



Alamance County Beekeepers

Newsletter for May 2017

Monthly Meeting

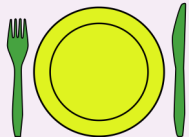
May 18th

Potluck @ 6:00 | Program @ 7:00

Methods of Recordkeeping During Hive Management and Field Tests

Jessica Louque is Senior Studies Director at Smithers Viscient. You might know her from her articles in Bee Culture.

She'll be talking to us about keeping records on hive activity. You'll be better equipped and inspired to do this important, but often neglected, work after you've heard Jessica's talk.

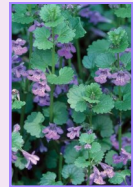


A potluck meal will take place at 6:00, before the general meeting and program.

Flowering Lawns

As beekeepers, we might be a little out of step with our lawn-loving friends and neighbors. Where they often see weeds to eradicate, we see pollinator food.

There are a lot of folks out in the world talking to people one at a time, urging lawn-lovers to make a little room for wildlife. The resources below are informative, sensible, and offer options that many people might not have thought of.



[Flowering Bee Lawns for Pollinators](#)

This publication, out of the University of Minnesota, explains what a bee lawn is, what the benefits are, and how to have one.

[Why Mow? The Case Against Lawns](#)

How did the American lawn come to be? And learn what happened when the author's father decided to become a lawn dissident.

[Outgrowing the Traditional Grass Lawn](#)

A lawn with plants other than turf has its own kind of natural beauty.

[Rethinking the traditional grass lawn](#)

What is a lawn? Do all lawns have to be grass?

Notes from April's Meeting

Mike Ross stepped in and presented April's program when we needed to make a last-minute schedule adjustment. Thank you, Mike, for sharing information on catching swarms. And thanks to Zivon for his contributions.

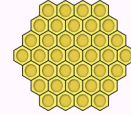


Ira Poston and Caitlin Vatikiotis-Bateson reported on volunteering at the Arbor Day event on April 29th at Captain White House.

May in the Apiary

Notes from Nancy Ruppert

- ◆ Get your extracting and bottling equipment ready.
- ◆ Keep up with swarm prevention and capture measures.
- ◆ Replace failing queens.
- ◆ Maintain water sources.
- ◆ Install traps for small hive beetles.
- ◆ Work on gardening and landscaping for future forage.



Bees in the News

Click on the title to read the article.

[Keeping honeybees healthy: A role for veterinarians?](#) Russ Daly, FarmForum.net, 4/21/2017. A veterinarian learns about honey bees because of the [Veterinary Feed Directive](#). He finds that beekeepers and farmers have similar concerns and work in disease prevention.



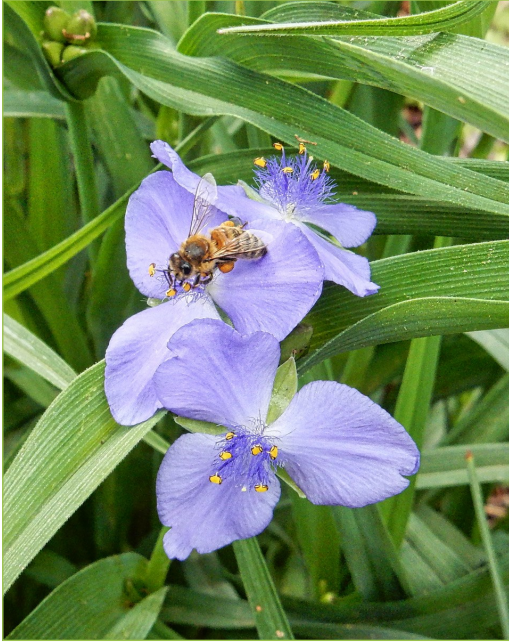
[Common pesticide damages honey bees' ability to fly](#), ScienceDaily, 4/26/2017. Biologists have provided the first evidence that a widely used pesticide -- thiamethoxam, a neonicotinoid pesticide -- can significantly impair the ability of otherwise healthy honey bees to fly. Full report is [here](#).

[Extension clinic helps beekeepers protect their colonies](#), Dee Shore, NCSU College of Agriculture and Life Sciences News, 4/26/2017. "As news continues to grow about problems faced by honey bees, NC State Extension is using the latest science to help beekeepers assess one of the most important factors in their colonies' success — the health of their queens."

[Why Honeybees Are Good at Grooming \(It's All in the Hair\)](#) James Gorman, New York Times, 5/15/2017. Check out these videos from mechanical engineering researchers at Georgia Tech.

Blooming in the Piedmont

All photos taken in Geoff and Linda Leister's apiary in the recent month. Thank you both for sharing and inspiring!



Tradescantia virginiana (Virginia Spiderwort)



Verbena bonariensis (Brazilian vervain)



Itea virginica 'Henry's Garnet' (Virginia Sweetspire)

Calendar

Geoff and Linda Leister will talk about beekeeping @ Graham Public Library on June 15 @ 4:00.

National Pollinator Week, June 19-25, 2017

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

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