

**Buzzin' About**

**June 2019**

# The Miami Valley Beekeepers Association

## Newsletter

**Monday, June 3, 2019  
7:00 p.m.**

**Brukner Nature Center**

### **Agenda**

Club Updates

Membership Renewals

Bee Bucks

Etc

### **Guest Speaker:**

**Jeannie Saum, BEEpothecary**

### **Topic:**

**Value Added Hive Products and  
Beekeeping Small Business Information**

#### **MVBA CONTACTS**

##### **President**

Dan Richardson

##### **Vice President**

Chrystal Reese

##### **Secretary**

Katie Stefaniak

##### **Treasurer**

Brian Willis

##### **At Large**

Jeff Gehret

Michelle Zindorf

##### **Newsletter**

Terry Lieberman-Smith

##### **Apiary Managers**

Patrick Reese

Mike Smoot

#### **County Apiary Inspector Contact List**

Clark	Jim Lyons	614.806.9234
Champaign	Brad McClincy	614.668.5911
Darke	Steve Brumbaugh	937.423.5554
Miami	Dean Pond	937.473.5053
Montgomery	Steve Hollen	937.371.4071
Preble	Don Popp	513.523.0789



## President's Note

Welcome to June! The Journal of Economic Entomology surveyed 18,901 beekeepers about their Varroa techniques and their winter losses over a period of 4 years. It turns out that large scale beekeepers are more likely to use chemical methods than small scale beekeepers. Chemical methods of mite control are associated with lower winter losses than nonchemical methods. Also, the use of amitraz (sic) is associated with lower winter losses than other varroacides. What does this all mean in specific? I recommend you read the article and draw your best conclusions. They readily admit they are studying correlation, not causation. The article can be found at <https://academic.oup.com/jee/advance-article/doi/10.1093/jee/toz088/5462560#133740725>. Happy Reading!

National Pollinator Week is coming up June 17-23. We'll be celebrating by setting up an outreach table at the WPAFB Pollinator Expo on June 19. We show up at 9:00 AM to set up, the event starts at 10:00 and is over at 2:00. Anybody who would like to volunteer should let me know. Also, I understand we have some sort of MVBA banner. If someone knows where that is, please let me know. Brukner Nature Center will be having a Native Plant Sale on June 22 from 10am to 3pm. Please show your support.

As you receive this newsletter, it should be almost the end of May. Have you sent your apiary registration in? Its due on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Remember to mark your calendars, our honey harvest will be August 4. The OSBA fall conference will be November 2.

### MVBA Treasurer Report Brian Willis, Treasurer May 7, 2018

Checking Account		Total Holdings		Cash On Hand
Beginning Balance Checking Accont 1 May 2019	\$ 2,159.47	\$ 2,410.07	\$ 250.60	Beginning Balance 1 May 2019
<b>Income</b>				<b>Income during Meeting</b>
	\$ -			
checks collected at 1 Apr Mtg had not yet posted at time of report, anticipate +\$100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ 20.00	6 May Mtg
	\$ -		\$ -	
	\$ -			
Total for Deposit	\$ 100.00		\$ 20.00	Total meeting income (cash/checks recieved)
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$ 120.00</b>		
<b>Expenses</b>				<b>Expenses</b>
			\$ -	
May speaker check 1445	\$ (150.00)		\$ -	
	\$ -			
Total Check Withdrawals/Debits	\$ (150.00)		\$ -	Total Cashbox Withdaws
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$ (150.00)</b>		
Cash xfer (Deposit from Cashbox)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	Cash Xfer to lessen Cashbox contents
Ending Checking Balance 15 May 2019	\$ 2,109.47		\$ 270.60	Ending Cash Balance 15 May 2019
Monthly total Net change		\$ (30.00)		
Previous month Net funds		\$ 2,410.07		
Sum ballance should equal total holdings (Bank activity +/- Cash Activity)		\$ 2,380.07		this acts as a check to ensure activity = actual balances
<b>BA Total Holdings 25 Feb 2018(Checking balance + Cash Ballance)</b>		<b>\$ 2,380.07</b>		

## MVBA Meeting Minutes- May 6, 2019

### Katie Stefaniak, Secretary

Bruckner was without power so our meeting was held outdoors next to the building

7:02 President Dan Richardson calls meeting to order. Passed around thank-you cards from the 1000 Student strong group which several of our members had volunteered for

Oakwood Farmers market is looking for honey vendors

John Martinez Treasurers report

Patrick Reese : Apiary report: currently have 6 hives did a split tonight. Check out YouTube for videos of our apiary

7:11 Break

7:23 Dan Richardson; there are free copies of American Bee Journal donated by Tony Rimkus Patrick Reese; join Bruckner Nature Center; membership can be used at other facilities as well

#### Sustainable Beekeeping; Swarm Trapping Mark Beougher

- Assess the costs of sustainable beekeeping; cost of nucs, packages from the south, splits (less honey), swarm calls are unpredictable, mites
- Winter hearty mite resistant bees? Feral wild "free" bees; can be renewable when you take the

- "overflow" and leave the original hive
- Swarms build the best comb
  - Keys to a goo swarm trap: size (approximately 30 liters of volume), 10 frame deep or 5 over 5, small hold 1-1 1/2" diameter, green or brown in color, good bait, room for growth, water proof, low sunlight, level, fasten to a tree so its easy to take down, higher the better (8-15 feet high), smells like home (inside painted with and propolis), lemongrass or swarm commander lure
  - Put your swarm in woods with big timber, big hollow trees, near other bee trees (70-100 yards away)
  - Put your trap near water, your apiary, foraging fields
  - Close your swarm trap at night when you catch a swarm, wrap it and put it into their new home
  - Its lots of work and heavy lifting, check your traps often

## Book Buzz: At the Hive Entrance by H. Storch

[www.biobees.com/library/general\\_beekeeping/beekeeping\\_books\\_articles/At%20the%20Hive%20Entrance.pdf](http://www.biobees.com/library/general_beekeeping/beekeeping_books_articles/At%20the%20Hive%20Entrance.pdf)

This version of the book was published in English in 1985, but the original was published in 1957. Beekeepers are constantly told to monitor their colonies in order to stay current with the hive's overall health. Opening up the hive daily, while it can certainly provide the beekeeper with insight into the colony, is stressful on the bees and can delay the hive's brood rearing and foraging.

Professor Storch provides an easy to read guide on monitoring the hive, without the need to remove the telescoping lid during each visit. Each "chapter" covers different seasons, or



important timeframes, for the colony. He describes an activity that can be seen on or near the landing board, and then he defines the possible issues occurring within the hive.

Some of the commentary (use of Sulphur in the hive to cure Nosema) is a bit dated, but do not let that cause you to ignore the solid inspection analysis information within the 70 pages of this e-book.

In the "everything old is new again" in beekeeping, Professor Storch stresses the colony's need for water when raising brood, and even talks about using oil of thyme in the hive to mask odors. Definitely a useful (free) book for beekeepers at all stages of their adventure.

## SEASONAL RESOURCE PAGE

### Home-Made version of Honey Bee Healthy (adapted from Beesource)

5 cups water  
2 ½ pounds of sugar  
15 drops spearmint oil  
15 drops lemongrass oil

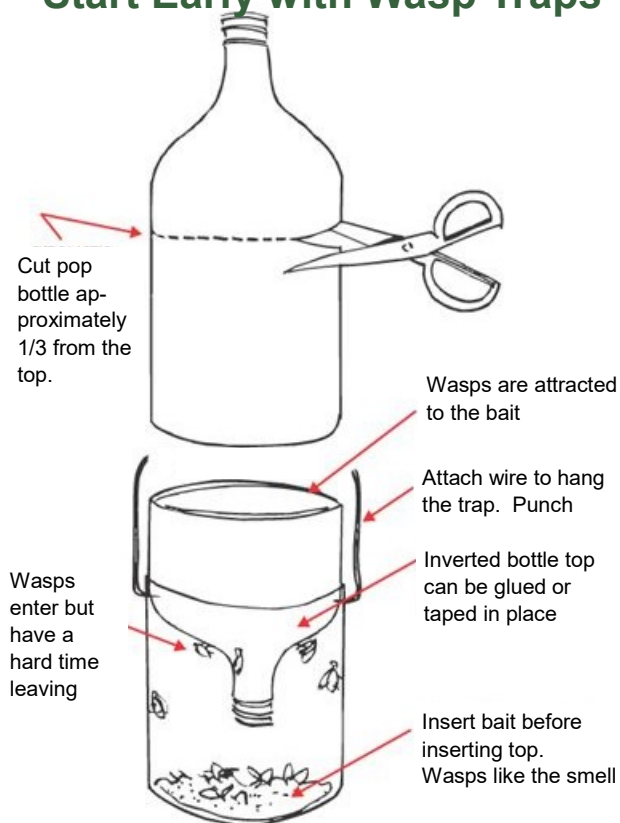
Heat the water to a boil. Remove from heat and stir in the sugar until dissolved. Once the sugar water has cooled, add the essential oils. Stir until everything is evenly distributed.

This solution should have a strong scent and not be left open around bees. Cool completely before using.

I store this concentrate in the fridge -label it so that your family doesn't drink it!!

Approx. dosage: 1 tsp per quart of 1:1 sugar syrup for feeding

### Protect your Fall Bees - Start Early with Wasp Traps



# Get Your Gardens Ready for Blooms

## Pollen Sources Walnut

**Nectar:** Ground-ivy, Sour Gum Tree, Buckthorns, Viburnums, Locust Trees, Tulip Poplar, Common Privet, Basswood, Linden, Candytuft, Lambs Ear, Vetch

**Nectar and Pollen:** Crabapple, Apple, Serviceberry, Shadbush, Hawthorns, Blackberries, Chives, Cotoneaster, Leopard's Bane, Redbud, Strawberry, White Sweet Clover,



Want to know what is blooming in your area? Know what's blooming and you can plan your honey crop (or if you need to feed your girls)

<http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/gdd/>

---

## The Basic Buzz in the Apiary

### June

- Continue to check for queen cells.
- Rear queens if you prefer your own stock.
- Check colonies for disease and monitor for mites.
- Remove comb honey supers when properly sealed.
- Provide plenty of super space.
- Control swarming.
- Capture swarms

### July

- Remove comb honey supers when properly sealed.
- Check for queen cells, especially in colonies used for queen rearing.
- Add sufficient super space (undersuper).
- Remove and extract early season honey crop.
- Freeze comb honey to prevent wax moth damage
- Prepare for the Fair!