
NEW JERSEY BEEKEEPERS



ASSOCIATION



NEWS

VOL 20 ISSUE 5

AUG / SEP 06

July, almost gone and now its August.

Hi everybody. Yes it's true, summer is half gone and already we are starting to think about fall honey flows and getting bees ready for winter, but let's not jump ahead too fast

By now I would think that most of you have started extracting your honey or at least have a good idea how well your bees have done. The spring / early summer has been very different at least for me. Got off to a good start in early April, shut done a couple of weeks later, started up again in early May for about a week and again shut down , started up again in the middle of May through the middle of June and now have shut down until sometime in early/ middle of August. Even with all that start / stop, it looks as though we will do rather well this year. I would hope that all of you have the same productive year as it looks as though we will have.

I have had several phone calls/ e-mails from new beekeepers interested in joining the association and would think that some chapters would be gaining several new members, which brings up the mentoring program The last I heard, about 30-40 % of the beekeepers who qualified under the state program are being mentored. For those new members, whether or not you qualify under the state program, if you would like some help, call your chapter

president and they will put you in touch with someone who can help you

I understand that the State Land Use program is making some real head way and that there could some land made available, maybe before the end of the year.

Our next event is of course the Auction / Picnic held here at my home on Au. 26th. Being that Joan and I will be on a cruise to Alaska and won't be home until the 19th, I would ask that if you don't e-mail me with your reservations please call me very early the following week so that I can make sure we have food for all. Everything will be the same as last year- \$ 10.00 for adults [12 years and older] \$ 5.00 for children [6 - 11 years] and younger than 5 free. Menu is the same as last year - fried chicken and ribs with all the trimmings.

8:30- 9:30 Coffee and donuts

9:30- 9:45 Business meeting

9:45 Auction begins

As for the auction, bring any used bee equipment that you don't want [but it must be usable] and it will be auctioned off with 20% of the sale going to the association.

Remember, this picnic is for members/ family and friends and don't forget your bathing suits. Looking forward to seeing you all at the picnic and have a great summer.

Bob H

HARVEY'S HONEY

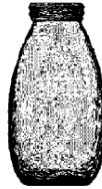
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QUESTIONS FOR THE EXPERTS

We are looking for new questions for our NJBA "EXPERTS" who would like to help out a fellow beekeeper. Submit answers and other questions to Vic Ammons via email or in writing. See the "Who's Who" page for addresses. If you would like to submit a question, but do not want your name to appear, simply ask for your name to be withheld. Annonomous questions will not be printed because the editor cannot confirm it is a valid request.

Last month's question!! See –
annonomous questions will still be
answered.

My hives are located in a wooded
area and not within a couple miles
of any other beekeeper's hives. Are
my hives free of danger of getting
mites and bee diseases?
Name withheld.

Your bees are not free of danger of
getting mites or diseases. A couple
of miles is not far enough from
other bees as it is generally
believed that bees will fly 3 miles
plus to gather nectar and pollen.
Even if the bees were 10 miles
from another beekeepers bees ,
you don't know if there might be a
wild colony or two in the area. I
suggest that whatever method you
use as a prevention that you
continue with that method or if you
aren't using a method that you
start',as it is cheaper to use some
method rather than lose the bees
and have to pay premium prices to
start over again

Bob H

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Tom Fuscaldò

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Paterson NJ

973 942-5066

Fosterfields in Morristown would like someone to give a beekeeping demonstration as part of their Country fair and Farm Market on Sunday, September 10, 2006 from noon until 5:00 PM. You would also have the opportunity to have someone sell your honey products at the Farm Market, which will be by the parking lot next to the Visitor Center. If interested and for further details, contact Julie Kibbe, 973 631-5343 or jkibbe@morrisparks.net

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The Red Mill Museum Village in Clinton, NJ is looking for a beekeeper to participate in their August 13, 2006 "Teddy Bear's Picnic":

August 13 (Sunday)—Old Time Teddy Bear Picnic and Children's Concert.

Bring a picnic basket and enjoy an afternoon with your favorite teddy. Read fascinating stories about teddies from long ago plus other activities. Recommended for children up to 10 years old.

Sunday: 12:00-4:00 p.m.

Admission: Adults \$9.00, Seniors \$7.00, Children (1-10) \$5.00
(<http://www.theredmill.org/calendar.html>)

They would like a beekeeper to sell honey, answer questions about honey bees and beekeeping and have a small observation hive. Contact the Curator of Education, Elizabeth Cole at 973 735-4101, ext. 102 if you are interested.

Swarm Removals:

The Central Jersey branch is preparing a web page that will appear on their website (www.cjba.org) to provide information to the public about beekeepers that are willing to hive swarms. If you would like to be included on this page, please provide as much of the information below as you can for inclusion on the page. The NJBA website will have a link pointing to this page.

Minimally, you should provide your name, a preferred method of contact and the town(s) and/or county(s) you are willing to collect swarms in:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Cell Phone:

E-mail:

Town(s) you will collect swarms in:

County(s) you will collect swarms in:

Will you remove honey bees from inside structures?:

Please send your responses to Madeleine Nist at mnist@spamcop.net.

Carniolan Queens and Nucs

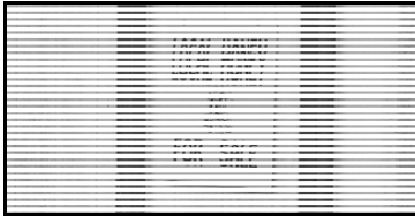
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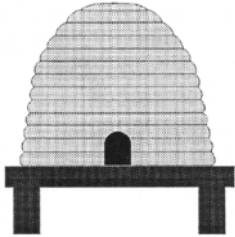
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NJBA WHO'S WHO

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NJBA MEETING DATES

Aug. 26th Picnic at Bob Hughes'

Oct 14th Fall Meeting - hosted by
Sussex

CENTRAL JERSEY

Aug 18, General membership meeting

Oct 7, Fall Conservation Day

Nov 10 General membership meeting

ESSEX COUNTY

Second Tuesday, except Jul, Aug.
Extensive schedule of events at Essex
County Environmental Center. Contact
Landi Simone for dates and topics.

Sep 9, Honey Harvest Fair open to
public, invite friends

Nov 14, Honey Cook-off and judging.
Make your favorite honey recipe.
Prizes for several categories.

Dec 8, Annual Christmas Dinner

JERSEY CAPE

Third Thursday, 7:00 PM at Cape May
County Extension Office

MORRIS COUNTY

Sept 16 hive inspection at Jim
Terkovich's, Far Hills

Oct 27, Mini Mac Diner, 158 Rt 206,
Chester – Hunt Jones on Africanized
Honey Bees

Dec 3, Annual Holiday party

NORTH EAST

Third Friday, 678 S. Maple Ave, Glen
Rock

NORTH WEST

Warren County Fair, Warren County
Fairground - 30 July- 5 August

Hunterdon County 4-H & Agricultural
Fair, Ringoes, NJ on 23-27 August

Dec 9, Winter party at Echo Hill Park

SUSSEX

Aug 4-13, Sussex County Fair – Need
volunteers to man the honey booth

Aug 15 take down booth at Sussex
Fair

Sep 10, joint meeting with Southeast
NY beekeepers at Brodheckers.
Program – Queen rearing

SOUTH

OTHER EVENTS

EAS 2006 will be held July
31 - August 4, 2006 at
Young Harris College in
Georgia.

NJBA NEWS Annual Ad rates

Ad size	Location of ad	Price
Full page	1st 25% of newsletter	\$150
1/2 page	1st 25% of newsletter	\$100
1/4 page	1st 25% of newsletter	\$75
1/8 page	1st 25% of newsletter	\$50
Full page	rest of newsletter	\$100
1/2 page	rest of newsletter	\$75
1/4 page	rest of newsletter	\$50

The following is a continuation of an article in the June 05 newsletter. It is from "George's Pink Pages" May 2003.

Few beekeepers have a bee blower because of expense; but it is the best, easiest, and fastest of all honey removal systems. It doesn't seem to bother the bees any more than a windy breeze bothers them. You remove the super, stand it up on its end, point the blower nozzle at the spaces between frames and BLOW the bees out who will just fly home. Some times, you have to blow from both the frame tops and the frame bottoms to get those last "hold-on hard" bees, but you can usually blow 98-99% of all the bees out before you put the super on your cart and cover it. I recommend a bee-blower if you can justify the \$250-\$350 cost and have a source of electricity at your apiary.

Lastly, the chemical on a fume board is far and away the best system for everybody that does not have a bee blower. Let me explain the many good points! It works "automatically" freeing the super of bees while you just stand and rest; and you use NO SMOKE that will make the bees

break the cappings. You buy or construct a FUME BOARD. A fume-board is identical with a hive top except its outside dimensions are those of a hive body, and the inside of the top has some absorbent material like burlap, a blanket, or an old winter cloth coat. The absorbent material is there to absorb and hold the liquid chemical that drive the bees away from it. How do you use this "critter"? You drip perhaps 1,2,or 3 teaspoons of the SMELLY chemical all over the absorbent - Don't use too much or it will stupefy the bees before they can move away. Remove the colony inner cover, using NO SMOKE, put the fume board on in place of the inner cover, and go get the mail, smoke a cigarette, eat a piece of pie, or just wait 5-10 minutes. VERY HARD TO DO! Remove the fume-board and remove the super under it (which should be completely empty of bees now), and put the super in some bee proof place. Repeat the process on the 2nd super, etc., etc. The amount of chemical you use for success will depend on your plan based on the temperature, the chemical used and amount of chemical, how long you left the fume board in place, and the number

of bees in the colony and how easy or hard it is for them to confine themselves to less space, e. g., just two brood boxes and no supers. If you use too much chemical on a HOT humid day, you will stupefy some bees before they can "get below" in fresher air, or if you leave the fume-board on too long, you will find most of the bees outside of the hive clinging to the colony sides to get some fresh air. Neither of these events hurts or endangers the bees, they just have to wait until the air inside clears of chemical smell. Conversely, if you use too little of the chemical, or the temperature is cool, or you did not let it work a long enough time, you will find the bees have not totally left the super, and you will have to re-adjust one of the aforementioned variables. Once you "get the knack of it", you can remove a super totally free of bees about every 5-7 minutes; or use TWO separate fume boards and do two colonies at one time.

At this point, many of you are saying "Why is George being so evasive or non specific about what chemical to use?" Well, I delineated all the "goodies" about fume board removal of honey first, and I have left the SMELLS, the cost,

the shipping restrictions to last. Here they are: The SMELLY ONE is butyric anhydride (my first college degree was chemistry) called BEE GO; and some suppliers have added oil of cherries to BEE GO to "soften" the STINK and named that Honey Robber. They both cost the same, about \$16 per quart or \$50/gallon plus shipping, and shipping is a problem. US POST OFFICE will not accept either chemical, and UPS charges an EXTRA SURCHARGE of \$12 and only allows one quart in a shipment. WOW! Why? If you get some on your clothes, you can wash them a dozen times in Clorox, tomato juice, or gasoline, and you can still smell something akin to rotten eggs. IF you spilled some in your car or cab of your truck, you will either always drive alone or buy a new set of wheels. Take it from an old chemist - butyric anhydride STINKS!

Let me mention a beautiful odor - the oil of almonds - it is a lovely smell - it is the chemical, benzaldehyde. To my knowledge, Mann Lake Ltd., 1-800-233-6663 or e-mail: beekeeper@mannlakeltd.com is the only supplier left, and it cost the same as Bee Go, \$52/gallon, no quarts that I know of - you

would have to ask. I have used Benzaldehyde for umpteenth years and would not even consider that STINKY BEE GO. There is also a NEW, fine smelling product out there named BEE QUICK that I am told, works great.

It is most interesting that as much as these chemicals STINK or smell pretty, if used correctly as I have described above, they leave absolutely no odor at all in your honey, beeswax, or frames - BUT IT WILL CERTAINLY STAY ON YOU if you get it on you!

Part 3

All these "organic" people of today are concerned with "Was the honey HEATED or not" before it was bottled. I wish they knew as much about the chemical properties of honey as they know about how to formulate asinine rules for concerning the fitness of product. Do they know that the interior temperature of the brood nest must be maintained at 92-96 degrees for the queen to lay eggs and the brood to survive? When the temperature in the shade is 95 degrees, what does this "organic" seeker think the super temperature is on a colony sitting out in the sun? There is no argument that excess heat

damages honey: kills some nutrients, darkens the color, changes the flavor, etc. BUT, HOW MUCH DOES THE WORD "EXCESS" MEAN? Surely, in nature, the highest outer range of honey temperature might be 120 degrees, and 100 degrees might be the temperature in the sun in May or June, whereas 80 degrees would be a warm, non air conditioned house temperature. Numerous physicists (my post graduate degrees are physics) have researched honey under all sorts of various conditions concerning viscosity (meaning resistance to movement), effect of temperature on viscosity change, and pressure applied. Keeping it simple for all you non-scientists, research on honey at these three temperatures with no pressure applied (in other words - how thick is it) shows the following: Honey will flow through a large pipe over twice as fast at 100; than at 80 degrees, and over five times faster at 120; than at 80 degrees. Forget science, and limit ourselves to the difficulties of extraction at temperatures we can handle. If we can rush our honey from the hive right to the extractor in a room of about 80; degrees, extraction can be done

with a little effort and sweat; but if we let that honey sit overnight and it cools to say 70 degrees, extraction and handling honey is going to be slow, tedious and maddening. Now, knowing how important heat is in honey handling, let us stack the supers in a tightly closed empty closet in your house (or make one from plywood), and put a lighted 100 watt bulb inside that closet WITH A THERMOMETER and leave it over night or 48 hours. It is easy to get honey up to 100 degrees (still lower temperature than out in the sunny field in June). Maybe you only need a 60 watt bulb, or maybe your closet leaks air, so you have to use 150 watt bulb. So what? All you want is your honey to be 95-100 degrees so it will extract easily and rapidly, go through a strainer rapidly, and settle rapidly allowing the "trash" to come to the top as foam. YOU HAVE USED THE TEMPERATURES THAT HONEY WOULD BE EXPOSED TO IN NATURE, so it is Natural Honey. The "organic" nuts can go {someplace}, but my customers will buy my honey because they trust ME.

Let me tell you about "straining" or "filtering" honey.

Filtering is just a higher form of straining in that filtering removes smaller pieces, e.g. pollen, whereas, straining only removes the "nuts and bolts" left in the honey after extraction, e.g., pieces of frame wood, propolis, bee leg or wing, or a piece of brood. I do both straining and filtering; straining because few people want a bee leg in their honey, and filtering because I try to remove much of the pollen in order to slow crystallization particularly with high glucose clover honey and surely with fast crystallizing goldenrod honey, if I was forced to keep it for human consumption. When the honey comes out of the extractor drain, it goes into a 5 gallon bucket that has a screen wire honey strainer on top of the bucket which removes about 90% of the "nuts and bolts". This honey goes back in the warming closet overnight to get its temperature back to about 95-100 degrees. I hope most of you remember your grandmothers crocheting hoops, which are two interlocked wooden round hoops that you put material tight across the surface in order to crochete patterns of colored thread onto it to make a pillow cover, e.g. Depending on how fine I want to filter the honey

(not very fine for locust or tulip poplar, finer for clover, and real fine for fast crystallizing goldenrod), I stretch various materials over these hoops to run the honey through them. I use high denier (shear) nylon panty hose, or nylon slip material, or several layers of thin bridal veil, marquisette . NEVER EVER use CHEESECLOTH because this animal fiber will leave LINT in the honey. Always use some MAN MADE fiber like nylon or rayon, but not silk (made from silk worm web which leaves lint). Your 95-100 degree honey will pass this filtration quickly, but not rapidly into clean 5 gallon buckets. Close them up to keep the honey from sucking moisture out of the air and let the honey settle for at least 3 days, a week is better. Open them up, skim off the foam top with a skimmer and prepare to bottle from the bottom drain, so that you get no foam in your jar.

Finally, when your bees have worked until they died to gain this GOLDEN HARVEST of Mother Natures, and you have worked in heat, missed your dinner, got all the doorknobs of the house sticky, prove to the world that you are a beeKEEPER who is trying hard

to save honey bees for their pollination efficiencies so we humans don't run out of food; then don't ruin the whole program by packing the honey in some old peanut butter or pickle jar, adding some stupid computer label, and INSULT the value of both you and your bees by selling this "jar of golden delight" for a degrading \$2 or \$3 per pound! BE PROUD - SELL YOURSELF - I think you are worth more than \$2-\$3/pd. - DON'T YOU?

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Essex County - Joseph Lelinho - 15 Hill St, N. Caldwell, NJ 07006

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Morris County - Janet Katz - 460 Route 24, Chester, NJ 07930

North East - Karl Schoenknecht - 683 Summit Ave, Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417

North West Jersey - Karin Weinberg - 337 Tunnel Rd, Asbury, NJ 08802-1120

South Jersey - Patty Schuler - PO Box 228, Richland, NJ 08350

Sussex County - Marion Stickle - 12 Crystal Spring Rd. Hamburg, NJ 07419

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Robert "Beeman" Simonofsky
(member of the North West Branch of NJBA)

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