



Greater Cleveland
Beekeepers Association
www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com

August 2022

THE HONEYBEE TIMES

A Message from our President

Lots of honey produced this year, and it is not over as yet! This month, as you know, The Cuyahoga County Fair (CCF) is under way and GCBA will meet at the fairgrounds Wednesday, August 10th at 6:30 p.m. What could be better than that? We have a very interesting speaker and subject matter on the docket this month. Connie Skolnicki will discuss the subject of Apitherapy or bee venom as a medication/treatment option. Entrance is free but you **MUST** contact Tom Kennish at (216) 402-3703 for a free pass to enter or you will have to pay admittance. Entrance is easiest at Gate #3, which is in close proximity to Building #30.

We will also extract supers of honey at the fair Building #30, Gate 3 - **for members only** - but again you must contact Tom Kennish for needed information and requirements. We would also appreciate your help and support at CCF as a spokesperson for GCBA, no experience necessary - just warm bodies!

~ Denzil

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August and September Meeting

08/10/2022 & 09/14/2022

August Board Meeting

08/17/2022

Building #25

Cuyahoga County Fair Grounds



The Inspector's Corner

July was brutal as far as heat goes, the ladies don't like the heat and get a bit grumpy so does the Inspector. Please don't forget about your mite treatment plans we are entering a critical time of the year for treatment. I have been told by beekeepers I don't treat because my hives look good and I have never treated in the past. These are same people that have to reorder bees in the spring. Make sure your water supply is good in your apiary, been getting calls from City Halls and Animal Control Officers about bee at pools, water spigots, bird feeders. I also have noticed a lot of yellow jacket traps going up just a reminder place them as far away from your hives as you can. Keep up with your weekly inspections remember a hive does not get weak in a week or two it takes a while start failing. The sooner you see a issue the faster you can correct it.

Please see mite control schedule on the next page.

Thanks,

Phil Bartosh 216.470.0934 216.351.6190 sd9990@aol.com

Cuyahoga County

Apiary Inspector

Mite Control Calendar for NE Ohio

April – FA if it's an over wintered hive or nuc. OA if it's a package.
May – None needed unless mite signs are noticed. (See note #6)
June – OA touchup treatment
July – None needed unless mite signs are noticed
August – FA treatment – Very important for winter survival
September – None needed unless mite signs are needed
October – FA treatment
November - None needed unless mite signs are noticed
December – OA touchup treatment
January / February – OA touchup treatment on a >40F day

Notes:

1. FA - Formic Acid. See page #3 for instructions and tips.
2. OA – Oxalic Acid. See page #3 for instructions and tips.
3. Treatment Schedules are for the first week of every month.
4. Clean mite board before each treatment to see effectivity of treatment.
5. A single FA treatment can be substituted with 3 OA treatments, each a week apart.
6. Mite signs – Mites on bees or mites seen in drone comb

Lorain County Beekeepers Association

<http://www.loraincountybeekeepers.org/>



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Varroa treatment options for a new package:

- Oxalic Acid (OA) dribble while bees are still in the package
- OA dribble after installing bees into the hive
- OA vaporization while bees are still in the package
- OA vaporization after installing bees into the hive.
- All methods achieve the same result of cleaning up any residual mites.

OA Dribble Tips:

- Recipe
 - Mix 2.5 tsp. OA crystal with 1.5 cups warm water.
 - Add 2 cups sugar and mix very well
 - Makes enough for about 10 deep boxes
- Separate brood chambers (Usually deep boxes)
- Gently smoke bees down between frames
- Using a syringe, dribble 5ml of solution between frames.
- No more than 50ml of solution / deep box
- No more than 100ml per hive.
- **Multiple OA dribble treatments may result in damage to the queen, but is still better than high mite loads.**



Formic Acid (FA) Tips:

- Watch the video from the manufacturer at: Nodglobal.com
- Do NOT use expired strips – These can kill bees.
- Only add strips if daily temperatures will be **BELOW 85F** for the first 3 days of treatment
- Only add strips if daily temperatures will be **ABOVE 50F** for the first 3 days of treatment.

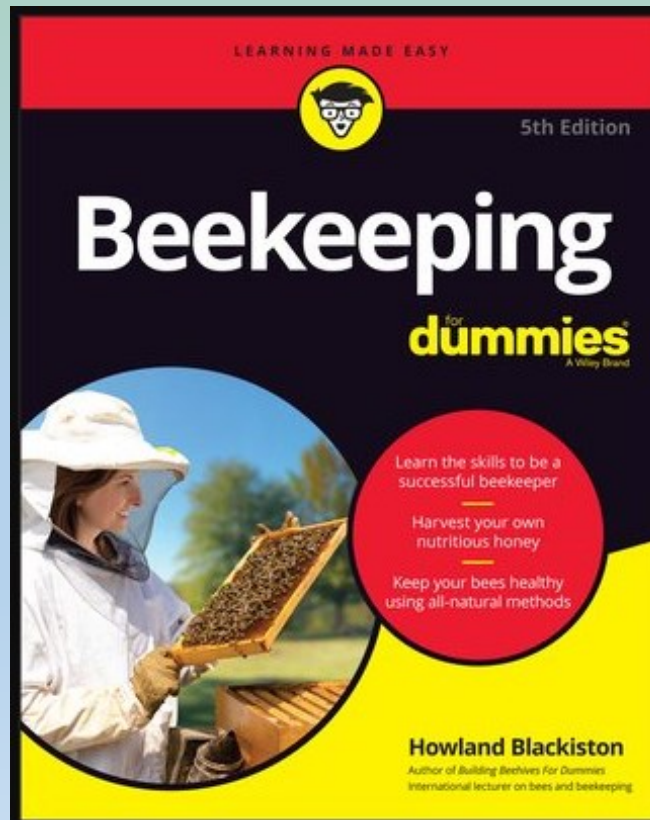


Watch the video from the manufacturer at: Nodglobal.com !

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7/24/2020

Will be available on 8/10



See what happened at our last meeting.

GCBA PICNIC

Thank you, Dr. James Tew! It was a priceless evening of learning.

We had a great turn-out of 58 folks. So much great food and great laughs.

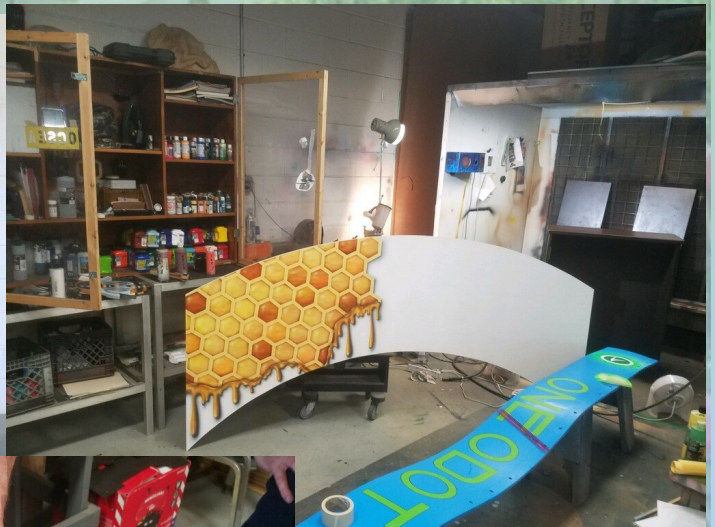


Bee Barn and

Beautification News

Murals are done and hung in the garden. Plants have been donated and planted. Thank you to Belmont Prison, St. Clairsville Ohio for making all this possible.

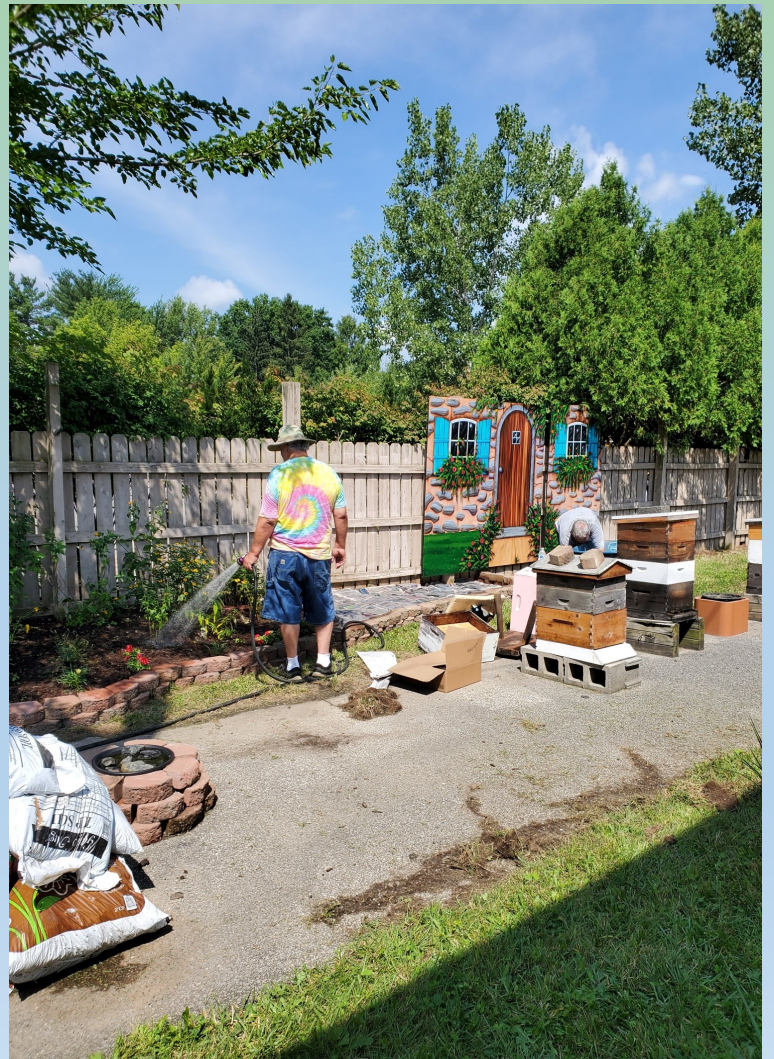
Hooks Greenhouse located in Wellington, Ohio donated \$750.00 worth of annuals to the garden, so things are well underway. Thank you to everyone volunteering their valuable time to this mission.



Bee Barn and

Beautification News

Continued...





Tuesday 8/9

4:00 p.m. Topic: "Pollen Natures perfect food"

6:00 p.m. "Honey Extraction"

Wednesday 8/10

6:30 p.m. Topic "Apitherapy" with The Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association

Connie Skolnicki worked over 27 years in the medical field, Certified in Medical Assisting and an EMT, working 10 years in the NICU, as an Administrative Assistant to 2 Medical Directors. Always passionate about Holistic Healing she left her job to work and practice with the late Apitherapist, Donald Downs, in Wellington, Ohio. She has been practicing BVT (Bee Venom Therapy) for the last 6 years and has seen many miracles happen, including her own story how it helped heal her. She has a very compassionate heart for teaching BVT and healing others. She is also a Beekeeper, Apitherapist, Reflexologist and doTERRA Healthcare Advocate, she infuses these in her own blend of Holistic Healing.

Thursday 8/11

4:00p.m. Topic "Keeping bees in my backyard"

6:00 p.m. "Honey Extraction"

This beautiful box will be donated from Jules Buzz Elixer for a door prize at Wednesday night's meeting. THANK YOU!

Friday 8/12

4:00 p.m. Topic "The Importance of Honeybees"

6:00 p.m. "Honey Extraction"

Saturday 8/14

4:00 p.m. Topic "Understanding the Queen"

6:00 p.m. "Honey Extraction"





Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association

Hive Inspection Checklist



Date: _____ Time: _____ Temp: _____ Weather: _____

	Hive 1	Hive 2	Hive 3
Hive Appearance			
Are the bees actively entering/exiting the hive?			
Are the bee bringing in pollen?			
Are there signs of robbing?			
Are there signs an animal has been disturbing the hive? (Chew or scratch marks)			
Are the bees calm when you open the hive? (An agitated or disorganized colony can indicate: queenlessness, poor weather/inspection timing, or recent intruder.)			
Reproduction			
Is the queen and/or eggs present?			
Is there one egg or larva per cell?			
Are larvae healthy, white, shiny, and royal jelly present? Capped brood present?			
Is the brood pattern good? (A quick look can indicate the presence of disease or an unwell queen.)			
Signs of Pests			
Was a mite treatment conducted? (Formic Acid, Oxilic Acid, or other.)			
Are ants, wax moth, or hive beetle present?			
Is there an unusual number of dead bees?			
Is there an odor?			
Capacity			
How many frames of bees?			
How many frames with brood?			
How many frames with honey and/or bee bread?			
If in a nectar flow, do the bees have space to store nectar?			
Food provided since last inspection? (Pollen patty and/or sugar water.)			
Hive manipulation conducted? (Frame or box order changed, hive box added or removed)			

Congratulations to our 50/50 Raffle Winner!!!

David Oligney

Take: \$108 Split: \$54

THANK YOU!



216-361-9991 | info@RET3.org



Thank you to our friends at RET3 Computers for working with GCBA for some re-furbished computers to help with our Outreach and Programs about Beekeeping!

You will be able to see these computers at work when you come to the Bee Barn (Building #30) at the Cuyahoga County Fair from August 9th to 14th, 2022.

Recipe Submitted By Michelle Killin-Keith

<https://honey.com/recipe/honeyed-frozen-yogurt-pie>



[← Go back](#)

HONEYED FROZEN YOGURT PIE



YIELD: Makes 8 servings

INGREDIENTS

For the Crust:

1 1/2 cups - graham cracker crumbs
6 T - unsalted butter, melted
1/4 cup - honey

For the Filling:

1/2 cup - heavy cream
1/2 cup - full fat Greek yogurt
2 T - honey
1/2 tsp. - vanilla bean paste or vanilla extract

For Garnish:

fresh fruit, optional
honey for drizzling

DIRECTIONS

Make the Crust:

Preheat oven to 350°F.

In medium bowl, stir together graham cracker crumbs, butter and honey until well combined. Firmly press the mixture into the bottom of a 9-inch pie pan. Transfer to oven and bake 14 to 16 minutes or until dark golden brown. Transfer to cooling rack to cool completely before filling.

Make the Filling:

Place cream in mixing bowl and mix on medium-high speed until soft peaks form. Add yogurt, honey and vanilla bean paste and beat until well combined. Evenly spread mixture in prepared pie crust. Cover and transfer to freezer for at least 4 hours or up to 3 days.

To serve, let pie stand at room temperature for 20 minutes to soften slightly. While pie is softening, garnish with fruit, if desired. Cut pie and serve drizzled with honey.

What is a dearth period?

The dearth period is **when nectar flow for honey bees is at a minimum**. This is usually after fruits and vegetables have gone from flower to fruit. And it's during this period that pollen and nectar are harder to find.

How to recognize a nectar dearth
Visit the link below.

<https://www.honeybeesuite.com/summer-nectar-dearth-honey-bee-management/>

“This time of year is called a "dearth." It almost looks like the word death, and rightly so. Just to give you an idea of how serious the dearth is, I've personally lost more bees during a dearth than during winter: When I was just starting out as a beekeeper, I kept thinking that, because it was summertime and the weather was fine, everything should be OK. Little did I realize at the time, that some of my bees were actually starving or being robbed by other colonies.”

By [Gene Rene'](#) on June 24, 2020 Visit [Enjoy Beekeeping](#)

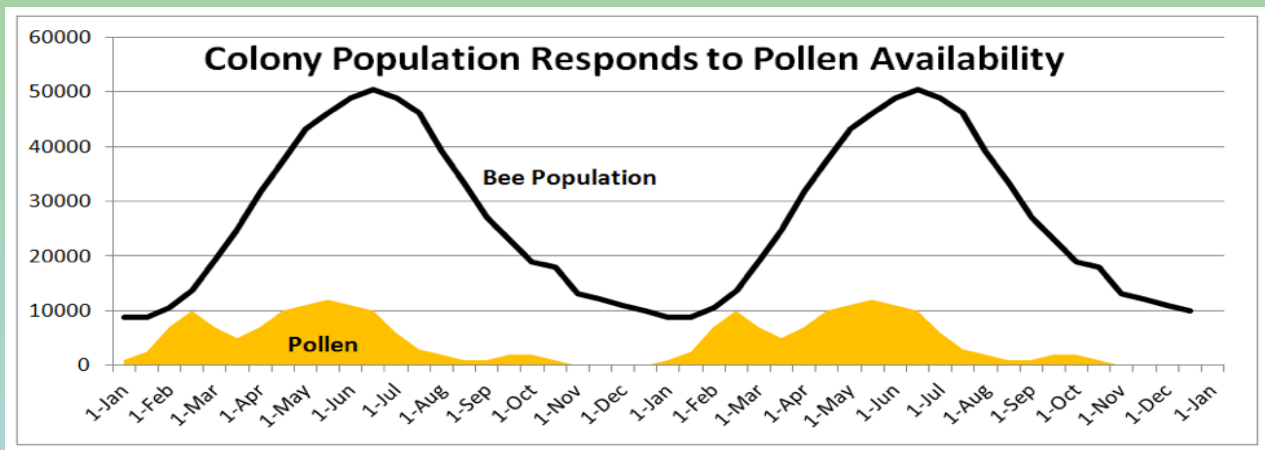
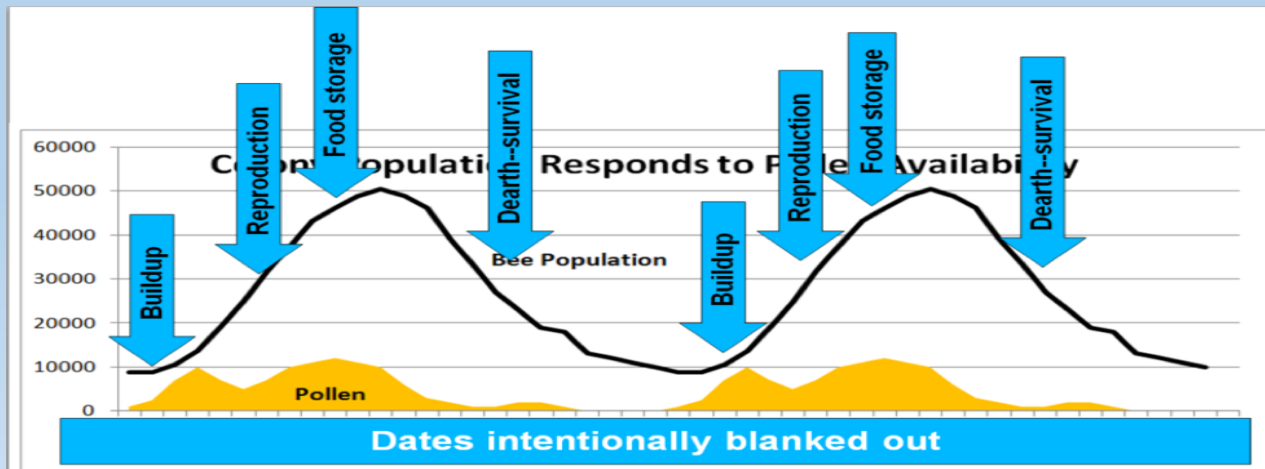


Figure 1. A stylized plot to illustrate how the population of the colony follows the availability of pollen, rather than calendar date. The abundance of pollen depends upon local plant phenology, which in turn reflects temperature and moisture. In temperate climates, the low point of colony population typically occurs during the cold of winter; in arid subtropical climates, it may occur during the dry summer. And of course, successful foraging for that pollen is entirely dependent upon favorable weather.

Update: The honey bee colony goes through four phases a season (some may repeat in locations with more than one main honeyflow). The more you understand what your bees “want” to be doing, the more that you can better manage them.





Dear Buzz the Beekeeper, I have a question.

What are your thoughts on queen excluders? I want to extract honey, so don't I have to use one to keep the queen out of the honey supers?

I have never read anywhere about the proper use of a queen excluder - when, how, why. Like everything in beekeeping there are pros and cons and if used properly they can be a benefit to the beekeeper with the key phrase being, "**used properly**".

About 25% of bees will not use a queen excluder ever because of the difficulty of passing between the wires. When queen excluders were invented common cell size was 4.9 (natural). Today, it is almost all 5.3 and no adjustment has ever been made to the queen excluder to accommodate this much larger bee. Think about it, have you ever seen an advertisement for a specific bee or cell size in queen excluders? Hence the resistance of some bees to use queen excluders at all.

First, I would never teach a novice beekeeper to use a queen excluder. It is just one more thing that can go wrong with the first and very challenging years in beekeeping.

Second, bees that refuse to use queen excluders usually use any available space below it, causing a swarm condition called honey bound and then swarm!

What is better for the residential beekeeper - a swarm or a little brood in a honey super?

What is better for the residential beekeeper, neighbor complaints or a little brood in a honey super?

What is better for the residential beekeeper, notoriety or a little brood in the honey super?

One last thought on the subject, have you ever read/heard of a commercial beekeeper using a queen excluder? The answer is, no. There are uses for excluders but not in any application of a novice beekeeper. I have been a beekeeper for over 50 years and brood has always hatched no matter where it was produced in a colony!

~ Buzz The Beekeeper

What are you **WEARING?**

“Limited Edition for a Limited Time”

While supplies last, only two hats left. If you are interested in the hats or shirts please **click the “contact” button** on our website to inquire.



FAIR VOLUNTEERS

Fair Volunteers receive a free shirt! Contact Sarah Marie (info on last page) by Sunday August 14th to claim your size. We can only hold on to these for a limited time and accommodate so much. If you miss this deadline we cannot guarantee you a shirt.



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2022 EVENTS



**Saturday, September 24,
"End of Summer Classic"**
Bee Part of the Excitement!

Susan Cobey, International Authority in the
Field of Instrumental Insemination of
Honey Bees & Kim Flottum, Past Editor of
Bee Culture Magazine & Author of Many
Books on Beekeeping

440-647-2602
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Classified Ads Any member in good standing may place an ad for bee-keeping related items for sale or trade once a quarter free of charge. This ad will not exceed 1/8th of a page in size. Additional ads will be subject to advertisement fees. Advertisement Fee Schedule: 1/8th Page: \$5 month, 1/4th Page: \$7 month, Half Page: \$10 month, Full Page \$15 Please note: Information posted is a courtesy to GCBA Members and/or a paid advertisement for business entities. GCBA does not endorse or guarantee quality or pricing. Used foundation should not be sold and will not be advertised. Used woodenware cannot be certified free of some diseases like American Foulbrood. Be very cautious when



oming

GCBA events held throughout the year:

- Picnic in July
- County Fair Booth in August
- Special Event in September
- Holiday Party in December
- Live Demonstrations year round

Thank You From All Of Us

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