



Alamance County Beekeepers

Newsletter for July 2017

Monthly Meeting
July 20th
Potluck @ 6:00 | Program @ 7:00

Alternate Bee Pollinators

Presented by
[Kim Huntzinger](#)
Bee Health Specialist
Bayer Crop Science's
North American Bee Care Center

Our presenter spends her days "coordinating projects in the bee lab, evaluating varroacide efficacy studies, enhancing the center's pollinator garden, conducting bee health educational tours and outreach, working with interns or assisting with regulatory studies to measure a product's potential effect on non-*Apis mellifera*, and we look forward to learning more about alternate bee pollinators from her."



As is the custom when we have a guest speaker, we'll have a potluck dinner beforehand. It's always good to make time for a meal with friends. Bring what you can to share, and most important, bring yourself!



Chuck Couch's granddaughter Layla Hadley, beekeeper's apprentice

Notes from June's Meeting

June's meeting was at Ira's apiary on Saturday the 17th. There was a good turnout, in spite of the threat of rain.

Folks learned how to remove frames from hives and how to extract honey.



Mike Ross demonstrated how the flow hive works, and everyone enthusiastically partook of the hotdogs & fixins.

Good times.

Bees in the News

Click on the title to read the article.

[Why Honeybees Are The Wrong Problem To Solve](#), Adam Frank, NPR.org, 6/13/2017. To Sarah Bergmann, creator of the [Pollinator Pathway](#) project, we need to think less like conservationists, and more like designers.

[Big Dan, a couple of beers and thousands of honeybees: A tale of removing a bee infestation](#), Michael Branch, High Country News, 6/12/2017.

[Priority Principles for the 2018 Farm Bill Conservation Title](#), HoneybeeHealthCoalition.org, 5/22/2017. The Honeybee Health Coalition offers its priorities for the Conservation Title of the 2018 Farm Bill.

[After queen bee moves too close to daycare, city considers beekeeping ordinance](#), WOWT News, Council Bluffs, Iowa, 6/12/2017. Health Department Director wants city ordinance to protect people from the dangers of honey bees.

[Online mapping tool increases awareness of beehive locations](#), NC Agricultural Review, June 2017. Report on the status of hive registrations for the first year of BeeWatch in NC.

[Bees among the tees: Golf course embarks on honeybee restoration effort](#), Carolina Hammett, The Spokesman-Review, 6/19/2017. Parts of Spokane, WA, golf course are being repurposed to be more pollinator friendly.

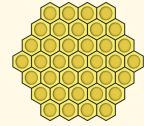
[Farm to table: New Bee Better Certification for farmers and ranchers who help bees on America's working lands](#), The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service is working with conservation partners like the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation to help farmers plan and implement conservation practices that benefit bees and other pollinators.

[Widely used pesticide is a buzzkill for honeybees](#), Leslie Nemo, Scientific American, 6/30/2017. Two new studies, published this week in *Science* ... add substantial weight to the claim that neonicotinoids damage bee populations."

July in the Apiary

Notes from Nancy Ruppert and
Beginning Beekeeping Course

- ⇒ Collect your extracting equipment and begin harvesting surplus honey this month.
- ⇒ Control small hive beetles.
- ⇒ Keep water available.
- ⇒ How are queens doing? Do any need replacing?
- ⇒ What's the status of varroa mites? Prepare to treat.
- ⇒ Attend summer NCSBA conference!



Honey Ice Cream

- 2 cups milk
- 3/4 cup honey
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup cream

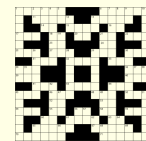


Scald two cups whole milk in double boiler, add honey and salt. Beat eggs in separate bowl. Pour scalded milk into the egg mixture and stir until well blended. Return to double boiler and cook for three or four minutes. Cool. Beat cream and fold into custard mixture. Freeze. Stir once or twice while freezing.

From *Old Favorite Honey Recipes: Over 250 Great Recipes from Beekeepers and Cooks*.

Beekeeping Puzzle

by Linda Tillman



Complete it [online!](#)

Blooming in the Piedmont



Anise Hyssop (*Agastache foeniculum*)



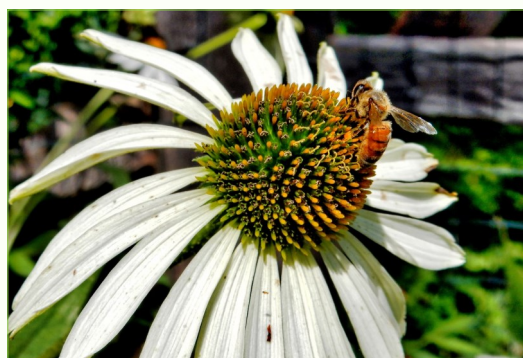
Short-Toothed Mountain Mint (*Pycnanthemum muticum*)



Sweet Pepper Bush
(*Clethra alnifolia* 'Ruby Spice')



Native Passion Flower (*Passiflora lutea*)



Cone Flower
(*Echinacea purpurea* 'White Swan')

All photos are courtesy of Geoff Leister, and were taken in the Leisters' yard and garden, July 2017. Click on the flower names to learn more.

Labeling Honey

In North Carolina, the guidelines for the labeling of honey conform to the requirements of the FPLA (Fair Packaging and Labeling Act). In a memorandum of understanding by and between the Food and Drug Protection Division and the Plant Industry Division of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture dated August 10, 1984, the labeling requirements are set forth and paraphrased below.

“Products which are sold or represented to be honey must be labeled as follows:

(1) The common or usual name honey must appear on the label. A floral source such as sourwood, clover, etc., may be part of the name provided the product contains a significant amount of pollen from that flower.

(2) The name, address and zip code of the manufacturer, packer or distributor must also appear on the label.

(3) A declaration of net contents must appear in the lower thirty percent of the label panel expressed as weight such as “Net wt. 30 oz. (1 lb. 14 oz.)”.

<https://www.ncbeekeepers.org/honey/labeling-requirements-for-honey>



Calendar

State Beekeepers Summer Conference,
July 13-15, Winston Salem

National Honey Bee Day, August 19

Beekeeping the Foxfire Way,
September 16, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If you are out and about sharing your beekeeping love and know-how with others, please tell, so we can share the good news!



Officers for 2017

President : Ira Poston
Vice-President : Mike Ross
Recording Secretary : Sheyenne Michelizzi
Treasurer : Zivon Price
Program Chair : Caitlin Vatikiotis-Bateson
One-year Director : Wayne Foulks
Two-year Director : Randy Stinson
Three-year Director : Paul Jollay

Appointments

Webmaster : Geoff Leister
Newsletter : Cynthia Pierce