

TARA TIDINGS



MAY 18TH, 2015
Meeting @ 7:00 PM
Mary Cahill-Roberts
Hive Inspection



**Tara Beekeepers
Association**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Check out the web site
Tarabeekeepers.org*

*Need Donations For
Monthly Prize Drawings*

*May 30th, 2015-
Children short course Reynolds Park -
5665 Reynolds Rd, Morrow, GA 30260
9:00 am until noon*



Follow Us @ Facebook.com/TaraBeekeepersAssociation

ADDITIONAL WEBSITES

Tara beekeepers Association

www.tarabeekeepers.org

Georgia Beekeepers Association

www.gabeekeeping.com

UGA Beekeepers

www.ent.uga.edu/bees



TOOL TALK



May 2015

So went to Young Harris this weekend and learned a lot. I met Dr. Marla Spivak, from Minneapolis and saw what Minnesota is doing to protect their pollinators. I have a good appreciation for native pollinators and how hard they have to work to continue on.

I learned about the propolis envelope that we need to better understand and utilize and a lot of things involved with it. Wow so much stuff. There is lots of research going on and lot of promising information.

The other thing that came out of the conference is Nutrition is really important. Diversity of the food source is pretty important. We need to recommend to people that are not beekeepers that they plant plants that help the honey bees.

The 2 plants I am going to start recommending is bee balm and black eyed Susan. Just because of the different blooming periods. On my facebook I have recommended this and on my website I have a section stating how you can help.

I come away encouraged that there are a lot of good people working on trying to improve honeybee health. I hope that you are having a great time this year with the flow and supering up. Hopefully we will get a few more weeks of this great weather. Keep you smoker lit and your fire extinguisher handy!

- Mary

2015 TARA CALENDAR

May 18th, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm- Mary Cahill Roberts Hive inspection

May 30th, 2015 - Children short course Reynolds Park - 9:00 am until noon

June 15th, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm- Jim Quick

June quarterly raffle prize Complete hive unassembled

July 20th, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm- Speaker

July 21st, 2015 - Board meeting @ 6:00 pm- Pot luck Dinner

August 17th, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm- Bear Kelley Ga. State Beekeepers

September 5th, 2015 - Short course @ 8:00 am until 4:00 pm- Kiwanis club Building

September 21st, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm- Speaker

September quarterly raffle prize uncapping tank

October 10th, 2015 - Annual Tara Picnic at Rick & Joann Minters Farm @ 11:00 am

October 19th, 2015 - NO MEETING THIS MONTH

October 20th, 2015 - Board meeting @ 6:00 pm - Pot luck Dinner

November 16th, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm - Speaker - Officer Elections and Honey show

December 7th, 2015 - Annual Christmas Party @ 6:00 pm - Kiwanis club building

December quarterly raffle prize \$250.00 A Hive donated by P.N. Williams

2015 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Melanie Maxwell
President@tarabeekeepers.org

Treasurer, Pat Brookshire
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One-year Director, Doug Clack

Honorary BOD positions:

President Emeritus, PN Williams

President Emerita, Evelyn Williams



July 21st, 2015

Board meeting @ 6:00 pm- Pot luck Dinner

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Our Board of Directors is still looking for members to step up and
TAKE OWNERSHIP OF YOUR CLUB.

Please volunteer to help with any of the club's various
Jobs, committee positions, and service project assignments

The Club needs volunteers to
Take a turn bringing a dish to our monthly meetings in 2015

Please help with this important effort; our socials following the
monthly meetings offer opportunities to mingle with your fellow
beekeepers and foster cohesiveness in our group.

Here are some other great jobs and positions (to inquire, simply
send an e-mail to president@tarabeekeepers.org):

PROJECTS:

- Hive Inspection Leader

JOB:

- Webmaster
-Website Contributor
-Newsletter Editor
-Newsletter Contributor
-Club Librarian
-Cookbook Contributor

COMMITTEES:

-2015 Picnic
-2015 Audit
-2015 Beekeeper of the year
-2015 Christmas Party

SERVICE:

- Public Speaker in Community

CATCH THE BUZZ



BIP and Bee Culture Surveys Show just over 40% of US Colonies had to be replaced last year.

Beekeepers across the United States lost 42.1% of their honey bee colonies in the year through April with summer losses outstripping winter losses for the first time in five years, an annual survey shows.

The survey by the Bee Informed Partnership working with the Apiary Inspectors of America finds that while winter loss rates improved slightly compared to last year, summer losses – and consequently, total annual losses – were more severe.

The survey asked both commercial and small-scale beekeepers to track the health and survival rates of their honey bee colonies

More than 6,000 beekeepers from all 50 states responded to this year's survey. All told, these beekeepers are responsible for nearly 15% of the country's estimated 2.74

million managed honey bee colonies.

Commercial beekeepers were hit particularly hard by the high rate of summer losses, stoking concerns over the long-term trend of poor health in honey bee colonies.

“We traditionally thought of winter losses as a more important indicator of health, because surviving the cold winter months is a crucial test for any bee colony,” says Dennis vanEngelsdorp, an assistant professor of entomology at the University of Maryland and project director for the Bee Informed Partnership.

“But we now know that summer loss rates are significant too. This is especially so for commercial beekeepers, who are now losing more colonies in the summer-time compared to the winter. Years ago, this was unheard of.”

Beekeepers who responded to the survey reported winter loss rates eased from 23.7% last year to 23.1% this year, while summer loss rates increased from 19.8% to 27.4%.

CATCH THE BUZZ



Among backyard beekeepers – defined as those who manage fewer than 50 colonies – a clear culprit in losses is the Varroa mite, but among commercial beekeepers, the causes of the majority of losses are not as clear.

“Backyard beekeepers were more prone to heavy mite infestations, but we believe that is because a majority of them are not taking appropriate steps to control mites,” vanEngelsdorp says. “Commercial keepers were particularly prone to summer losses. But they typically take more aggressive action against Varroa mites, so there must be other factors at play.”

This is the ninth year of the winter loss survey, and the fifth year to include summer and annual losses in addition to winter loss data.

The survey is part of a larger research effort to understand why honey bee colonies are in such poor health, and what can be done to manage the situation. Colony losses present a financial burden for beekeepers, and can lead to shortages among the many crops that depend on honey bees as pollinators.

Estimates of the total economic value of honey bee pollination services range between \$10 billion and \$15 billion annually.

“The winter loss numbers are more hopeful especially combined with the fact that we

have not seen much sign of colony collapse disorder (CCD) for several years, but such high colony losses in the summer and year-round remain very troubling,” says Jeffery Pettis, a senior entomologist at U.S. Department of Agriculture and a co-coordinator of the survey.

“If beekeepers are going to meet the growing demand for pollination services, researchers need to find better answers to the host of stresses that lead to both winter and summer colony losses.”

Interestingly, an independent colony loss survey just released by Bee Culture magazine found similar losses, just over 40%, but more inclined toward winter losses than summer losses. Winter losses for Bee Culture’s survey were extreme in the northern third of the US – over 50% -, and almost benign in the southern third –hovering around 15% - with the central and western US averaging about a 35% loss over all.

To Find out the latest news, check out www.BeeCulture.com

CATCH THE BUZZ



Smuggling Honey Bees INTO the US From Mexico. Really?

U.S. Customs and Border Protection agriculture specialists at Laredo Port of entry intercepted an unusual smuggling attempt as they seized a cache of undeclared live queen and worker honey bees from a group of travelers in a pickup truck.

Specially designed wooden boxes were uncovered containing 40 live queen and worker honey bees.

The interception occurred at Lincoln-Juarez Bridge when a CBP officer referred a Dodge Ram pickup truck with four occupants for a secondary examination. During the search CBP officers and agriculture specialists found the wooden box filled with honey bees in a purse in the vehicle.

The officers uncovered a total of 40 live bees contained in five boxes within the purse and

the clothing of three passengers.

Each box contained a combination of one queen and seven worker bees.

“This interception of multiple colonies of live honey bees is an unusual discovery, something not seen in recent memory and reflects the commitment of our well-trained agriculture specialists to uphold CBP’s agriculture mission and prevent the import of foreign insects without appropriate permits,” Port Director Joseph Misenhelter says in a statement.

The bees were seized as imports are banned without government permits.

The CBP agriculture specialists safeguarded the insects and forwarded them to U.S. Department of Agriculture where they were confirmed as being *Apis mellifera*.

The case has been referred to USDA Plant Protection and Quarantine’s Smuggling Interdiction and Trade Compliance officers and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service’s Investigative and Enforcement Service for further investigation.

Find Out All The Latest Honey Bee News at www.BeeCulture.Com

Editor's Note

If you have an E-mail address, Please send it to me so we can get it in the directory.
Monthly Tara Newsletters are also sent to members by the Internet.

Send me your articles, classified, comments and suggestions.

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Membership Dues :

Make checks payable to:
Tara Beekeepers Association dues are \$20.00
Per family per year.

Special thanks to the following

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