

# TARA TIDINGS



**AUGUST 17TH, 2015**

**Meeting @ 7:00 PM**

*Bear Kelley*

*Ga. State Beekeepers*



**Tara Beekeepers  
Association**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Check out the web site  
Tarabeekeepers.org*

*Need Donations For  
Monthly Prize Drawings*



*Follow Us* @ Facebook.com/TaraBeekeepersAssociation

## ***ADDITIONAL WEBSITES***

**Tara beekeepers Association**

[www.tarabeekeepers.org](http://www.tarabeekeepers.org)

**Georgia Beekeepers Association**

[www.gabeekeeping.com](http://www.gabeekeeping.com)

**UGA Beekeepers**

[www.ent.uga.edu/bees](http://www.ent.uga.edu/bees)



# TOOL TALK

## **AUGUST 2015**

I am here in Guelph, Ontario, Canada. I am attending the Eastern Apiculture conference and representing Georgia. Yesterday when I arrived, the airline lost part of my luggage and I had to wait around the airport for several hours to pick them up, as they decided to take a later flight. It was interesting as I have not been to the airport at 6am on a Monday morning. There are literally thousands of people trying to get through security. So, no wonder that they lost 2 of my bags.

The weather has been raining the whole time, but the scenery is fantastic. I have seen Lake Erie and Superior and when I say it is well worth the trip to come and see, please think about it. Lake Superior is amazing. You think you are standing on the beach looking out to the ocean, as it is all just water....

I left my hives in fair condition. I have two that I need to inspect, feed or combine. Isn't that always the case? I was putting the sugar water on at the community garden and it had just finished up raining. So I did a visual and was worried about one of the hives. Not much bee activity, like the other 3 hives and so I lifted the cover. Well, lots of bee activity under the cover. So, perhaps I will not judge the hives right after the rain. Heheheheh. Funny what you think about, when you are in a hurry.

Right now I am deciding if I want to change from Powdered sugar to formic or thymol to treat the bees for varroa. All the experts are saying that the powdered sugar does not work very well, and the other chemicals actually kill the mites. I am really torn. However, there is the Italian method. That is to cage the queen for 21 days and then treating. That is a lot of work. But I am going to think about it.

What are you doing about the varroa?

Keep your hive tools handy, your smokers lit and your fire extinguishers ready!

-MARY

# 2015 TARA CALENDAR

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

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 7th, 2015 - Short course @ 8:00 am until 4:00 pm- Kiwanis club Building

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  
treasurer@tarabeekeepers.org

Vice President, Fran Lane  
vpresident@tarabeekeepers.org

Secretary, David Brookshire  
Secretary@tarabeekeepers.org

Three-year Director, Ed Mellon

Three-year Director, Maurice Rochester

Two-year Director, Jerry Haygood

Two-year Director, Buster Lane

One-year Director, Jim Moyer

One-year Director, Doug Clack

Honorary BOD positions:

President Emeritus, PN Williams

President Emerita, Evelyn Williams



October 20th, 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](mailto: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





# FALL SHORT COURSE

NOVEMBER 7TH, 2015



## Georgia Power Building

Reynolds Nature Preserve

5665 Reynolds Road

Morrow, Ga. 30260

**Time: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm**

**[www.tarabeekeepers.org](http://www.tarabeekeepers.org)**

## Pre- Registration

Please contact by november 1st

Pat Brookshire, Treasurer at

[secretary.tara.beekeepers@outlook.com](mailto:secretary.tara.beekeepers@outlook.com)

## Prices:

**\$65** for registration

**\$10** for each additional family member



**263 High Falls Park Rd.  
Milner, GA 30257**



# **VARROA FIELD DAY**

## **September 26, 2015**

A hands-on day in the apiary with staff from the UGA Bee Lab. Detailed, practical presentations on how to detect, assess, and treat for varroa mites at home in your apiary.

### **Hands-on demonstrations on:**

- Sticky boards**
- Alcohol/Ether rolls**
- Drone culling**
- Essential oils**
- Natural acids (oxalic, formic)**
- Commercial Miticides**
- and MUCH MORE!**

**No more worrying**

*"Am I doing this right?"*

*"Am I going to kill my bees?"*

**SPACE IS LIMITED!**

**\$10.00 Tuition with**

**preregistration by 9/23/15.**



Call (770) 843-2110 or  
email: [brutzenglish@gmail.com](mailto:brutzenglish@gmail.com)  
to preregister!



Ladies & Gentlemen,

I am pleased to announce the first Varroa Field Day to be held here in GA! The Varroa Field Day is an opportunity for any beekeeper in the State of Georgia, to come out and participate in a hands-on varroa mite detection and treatment workshop. Brett Nolan, from the UGA Bee Lab, has agreed to come down with several of his colleagues and put on a practical, hands-on field demonstration about how to figure out if you have a varroa mite problem, and then what to do about it if you do have a problem.

So many beekeepers I talk to skimp on varroa management, or just outright ignore it, because they are uncertain or afraid of over-treating- or mis-applying treatments... no one wants to kill their bees or foul their honey crop! Well, this is a chance to come out and see how the pros at the Bee Lab do it. We are going to see the proper and safe way to check for, and deal with, varroa mites.

This event will be held at the Liberty Hill Ranch, located at 263 High Falls Park Road, Milner, GA 30257. Liberty Hill Ranch is conveniently located just 3 miles west of Exit 198 on I-75. We are 45 mins south of Hartsfield Airport, and 30 mins north of Macon. We are only asking a measly \$10/person as tuition for this workshop - IF you preregister by 9/23/15. Tuition at the door will likely be \$15.00.

Please share this information with your local bee clubs! I think this is going to be a fantastic opportunity for beekeepers to learn how to get ahead of the curve on the varroa mite. We're going to have a great program, and some of the most knowledgeable presenters around. I hope you and your club members will come out and take advantage of this unique opportunity!

Brutz English  
President, Henry County Beekeepers Assoc.  
President, Potato Creek Beekeepers Club  
North Dist. Dir., GA Beekeepers Assoc.

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# CATCH THE BUZZ BY!

# Bee Culture

The Magazine of American Beekeeping

## CATCH THE BUZZ

### *End Pesticide Use With Smell? Maybe!*

UK scientists may have uncovered a natural way of avoiding the use of pesticides and help save plants from attack by recreating a natural insect repellent. Scientists from Cardiff University and Rothamsted Research have, for the first time, created tiny molecules which mirror a natural occurring smell known to repel insects.

The scientists were able to make similar smelling insect repellent molecules, by providing the enzyme, ((S)-germacrene D synthase), which creates the smell, with alternative substrate molecules.

The effectiveness of the smell or perfume to function as an insect repellent was tested.

The team found that the smells repelled insects but in one case a reversal of behaviour - an attractant - was observed which raises the prospect of being able to develop a trap-and-kill device.

"We know that many organisms use smell to interact with members of the same species and to locate hosts of food or to avoid attack from parasites," according to Professor Rudolf Allemann from Cardiff University's School of Chemistry, who led the research.

"However, the difficulty is that scientifically smell molecules are often extremely volatile, chemically unstable and expensive to re-create. This means

that, until now, progress has been extremely slow in recreating smells that are similar to the original.

"Through the power of novel biochemical techniques we have been able to make insect repellent smell molecules which are structurally different but functionally similar to the original," he added.

Pesticides are toxic by design and are used widely to kill, reduce or repel insects, weeds, rodents, fungi or other organisms that can threaten public health and the economy.

Many concerns have been raised on the potential dangers to humans and the impact on the environment and local ecosystem.

Professor John Pickett, FRS from Rothamsted Research said: "This is a breakthrough in rational design of smells and provides a novel way of producing a smell with different properties and potentially better ones than the original but at the same time preserving the original activity.

"By using alternative substrates for the enzymes involved in the ligand biosynthesis (biosynthesis of the smell) we can create the appropriate chemical space to reproduce, with a different molecular structure, the activity of the original smell."

The team hope that their research could provide a new way of designing and developing small smell molecules which would be otherwise be too difficult to produce by usual scientific and commercial methods.





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## CATCH THE BUZZ – Vaccine Technology For Bee Diseases Discovered

By Alan Harman

Researchers have discovered how bees naturally immunize their offspring against specific diseases found in their environments in a breakthrough that could lead to the development of the first vaccine to fight serious diseases in the beehives.

A tri-nation research team made the discovery after studying a bee blood protein called vitellogenin and found the protein plays a critical, but previously unknown role in providing bee babies protection against disease.

The findings by researchers from Arizona State University, University of Helsinki, University of Jyväskylä and Norwegian University of Life Sciences appear in the journal PLOS Pathogens.

Arizona professor Gro Amdam says the process by which bees transfer immunity to their babies was a big mystery until now.

“What we found is that it’s as simple as eating,” Amdam says. “Our amazing discovery was made possible because of 15 years of basic research on vitellogenin. This exemplifies how long-term investments in basic research pay off.”

Co-author Dalia Freitak, a postdoctoral researcher with University of Helsinki, says she has been working on bee immune priming since the start of her doctoral studies.

“Now almost 10 years later, I feel like I’ve solved an important part of the puzzle,” she says. “It’s a wonderful and very rewarding feeling.”

The self-vaccination works this way.

In a honey bee colony, worker bees bring food to the queen. Forager bees can pick up pathogens in the environment while gathering pollen and nectar. Back in the hive, worker bees use this same pollen to create royal jelly – a food made just for the queen that incidentally contains bacteria from the outside environment.

After eating these bacteria, the pathogens are digested in the gut and transferred to the body cavity; there they are stored in the queen’s ‘fat body’ — an organ similar to a liver.

Pieces of the bacteria are then bound to vitellogenin – a protein – and carried via the blood to the developing eggs. Because of this, bee babies are “vaccinated” and their immune systems better prepared to fight diseases found in their environment once they are born.



# CATCH THE BUZZ BY:

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Vitellogenin is the carrier of these immune-priming signals, something researchers did not know until now.

But while bees vaccinate their babies against some diseases, many pathogens are deadly and the insects are unable to fight them.

But now that Amdam and Freitak understand how bees vaccinate their babies, this opens the door to creating the first edible and natural vaccine for insects.

“We are patenting a way to produce a harmless vaccine, as well as how to cultivate the vaccines and introduce them to bee hives through a cocktail the bees would eat,” Freitak says. “They would then be able to stave off disease.”

The researchers say such a vaccine would be extremely beneficial against American Foul Brood.

The researchers say their discovery could have far-reaching benefits for other species, as well as substantial, positive impacts on food production because all egg-laying species including fish, poultry, reptiles, amphibians and insects have vitellogenin in their bodies.

The food industry could implement the use of natural vaccines that would not only be inexpensive to produce, they could easily be used in developing countries.

“Because this vaccination process is naturally occurring, this process would be cheap and ultimately simple to implement,” Amdam says. “It has the potential to both improve and secure food production for humans.”

## 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.

Mary Cahill-Roberts  
404-388-3427  
E-mail: maryc7@aol.com



### 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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