



Alamance County Beekeepers

June 2020 Newsletter

Monthly Meeting June 25 | 7:00 | Zoom

Suzy Spencer The A-Ž Hive

This is the presentation we were looking forward to in March, in the Before Times. Read more about Suzy's Slovenian beekeeping interests in Randall Austin's [column](#), and meet her virtually soon!

This event will be on the fourth Thursday this month. We hope you can still make it. Caitlin will send the Zoom log-in info closer to the 25th.



Message from Ira

Are you caught up on all of your to-do lists? I hope checking for mites was on your list. I know some of you have extracted honey and others are waiting until you see white wax. Be sure to check out the moisture content of your honey. It needs to be 18.5% or less.

We will try to keep you informed about the different webinars that are being offered by several groups. Dr. Tarpy from NC State has been scheduling one every other week. I don't know when we will be able to physically meet again, some improvement in the Virus numbers would help but it seems to be going in the other direction.

Ira

Honey Bees and Swimming Pools

If you know people who are bothered by honey bees stopping by their swimming pool for a drink, encourage them to take a look at information below provided by NCSU's Entomology Department. It offers lots of tips for dissuading honey bees from poolside visits.

<https://entomology.ces.ncsu.edu/2018/.../unwanted-pool-guests/>



Photo by [Kathy Keatley Garvey](#)



Golden Rain Tree, *Koelreuteria paniculate*, Gibsonville, June 10. Photo by Geoff Leister.

Bees in the News

Click on the headline to read the article.

[To bee or not to bee: International Bee Day highlights plight of pollinators](#), Sue Surkes, The Times of Israel, 5/20/2020. On International Bee Day, this article presents readers a fact-filled introduction to honey bees (and insects in general) and the challenges they face.

[Another Asian giant hornet found in northwestern Washington](#), Nicholas K. Geranios, AP, 5/29/2020. "A dead Asian giant hornet has been found in Washington state, and officials said Friday they were trying to learn if the honey bee predators have established colonies here."

[Rare metallic blue bee spotted in Florida](#), AP, 5/18/2020. "Researchers in Florida have rediscovered an "ultra-rare" metallic blue bee that hadn't been spotted in years – so long that experts weren't sure it still existed."

[Emergence of deadly honey bee disease revealed](#), Newcastle University, Phys.org,, 5/1/2020. An emerging disease in UK colonies, chronic bee paralysis, is described in this article. " ... Symptoms include abnormal trembling, an inability to fly, and the development of shiny, hairless abdomens."



Sourwood, *Oxydendrum arboretum*, June 4, Snow Camp. Photo by Paul Jollay.



Passionflower, *Passiflora incarnata*, and honey bees, June 8. Photo by Jennifer Welch.

Calendar

[Pollinator Webinar Series](#) (free)

Penn State Extension
Wednesdays through July 22
Registration required

[Beekeeping Webinars @ NCSU](#)

Ongoing

Canceled

[NCSBA Summer Statewide Meeting](#)

This Month in the Bee Yard

Courtesy of Nancy Ruppert

- Main nectar flow starts to dwindle---fewer supers needed, unless sourwood nearby. If in area of sourwood, consider harvesting available honey before mid-June sourwood flow to ensure more “pure” sourwood crop.
- If honey being harvested, put “wet” supers back on hives late in day to limit robbing.
- Can start late-season splits during last half of June; feed splits initially, even if there is nectar available.
- Continue measures to control small hive beetle population.
- Keep water for bees constantly available.



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

Beekeeping April 1919

*To the Disabled Soldiers, Sailors,
and Marines*

to aid them in choosing a vocation

[Opportunity Monograph](#)
Vocational Rehabilitation Series No. 37

“The object of the Federal Board for Vocational Education in issuing this monograph is to explain to you the business of beekeeping and to help you in reaching a conclusion as to whether or not you wish to undertake it. The Board will offer short, intensive courses of vocational training in bee culture to assist you in becoming an efficient and financially successful apiarist ...”



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