

Essex County Beekeepers Society, Inc.



ECBS
PO Box 688
Roseland, NJ 07068

Edition: June 2015

Meeting: Tuesday, June 9, 7:00 – 9:00 pm
aldi Hall
Essex County Environmental Center,
Roseland

Topic: What's New in Beekeeping?
Speaker: Joe Treimel

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For lack of a better name, we call it Climate Change, which is what the scientists are calling it. We again had an unusually long winter and spring has been rather strange. Everything seems to have happened one month later than usual. And when things just seemed to be returning to normal, we have had a week of unusually cool and rainy weather. We still have a few more months ahead of us to find out if there will be good forage for our bees and what type of honey production will be found.

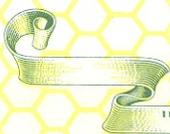
I drove down to Maryland three weeks ago with a hive of bees for my daughter, Ellen. She started beekeeping about six years ago while living in Washington, DC (where it is illegal to keep bees), but the hive died off over the winter. Now that she has her own place in Maryland, it seemed logical to start up again and I brought her a nuc which I had overwintered. We dropped in one MAQS when we moved the gals into a standard hive and so far she reports the bees are doing fine.

I plan to make a presentation at Tuesday's meeting on what is new in beekeeping, which will be from a literature review over the past 18 months. Beekeeping remains the same in many ways, but there is always research going on and we are getting new information on CCD periodically. And there are new gadgets on occasion. I have recently seen some ads for a gadget for collecting honey, which was developed in Australia. You just open a spigot and the honey pours out into your jar or whatever you use for a collection device. For those of you familiar with it, I would have supposed this thing originated on TheOnion.com, which is an on-line parody type newsletter which makes fun of just about everything.

While my bees seem to be doing OK, I have yet to see any significant honey being collected. I emphasize the word "significant." I have not heard from anybody else in the club about how their bees are doing. Is No New = Good News?

Finally, with a change in his employment, our treasurer Michael Good has found himself too busy to do the work up to his standard and he needs someone to take over the task before his term ends in December. If you are interested, get in touch with Mike.

Regards, *Joe Treimel*, President



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June / July Beekeeping

Check your hives periodically for adequate space. Swarming will still occur, as everything is late this year, and that goes for swarming. Be prepared. If you have the extra equipment, keep a hive ready, should you collect a swarm. Speaking of swarms, I have yet to get any E-mails notifying me and I wonder if there are either none to be found or I didn't get put on the list. If your hives are not doing well, take a close look for EFB. If this is what it seems to be, pull off any honey boxes and treat with Terramycin.

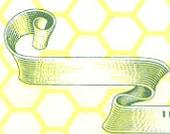
Watch out for ticks on yourself if you must go through grass or bushes to get to your hives. Tuck your pants into your socks. Ticks may be found on your clothing or skin many hours later, as they have a way of avoiding detection and are then found wandering about on your body when you thought all was OK. If they have embedded themselves, they can usually be just plucked out with gentle pull, or a fine tipped tweezers will do the job. Wood ticks have a low incidence of carrying Lyme Disease and Deer Ticks have a higher incidence. Ticks usually need to be embedded about 24 hours to pass on the bacterium which causes Lyme. Symptoms of Lyme Disease are generally flu-like, including achy joints. A large, round, bulls-eye rash often is found at the site of the tick bite. Antibiotic treatment is imperative and can be prescribed by your family doctor.

If you have bees in a residential location, do keep a water source available for your bees to avoid having them visit your neighbor's swimming pool or fish pond.

Harvest your honey by the end of July and begin Mite Treatment with MAQS or one of the Thymol types of treatment.

With six months remaining in the year, keep in mind that all terms of our Board will expire in December. This is a voluntary organization and participation by members above and beyond attending meetings is vital to a club's ability to function well. If you would like to become more involved, do talk to any of the Board members about what they do.

The Eastern Apicultural Society Conference, organized by the Eastern Apicultural Society will take place from 10th August to the 14th August 2015 at the University of Guelph in Ontario, USA. Niagara Falls is short drive from Guelph, and will make a nice place to visit. You will need a passport to return to the USA. If you don't have one, you will have to consider taking up Canadian citizenship! For more information, see: <http://www.easternapiculture.org>



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