
From: Cook DuPage Beekeepers Association

Sent: Tuesday, July 4, 2017 9:29 AM

To: Neil

Subject: CDBA July 2017 Buzz Newsletter



The Buzz

Newsletter for the Cook DuPage Beekeepers Association

An Affiliate of the Illinois State Beekeepers Association

July 2017

Happy Independence Day

On behalf of the CDBA Board, have a safe and happy Fourth of July!



July Meeting Reminder

The next general meeting will be held on **Saturday, July 15, 2017** at Christ Lutheran Church of Clarendon Hills located on the northwest corner of Rte. 83 and 55th Street. The doors open at 6:30p.m. and the meeting begins at 7:00p.m. Please consider bringing a snack to share with fellow friends.

The First 21 Days of a Bee's Life

Watch this video from TED Talks to see an amazing and quick look at the first 21 days of a bee's life. We've heard that bees are disappearing. But what is making bee colonies so vulnerable? Photographer Anand Varma raised bees in his backyard — in front of a camera — to get an up close view. This project, for National Geographic, gives a lyrical glimpse into a bee hive — and reveals one of the biggest threats to its health, a mite that preys on baby bees in the first 21 days of life. Click [here](#).

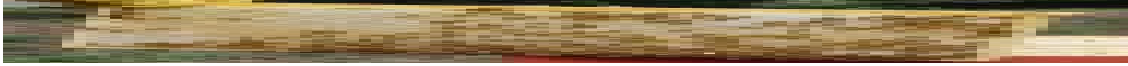


Chores of the Month: July

July provides the beekeeper with the first fruits of the bees' labor. While we are still in the summer nectar flow, the beekeeper should check to see if it's time to harvest some of the spring honey gathered and capped in the supers installed earlier. The first harvesting typically takes place after July 15th, which provides you with the opportunity to return the extracted frames to the hive to gather some of the remaining summer honey and prepare for the fall nectar flow that comes in September. In our area it's time to:

- Check the hive for congestion, and the quality of the queen. Is she producing a good number of eggs and laying them in an acceptable brood pattern? Are there a larger than normal number of drone cells? Are there supersedure cells or swarm cells being built?
- Check for mites and small hive beetles. They can hamper the colony, spread disease and annoy the bees. Don't use any chemical to treat for the problem, look to more organic ways to reduce these stressors in the colony.
- Be sure the bees are properly hydrated. While they spend a lot of time removing moisture from nectar, they also use a lot of water to cool their hives during periods of high daytime temperatures. If you are supplying water to the hive, make sure it remains full so your bees don't go looking for another source.
- Because of the heat and humidity, help your hives by ventilating them.
- Continue to add supers as needed. Make sure the bees are not overcrowded and have room to store the nectar and pollen they are collecting.
- If you do extract, don't be too greedy. While there is a nectar flow currently going on, it dries up in August and doesn't return until September. Make sure you leave the colony with some stores to help them make it through this dearth.
- Be sure to return the supers to the hive for cleaning out and refilling. Using frames previously drawn out will save your bees lots of time, energy and honey when compared to drawing wax on new foundation.
- Time the return of the freshly extracted frames for late in the day. There have been some cases where the smell of "wet" honey stimulates bees from surrounding colonies to rob the hive, and that can cause losses to all the hives.

- If robbing does occur, reduce or restrict the entrance for a couple of days. It will keep the alien bees out, and give the hive an opportunity to consolidate the “wet” honey and begin the capping process.



Exposure to neonic pesticides results in early death for honeybee workers and queens

Worker and queen honeybees exposed to field realistic levels of neonicotinoids die sooner, reducing the health of the entire colony, a new study led by York University biologists has found.

The researchers were also surprised to find that the neonicotinoid contaminated pollen collected by the honeybees came not from crops grown from neonicotinoid treated seeds, but plants growing in areas adjacent to those crops.

The role of neonicotinoid insecticides in honeybee colony deaths in Ontario and other parts of North America has been controversial. Some critics dismissed studies that found negative effects on worker behavior and colony health as unrealistic, suggesting bees were exposed to higher doses of pesticides for much longer than realistically found in the field.

"This debate about field realistic exposure has been going on for a long time," said York U biology Professor Amro Zayed of the Faculty of Science. "We needed season-long monitoring of neonics in bee colonies to determine the typical exposure scenarios that occur in the field, which we have now done.

The research team studied honey bee colonies in five apiaries close to corn grown from neonicotinoid-treated seeds and six apiaries that were far from agriculture. These colonies were extensively sampled and tested for pesticides from early May to September.

"Honeybee colonies near corn were exposed to neonicotinoids for three to four months. That is most of the active bee season in temperate North America," said York U PhD student Nadia Tsvetkov.

However, the neonicotinoid contaminated pollen the honeybees collected did not belong to corn or soybean plants -- the two primary crops grown from neonicotinoid treated seeds in Ontario and Quebec.

"This indicates that neonicotinoids, which are water soluble, spill over from agricultural fields into the surrounding environment, where they are taken up by other plants that are very attractive to bees," said Tsvetkov.

The researchers then chronically fed colonies with an artificial pollen supplement containing progressively smaller amounts of the most commonly used neonicotinoid in Ontario, clothianidin, over a 12-week period. The experiment mimicked what would occur naturally in the field.

The worker bees exposed to the treated pollen during the first nine days of life had their lifespans cut short by 23 per cent. Colonies that were exposed to treated pollen were unable to maintain a healthy laying queen, and had poor hygiene. "We found that realistic exposure to neonicotinoids near corn fields reduces the health of honey bee colonies," said Tsvetkov.

While chronic exposure to neonicotinoids has negative effects on honeybees, the researchers also discovered that a commonly used fungicide can interact with neonicotinoids to make them more dangerous.

"The effect of neonicotinoids on honey bees quickly turns from bad to worse when you add the fungicide boscalid to the mix," said Professor Valérie Fournier of Laval University who collaborated with the York U team. "The researchers found that field realistic levels of boscalid can make neonicotinoids twice as toxic to honeybees."

Read more: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/06/170629142954.htm>

York University. "Exposure to neonic pesticides results in early death for honeybee workers and queens." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 29 June 2017.



Mark your Calendar: Upcoming Events

- **7/15:** Beyond Basic Beekeeping Class, Garfield Park Conservatory
- **7/15:** United States Navy Band Concert, Catigny
- **7/22:** Honey Harvest, Lyman Woods
- **7/26 -7/30:** DuPage County Fair, Wheaton Fairgrounds
- **8/19:** Cook County First Ever Farm Crawl
- **Thru 9/4:** Butterflies and Blooms, Chicago Botanic Garden

Links:

[**Garfield Park Conservatory**](#)

[**Catigny**](#)

[**Lyman Woods**](#)

[**DuPage County Fair**](#)

[**Cook County Farm Crawl**](#)

[**Chicago Botanic Garden**](#)

Recipe: Howlin' Honey-Berry BBQ Sauce



INGREDIENTS

1 cup - water

4 teaspoons - cornstarch

Nonstick cooking spray

1 teaspoon - minced garlic

6 Tablespoons - green onion thinly sliced

6 teaspoons - fresh jalapeno peppers chopped and seeded

2/3 cup - honey

4 Tablespoons - seedless red raspberry preserves

1/2 cup - ketchup

3 Tablespoons - hot sauce

DIRECTIONS

In small bowl, whisk together water and cornstarch. Set aside. Lightly spray the bottom of a medium saucepan with non-stick spray. Over medium heat, sauté garlic, green onion and chopped jalapeño in the saucepan for 2 to 3 minutes until softened. Add honey, raspberry preserves, ketchup and hot sauce to pan and stir well to incorporate. Cook over medium heat for 1 to 3 minutes to infuse all flavors. Whisk in water/cornstarch mixture and continue to cook over medium heat just until sauce thickens from cornstarch, about 3

minutes. Remove from heat and allow sauce to cool slightly. Brush sauce onto one side of meat (chicken breasts, ribs and pork chops all work well) during the final 1 to 2 minutes of grilling. (Sauce will burn if left over heat too long.) Remove finished meat from grill and place onto serving platter. If desired, garnish top of meat with additional sliced green onion.

Yield: 2 cups



Click [here](#) to watch a how to video on extracting honey by David Burns of Long Lane Honey Bee Farms



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Upcoming Meetings

CDBA July Meeting, Saturday, July 15, 2017

Christ Lutheran Church of Clarendon Hills

Located at: 60 55th St. (At the northwest corner of Rte. 83(Kingery Hwy) and 55th St.)

CDBA August Meeting, Saturday, August 19, 2017

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