropriate management practices for a beekeeper in one region are not necessarily the same for beekeepers in other regions, we will develop web- and app-based tools that will enable beekeepers to interact with the survey data to permit them to compare management practices among groups of beekeepers that share their geography, purpose (e.g., honey production, pollination), and/or management philosophy (e.g., minimal pesticide use). To facilitate this level of engagement, we will develop a honey bee health database that will act as a repository for all honey bee health data collected from this and other bee health surveillance projects.

### **Beekeeping Through the Eyes of a Biologist**

**Website:** [www.Scientificbeekeeping.com](http://www.Scientificbeekeeping.com)

Informative website by Randy Oliver



## Guidelines for Keeping Bees in Populated Areas

There are approximately 3,000 to 3,500 registered beekeepers in New Jersey. Of these, only about 5 percent can be considered commercial beekeepers having 20 or more colonies of bees. The majority of the registered beekeepers in the state manage only about 1 to 10 colonies.



It is possible to keep honey bees in crowded suburban areas, on tiny city lots or on rooftops in large or small cities without problems. However, keeping bees successfully in a populated area requires a good understanding of basic bee biology, property rights and human psychology. Beekeepers in suburbs and cities need to manage their bees so they do not become a nuisance to their neighbors. By understanding the circumstances under which bees will bother people, beekeepers can take measures to alter circumstances so their bees do not create a problem.

Honey bees can be kept almost anywhere there are flowering plants that produce nectar and pollen. Choose a site for beehives that is discrete, sheltered from winds and partially shaded. Avoid low spots in a yard where cold, damp air accumulates in winter. Be considerate of non-beekeeping neighbors. Place hives so that bee flight paths do not cross sidewalks, playgrounds or other public areas. Provide your bees with a water source in your yard to prevent them from seeking out water at neighbors' swimming pools or water spigots.



The Department has developed the following best management practices for beekeepers to reduce potential conflict with neighboring property owners.

1. There must be no more than three hives of honey bees per lot size of one-quarter acre or less.
2. When a colony is situated less than 10 feet from a property line, the beekeeper must establish a flyway barrier. This should be at least 6 feet tall and extend 10 feet beyond the colony on either side. It can be solid, vegetative or any combination of the two, that forces the bees to cross the property line at a height of 6 feet.
3. All colonies must be located at least 25 feet from a public sidewalk, alley, street or roads.
4. All apiaries must have on site an adequate source of water within 25 feet of the hive(s) at all times (especially between March 1<sup>st</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup>).
5. All bee equipment and hives must be maintained in good condition.
6. All colonies must be kept in moveable frame hives in accordance with N.J.S.A.4: 6-10.
7. All colonies must be inspected by the beekeeper or his delegate no less than three times between March 1 and October 1 of each year.
8. A substantial barrier/ fence must be erected to prevent animals and children from coming into close contact with the hives.