

NORTHEASTERN INDIANA BEEKEEPER LETTER

JUNE



2017

NORTHEASTERN INDIANA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION - FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 15, 2017 at 7:00 PM

The meeting will be held at the **Classic Café, 4832 Hillegas Road, Fort Wayne IN 46818**

NEIBA June meeting Thursday, June 15, 7:00 P.M.

The meeting will be held at the

**Classic Café
4832 Hillegas Road
Fort Wayne IN 46818**

Danny Slabaugh of Slabaugh Apiaries and Beekeeping Supplies will be the Guest speaker at our June meeting. His presentation will be on Queen Rearing. Danny supplied the following information:

"I have been beekeeping for 25 - 30 years and I am a self-sustained beekeeper by raising my own stock. I graft from overwintered hives and I raise my own queens."

Along with raising queens for his own use, he also sells queens. If you have any thoughts of raising your own queens, you won't want to miss this presentation.

Summer

The June meeting will be our last meeting until the September 28th meeting. Remember, due to a scheduling conflict, the September meeting had to be moved from the third Thursday to the fourth Thursday which is the 28th.

Have a great summer

Election

Bridgette McCue has notified the leadership that she will be unable to complete the year as NEIBA secretary due to personal time constraints. Bridgette has served as NEIBA secretary since 2014. We thank Bridgette for her service to our organization.

To fill the secretary position for the remainder of the year, an election will be held at the June meeting. Valorie Campbell and Gene Harding will be running for the position.

Welcome

The Northeastern Indiana Beekeepers Association welcomes new members:

Trent Norton

Orland, IN

Steve & Elit Hoover

Roanoke, IN

Honey Extractor

The bees are working hard and it will be time to extract honey before you know it. The NEIBA has a honey extractor, cappings tub, and uncapping knife for use by NEIBA members. The use of this equipment is free to NEIBA members; however, a small deposit will be required. To schedule a time to use this equipment, contact: **Ted Braun** at (260) 625-3477

Secretary Notes for Field Day, 13 May, 2017

Author: Gene Harding

This past field day began at 8:30 am with a small donut and coffee social until roughly 9:00. By the time the presentation began, there were around 100 members present. Prior to introducing the guest speaker, Chris LaSalle reminded the members of the following:

1. Dues still need to be paid by those owing.
2. The club still needs a member to volunteer to record all meetings.
3. Volunteers for the Indiana State Fair need to contact Tony Rekeweg.
4. Certain individuals of the club, James Wheeler, Doug Cheek, are selling packages.
5. James Wheeler and James Ringwald were the hosts of Saturday's events.

Kathleen Prough, the Indiana Chief Apiary inspector of the IDNR, conducted the presentation. Prough is a part of the Division of Entomology and Pathology. Her contact information will be listed below. The focus of her presentation was over the diseases that plague beekeepers in Indiana. She listed two articles beekeepers can access for further information besides the handouts.

<https://articles.extension.org/pages/25556/testing-for-nosema-spores>

<https://www.beelab.umn.edu/resources-beekeepers/free-bee-information>

Following the presentation, lunch was served and Ms. Prough fielded questions by individuals. When lunch was finished, all members who wished to participate in the beehive inspection and techniques course proceeded outside to do so. Members broke out into four sessions. The focus of the four groups was varroa inspection, finding the queen, identifying healthy brood, and making splits.

Kathleen M. Prough - Chief Apiary Inspector

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Entomology & Plant Pathology
402 West Washington Street, Room W-290
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739

Telephone (317) 232-4123
Cell phone (317) 504-6406
Facsimile (317) 232-2649
e-mail: KPrough@dnr.IN.gov

Need Help

We are still in need of someone to make video recordings of our meetings. If you would like to volunteer or have questions on what is involved in doing this, contact:

Linda Jones at neibebees@gmail.com



Beekeeping Supplies

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8:00 AM – Noon (Saturday)

Directions to location: St Rd 1 to 900 N
head East 4.25 miles on south side of the road

Blooms for Bees Native Plant Sale

Sunday June 18, 2017 10am-5pm

Zoo Education Center
(previously the Diehm Museum)

This event kicks off National Pollinator Week, which is June 19-25, 2017. National Pollinator Week is a time to celebrate pollinators and spread the word about what you can do to protect them! One of the best ways to help bees, butterflies, and birds is to plant food for them. These native plants require less watering and care, don't require pesticide treatments, come back year after year, are a beautiful addition to your landscape, and provide food and shelter for pollinators.

Plus, all of the proceeds from this sale will go to the Pollinator Partnership - an organization whose mission is to help people protect pollinators to ensure healthy ecosystems and food security.

Plants are provided by Riverview Native Nursery, a wonderful local DNR licensed nursery. All plants are bee-safe, having never been treated with neonicotinoids. It's a win-win for you and the pollinators!

Join us at 2pm to make and take home a native bee house! Supplies limited, so come early! Take a selfie dressed as a bee or beekeeper to post on your social media, and show your support for pollinators!

NEIBA Field Day

The NEIBA Field Day was held on Saturday, May 13 at Buskirk Engineering near Ossian, IN. Over 100 people were in attendance. We thank James Ringswald, who, along with the assistance of James Wheeler, was responsible for the planning and execution of Field Day. Their efforts were responsible for the great success of our Field Day. Thanks to Kathleen Prough, Indiana Chief Apiary Inspector, for her presentation on honeybee pests and diseases. Thanks also to Terry Clancy for the great meal, Dean Gerber who took reservations and handled the money and helped with the set up and clean up, and to Duane and Tony Rekeweg who brought hives and gave demonstrations along with Brian Smith. Thanks to everyone who helped make this an educational and fun day.

The Beekeepers of Indiana Purdue Field Day 2017

June 17, 2017 is our next beekeeping event for The Beekeepers of Indiana. We will be hosted at the Purdue Apiary by Dr. Greg Hunt and Krispn Given. If you've never attended this event, you are in for a great day of outdoor fun. Along with a super guest speaker, Dr. Debbie Delaney, we have planned several breakout sessions for beginners, intermediate and advanced. This is around live bees, so bring whatever protective clothing you're comfortable with.

The Purdue Apiary is located at
2255 SR 26, West Lafayette, IN

Folder pickup starts at 7:00 a.m. (EST), with social hour between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and the program concluding at 4:00 p.m.

For more information or to register, go to The Beekeepers of Indiana website at www.indianabeekeeper.com.

At the website, you can download a form if you would like to register by mail or you can register and pay online.

You can also view a tentative schedule on the website.

The TBoI meetings are a wealth of beekeeping information and a great opportunity to get acquainted with beekeepers from across Indiana as well as surrounding states.

Hives Needed

Maraiah Russell has a list of several people who would like to have bees on their property. If you are looking for places to expand your hives, you can contact her.

Maraiah Russell (260) 918-0802
russellapiaries@gmail.com

Indiana State Fair TBoI Honey Booth

If you would like to work at The Beekeepers of Indiana honey booth at the Indiana State Fair, contact Tony Rekeweg at (260) 728-2613 or by email at tonyrekeweg@gmail.com

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Sun 11am-4pm



Heartland Apicultural Society Conference
July 13-15
The University of Southern Indiana
Evansville, Indiana

The Heartland Apicultural Society will hold its annual conference July 13-15, 2017 at The University of Southern Indiana in Evansville. Early registration is now open. You can register online or download a registration form and mail it in. You can also find information on lodging and meals for the conference on the HAS website.

A tentative schedule is taking shape and may be viewed on the HAS website. The HAS conference features some of the best and most knowledgeable speakers in beekeeping. The numerous main and breakout sessions cover many facets of beekeeping. Listed below are session topics and presenters currently listed on the 2017 Conference schedule on the HAS website.

Getting Started, Beekeeping 101, Building Boxes & Frames, Honey Harvest - Jake Osborne/ Beginner Seasonal Management - Larry Kemerly / Beginning Hive Inspection, Signs in the Hive You May Miss - Kathleen Prough / Queen and Problems - Stu Jacobson / Bee Behavior - Dr. Zachary Huang / Checking Mite Counts - Sophie Lohrman / Oxalic Acid Demo, Removing bee Cutouts & Trapouts - Andy Lohrman / Hive Inspection, Taking Bees to Almonds, Tips to enter Honey Shows - Dave Shenefield / Sustainable Beekeeping - Earl Hoffman / Queen Rearing for the Backyard Beekeeper, Making Nucs - Kent Williams / Honey Plants - Roy Ballard / Mites & Treatment, Making Nucs & Splits to Sell - Dwight Wells / Native Pollinators - John Skinner / Top Bar Hives, Top Bar Hive Inspection - Gregg Roudebush / Seasonal Management, Drones, Good or Bad Queen - Dr. Larry Connor / Synergistic Effect of Varroa with Pesticides, Impact of Neonicotinoid Insecticides on Honey Bees - Nuria Morfin / Dead outs - Judge Dan O'Hanlon / Making Beeswax Soaps - Debbie Seib / Creating your own pesticide-free pollinator habitat, Pesticides wintering in your hives - Michele Colopy / Bee Behavior - Dr. Zachary Huang / Q&A - Jerry Hayes / Wax Comb the Colony's Skeleton, Indicators of a Healthy Hive - Jim Tew / Bee Informed Partnership, Adapting your queen and nuc production to your climate - Mike Willson / Bee Virus, Viral Transmission, Honey Bee Immune System - Hongmei Li-Byarlay / Writing Grants - Tammy Horn-Potter / Apitherapy - Shellie Kemerly / Diagnosis for nosema and tracheal mites – bring a bee sample, Honey bee anatomy – the inside story - Dr. Tom Webster / Discussion of queen rearing methods - Dr. Greg Hunt / Drone and queen mating biology, Instrumental Insemination - Krispn Given / Preparing cell starter colonies, Preparing swarm box for grafting, Grafting, Checking queen cells for acceptance - Mike Wilson, Krispn Given and Dr. Greg Hunt /

To get more information about the conference as it becomes available, visit the HAS website at www.heartlandbees.org . If you would like to know more about HAS, talk with NEIBA member Duane Rekeweg.

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Indiana Honey Production Up 36 Percent

Indiana honey production for 2016 totaled 434 thousand pounds, up 36 percent from 2015. This estimate included honey from producers with 5 or more colonies. Yields from Indiana's 7,000 honey producing colonies averaged 62 pounds in 2016, compared with 53 pounds the previous year. Indiana honey price averaged \$3.36 per pound, up 13 cents per pound from last year. Value of production totaled \$1.46 million, up 42 percent from 2015. Honey stocks were 208 thousand pounds, up 26 percent from 2015.

Nationally, honey production in 2016 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 162 million pounds, up 3 percent from 2015. There were 2.78 million colonies from which honey was harvested in 2016, up 4 percent from 2015. Yield of honey harvested per colony averaged 58.3 pounds, down 1 percent from the 58.9 pounds in 2015. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, at the United States level yield per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 41.3 million pounds on December 15, 2016, down 2 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

Honey prices decreased during 2016 to 207.5 cents per pound, down slightly from 208.3 cents per pound in 2015. United States and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through cooperatives, private, and retail channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2015 crop reflect honey sold in 2015 and 2016. Some 2015 honey was sold in 2016, which caused some revisions to the 2015 honey prices. Price data was not collected for operations with less than five colonies.

Honey: Production and Value, Indiana, 2012-2016 ¹

Year	Honey producing colonies	Honey				
		Yield per colony	Production	Average price per pound	Value of production	Stocks Dec. 15 ²
	Thousands	Pounds	1,000 pounds	Cents	1,000 dollars	1,000 pounds
2012	8	59	472	254	1,199	203
2013	6	47	282	277	781	82
2014	5	62	310	319	989	115
2015	6	53	318	323	1,027	165
2016	7	62	434	336	1,458	208

¹ Includes only producers with five colonies or more.

² Stocks held by producers.

United States Honey Production Up 3 Percent for Operations with Five or More Colonies in 2016

United States honey production in 2016 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 162 million pounds, up 3 percent from 2015. There were 2.78 million colonies from which honey was harvested in 2016, up 4 percent from 2015. Yield of honey harvested per colony averaged 58.3 pounds, down 1 percent from the 58.9 pounds in 2015. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, at the United States level yield per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 41.3 million pounds on December 15, 2016, down 2 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price, and Value - States and United States: 2016

[Operations with 5 or more colonies that also qualify as a farm. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State]

State	Honey producing colonies 1/	Yield per colony	Production	Stocks December 15 2/	Average price per pound 3/	Value of production 4/
	1,000	pounds	----- 1,000 pounds-----		cents	1,000 dollars
Illinois	10	48	480	77	539	2,587
Indiana	7	62	434	208	336	1,458
Kentucky	5	46	230	48	402	925
Michigan	89	60	5340	1,709	225	12,015
Ohio	15	79	1185	664	384	4,550
United States 6/ 7/	2,775	58.3	161,882	41,253	207.5	335,905

1/ Honey producing colonies are the maximum number of colonies from which honey was harvested during the year. It is possible to harvest honey from colonies which did not survive the entire year.

2/ Stocks held by producers.

3/ Average price per pound based on expanded sales.

4/ Value of production is equal to production multiplied by average price per pound.

6/ Due to rounding, total colonies multiplied by total yield may not exactly equal production.

7/ United States value of production will not equal summation of States.



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NEIBA Mentor List

The NEIBA Mentor List is a list of members who have volunteered to make themselves available to other, less experienced, beekeepers to help them out when they have questions or problems. You can find the list of mentors on the NEIBA homepage at www.neiba.info or, if you don't have access to the internet, you can call Harry Jones at 715-1453 or 637-1453.

If you are a beekeeper who has some experience and would be willing to mentor newer members, you can have your name added to the mentor list by contacting Harry.

Honey and Mint Sweet Tea Granita

Ingredients

3 cups - water
½ cup - packed mint leaves
2 - black tea bags
¼ cup - honey

Directions

Bring water to a boil; place mint and tea bags into a large pitcher or bowl. Pour boiling water carefully over mint and tea bags; steep, covered, for 5 minutes. Strain to remove mint and discard tea bags. Stir in honey. Cool slightly. Pour tea mixture into an 8-by-8-inch metal pan. Cover and place pan in freezer for 1 hour. Remove pan from freezer and scrape mixture with a fork, crushing any lumps. Freeze an additional 20 minutes; remove and scrape. Repeat every 20 minutes until mixture is fluffy.

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For more recipes go to www.honey.com

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NORTHEASTERN INDIANA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

(If you are renewing your membership and your information has not changed, just fill in your name)

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Dues are \$15 per year

Please check one: I am renewing my membership _____

I am a new member _____

Newsletter delivery preference: Email _____ Paper copy _____ Both _____

Make all checks payable to NEIBA, send to:

Dean Gerber, 1127 S 700 W – 1, Bluffton, IN 46714

NEIBA OFFICERS

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clasalle@orthone.com
(260) 615-3647

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Submit news items to the Editor by the first of the month.

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Northeastern Indiana Beekeeper Letter
Dean Gerber, Treasurer
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