



Caswell County Beekeepers Association

January 2017

Officers

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

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, January 26 @
7:00pm

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Thursday, January 26, 2017 @ 7:00pm. **Mr. David Bailey** of [Bailey Bee Supply](#) in Hillsborough, NC will be our guest speaker. His topic will be "***Are you ready? Bee season checklist – hive equipment, woodenware, components***".

News:

The NC Dept of Agriculture - Apiary Services published the 2017 current list of suppliers authorized to sell bees in North Carolina. See <http://www.ncagr.gov/plantindustry/Plant/apiary/documents/PermitToSell2017.pdf>

For beekeepers who registered and mapped their hives on [BeeCheck](#) last year, it is time to renew your beehive sites. You should have already received an e-mail from FieldWatch. Mr. Pat Jones from the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Pesticide Section will be our guest speaker at our February meeting and will explain the benefits of BeeCheck registration under DriftWatch and FieldWatch.

The North Carolina 4-H is holding a Beekeeping Essay contest. The topic is "***How can MP3 (Managed Pollinator Protection Plan) more effectively protect honey bees from pesticide exposure?***" NC 4-H youth will compete in three age divisions with monetary awards. If you know any youth who is interested in writing an essay for the contest, please contact Ms. Brandi Boaz (blwagne2@ncsu.edu, 336-694-4158), Caswell County 4-H Youth Development, in Yanceyville. She needs the essay no later than February 9th. See <http://www.growforit.org/programs/detail/beekeeping-essay>.

Kim Flottum, Editor-in-Chief of [Bee Culture Magazine](#) and Dr. James "Jim" Tew, Emeritus Professor, Entomology, OSU will be hosting a live webinar on Thursday, January 26 @ noon about bee packages (**3 * 2 * 1 - Packages!**) – installation and care of your new bees. Click [<here>](#) for more information and to register (free).

The Halifax Beekeepers Association is hosting a special program on January 27th and 28th at the Olde Dominion Agricultural Complex in Chatham, VA. The program is entitled "***The Honeybee Superorganism and Why It's Important***" with featured speaker/instructor Keith Delaplaine. For more information, costs, and to register, see <http://halifaxbeekeepers.org/index.php/upcoming-events>.

Varroa destructor mites can nimbly climb from flowers onto foraging honey bees. Watch a new video that is the first to document how Varroa mites, jump from flowers and attach themselves to bees. <http://www.futurity.org/varroa-mite-bee-video-1326512-2/#modalVideo> [DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0167798]

The [Chatham County Center of North Carolina Cooperative Extension](#) will offer two workshops in Pittsboro, NC on Tax Issues for Farmers & Other Agricultural Producers on February 2 and February 16. The target audience is farmers (vegetables & fruits, livestock, row crops, etc.), nursery growers, beekeepers, aquaculture producers. Click [<here>](#) for more information, cost, and registration.





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

Beekeeping course:

Our CCBA beginning beekeeping course is full and underway. We will hold our second class on January 25th. Robert Neal will be going into detail on equipment needed to keep bees.

In the bee yard:

- Continue to ensure proper ventilation, provide wind blocks, and conduct visual inspections (see [November newsletter](#)).
- Inspect, repair, or replace stored hive equipment. Purchase needed wax foundation and woodenware.
- Our recent warm weather has allowed bees to break cluster and go out for cleansing flights. Bees also consume more of their winter food stores during warmer weather than when they are clustered in colder temps. Check the cluster location on a cold day by opening the inner cover and looking into the hive briefly (do not remove/manipulate frames). If the cluster is at the top of the hive, then the bees may have run out of stored food and you should begin emergency feeding with sugar, candy or fondant. Add pollen supplements, if needed.
- Begin assembling your honey supers and have them ready for the beginning of nectar flow.
- Red maples will begin to bloom soon in our area. Bees will be bringing in pollen and nectar and brood rearing will intensify.

NCSBA Spring Meeting:

The [South Carolina Beekeepers Association](#) (SCBA) will host the joint 2017 Spring Meeting with [North Carolina State Beekeepers Association](#) (NCSBA) on March 3rd & 4th, 2017 at Baxter Hood Center at [York Tech College](#) in Rock Hill, SC.

2017 CCBA and NCSBA Membership Dues

It's time to renew your membership to the Caswell County Beekeepers Association (CCBA) and to the North Carolina State Beekeepers Association (NCSBA). Both memberships expire on December 31. The 2017 annual dues are \$5 per person for CCBA and \$15 for NCSBA. Membership in NCSBA is not required for membership in CCBA, but is encouraged. If you wish to join the state association directly with NCSBA, then you can pay \$5 for CCBA membership only. The CCBA membership form is on our website at <http://caswellcountybeekeepers.org/membership/>. You can join NCSBA online at <https://www.ncbeekeepers.org/join-or-renew-your-membership-to-the-ncsba>. [Note: Students in our beginning beekeeping course receive a complimentary CCBA membership for 2017]

Australian beetle (*Brachyepplus basalis*)

A new honey bee pest has been confirmed in the U.S. Australian beetle *Brachyepplus basalis* was discovered in beehives in four California counties from 2010, in a sample submitted by a Montana beekeeper in 2013, and in stored bee equipment (outside) in two separate Oregon beekeeping operations in 2015 and 2016. As yet, the beetle has not been documented in active honey bee colonies in Oregon. [[ABJ Extra](#)]