



SWEET STUFF

NIBA NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Tom Allen

How did we get to June already, it seems like just a few weeks ago we were passing out the bee orders? Talking to different NIBA members their colonies are in all different stages. Some have swarmed already others have lost queens and a couple have gone through a couple of queens so as much as we'd like to think we know about honey bees they're still a mystery. We try to manipulate them to the best of our ability so the colony will hopefully meet our expectations. Some people just want to help the bees, others want honey and some will go onto become commercial beekeepers on some level but I think we have a lot of members who just started this up as a hobby. We all want our colonies to overwinter so they are a stronger colony next year and so we don't have to buy replacement bees.

We have a couple of rare opportunities this summer, we have Illinois bee inspectors coming to the NIBA beeyard at MCC once in June and second time in August. The June 11th visit will be done by inspector Eleanor Schumacher to gather information for a national honey bee survey. The results will be sent to the USDA laboratory. This will be done at 9AM and everyone is invited to watch this process.

The second one will be done just prior our meeting on August 8th by bee inspector Britany Buckles at 430 in the afternoon and again everyone is invited to watch. Eleanor will be the speaker at the meeting following the inspection.

We still have some open shifts to fill for the Fair so please take another look to see if one of them fits your schedule. We will have a table at PlanetPalooza which is held in Woodstock on Sunday July 14th. Please keep an eye out for a SignupGenius link in the near future. This event will have food trucks, live music and more so think about making this a family day!

One of our longtime members Danny McFee has been hospitalized for an extended period of time and could use some help with his hives. We're trying

to organize people that can help him out. Please reach out to John Leibinger at 708-603-7146 or me, Tom Allen at 815-861-1237.

We're trying to gauge the amount of interest in holding a NIBA picnic on July 13th. Please respond to a poll so we know whether to hold it or not. We will probably order sandwiches again this year but will hold the desserts made with honey contest.

I hope you and your bees are doing well!

Tom



New Bee Equipment: Here's a new piece of equipment that might be of interest. It's marketed by Larobee to use during a mite check. It has a scoop with a queen excluder in the bottom saving the queen if she is included in the sample. It's suggested that clear Joy dishwashing soap be used in lieu of alcohol.





Thursday at the Beeyard

A recent Thursday at the NIBA beeyard found eight members veiled and ready to visit the bees. Weather was great. Bees were flying.

We decided to visit three of the colonies... out of 11 in the yard presently. These were colonies that we thought had virgin queens when visited earlier.. Not being marked, they would be harder to find, but queen sign would let us know we could find her majesty if we kept looking. The colonies were entered one at a time.

Queen sign was found in each. We knew she had to be there someplace. Pulling frame after frame and passing them around we eventually found each queen. Jerry adeptly grabbed the queen who we placed in a marking tube and christened her with a lovely green spot on her thorax. She appeared happy to be released back among her retinue. All was well. It will be honey soon.

Larry



Chores of the Month – June – and so it begins.....

Like the bees we study, we accomplish more together.

John Leibinger

What's happening in the hive...and around us?

The colony population should be expanding fairly rapidly and reaching its peak this month. Generally speaking we have had an early start to the growing season but we are soon to be about even with last year (in terms of Growing Degree Days(GDD)). In Crystal Lake, IL, as of the date I am writing this (June 2) GDD is only 2 days ahead of last year. GDD is a means of measuring cumulative warmth over a time period. That means that we didn't reach this year's cumulative GDD until June 4th last year, 2 days later than this year, but we had the warmth much earlier and have just recently caught up. That early warmth translates to faster plant growth and earlier blooms which results in lots of pollen and nectar availability, which in turn supports faster colony buildup. So, this may be a good news or bad news story depending on how you monitored and managed your colonies. If you added supers early and kept the brood nest from becoming pollen or nectar bound, you have created a virtuous cycle (good news) and are likely well on your way to an early and productive honey crop. If you didn't pay as close attention, you may be at the point that your bees' brood nest is becoming a bit bound up and the queen is struggling to find egg laying room. In this case a vicious cycle (bad news) has been created and at its worst could result in your colony swarming, if it hasn't already. **Lessons to Learn:** 1) Manage your colonies or they will manage themselves and you may not like the answer (depends on your personal goals). 2) Growing Degree Days...something to learn about and follow as it relates to the growth of local flora. (See General information below for a cursory explanation of GDD, why you should care, and a link to a GDD calculator).

Like May, June nectar flows and pollen availability are quite diverse and abundant in our area, so there is great wealth of resources for colony growth. Resources/nutrition lead to growing healthy hives. You should notice that the bees are no longer taking sugar syrup, but rather are collecting nectar from natural sources. Remove the feeders at this transition.

As a point of repetition for emphasis: Large healthy colonies are susceptible to an increased swarming urge. Make sure that there is plenty of space for colony expansion. The queen needs room to lay eggs. The workers need room for nectar and pollen storage. As you inspect frames in the brood nest, be mindful of excessive nectar/sugar syrup storage in the brood nest. Excessive storage in this area can restrict the queen's ability to find space to lay and can lead to swarming or reduced colony growth due to lack of egg laying space. There is a management principle known as 'keeping a clear broodnest'. **This is of particular interest for those of us who utilize a single broodnest management process. Remove and replace excessive brood nest storage frames with frames of open drawn comb or new foundation. ADD HONEY SUPERS to provide space for the workers to store nectar!**

Keep in mind that the bee population is not the only expanding population. Varroa mites will be on the increase also. Monitor their growth by doing regular mite checks (monthly sugar roll or preferably, the more accurate alcohol wash). Know what you have and keep records. Keep their growth in check by utilizing a miticide, organic acids, drone comb culling, a brood break, sundry other IPM methods, or combinations of any of these. Consult the honeybeehealthcoalition.org website for guidance. Your specific approach will be influenced by your personal goals and philosophy, but, if you have a mite problem, doing nothing is not an acceptable answer if you want your colony to thrive and survive.

For New Beekeepers just getting started this year:

Download the forms to register your bees with the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Insects/Bees/Documents/beekeep.pdf> (Ctrl+Click link)

Finish assembling and painting additional equipment, if you have not already done it (be better prepared next year). You should be on a second deep brood box (or third or fourth if using medium brood boxes) now or very soon (brood box addition may vary depending on your management philosophy and specific goals). Let's hope for the best and have extra honey supers and frames built and ready to install this month if you haven't already done so.

Feed your Bees.. Feed them until they stop taking the supplemental feed. If they haven't already (and likely they have), they will switch over to entirely natural nectar sources at which point you can remove the feeders.

Spend time observing your bees. This is one of the reasons you took up this hobby. Observe their comings and goings. If you have multiple hives (and you should) observe and compare the behaviors of the different colonies. Talk to other beekeepers. This is 'mission critical' to learning what 'normal' is, and a key to becoming a better beekeeper. Are the bees bringing in pollen? What color? What is the source? (See Pollen Identification Chart link in General Info section below).

Get a Mentor from the Bee Club. Ask for help and guidance. A good mentor with practical experience will be able to ask you the right questions (along with answering some) and provide valuable guidance.

For All Beekeepers, it is time to:

Be very observant of signs of swarming and take appropriate action. This is most relevant to overwintered hives and recently installed nucleus colonies. Many reports indicate that the nucs appear to be really thriving....so much so that a many folks have reported seeing queen cells and others have already experiencing swarming. Swarming is not likely a big problem for new beekeepers that started with packages on new foundation or foundationless, but for the rest, keep your eyes peeled for telltale queen cups/cells at the bottom of the frames. Do they have eggs or larvae in them? If they do, the swarm is coming (unless you take action to mitigate the urge)....if not, keep watching and provide additional space in the broodnest and add supers as needed. Additional information on swarming can be obtained by reading Megan Milbrath's article on Swarms (see link below under General Info [Meghan Milbrath on Northern Swarms](#) for an extremely comprehensive dissertation on swarming).

Add Honey Supers to provide space for bees to move nectar/honey out of brood area and, of course, to start collecting early honey. Keep in mind that unripened nectar takes more space than honey, so as your super gets half full, be sure to add another.....maybe two if there is a strong flow coming. A strong colony can fill supers quickly. You don't want to get behind the curve this time of year.

Maintain the space around your hive(s). Your bees work hard at thermo-regulation of the hive. Help them out. Trim weeds and grass to allow maximum air flow as the temperatures rise. Maintaining a clear flight path to the hive also increases their foraging efficiency.

Make sure the bees have a water source as we move into the heat of summer. Bees collect water to help cool the hive as part of their thermo-regulation efforts. **(Do not let the water source become the neighbors swimming pool....that only casts a bad light on the beekeeping community and will only bring you grief).**

Monitor for Varroa Mites monthly. (See General Info section below for references to mite checking procedures)

Treat for Varroa Mites as needed. (See General Info section below link to Honey Bee Health Coalition which has info on mite treatments)

Make sure that you keep records. This is a very important element of the learning process...whether you are a first year beekeeper or a forty year beekeeper....you should always be learning something. Record inspection dates, time and temp and weather conditions, quantity of bees, bee behaviors, signs indicating the presence of the queen (eggs, young larvae, actual sighting), number of frames of brood and stores, brood pattern and frame/comb condition, available laying space, observations of signs of swarm preparation, pollen coming in (color, type if possible), drone production, Varroa Mite counts, presence of Small Hive Beetle or other pests, and a number of other issues. Record anything else that is outside of 'normal' once you learn what 'normal' is. Take notes in the bee yard. You will be surprised at how easy it is to get confused over what was observed and which hive it was observed in if you wait to record info after the fact. (See **Hive Inspection Form** link in General Info section below of one of many checklists that can be found in a quick Google search. Not necessarily the best...just an example.)

The following is a repeat of last month, but it bears repeating. May and June are the months for swarms and this year there seems to be no shortage of swarming behavior.

Get your swarm traps out! Anybody interested in getting **FREE BEES?** This is the time of year to take advantage of the natural biological rhythms of the hive. Overwintered colonies are highly likely to swarm. Why not be an opportunist and capture a colony that otherwise will find a hole in a tree? It is fun, challenging, and **IMMENSELY EXCITING** when you find bees in your trap. Additionally, these are often colonies that have overwintered....Northern Illinois proven stock capable of handling our winter....wouldn't you want to add some of that quality to your apiary? Here is a swarm trapping website...Jason is 'the man' when it comes to swarm trapping. He has lots of advice and encouragement on swarm trapping along with free plans for building swarm traps. Check it out.

[Jason Bruns on Swarm Trapping](#) (Ctrl+Click link)

[Swarm Traps and Bait Hives](#) (Ctrl+Click link)

Assemble some gear to BE PREPARED to catch a swarm hanging in a tree, on a fence, or somewhere else they aren't wanted! Be ready in case a friend calls and says "Get here quick, my neighbor is freaking out! There are a bunch of bees hanging on my neighbor's swing set and we don't know what to do!"

From personal experience, I can tell you that the difference in truly being ready and thinking you are ready is the difference between catching that swarm and waving goodbye to them. I have watched a swarm exit a hive and recorded them massing up on a tree branch at about 12 feet up. "This one will be easy", I mused. I then decided that I wanted to add a few more undrawn foundation frames to the swarm's new hive so that I would take maximum advantage of the swarm's proclivity to produce comb. In that extra 10-15 minutes I was prepping frames, 'my soon to be caught swarm' had reached consensus on a new home and off they went. They were in the tree for only about half an hour. I had never seen bees leave that quickly.

Be Prepared....Really Prepared.

"No hurry. It takes them awhile to find a new home."



Note: Swarm trapping and swarm 'catching' are two different things. Swarm trapping involves putting out 'bait hives' for bees to find and inhabit (and then join your apiary). Swarm catching involves capturing a swarm from a tree, bush, fence, or any of a hundred other areas that an initial swarm may land at shortly after exiting the hive and while waiting for the scout bees to find a new home. Usually this is the result of a panic phone call you receive from someone who knows you are a beekeeper. This can be an **INTENSLY EXCITING** activity.

Get your blood flowing! Capture or Trap a Swarm!

Fascinating video to watch the action going on in a clustered swarm. You can observe a lot of scouts doing waggle dances. It gets real interesting at around 24:15 minute mark.

[Check out this swarm video](#) (Ctrl+Click link)

[Catching a swarm](#) (Ctrl+Click link)



General Info

Download the forms to register your bees with the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Insects/Bees/Documents/beekeep.pdf> (Ctrl+Click link)

Pollen identification chart:

[Pollen Color Chart](#) (Ctrl+Click link)

Inspection sheets:

[Inspection Checksheet \(basic\)](#) (Ctrl+Click link)

[Inspection Checksheet \(detailed\)](#) (Ctrl+Click link)

Sugar Roll Method: [Sugar Roll Mite Inspection - YouTube](#) (Ctrl+Click link)

Alcohol Wash Method: [Alcohol Wash for Mite Control - YouTube](#) (Ctrl+Click link)

Mite Treatment Information [Honey Bee Health Coalition](#) (Ctrl+Click link)

[Meghan Milbrath on Northern Swarms](#) (Ctrl+Click link)

Growing Degree Days (GDD) – Just a primer

GDD are a means used to measure the cumulative warmth in a particular area. It is an estimate, but found to be a fairly accurate and useful tool for many (like horticulturalists, farmers, and of course beekeepers) looking to know when plants/crops will reach various stages of development.

The GDD calculation is fairly straight forward. In our area and as it pertains to beekeeping, it is the result of subtracting 50 degrees (referred to as base 50) from the average between the high temperature of the day and the low temperature of the day. If the result is less than zero there are zero degree days recorded. Each day's accumulation of Growing Degree Days is added to the prior days to provide a cumulative total for the year...and that is what is important to us.

Example: High temp of the day= 70 degrees. Low temp of the day= 50 degrees Average between the two ($70+50=120$, $120/2=60$) is 60 degrees. Remember, this is an estimate, not an hour by hour weighted average temperature. $60 \text{ degrees} - 50 \text{ degrees (the base)} = 10 \text{ degrees}$. This is the number of degree days for that particular day.

So, what is the 50 degree base about? Generally (yes, there are exceptions), plant growth/development/blooming is minimal below 50 degrees in our part of the world and for the plants/trees that we have interest in. Once the average temps exceed 50 degrees growth starts and things start to happen.

Why is this important to me as a beekeeper?

Each plant or tree has a specific time in their development when they bloom. This development is directly influenced by the cumulative warmth the plant experiences. GDD is a means to measure that cumulative warmth. If you know that a particularly important tree blooms at 300 GDD, you can influence your colony management to have a maximum foraging force in place when the date for that 300 GDD nectar flow arrives (assuming honey collection is one of your goals). **How?** Well, maybe you delay making elective splits until after that particular tree blooms. Maybe you do a Demaree manipulation rather than a split. Maybe you combine that weak hive you have to a stronger one to make a colony with a huge number of foragers to take advantage of the flow. Being aware of the upcoming flow can allow you to control your feeding to maximize early comb production and stopping your feeding so that your honey crop is produced from natural nectars and not partially from sugar syrup. 'Knowing the future' allows you to get supers on in a timely manner to maximize honey production. It also allows you an opportunity to collect 'crop specific' honey. Do you want specific Black Locust 'water white' honey? How about a crop of delicious Linden honey (a personal favorite)? You can do it and knowing about GDD and your local plants/trees GDD bloom timing can be an enormous help.

How do I know a specific plant's/tree's GDD bloom level?

- Ask other beekeepers that have tracked this information.
- Record the GDD bloom number and date each year for different plants/trees and track it. (Have you heard anyone mention record keeping?)
- Consult local arboretums and botanic garden web sites for bloom GDD.
- Contact regional, state, local ag extension services.

Here is a link to a Growing Degree Days calculator. There are others that you can find on the internet.

[Growing Degree Days Calculator](#) (Ctrl += Click)

Growing Degree Days...Another Tool in Your Toolbox...Use it



Have you ever been to a party and heard someone complaining about someone keeping bees in their neighborhood? Since swarm season and swimming pool season are upon us, this article might be a timely reminder. This is from the American Beekeeping Federation site.

John



BEE A GOOD NEIGHBOR!

Beekeepers should strive to avoid neighborhood and community conflict by implementing beekeeping practices that help to prevent honey bees from becoming a real (or imagined) threat to others. The following are suggested practices for bee-ing a good neighbor when keeping honey bees. In order to "keep" honey bees you must be able to get to them. Place your hives in a location where you have easy year round access. If you can not get to your bees, small issues can become big problems, leading to neighbor conflict and/or unhealthy bees. Remember that you will (hopefully) be harvesting honey, which is heavy, as well as lugging containers of food and other supplies to the bees, so easy access to your hives is important. Before you decide on a location to place your hives, find out if there are animals such as livestock, horses, domestic pets, or animals that are chained up and in close proximity to where you want to place the beehives. Honey bees do not usually bother other animals, but chained up animals can not escape if they are frightened, harassed, or attacked by the bees. Either place the hives in a different location or arrange to unchain the animal(s). For areas with heavy foot traffic, place something a few feet in front of the hives (tall bushes, fencing, statue...) to direct the bee line up and over where the people walk. A small fence surrounding the bee hives is also a good way to keep people a safe distance from the bee hives. Placing signs around the apiary alert people that there are honey bees in the vicinity and to stay away from the area is always a good idea. Safety first is bee-ing a good neighbor. Four or fewer colonies of honey bees are recommended for each one-quarter acre of land. Too many honey bee colonies in one area could cause each colony to not have adequate forage. Check the surrounding area and find out what will be available for the honey bees to forage upon, and plan accordingly. Place the hives ten feet or more from the lot line. If your set back is more than ten feet, use the set back distance whenever possible. Face the entrance of the hive away from the lot line. If the hive is within 10 feet from the lot-line and must face the lot line, place something tall (fence, tall bushes, a statue) a few feet in front of the hive so as to direct the beeline up, rather than out. Good neighbors mind their bee-lines! Try to place hives in an inconspicuous area, or screen them with a fence or bushes. (Out of sight out of mind!) Screening can also act as a wind break, which is helpful for cold wind and wind blown rain. Keep in mind that a wind break is not adequate defense against very heavy winds, falling trees, or animals knocking a hive over. For this reason, strap each colony with a ratchet strap to hold it together in case it gets tipped over. Use two straps for added safety. Imagine the buzz that a tipped over colony of honey bees could cause in the neighborhood?! Placing the hives in a location most suitable to honey bees will help keep them happy and healthy. Wet bees are dead bees, so be sure to choose a dry area on your property to place your hives. Also, do not place your hives in a low lying area of your property. Water can collect there and harm honey bees. It is often colder and damper in low lying areas, and you may have to move them in case of flooding, so it's best to avoid low lying areas. A wind block is a good idea, especially in especially very windy areas or to help alleviate wind blown rain and cold winter wind. Also, try to put the hives in a location where they will receive early morning sun and late day shade. The early morning sun gets the bees up and out to work early, while the late day shade is mainly for the beekeeper. Afternoon shade makes working your hives on a hot summer day easier and more enjoyable, but full sun tends to be better for the bees in terms of pests, disease, and increased honey production. Depending on what part of the country you live in, you may not have the option (or need) for shade. Colony health is important not only to the honey bees you manage, but to other honey bees in the neighborhood. Be a good neighbor to other colonies in your community by keeping your honey bees free of pests and disease. Pests and pathogens can spread to other colonies, making fellow beekeepers and neighboring colonies unhappy and unhealthy. Check colony

health regularity for signs of pests, disease, and treat accordingly. Do not leave old comb or other hive products outside. These items can draw in pests or other honey bees, and instigate robbing, which could kill the attacked colony or cause them to become defensive. Mind your beeswax and keep a tidy apiary. Open the hive to inspect the colony on warm, sunny days, when most foragers are out foraging! Try to avoid inspections in the early morning, late afternoon, during cold weather (below 65° F), in rain, or overcast conditions, as more honey bees are in the hive at these times, and they can also be more defensive at these times. Make sure you have all the equipment you need before you open the hive. This makes inspections faster and more efficient, and with less open time. This can minimize stress on the colony, and your neighbors! Before you begin your inspection, take a peek over to the neighbor's yard to make sure they are not outside, or hosting a party. If the neighbors are hosting a party or are out doing yard work, decide if the colony can wait for an inspection, or if you must open the hive immediately. Choosing another time to inspect the colony may be better than risking bothering the neighbors. Remember, your idea of honey bees "bothering" people may be very different than what your neighbor, or one of their friends or family perceives as bothering. A little courtesy goes long way to bee-ing a good neighbor. Honey bees need water for many hive activities, including cooling the hive and diluting honey for consumption by the bees. In the summer, a colony can consume about a gallon of water per hive, per day. If water isn't readily available, they will find it. Sometimes a neighbor's birdbath, swimming pool, or even a garden hose can become a water source for bees, which can make some people upset. In order to alleviate this, make sure all hives in your apiary have a constant supply of water. You can put out a few shallow containers with some rocks and shells in the bottom, and with beeswax or corks floating on top. One drop of vanilla extract can help the bees find the water. Once they do, they will keep going back to the same spot. For this reason, leave the water in one spot and refill it often. The bees will collect water from the sources you provide rather than the neighbors kiddy-pool or garden hose and will be good neighbors! After extracting honey, the practice of placing wet supers outside for bees to clean may help the bees who clean them up, but it could interfere with neighboring or weak colonies, and cause them to become defensive. They can get robbed or even killed! Also, neighbors can become alarmed by lots of bee activity. Instead, place wet supers inside your hive(s) for a day or so, and let the bees clean it out in the comfort of their own hive. Simply place the wet super(s) on top of the hive and add inner/outer covers as usual. Be sure to remove these cleaned out supers after a few days unless you are in a strong nectar flow. After the supers are clean and dry, you can easily store them for future nectar flows. By placing wet supers inside your colonies rather than in the open, weaker colonies are spared robbing, honey bees don't exhibit defensive behavior and neighbors will not get upset about increased honey bee activity. Advance planning is very good beekeeping practice. Stay ahead of colony growth and by looking for swarm indicators during inspections, especially in the spring. But remember, honey bees can swarm at almost any time of the year. A bee's goal in life is not to make more bees, or tons of honey, it is to make more colonies. Bees do this by swarming, which is instinctual, but manageable. A swarm is a colony giving birth to a new honeybee colony. As beautiful as this is, it can be alarming to those who do not know about swarms or honeybees in general. Practice swarm prevention as a way to help alleviate any conflict that a honeybee swarm may cause. Preventing swarms also keeps the bees you manage in your apiary, and alive! In many states it is legal to kill honey bee swarms. Most swarms do not make it on their own due to extermination by humans, not locating a suitable home, lack of forage, or winter kill. Save the bees and avoid neighbor conflict by practicing anti-swarm management techniques. Always put a bait hive in every one of your apiaries in order to catch your own swarms, or someone else's, before they become a problem. Place bait boxes throughout your community to catch even more swarms and help avoid community conflict. A little crowding in the brood nest is fine, but an overly congested brood nest is not. Add honey supers if they seem crowded, or when 6-7 frames in the upper most box are drawn and covered in bees. If the brood nest is overly congested, backfilled with nectar, or has swarm cells, you can use the Demaree method of swarm control, split the colony, or add drawn comb or foundation in the brood nest and add more room above the brood nest. Bee a good neighbor and keep your bees from



swarming. Some colonies can be split for desirable genetic traits such as gentleness, good honey yield, a prolific queen, and local adaptation, rather than just for swarm control. In addition, if you find the temperament of a colony to be overly defensive, you should requeen to introduce a more gentle variety of honeybee. Gentle bees keep neighbors happy! And last, to sweeten the deal, give some honey or other products of the hive to your neighbors! Not only does this make them smile, but you can explain some of your beekeeping activities and answer any questions they have about honey bees and beekeeping. You never know, they may become a beekeeper one day. I believe we should have thousands of people with a few beehives each, rather than a few people with thousands of beehives. This helps spread the love of honey bees and beekeeping as well as the ecological servicing that they provide.

By Deborah Klughers Certified Master Beekeeper November 18, 2019



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Honey Extractor

Did you know that your membership in NIBA includes the opportunity to rent one of the clubs 3 honey extractors?

Two of the extractors are manual, a 4 frame a 3 frame. The third is motorized and is capable of extracting both sides of 9 frames at a time.

Rental fee for either of the manual extractor is \$10.00 for 3 days with a \$10.00 security deposit. The electric (motorized) 9 frame extractor costs \$25.00 to rent for 2 days with a \$75.00 security deposit. Deposits will be returned if equipment is returned on time, clean, and undamaged.

The extractors come with most equipment needed to make the uncapping and extraction experiences go smoothly, except of course, the honey frames and buckets.

To reserve a date contact Al Fullerton by phone or text at 815-382-7139 or email adfhone@gmail.com, if you don't get a timely response, just phone. Pick it up in Cary Illinois.

Website and Newsletter Submissions

www.nibainfo.org – The Northern Illinois Beekeepers Association website. A wealth of information is available. Contact board members via email, download the membership form, access copies of the newsletter. Terri is asking for your pictures, stories, etc. to have them highlighted on the web page!
reevesthere@att.net

This is YOUR newsletter. Please feel free to contribute. Or let us know if you have any topics you'd like to see covered. spinkawa@gmail.com

**The queen marking color for
2024 is Green.**

