

Beginning Beekeeping Course Outline 2019

Week 1 (Chapters 1, 2, 4)

Introductions

- History of Beekeeping
- Why keep bees
- What bees are doing right now
- Where to locate bees (hive placement)
- Beekeeping equipment
- Frames and foundation
- Types of individual bees – queen, workers, drones
- Personal equipment
- Ordering nucs and package bees.

Week 2 (Chapters 3, 5, 6)

- Installing package bees
- Installing Nucs
- Feeding bees
- Species or subspecies of bees
- Swarming
- Nectar flow
- “Supering Up”
- Nectar and pollen sources
- Pollination
- Harvesting honey
- Extracting honey

Week 3 (Chapter 7)

- A season with your bees
- Integrated pest management
- Queenless colonies
- Useful manipulations of bee colonies
- Checking for queen cells
- Laying workers
- Signs of a failing queen
- A good worker brood pattern
- A queen cell
- Importance of checking the bees every 7-10 days

Week 4 (Chapter 8)

- Diseases, parasites, and pest.
- Wintering bees in Illinois
- Essential tasks for keeping colonies production
- Common beekeeping mistakes to avoid

Week 5

- Finish Up
- Review

Week 6

- Visit to bee yard (when weather permits)

Class meets 5 times for a 3 hours session each date

Dates: Saturdays:

February 2, 2019

February 9, 2019

February 23, 2019

March 09, 2019

March 23, 2019

Class Hours:

9 am – 12 am

OR 1 pm – 4 pm

Classes location:

Old Mulkeytown Grade School
School House Road
Mulkeytown, IL

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