



Caswell County Beekeepers Association

September 2016

Officers

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

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, September 22
@ 7:00pm

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Thursday, September 22 @ 7:00pm. **Larry and Martha Hupp** will be our speakers and will be presenting "*Winter Bee Feeding Methods with Recipes*".

We will be nominating and electing our CCBA officers for 2017.

Past Meeting:

Mr. Patrick Ferrer from Dadant & Sons in Chatham, VA was our speaker. He was joined by Mark Bennett. They discussed Varroa mite control and brought related products to show.

CCBA Booth @ Bright Leaf Hoedown:



Our booth this past Saturday was a tremendous success! Our presence was recognized throughout as kids and adults buzzed around the Hoedown with bees painted on their face and sporting bee antenna. The observation hives were a big hit and allowed our volunteers to engage visitors and educate the public about honey bees and beekeeping. Several visitors are interested in becoming beekeepers and have signed up for our course beginning in January. Our club made a positive impact on our community. See our [Facebook](#) page for photos.

News:

Aerial spraying using Naled to kill mosquitos for the control of the Zika virus has been a concern for beekeepers over the past few weeks since the reported bee kill in South Carolina. Naled is an insecticide that has been registered since 1959 for use in the United States. It is used primarily for controlling adult mosquitoes, but is also used on food and feed crops, and in greenhouses. For mosquito control, naled is applied as an ultra-low volume (ULV) spray. ULV sprayers dispense very fine aerosol droplets containing small quantities of active ingredient insecticide that drift through the air and kill mosquitoes on contact. Aerial treatment of areas with products that rapidly reduce both young and adult mosquitoes can help to limit the number of mosquitoes that carry the Zika virus. Spraying Naled can kill bees outside of their hives at the time of spraying; therefore, spraying should be limited to dawn or dusk when bees are inside their hives. Beekeepers can reduce potential exposure to bee colonies even more by covering colonies and preventing bees from exiting during designated treatment periods or, if possible, relocating colonies to an untreated site. There is currently no aerial spraying of Naled in Caswell County for Zika virus control. [NCSU Cooperative Extension Service](#) and [NCDA&CS](#) encourages beekeepers to register your apiary, as well as participate in the [DriftWatch/BeeCheck](#) program so that you can be notified of spraying. [sources: [EPA](#), [CDC](#), [NCSU CES](#)]





We meet on the 4th Thursday of every month at 7:00pm (except 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

Events:

This year, the [NC State Fair](#) will be held from October 13th to the 23rd in Raleigh. NCSBA will be buying honey in bulk from beekeepers for \$4.25 per pound to be bottled and sold during the fair. If interested, contact NCSBA president Rick Coor at president@ncbeekeepers.org for more information.

September is National Honey Month. We salute the humble honey bee who pollinates much of our nation's agricultural crops.

The [Virginia State Fair](#) runs from September 23 through October 2, 2016 at the Meadow Event Park off of I-95 Exit 98 (Doswell) in Caroline County, Virginia.

In the bee yard:

- The queen's egg laying will slow this month and hive population will begin to drop – especially drones.
- Some areas may be experiencing a fall honey flow now. Sunshine with an occasional rain and cool nights helps the nectar to flow in flowering plants such as the goldenrod and aster. This is a great time for your bees to buildup their winter stores. Keep a check on hive weight.
- If you are not experiencing a fall flow and your hives are light, feed sugar syrup inside the hive in a 2:1 ratio (5 lbs. sugar to 5 cups water) to ensure hives have adequate winter stores. Each gallon of syrup fed to the bees increases their reserves by about seven pounds. Do not use entrance feeders at this time of year due to potential robbing.
- Reduce entrances down to a small opening (3/4") to help the colony guard against robbing. The reducer cleat should be placed with the entrance up rather than down to prevent blockage by dead bees or debris during winter.
- Watch for signs of skunk or possum activity on the front of the hive such as scratch marks or chewed bees.
- If you use multiple deep or medium hive bodies for your brood chambers, rotate them, if needed, to place the brood on the bottom and honey stores on the top.
- Remove queen excluders between the colony and its winter stores.
- Only strong colonies should be overwintered. If you are going to combine weak colonies with strong colonies, do it now to allow time for the bees to arrange their brood nest and honey stores before winter.

October 27 meeting with Nancy Ruppert:

Nancy Ruppert, NC Apiary Inspector, will present "***Beekeeping in Late Winter/Early Spring***" at our October 27 club meeting. Nancy is a very knowledgeable, experienced beekeeper and a great speaker. She is able to talk to each level of beekeeper. ***Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.*** We will also be inviting surrounding beekeeping associations and will meet at Piedmont Community College in Yanceyville.