



Alamance County Beekeepers

January 2019 Newsletter

Monthly Meeting

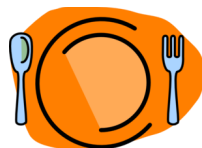
January 17 | Ag Building
Potluck @ 6:00 | Program @ 7:00

Venom Allergy Mark Powers, M.D.

The topic of venom allergy is of interest and concern to all beekeepers. We are happy to have the opportunity to learn more from an expert in allergic response *and* beekeeping.

Mark Powers, M.D., is an Associate Professor Emeritus in Duke University's Division of Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine. Mark is immediate past president of the Orange County Beekeepers, and is a certified journeyman beekeeper. (Biography from *Bee Culture*.)

Come early to share a meal and social time with beekeeping friends.



And happy new year!

Message from Ira

Happy New Year !!



Yes, before you know it, your hives will be overflowing with bees.....if and only if you managed your mite load, monitored their food levels and attended every ACB meeting last year. Well, a couple of those might be true.

We have some very interesting programs scheduled for 2019 and a number of opportunities for you to participate in educating the public. Yes, you know more than the general public and you should be willing to prove that. Be thinking of what you are going to enter in the N.C. State Fair. (It's not too early to make your plans.) We are also starting our Beginning Beekeeping Class on January 22nd.

This year at each meeting, we will have a 50/50 raffle for door prizes and cash money. To participate, you will need to buy a ticket(s) to be eligible for the prizes. The last ticket we draw will split the pot of money with the Club. We want to keep you interested in coming, I know the programs are good, this will be icing on the cake. Look forward to seeing everyone at the January meeting.

Ira

Bees in the News

Click on the headline to read the article.

[Vaccine for Honeybees Could Be a Tool to Fight Population Decline](#), Julia Jacobs, New York Times, 12/23/2018. The vaccine would be provided to the queen through a sugar solution, and then her offspring would have immunity to the targeted microbial infections. Vaccine is still in development.

[SHB – Why do bees lock ‘em up?](#), Vita Bee Health, 1/7/2019. Some worker bees will actually *feed* the SHBs that have been isolated into a propolis “jail.” How to the beetles convince them to do that!?

[Colony Size, Rather Than Geographic Origin of Stocks, Predicts Overwintering Success in Honey Bees \(Hymenoptera: Apidae\) in the Northeastern United States](#), Mehmet Ali Döke et al, Journal of Economic Entomology, 12/19/2018. “We found that stock or region of origin was not correlated with weight, population size, or overwintering success. However, overwintering success was influenced by the weight and population size the colonies reached prior to winter where higher colony weight is a strong predictor of overwintering survival.”

[Honey bees, already at risk, face a new threat from a common herbicide](#), Sue Nicolson, Phys.org, 11/29/2018. A new study shows glyphosate has an effect on the gut microbiome of honey bees. “The researchers also found that [glyphosate](#) exposure increased the mortality of honey bees that were exposed to a pathogen. This suggests that disruption of the microbial community makes the bees more vulnerable to infection.” Read more at: <https://phys.org/news/2018-11-honey-bees-threat-common-herbicide.html#jCp>



Donation\$ Accepted

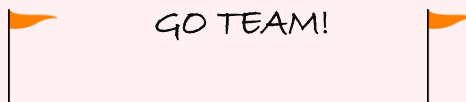
ACB is now able to accept donations while it goes through the process of becoming a nonprofit. See Ira, Zivon, or Sheyenne for more information.

Did You Know

In the Bees and Honey section of the North Carolina State Fair, there is a category for PURE BEESWAX PRODUCTS. Those products can be carvings, models, candles, figurines, etc.

Items are judged on the following factors:

- Color - Straw to canary yellow
- Cleanliness - Absence of honey, propolis, other impurities
- Uniformity of appearance of all wax in entry
- Aroma and texture
- Quality, craftsmanship and appearance of beeswax products.



Edgeworthia chrysantha | Paperbush
Photo of this winter bloomer
courtesy of Geoff Leister

Calendar

Alamance County Beekeeping Class

1/22 - 4/2 and 4/6, 2019

Chatham County Beekeeping School

1/8 - 2/26, 2019

Soil & Water Conservation District

Seedling Sale Ends

2/1/2019

336-290-0380

"Bees, Flowers and Pollination"

2/6/2019, 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.,

Science & Technology Day

Smith Elementary School

Burlington, NC

Presented by Geoff and Linda Leister

4-H Beekeeping Essay due

2/15/2019

"Pollinator Nectar and Pollen Sources
in the Piedmont of North Carolina"

2/28/2019, 7:00 p.m.

Caswell County Beekeepers Association

Yanceyville, NC

Presented by Geoff Leister, Ph.D.

3/1 - 3/2, 2019

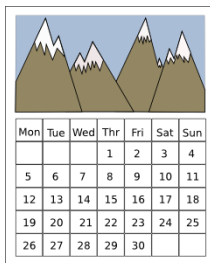
NCSBA Spring Conference

Monroe, NC

Homegrown in the Park

4/27/2019, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Burlington City Park



This Month in the Bee Yard

Courtesy of Nancy Ruppert

- Add pollen supplements, if needed; check amount and location of honey stores, and feed (2:1 syrup or fondant) if <3/4 super of stored honey left.
- Check/repair/replace stored equipment; order wax/woodenware.
- Order nucs/packages.
- Keep learning---bee school, read books, journals, etc.
- Combine or insulate smaller (less than 4 frames of bees) hives.
- Combine hives where queen has failed, if they're still alive and haven't absconded.
- Move hives if they'll need to be relocated this year.
- Bees may need help removing dead bodies from entrance area.

<https://growingsmallfarms.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/CALENDAR-FOR-BEEKEEPING-IN-CENTRAL-NORTH-CAROLINA.pdf?fw=no>



Officers for 2019

President : Ira Poston

Vice-President : Mike Ross

Recording Secretary : Sheyenne Michelizzi

Treasurer : Zivon Price

Program Chair : Caitlin Vatikiotis-Bateson

One-year Director : Paul Jollay

Two-year Director : Chuck Couch

Three-year Director : Johnny Mills

Webmaster : Geoff Leister

Newsletter : Cynthia Pierce