

Essex County Beekeepers Society, Inc.



ECBS
PO Box 688
Roseland, NJ 07068

Edition: March, 2018

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

Topic: Oxalic Acid Vaporization
Speaker: Steve Repasky

Officers

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Greetings to all:

ECBS has had another successful Beginner Beekeeping Class, and it will bring another two dozen or so new members. For those of you who have not renewed your club membership, please do so ASAP that you won't be dropped from the club's E-mail list.

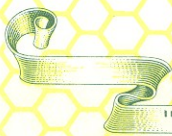
As you all recall, ECBS is again ordering Nucleus Hives from Stiles Apiaries, and they will be coming in a wooden nucleus hive box this year. Delivery will be mid-April, and if you plan to make an order, please don't delay. If you need the ordering form, send me an E-mail.

Late winter hive checks should have been done already to determine if the hive is alive and if it needs food. If you find a dead hive, close it up to prevent the honey from being robbed out on warm days. Honey from dead-outs may be moved to alive hives or used with start-up hives. Just be sure to protect it from pest damage. If not done already, this is a good time to put Apivar (Amitraz) into your hives, that those bees being raised for the upcoming nectar flows will be healthy and live long. If you are using Apivar strips, be sure to check the hives every two weeks or so to assure that the bees have not moved their cluster / brood nest away from them. If they have, just move the Apivar strips back into the brood nest area.

Oxalic Acid is a newer miticide treatment, and since most of us have not tried it out, our March speaker will be a good way to find out how it is done using the vaporization method. As we have done the past two meetings, pizza will be available. For those of you following the articles in the journals, research continues to learn more about breeding bees for Varroa Mite resistance as well as honey bee nutrition.

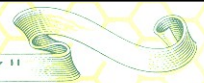
Finally, the sale closing on my house will be March 16 and I will be moving to Carmel, NY. The club will need a new president and to make it easier for the president, somebody to be a refreshments chairperson and another as a Program Director. Please consider helping your club and speak to any of the ECBS Board members about taking on one of these positions.

Joe Treimel, President



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The following person is looking for a beekeeper to keep bees on her property:
Kari Baureis: karia91178@hotmail.com

Ted Hopkins of Union is looking for a location to keep one or two hives. He would like it to be on the property of an experienced beekeeper who might act as a mentor. Contact: edward.t.hopkins@gmail.com

March Beekeeping

Check hives every 2 weeks. If alive, check for food needs. If necessary, feed fondant, bee candy or granular sugar. Err on the side of too much rather than too little. You can always remove the excess later and save it. Use shim to add space for food.

If the hive is dead and you are unsure of the reason, collect bees from dead cluster to be sent for analysis. Shut up the hive to prevent robbing. Prepare same hive to receive new bees if that is in your plans, or store / redistribute equipment.

How to Send Adult Honey Bees

Send at least 100 bees and if possible, select bees that are dying or that died recently.

Decayed bees are not satisfactory for examination.

Bees should be placed in and soaked with 70% ethyl, methyl, or isopropyl alcohol as soon as possible after collection and packed in leak-proof containers.

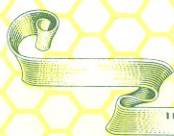
USPS, UPS, and FedEx do not accept shipments containing alcohol. Just prior to mailing samples, pour off all excess alcohol to meet shipping requirements.

Do NOT send bees dry (without alcohol).

Send samples to:

Bee Disease Diagnosis
Bee Research Laboratory
10300 Baltimore Ave. BARC-East
Bldg. 306 Room 316
Beltsville Agricultural Research Center - East
Beltsville, MD 20705

Do NOT reverse the hive until later in the month. Clean bottom board at the same time.
Plan your beekeeping for 2018 – if not already done – and write it down.
Purchase and prepare equipment.



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