



Caswell County Beekeepers Association

October 2016

Officers

- President
Larry Hupp
- Vice President
Michael Mayes
- Secretary/Treasurer
Cindi Jones
- Program Chair
Martha Hupp
- Refreshments Chair
Patrice McCollum

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, October 27 @
7:00pm at Piedmont
Community College

Next Meeting:

Thursday, October 27 @ 7:00pm. **Ms. Nancy Ruppert**, North Carolina Apiary Inspector, will be our guest speaker and present "***Beekeeping in Late Winter/Early Spring***". We will meet at **Piedmont Community College** in rooms 202/203 of the administration building (bldg. K). See our [website](#) for information and directions. Due to limited seating, RSVP to ccba@caswellcountybeekeepers.org is requested if you plan to attend.

Past Meeting:

At our last meeting on Sept 22, Larry and Martha Hupp presented "*Winter Bee Feeding Methods with Recipes*". Recipes included one for [fondant](#) and one for [sugar cakes](#). Videos shown included [Making/Giving Winter Sugar Patties W/Essential Oils To Our Honeybees](#) and [Make bee fondant correctly- Temperature, acid and time](#).

New officers were elected for 2017:

President Robert Neal
Vice-President..... Maureen Jarrell
Secretary/Treasurer Nina Dabbs
Program Chair Phil Barfield

Note: We will not be meeting in November due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

News:

Asian hornets have made their way to the UK. The Asian hornet (*Vespa velutina*), which is up to 1 inch long, is now common across Europe after being accidentally introduced to France in 2004 in a shipment of pottery from China. While typically all hornets are predators of insect species, the Asian hornet has been seen as a significant problem for beekeepers due to its aggressive and effective preying on European honey bees and wild bee populations. They disrupt hive activity and affect hive health. This hornet is not to be confused with the Giant Asian hornet, sometimes referred to as the "Japanese hornet" – another significant threat to beekeeping. We have a close relative to the Asian hornet in our area – the European hornet. [\[BBC News; NCSU PDIC Blog\]](#)

Beekeeping course:

CCBA will be holding a beginning beekeeping course on Wednesday evenings from 6:30PM to 8:30PM starting January 18, 2017 and conclude about mid-March. The course will include a field day where we will inspect a beehive. The cost is \$55.00 and includes instruction, book, binder, and handouts. Registration forms will be available beginning in November. If interested in taking the course and haven't already signed up, please e-mail ccba@caswellcountybeekeepers.org and request to be placed on our list. For more information, please visit our [website](#).





We meet on the 4th Thursday of every month at 7:00pm (except November and December) in the basement of the Agriculture Building next to the Historic Courthouse in downtown Yanceyville, NC
 [Note: meet at PCC for Oct 27]

In the bee yard:

- Your hives should be almost ready for winter.
- Confirm each colony has sufficient winter stores of approximately 40 to 60 lbs. of honey. If light, feed 2:1 (5 cups of sugar to 5 cups of water).
- Ensure proper ventilation by propping open the telescoping cover slightly to allow moisture vapor to escape the colony. Dripping condensation inside the hive during cool weather can dampen and kill bees.
- After the first frost, consider reducing the hive entrance to the smallest setting (about 3/4" wide) to help the bees guard a smaller opening against robbing.
- Determine what equipment you will need next year. Order and receive before spring so not to be disappointed by sold-out suppliers.
- Place your order with suppliers early if you are considering increasing your number of hives in the spring with nucleus (nuc) colonies.

Aster:

Honey bees have been attracted to an abundance of aster during this fall flow. The gathered nectar produces a smell in and out of the hive that is likened to old smelly socks and has been a cause of alarm by new beekeepers mistaking it for American foulbrood. Once the aster honey is cured in the hive, the odor will go away.



Honey bee on aster



Honey bee on Yellow Crownbeard
 (member of the aster family)

Used Beekeeping Equipment for Sale

A full set of used beekeeping tools and equipment is for sale:

- Bee smoker, hive tool, veil, gloves, coveralls
- 3 bottom boards with entrance reducers
- 4 deep brood chambers, 6 medium size supers with 10 frames for each
- 3 queen excluders, 3 lids, 3 inner covers, 3 sugar water feeders
- 1 swarm box, a two frame extractor with buckets and strainers

Located in the Yanceyville area. Price negotiable, delivery available.

If interested, please contact AnnMarie Covington, (336) 266-5919, hobieone57@yahoo.com

If you or someone you know would like to receive the monthly newsletter via e-mail, or you have questions, comments, suggestions, photographs etc. that you would like to see published, please send an email to ccba@caswellcountybeekeepers.org