



Caswell County Beekeepers Association

October 2018

Officers

- President
Robert Neal
- Vice President
Phil Barfield
- 1st year Director
Scott Oakley
- 2nd year Director
Katie Newton
- 3rd year Director
Larry Hupp
- Secretary/Treasurer
Nina Dabbs
- Program Chair
[vacant]

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, October 25 @
7:00pm



Daylight Savings Time ends
on Sunday, Nov 4th. Set your
clocks back one hour.



Next Meeting:

Thursday, **October 25** @ 7:00pm. This is our last meeting of the year. Come join us as we have an open discussion of bees and beekeeping, reflect on this past year, and plan for next year.

ELECTIONS: We will hold annual elections at the meeting for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director (one position), and Program Chair. If you would like to serve in one of these positions or nominate someone, please send an email to ccba@caswellcountybeekeepers.org or announce your nomination at the meeting. Ensure the person you are nominating agrees to serve.

Volunteer Opportunities: If you have skills in writing, organizing, planning, social media, webpage management, or running projects and would like to take a more active role in our association, please volunteer to head up one of the following:

- Newsletter
- Facebook page
- Web page
- E-mail communications
- Meetings
- Events (e.g., Hoedown)
- Bee course

If interested or you need more information on what is involved, please email ccba@caswellcountybeekeepers.org.

Events:

Oct 27 – MBP Testing. The NCSBA Master Beekeeper Program will conduct fall testing at the Alamance County Center, 209 N. Graham-Hopedale Road, Burlington, NC 27217 on Saturday, **October 27** from 9:00am to 12:00pm. All levels written and Journeyman practical exams offered at no cost. No written test will be given out after 10:00am. Please contact mbp@ncbeekeepers.org to register.

Nov 3 – VSBA Fall Meeting. Virginia State Beekeepers Association Fall meeting will be held at Blue Ridge Community College in Weyers Cave, VA

Mar 1-2, 2019 – NCSBA Spring Meeting. The Spring 2019 Joint North Carolina State and South Carolina Beekeepers Associations meeting will be held March 1-2, 2019 in Monroe, NC.

CONGRATULATIONS! **Harrison Bolton** is now a NCSBA Certified Beekeeper. He passed the written and practical exams with high marks and met the Master Beekeeper Program requirements to earn his certificate. Way to go!





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

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

In the bee yard:

- Your hives should be ready for winter. Confirm that each colony has sufficient winter stores of approximately 40 to 60 pounds of honey. You can estimate honey reserves by lifting a back edge of the hive - it should feel heavy. If not, feed sugar syrup in a 2:1 ratio or 10 cups (~5 lb) of sugar to 5 cups of water until each colony is heavy with stores.
- Honey stores should be located above the bees. Undrawn foundation removed before cold weather.
- Install a mouse guard or reduce your hive entrance to the small setting (about 3/4" wide) to prevent mouse intrusion. The entrance reducer opening should be up rather than down to prevent blockage by dead bees or debris during the winter.
- Ventilation is a primary concern during cold weather as condensation inside the hive can accumulate under the inner cover and drip onto the cluster and kill bees. Make sure that the telescoping outer cover is propped open slightly to allow moisture vapor to escape the hive.
- Remove queen excluders between the bees and any honey stores. If not removed, bees may move up into the honey over the winter leaving the queen trapped below the excluder.
- Determine what equipment you will need next year. Order and receive before spring so not to be disappointed by sold-out suppliers. November and December are months you will find good sales discounts and free shipping from suppliers.
- Place your order with suppliers early if you are considering increasing your number of hives in the spring with nucleus (nuc) colonies.

Herbicide study:

As the main agricultural insect pollinator, the honey bee is exposed to a number of agrochemicals, including glyphosate (GLY) [such as RoundUp], the most widely used herbicide. GLY has been detected in honey and bee pollen baskets. However, its impact on the honey bee brood is poorly explored. Researchers from Argentina showed that brood fed with food containing GLY traces had a higher proportion of larvae with delayed moulting and reduced weight. The response of honey bees to GLY indicates that it is a stressor that affects larval development depending on individual and colony susceptibility. For more information, see the PLOS ONE research article (click [<here>](#)).

Beekeeping course:

CCBA is again planning to hold a beginning beekeeping course on Wednesday evenings from 6:30PM to 8:30PM starting January 9, 2019 and conclude about mid-March. The course will include a field day where we will inspect a beehive. The cost is expected to be \$75.00 and includes instruction, book, binder, and handouts. For couples who share a book and materials, the cost is reduced to \$45.00 for the second person. Registration forms should 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](#).

