Fellow Beekeepers:

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of the members of NJBA, and in particular those executive Board members with whom I have worked very closely over the past two years. Being President of NJBA has been an educational opportunity and a challenge and I am proud of the accomplishments both at the state and branch levels.

The work is far from complete, but we are a far more energized and organized community than ever before in our century of existence. NJBA is no longer simply a responsive body, but rather a proactive organization looking towards the future for beekeeping and engaging those members of society that will insure beekeeping will thrive as the 21st century unfolds. From gathering and disseminating information that makes all beekeepers better, to actively promoting beekeeping to local governing bodies to insure the legality of beekeeping—our work has just begun!

NJBA is quickly becoming a powerful organization of 1000 family memberships which easily represents over 2500 people throughout our great state.

In closing, I simply want to thank all of the members as my presidency ends, welcome in the new executive board and encourage all of you to volunteer at the branch level and contribute to a millennium old tradition—Beekeeping

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May 5, 2012 State Meeting

This meeting will be hosted by the Northwest Branch at the Duke Estate in Hillsborough with two distinguished speakers: Randy Oliver and Maryann Frazier.

Randy runs a honey-bee website called ScientificBeekeeping.com, and he also owns and operates a 500-colony migratory operation in California where he pollinates the almonds in the early spring. Randy also focuses on nuc building once he's finished with the almonds and finally wraps the up the year with honey production. For the last two to three years, Randy has also written scientific bee research articles for the American Bee Journal. He also conducts his own research on varroa mites and publishes the results on his website for the beekeeping community.

Maryann Frazier, from the Entomology Dept. at Penn State, College of Agricultural Sciences is a Sr. Extension Associate. She has done research in the control of parasitic mites and pollination of the honey bee. She has written many articles and Extension publication material. She also works with MAAREC researchers and other specialists in the Mid-Atlantic Region. Her research interests are pollinator biology, health and ecology, and honey bee and pollinator research.
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As I am writing this column, it’s January 23 and about 55 degrees out side. You will be reading it in February. Please keep a close eye on the food reserves in your colonies. As brood rearing increases, so does food consumption. If pollen is coming in, you can feed light syrup to prevent starvation. Just be careful feeding with a jar, or bucket as they can leak onto the cluster when high and low temperatures vary greatly. Better to use a top board or division board feeder

Winter Death Loss Survey:
The NJBA and I will be conducting another winter death loss survey. The purpose of this survey is to determine what management practices have a positive or negative effect on over-wintering in New Jersey. Please participate in this survey. It will come out by email from the NJBA webmaster. Please make sure your email address is on file with the NJBA webmaster. The form is filled out online and submitted electronically. If you do not have email capability and would like to participate, please let me know and I can get you a hard copy to submit. We want to know how many colonies you had alive at Thanksgiving, and how many you have at the end of March 2012; what you used to control mites; what month did you start your mite control; and a few other questions.

Winter Chores:
1. This is the time of year to contact a vender in the NJBA newsletter to reserve nucs and packaged for this coming spring.
2. Plan, purchase and assemble your equipment for this coming year. Do not wait till the season starts. Get it done now!
3. Reserve queens for requeening or splitting colonies this spring.
4. Repair equipment with rot. Scrape and paint shabby equipment.
5. Make candles, soaps, lip balms, etc.
6. Attend beekeeper meetings.

I recently attended the Northeast Jersey beekeepers meeting and saw the beautiful meeting location they now have. It’s on the campus of Ramapo College. There was a very nice group of 50 beekeepers there and my wife, Patty, and I had a great time with them.

We also attended the South Jersey Beekeepers Association winter banquet. There were about 70 beekeepers there and, in spite of the weather, we all had a good time. It was nice to get to chat with some of the older keepers and newer keepers. Three branches were represented at the banquet. The cool thing about beekeepers is they come from all walks of life, all types of backgrounds, all economic levels, and they usually all get along. Their love for the honeybee binds them together. I hope I get to see you at the NJBA winter meeting on February 25, 2012.

All the best,

Tim Schuler
State Apiarist
By Bill Coniglio

I just looked at my electric and gas bill, and realized that my bees may be eating more food this winter than they did last year.

The information I have developed by weighing my hive confirms that the amount of food my hive consumes each day is related to the temperature outside the hive. My measurements indicate that my hive uses about 0.1 pounds per day when the outside temperature is less than 40 degrees. As the temperature increases, so does the bee activity and the food use. At around 40 degrees, the daily consumption is around 0.3 pounds per day. Finally, as brood rearing begins, and ambient temperatures are above 50 degrees, the food consumption increases to about 0.5 pounds per day.

OK, my measurements are a bit crude, but this approximates the relationship between temperature and food consumption. The constant question I ponder is whether there is enough food stored in each of my hives so my bees will live through the winter. Is the rule of thumb correct? We say, “Just tip the hive up from the back and see if it weighs 50 pounds” or “make sure you have 10 frames full of honey going into the winter”. If you lift the hive from the back before each inspection during the season, you will develop a feel for the weight of a hive with adequate stores.

Here is what my electric and gas bill for my house in Middlesex County has contributed to this discussion:

- The average temperature in October 2011 was 67 degrees – three degrees warmer than 2010.
- The average temperature in November was 52 degrees – the same as 2010.
- The average temperature in December was 46 degrees – eight degrees warmer than 2010.

It looks like each hive used more food in October than one would normally expect. How much more? I would guess that brood rearing extended deeper into the fall so food consumption in October might have increased by four to five pounds. The November food consumption should have paralleled 2010, but the December consumption may spell trouble. With the December temperatures in the high 40’s rather than high 30’s, it is possible that food consumption increased by between six to 12 pounds. Right now my hives probably have 10 to 17 pounds less stored food than they did in 2010. The climate is changing so I must check my hives to make sure they have a happy new year.

On January 28, Cindy and I went into each of my five hives. All are alive and strong. The three old hives which survived last winter have not yet touched the fondant I placed on them. The two new hives (Italians) which were formed in April 2011 have consumed all of the 8 pounds of fondant which I placed on them in December. In addition, the mite drop on one of the new hives is already significant. About 15 mites had fallen on the IPM board a after 48-hour test.

Powdered sugar on all of the hives in an attempt to increase mite drop and reduce the breeding population of varroa. I hope your hives are doing well but take a look.

Here is a bit information on the "new hive that had shown 15 mite drop" provoking me to treat with powdered sugar. I just pulled the IPM boards. The 36 mites had dropped from that hive, 24 hours after treating with powdered sugar. The normal unprovoked mite drop is about two per 24 hours.

I do not know how to make a broad interpretation from this bit of data, but watch your mite load. It is possible that warm temperatures and increased brood also means that the mite population will be higher.

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by Alan Harman

Frightening new research shows honey bees are being exposed to deadly neonicotinoid insecticides and several other agricultural pesticides throughout their foraging period. The research, published in the scientific journal PLoS One says extremely high levels of clothianidin and thiamethoxam were found in planter exhaust material produced during the planting of treated maize seed. The work, which could raise new questions about the long-term survival of the honey bee, was conducted by Christian H. Krupke of the Department of Entomology at Purdue University, Brian D. Eitzer of the Department of Analytical Chemistry at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station and Krispn Given of Purdue.

“Neonicotinoids were found in the soil of each field we sampled, including unplanted fields,” they report. Dandelions visited by foraging bees growing near these fields were found to contain neonicotinoids as well. “This indicates deposition of neonicotinoids on the flowers, uptake by the root system, or both. Dead bees collected near hive entrances during the spring sampling period were found to contain clothianidin as well.”

“These results have implications for a wide range of large-scale annual cropping systems that utilize neonicotinoid seed treatments,” the report says. The research was funded by grants from the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign and the Managed Pollinator Coordinated Agricultural Project.

Neonicotinoids are persistent. The new report says the half-lives of these compounds in aerobic soil conditions can vary widely, but are best measured in months – 148 – 1,155 days for clothianidin.

Among the largest single uses of these compounds is application to maize seed. Production of maize for food, feed and ethanol production represents the largest single use of arable land in North America, reaching a record 88,216,620 acres in 2010 and is expected to increase. All of the maize seed planted in North America except for 0.2% used in organic production is coated with neonicotinoid insecticides. Two major compounds are used – clothianidin and thiamethoxam, with the latter metabolized to clothianidin in the insect. The application rates for these compounds range from 0.25 to 1.25 mg/kernel. These compounds are highly toxic to honey bees – a single kernel contains several orders of magnitude of active ingredient more than the published LD50 values for honey bees – defined as the amount of material that will kill 50% of exposed individuals.

In fact, the amount of clothianidin on a single maize seed at the rate of 0.5 mg/kernel contains enough active ingredient to kill more than 80,000 honey bees.

The results prompted researchers to carry out more experiments to determine how honey bees may be gaining exposure to clothianidin and other pesticides commonly applied to either maize seed or to plants later in the season. They collected samples from a variety of potential exposure routes near agricultural fields and analyzed them to determine whether pesticides were present. They sampled soils, pollen both collected by honey bees and directly from plants, dandelion flowers, and dead and healthy bees. They even checked waste products produced during the planting of treated seed. Maize seed is sewn with tractor-drawn planters that use a forced air/vacuum system and a perforated disc to pick up individual seeds and drop them into the planting furrow at the selected spacing. Maize kernels treated with neonicotinoids and other compounds such as fungicides do not flow readily and may stick to one another, causing uneven plant spacing. To overcome this, talc (a mineral composed of hydrated magnesium silicate) is added to seed boxes to reduce friction and stickiness and ensure the smooth flow of seed. Much of the talc is exhausted during planting, either down with the seed or behind the planter and into the air using an exhaust fan. Researchers sampled the waste talc after planting to determine whether this material was contaminated with pesticides abraded from treated seeds. The waste is a mixture of the talc that has been in contact with treated maize kernels and minute pieces of the seeds.

“Soil collected from areas near our test site revealed that neonicotinoid insecticide residues were present in all samples tested, with clothianidin occurring in each field sampled … These results demonstrate that honey bees living and foraging near agricultural fields are exposed to neonicotinoids and other pesticides through multiple mechanisms throughout the spring and
summer … We show that bees living in these environments will forage for maize pollen and transport pollen containing neonicotinoids to the hive.” The results also showed clothianidin present in the surface soil of fields long after treated seed has been planted. “All soil samples we collected contained clothianidin, even in cases where no treated seed had been planted for two growing seasons,” the report says. During the spring planting period, dust that arises from this soil may land on flowers frequented by bees, or possibly on the insects themselves. Of potentially greater concern are the very high levels of neonicotinoids and fungicides found in the talc that has been exposed to treated seed. “The large areas being planted with neonicotinoid treated seeds, combined with the high persistence of these materials and the mobility of disturbed soil and talc dust, carry potential for effects over an area that may exceed the boundaries of the production fields themselves.” Later in the season, when planting is largely complete, the researchers found bees collect maize pollen that contains translocated neonicotinoids and other pesticides from seed. Translocation of neonicotinoids into pollen has previously been reported for maize grown from imidacloprid-treated seed, but the researchers say the degree to which honey bees in their study gathered maize pollen was surprising. “The finding that bee-collected pollen contained neonicotinoids is of particular concern because of the risks to newly-emerged nurse bees, which must feed upon pollen reserves in the hive immediately following emergence,” they say. “Lethal levels of insecticides in pollen are an obvious concern, but sub-lethal levels are also worthy of study as even slight behavioral effects may impact how affected bees carry out important tasks such as brood rearing, orientation and communication.” Also potentially important are the three fungicides found in bee-collected pollen samples – trifloxystrobin and azoxystrobin and propiconazole. Azoxystrobin and trifloxystrobin are frequently used in maize seed treatments as protectants and all three are widely applied to maize in North America, even in the absence of disease symptoms. These findings have implications both for honey bees located near these crops year-round, but also for migratory colonies such as almonds and other fruit and nut crops, the report says. (For complete article, go to http://home.ezezine.com/1636/1636-2012.01.04.21.46.archive.html)

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The First 100 Stings
By Josephine M. Giaimo

January 20th, 2012: By way of introduction: I started keeping bees in June of 2010. I have two hives in Highland Park, NJ. As a new beekeeper, I am learning something all the time. In this column, I’ll share what I am learning so that other new beekeepers may, perhaps, benefit. More experienced beekeepers may use this opportunity to keep the conversation fresh. I am open to your suggestions.

I gave my bees a winter syrup mixture before it got really cold. This recipe is courtesy of Cynthia Werts, our new Raritan Valley Beekeepers Association Branch President.

Winter Syrup Recipe; Boil 7 cups water. Add 5 pounds sugar. Heat and stir until clear. Allow to cool, and put in feeder.

Dead Bees in the Top Feeder: Last time, I wrote about my experiences regarding the dead bees in my top feeder. I recently received the following email from Francis Amabile (thank you, Francis): “Hi - Just read your article in the Association News. I use the Mann Lake top feeder too. I love it because you can feed the bees without actually opening the hive and you’re using your tool to pry wood instead of plastic. I had the same problem as you. The bees are definitely getting in under the screen, not from under the cover. What's happening is the screen warps as it heats and cools, so when the syrup gets used up the bees find their way in. Remove the feeder (and the bees,) bend the screen back into position, then seal all around the screen where it comes in contact with the plastic using a hot glue gun. The glue is basically inert: it doesn’t harm the bees. You will never have another bee in the feeder.” Now that I think about it, the last time I spoke with Tim Schuler, he told me something similar. I think he suggested caulk, but anyway, it’s the same idea: you want to bend the screen back into position, and somehow seal it in place. Now I know why Tim told me that. Experience is a great teacher, too. Now I have to find an opportunity to hot glue gun or caulk the top feeder, as instructed. At least I haven’t had any more bee stings recently.

When the temperatures are above 50 degrees F, my bees usually come out to do a bit of housekeeping and looking around. If I’m wondering how they are doing, I put my ear to the side of the hive. Sometimes I can hear them buzzing around in there. I have been known to give the side of the hive a thump—if a bee flies out, I know somebody’s home.

Thank you, Tim Schuler, for the emergency winter feeding advisory sent on January 19th, 2012. In particular, I liked hearing: “If your colony is light, you can feed them by putting granulated sugar on top of the inner cover around the center hole. You can put it under the inner cover if you place a sheet of newspaper on top of the top bars to hold the sugar.” This sounds like a good alternative to making a fondant or a candy board, if those things seem a bit daunting.

In November and December, I spoke about beekeeping at The Parker House, and a monthly meeting of the Native Plant Society, respectively, both in Highland Park. The presentation materials and equipment the NJBA makes available are a great support and I’m learning a lot whenever I give a talk, too. When the weather is better, I bring a demonstration frame along. Best of all, I enjoy speaking to groups of students. I think every school should have a beehive, don’t you?

Follow me at @giaimojosephine. Email me at josephinegiaimo@gmail.com. How about we plan a #beechat soon, okay
Jan. 10-14, 2012 Las Vegas, Nevada the North American Beekeeping Conference and Trade Show was held. The Conference brought some of the most updated information and some of the latest products in the bee industry. With over 700 attendees from the very smallest with a few hives, to the larger commercial beekeepers with thousands of hives from all over the country and Canada. There were over 40 educational sessions and an informative serious side-liner symposium. A full trade show with the latest innovations in the bee industry, and great deals. The Honey Queen contest for a representative for the American Bee Federation was held, and Danniele Dale of WI was selected as Princess 2012 and Alyssa Fine of PA 2012 Queen. The 2012 American Honey Show had 37 states represented with their entries. All the entries were auctioned off at the end to benefit the Honey Queen Program. The Convention Center at the Rio was huge so there was plenty of walking.

Anna Trapani got a third place for class L, Creamed Honey, only one point difference from 1st place. The class winner came all the way from Hawaii. Stan Wasitowski placed 3rd in class M, Beeswax Block. Angelo Trapani got two ribbons; one 3rd place for class O, Beeswax Candles and a 2nd place for class P, Artistic Beeswax Candles. The only trouble was we had to ship all the entries to Nevada and in the shipment Stan had a few jars broken and couldn’t compete in that class.

In 2013 The American Bee Federation will have their Conference and Trade Show in Hershey PA, which will be within driving distance so many more members from New Jersey can attend, so beware Honey Show.

Pictures from Angelo Trapani
A Brief History of the New Jersey Bee inspection program
By Tim Schuler

Did you know that there has been a bee inspection program in New Jersey for over 100 years? Prior to that time, the state was heavily infested with American Foul Brood disease (AFB). The first bee laws were passed in 1911. Elmer G. Carr, from Pennington, was the first NJ bee inspector. He served from 1911-1935. That’s 24 years! He traveled to apiaries using all sorts of transportation including, trains, trolleys, walking, bicycle, horses and wagons. Often, he would go to a town and get a room in a boarding house or in beekeepers’ houses and make daily circuits around the area inspecting colonies for disease and educating beekeepers in modern methods. I have been able to look at some of his early inspection reports, his comments are quite interesting. During his service the state made great progress in cleaning up AFB.

Paul L. Holcombe, from Ringos NJ, was named Supervisor of Bee Culture after the retirement of Mr. Carr. Mr. Holcombe served until 1955; a total of 20 years of service. I have been told he did a very good job continuing the work started by Mr. Carr. The program continued to make progress in reducing the incidence of AFB. He was assisted by a deputy bee inspector Jake Matthenius, of Phillipsburg area, starting in 1947.

In 1955, after Mr. Holcombe retired, Jake Matthenius Jr. was appointed Supervisor of Bee Culture. He was assisted by George T. Duffhaus, Thomas Digney, and in 1964, Lester Shimp of Pennsville was appointed full time assistant bee inspector. Shortly after that Paul Raybold from Phillipsburg was added to the bee inspection force.

Jake Matthenius, Paul Raybold, and Walt Wilson were the three NJ inspectors when I first got into beekeeping in NJ in the mid 1980’s. They were assisted seasonally by Bob Hughes from Yardville, NJ. I did not have much opportunity to interact with Paul because his area was North Jersey. I can say that Jake, Walt, and Bob were very helpful to me as I started beekeeping. They continued to coach me, and helped me understand the workings of a hive.

In about 1988 Paul resigned his position as bee inspector and in the spring of 1989 I (Tim Schuler) joined the bee inspection team. During that time Jake was the state apiarist, Walt Wilson was the senior bee inspector and I was the junior inspector, with Bob Hughes assisting seasonally. In 1990 Jake retired after 43 years of service to the beekeepers of New Jersey. This is the year we first found varroa mites in New Jersey. The state budget was tight and my position was cut, leaving Walt Wilson as the only inspector in the program.

Walt Wilson retired some time around 1992 – 1993, after about 20 years of service to the New Jersey beekeeping industry, and for a short time there was no one at the helm of the bee inspection program.

Rip Beckman, from New York State, was hired in 1993 as the state apiarist with Grant Stiles as the senior inspector. Rip served briefly leaving the post in 1995. At that time Grant Stiles was appointed state apiarist. He served a total of nine years in the bee inspection program till 2002. During his time as apiarist, Grant was assisted by Bob Hughes and Walt Wilson as seasonal inspectors.

The program was without an apiarist for about a year, then Paul Raybold was rehired as the state apiarist. He had already served 18 years as an inspector and served another three years as the apiarist, retiring in 2007.

I (Tim Schuler) was hired to fill the position of state apiarist August 2007, right after Colony Collapse Disorder became big news. I loved the time I spent as a bee inspector in 1989 and 1990. It took some time, but now I get to do a job I love.

There have been eight state apiarists or supervisor of bee culture over the last 100 years in NJ. The longest time served was by Jake Matthenius Jr. – 43 years. Many of you have
known Jake over the years. His passion for New Jersey beekeeping is well known among those who know Jake. He has a dynamic personality well suited for the job. He taught beekeeping classes through Rutgers University and Delaware Valley College for years. He was one of the founders of EAS (Eastern Apicultural Society). He pioneered the use of ETO (ethylene oxide gas) to sterilize bee equipment, promoted commercial pollination in NJ, and many other things I cannot remember. I was very fortunate to be mentored by Jake in my early days of beekeeping. One of the things Jake told me when he hired me as a bee inspector was that he did not need a badge flasher. He needed an ambassador. Someone who could find disease if it was there, help the beekeeper clean it up and get invited in for lunch. Jake and his wife Bea currently live in Easton, PA.

There is a rich heritage of beekeeping in the state of New Jersey. I desire to continue to protect and nurture this industry as my predecessors have done.

Sources of Information for this article

1. New Jersey Beekeepers News October, 1977

How Adrian’s Doing, by Landi Simone

Adrian is doing really, really well. He’s got his next-to-final prosthetic legs: C-legs, they’re called. Full height, with knees. He will get one more pair and the only reason he doesn’t have them now is because the production of these prostheses cannot keep up with the demand. They’re X2s – steel and carbonite, with more strain gauges in more spots than the C-legs. But basically, he’s nearly recovered at this point and working 3+ hours daily in PT to master the new legs. He’s come as far in six months as most marines/soldiers with similar injuries come in one to three years. His left leg is amputated through the knee; the right one is about four inches above the knee.

Ace is still in Bethesda at his quarters in the “Transition Warriors Battalion,” which is on the new Walter Reed National Naval Medical Center base. His sister Kira (our former NJ and ECBS Honey Princess) is still living with him, but he doesn’t really need her help anymore and her orders will expire in March, when she’ll come back home to NJ. He’s chomping at the bit to get back to his unit and be transferred to his home base at Camp Lejeune, NC. His unit returned from their Afghanistan deployment recently; Adrian was there to meet them and I don’t doubt they had a raucous Marine reunion. He absolutely does not want to take a medical discharge, which is what 99% of the amputees wind up doing. (They make out substantially better financially if they take the medical discharge.) He wants to go back to Camp Lejeune and serve in his unit in whatever capacity they will let him. He knows it won’t be infantry but he still wants to go with them when next they deploy. Adrian still has 2-1/2 years to go in his contract, so it’s not at all unrealistic that they can train him in a new job and have him do it for the remainder of his term.

He got a new car, fitted with hand controls. Naturally, being a 19 year old male, he chose a ‘muscle’ car, a 2012 Dodge Challenger, loaded. All I wanted to be sure of is that his wheelchair can go in the back seat, which it can. For non-medical people who may not know, prosthetic devices are kind of like contact lenses; you don’t wear them 24/7. When Adrian is relaxing at home, he’s in his wheelchair. Plus, it’s not uncommon for amputees to get skin infections and HOs: bone growths on the residual limb that are painful, can interfere with wearing the prosthesis, and may need to be surgically removed. While such issues resolve, the Marine is in his wheelchair. Adrian developed an HO on the right leg – the one that has given him the most problems – but he followed the advice of his physical therapist Greg Loomis and wore his legs anyway, in spite of the pain. Greg’s observations have been that wearing the prosthesis helps the HO grow in a beneficial way and surgery is less likely.
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Note: Please contact Curtis Crowell, 609 651-4585 or curtis.crowell@att.net, about placing, designing, formatting, cost, and all correspondence about ads.

Appearance of a vendor’s ad in the newsletter does not imply endorsement of or assurance of quality by the NJBA.
Letter from the Editor

If no one told you, it’s still winter. It seems that the bees have been flying more days than not this winter. The only thing is, it looks like the bees are consuming their winter stores at a higher rate. I noticed at the first of the year some of the hives were light and the bees were on the top cover. Since finding the beehives light and bees moving up, I started feeding them. I have been using fondant that we make into patties and place them right on the top bars. Some hives are already on their third pattie. The patties work out great. Just open the hive and quickly put it in.

If this warm weather continues, and the bees keep flying, I will have to continue to feed until Mother Nature starts providing for the bees. Now with only maybe six more weeks of cold weather, don’t let your bees starve. Keep a watchful eye on them because spring is right around the corner and it would be a real shame to lose them now.

When looking at my hives, the majority look real good with plenty of bees and only a few weak ones. If the weather holds out and we get a good spring, not to dry or wet, (not asking a lot) we should get plenty of honey.

On other happenings this winter, my wife, Ann, and I went to the ABF Convention in Las Vegas and had a great time between talking about bees with beekeepers from all over the country and hearing many lectures about bees from many noted speakers in the industry. The trade show had many new things to look at. With all the other activities going on, our favorite was the Honey Show. We were kind of limited to what we could put in the show because we had to ship it by parcel post to get it there on time. So we sent entries that would ship well. Next year the ABF Convention will be in Hershey PA, which is only a short drive so we will have more entries entered.

Angelo Trapani, Editor
RECIPEs - From the National Honey Board

A Honey of a Chili

Makes 8 servings

- 1 package (15 oz.) firm tofu
- 1 Tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 3/4 cup chopped green bell pepper
- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 2 Tablespoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 1 can (28 oz.) diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1 can (15-1/2 oz.) red kidney beans, undrained
- 1 can (8 oz.) tomato sauce
- 1/4 cup honey
- 2 Tablespoons red wine vinegar

Using a cheese grater, shred tofu and freeze in zippered bag or airtight container. Thaw tofu; place in a strainer and press out excess liquid. In large saucepan or Dutch oven, heat oil over medium-high heat until hot; cook and stir onion, green pepper and garlic 3 to 5 minutes or until vegetables are tender and begin to brown. Stir in chili powder, cumin, salt, oregano and crushed red pepper flakes. Stir in tofu; cook and stir 1 minute. Stir in diced tomatoes, kidney beans, tomato sauce, honey and vinegar. Bring to a boil; reduce heat and simmer, uncovered, 15 to 20 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Nutrition: 295 Calories * 9 g Fat Total * 41 g Carbohydrates * 0 mg Cholesterol * 18 g Protein * 9 g Dietary Fiber * 1022 mg Sodium * 26% Calories from Fat

Chicken Honey Nut Stir Fry

Makes 4 to 6 servings

- 1 lb. pork steak or loin or boneless chicken breast
- 3/4 cup orange juice
- 1/3 cup honey
- 3 Tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 Tablespoon cornstarch
- 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
- 2 Tablespoons vegetable oil, divided
- 2 carrots, diagonally cut
- 2 stalks celery, diagonally cut
- 1/2 cup cashews or peanuts
- Hot rice

Cut chicken or pork into thin strips and set aside. In a small bowl, combine orange juice, honey, soy sauce, cornstarch and ginger; mix well. Heat 1 tablespoon oil in a wok or large skillet over medium heat. Add carrots and celery; stir-fry about 3 minutes. Remove vegetables and set aside. Pour remaining oil into skillet. Add chicken; stir-fry about 3 minutes. Return vegetables to skillet; add sauce mixture and nuts. Cook and stir over medium-high heat until thickened. Serve over hot rice.

Whipped Honey Butter

Makes 2 cups

- 1 cup (12 oz.) whipped honey or crème, softened if necessary
- 1/2 lb. (2 sticks) butter, softened

In a medium bowl, mix together honey and butter. Spoon into jars with tight-fitting lids. Store in refrigerator.

Tip: Stir 1-1/2 teaspoons grated orange peel into honey-butter mixture
WHO’S WHO in NJBA

President – Seth Belson, 856-285-0074, president@njbeekeepers.org
1nd Vice President – Landi Simone, 973-263-0674, beelady@optonline.com
2rd Vice President – Karoly Toth 732-873-2989
3rd Vice President– Brian Rowe, 908-443-1199, bdrowe81@gmail.com
Treasurer - Curtis Crowell, 609-651-4585, treasurer@njbeekeepers.org
Recording Secretary—Jeff Burd, secretary@njbeekeepers.org
1st Past President– Pete Leighton, 732-928-4259, jpleighton1@verizon.net
2st Past President– Bea Tassot, 908-264-4504, bea-jeanclaude@tassotapiaries.com
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MAAREC Representative - Joe Lelinho, 973-228-4806, Klutch.cargo@verizon.net
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Honey Queen Program - Tim Schuler, tim.schuler@comcast.net
Honey Queen – Ella Barry– ebarry9591@hotmail.com
Honey Princesses– Rebecca Muller, markmuller1@verizon.net.

Budget Committee - Ray Markley, 609-261-1638, rambeeman@aol.com
Honeybee Advisory Committee – Grant Stiles, Grant.I.Stiles@aphis.usda.gov
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Bob Hughes, Annual Picnic Chairman bobsbuzzybees@aol.com
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Morris and Somerset County – Rich Lepik, rlepik@verizon.net, 732 469-2574
Northeast Jersey – Frank Mortimor, frankmort@gmail.com
Northwest Jersey – Charles Ilsley—732 469 0043, c.ilsley44@gmail.com
Raritan Valley - Cynthia Werts, cynthiawerts@aol.com
South Jersey – Ned Morgan, ned.morgan@comcast.net
Sussex County – Chris Tomlinson, syncrostomlinson@gmail.com

Branch Club Dates:

Jersey Cape: Third Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m., Cape May Court House, 355 Route 657, Cape May Court House.
Morris-Somerset: Feb. 17, 2012, Chester Library. A hive will be assembled and hive location on your property will be discusses.
Northeast: Third Friday, Room 135S (the Amphitheater), Anisfield School of Business, Ramapo College, 505 Ramapo Valley Rd., Mahwah, 7:30 p.m.
Raritan Valley: Third Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m. Somerset 4H Building.
South Jersey; April 7, 2012, at John and Chris Hibbs Home, “Waking up your bees”. Second April meeting for package installation, day to be determined.
Raritan: Third Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m., Somerset 4H Bldg., 310 Milltown Rd., Somerset
Sussex: Feb. 18, 2012, Preparing honey for competition, Administration Bldg., Sussex County Fairgrounds
NEW JERSEY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Membership Form

Check one:  □ New  □ Renewal

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☐ Check here if you agree to have your name, city, phone and e-mail address published and made available to other NJBA members only (your full mailing address will not be published).

☐ Check here if you would like the NJBA newsletter sent to you by email, as a PDF attachment instead of a hardcopy via the US Postal Service. Make certain to provide a valid email address above.

Make checks payable to your local branch (e.g. “Essex Beekeepers”) and mail the dues with a copy of this form to the appropriate branch treasurer listed below.

Membership is for a full calendar year, ending December 31st. Dues are payable by January 1st of the current year and are considered delinquent as of March 1st. New memberships paid for after July 31st are good through December 31st of the following year. Dues must be current to receive the state newsletter, informational emails from the state, be listed on the product or swarm collector web pages and to enter the annual honey show. If you’d like to join additional branches once you have joined the NJBA through a primary branch, you can do so by paying the branch-only portion of the dues ($8) to the additional branch or branches.

☐ Junior Membership (under the age of 18)  $ 8
☐ Membership (State Association & One Primary Branch-Required)  $20

Select your primary branch below whose meetings are most convenient for you:

☐ Central Jersey Branch:  Curtis Crowell, 152 Broad St., Hightstown, NJ 08520
☐ Essex County Beekeepers: Joe Lelinho, 15 Hill St., N. Caldwell, NJ 07006
☐ Jersey Cape Branch: Marjorie Brooks, 21 East Station Rd., Ocean City, NJ 08226
☐ Morris-Somerset Branch: Mary Hart, 54 Crest Dr., Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
☐ North East Branch: Karl Schoenknecht, 683 Summit Ave., Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417
☐ North West Jersey Branch: Karin Weinberg, 337 Tunnel Rd., Asbury, NJ 08802-1120
☐ Raritan Valley Beekeepers: Denise DeCristofano, 978 Evergreen Dr., Somerville, NJ 08876
☐ South Jersey Branch: Doris Morgan, 838 Tuska Ave., Millville, NJ 08332
☐ Sussex County Branch: Roman Osadca, 10 Old Stage Road, Newton, NJ 07860

☐ Secondary Branch-Only Membership (Optional)  $ 8
Secondary Branch: _________________________________________

Most branches will allow members of any NJBA branch to attend their meetings. Already a member of one branch, but want to get newsletters from another? Check the box next to ‘Secondary Branch’, write in the name of the branch you’d like to be an ‘associate member’ of and send the $8 branch portion of the dues and membership application separately to that branch’s treasurer. Remember, you must have a Primary Branch membership at one branch before requesting a secondary or associate membership at an additional branch or branches.