

# Essex County Beekeepers Society, Inc.

ECBS  
PO Box 688  
Roseland, NJ 07068

Edition: August 2016

Next Meeting: Tuesday,  
September 13  
7:00 – 9:00 pm  
Garibaldi Hall, Essex County  
Environmental Center, 621B Eagle  
Rock Avenue, Roseland, NJ

Topic: Making Mead  
Speakers: Ban Ang & Jim Cully



## Officers

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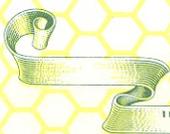
It is unusual for the President to send out a newsletter during July and August, but with the number of new beekeepers in the club and the number of questions Landi and I have been receiving, it is only reasonable to go to the keyboard and type a message.

Kelleybees.com has two 2-Frame extractors for sale at \$150 (Stainless Steel) and \$100 (Plastic) each. Either might be right for somebody with one or two hives.

As a reminder, for members who would like to use the ECBS extractor, you will need the other associated equipment for processing the honey, such as buckets, strainers and jars. Also, don't plan to borrow the extractor if you don't know how to use it. For the first time around, observe another beekeeper (ask ECBS who is local to you, if you don't know). If you want to see how it is done, you may also go to Kelleybees.com and watch instruction videos.

Now is the time to get Mite Treatments on your hives. In the past I have heard a myth from new beekeepers which says, "You don't need to treat a new hive for mites." This is, of course not true. Yesterday I visited one of our new members to show him how to do an Alcohol-Wash to check for mites in his two new hives, started from nucs this spring. Both were strong and doing very well. In the first hive we found eight mites (2.6%) and in the second we found thirteen mites (4.3%). Both mite loads are above the 2% threshold for requiring treatment. Remember, if you plan to treat your hives, make sure to take off surplus honey first (except if using Formic Acid (Mite-Away-Quikstrips). However, current temperatures are too hot to safely use MAQs!

Ron Jacobs ([rja8662745@yahoo.com](mailto:rja8662745@yahoo.com)) has all the usual treatments available, for those who just need to treat one or two or three hives and don't want to bother purchasing a quantity required by most beekeeping suppliers.



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"FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF BEE CULTURE IN ESSEX COUNTY"



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When you take off honey, you must extract it within a few days, or risk wax moth larvae from damaging the comb. Once you have extracted the honey, place them back on the hives between the inner and outer covers, where the bees will clean out any remaining honey, and protect them from pests. Also, don't leave any honey supers outside or exposed, as it will set off robbing. This also includes sugar syrup used to feed bees. If you are feeding one or more hives and splash it around, this can set off robbing. Once started, robbing is very difficult to stop.

At this time of the year, nectar dearth (the act of dying) is the norm, and if your bees were previously nice and easy to work, you will likely find their mood changed and you will definitely need to wear a veil (and gloves, if you prefer them). Also, due to the heat and lack of something to do (nectar dearth), it will be normal for bees to "beard" on the front of the hive. You will see small to large groups of bees hanging from the landing board or covering the front of the hive just above the entrance.

I will be at the EAS Conference next week. Again, if you plan to attend and want to order equipment in advance, the major beekeeping suppliers will be there and will bring your order and you can avoid shipping costs. Also, should you have any questions, send me an E-mail.

*Joe Treimel, President*