



nnjbees.org

September 2014



NORTHEAST NEW JERSEY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY

A division of New Jersey Beekeepers Association

President	Frank Mortimer	201-417-7309	3 rd V. Pres.	Bob Jenkins	201-218-6537
V. President	Rich Schluger	201-693-6949	Secretary	Ed Vaeth	908-283-1925
2 nd V. Pres.	Bobby Slanzi	845-304-4333	Treasurer	Karl Schoenknecht	201-891-0947

Meeting on: **Friday, September 19th at 7:30 PM**, Location: **Ramapo College of NJ, 505 Ramapo Valley Rd., Mahwah, NJ 07430**



Bee Enthusiasts & Bee Curious always welcome!



Weather permitting.



On September 19th 2014 @ 7:30PM the Northeast New Jersey Beekeepers Association is proud to present: The Second Annual Honey Cup Competition.

The rules are posted here:

All members of the Northeast NJ Beekeepers are invited to participate in the competition. Everyone who attends, including the general public, will vote for their favorite honey. Prizes will be awarded for the Champion, 2nd, & 3rd places.

1) Any member who wants to participate can enter one jar of honey. (Only one jar per household is permitted.) A full jar of honey is not required, as the judging will be done on taste.

2) All entries will be transferred to different matching bottles and numbered, so your entry can be delivered in any type of jar or container. We will number the jars, so no one who votes will know whose honey is whose.

3) Everyone who attends the meeting will get to vote for their favorite honey. One person = one vote.

4) All jars of honey must be submitted to Rich or Frank before 7:15 pm September 19th Each jar must be labeled with your name and phone number. (You can also submit your honey prior to the 19th to Rich or Frank.)

We also have a "Best Label" contest! Prizes will be awarded for the 1st, 2nd & 3rd places.

1) Any member who wants to participate can enter one label. (One label per household is permitted.)

2) Please bring your label with the backing intact. We will affix the labels to poster boards.

3) Labels cannot be on bottles.

4) Everyone who attends the meeting will get to vote for their favorite label. One person = one vote.

We will have refreshments to help cleanse one's palette between tastings, and to add to the evening's festivities. We encourage everyone to invite friends, families, neighbors, the bee-curious and honey fanatics to September's meeting. Finally, we are expecting a big turnout, and we encourage each and every member to bring any honey you would like to sell or swap.

Message from the President:

Hello Northeast NJ Beekeepers!

September is such a good month to be a beekeepers in Northeast NJ! On the 19th, we will be having our second annual Honey Cup, and I hope that each and every member will be part of the festivities. More importantly, if you are proud of the honey you harvested this year, then the Honey Cup is the place to prove your honey is the best-tasting honey! And, if you have an extra-clever label, make sure to enter it in our label contest. In addition to the honey tasting competition, the Honey Cup is a celebration of our hobby and all the work we do to keep our bees alive and well. It is also a way to celebrate success, as having a honey harvest is a golden, sweet, and sticky measure of success! Many non-beekeepers do not understand why we "play with bees" but everyone understands and enjoys the sweet taste of honey! So, please bring your family and friends to our Honey Cup, have them enjoy, and let them taste for themselves that not all honey is created equal!

Now, if you did not get a honey harvest this year, then I would hope that you still attend. Take the time to talk with the other beekeepers and find out what they did differently that might have been the "secret" to their sweet success. The great thing about our hobby is that no matter how much you know, there is always plenty more to learn. If you are new to beekeeping, or just starting out, the Honey Cup will be a good chance for you learn about all the different types of extractors, bottles, buckets, and labels that exist. You will also find out how much work, before the honey season, the really successful beekeepers put into their hives. The work for next year's honey crop has already started. Treating for mites in July and August help ensure your bees are strong going into colder weather. Feeding your hives will provide your bees with enough stores to get them through the winter. It is always amazing how quickly a hive can empty a feeder, so make sure you are checking your feeders every few days and keeping them full. The time you put in now will pay dividends in a sweet 2015 honey harvest.

Since I am a HUGE hockey fan, (Let's Go Rangers!), I will use hockey to make my point. The honey season, or nectar flow is a lot like the playoffs. It's when everyone is really paying attention and excited about what's going on. But, in order to make it to the playoffs, you have to have a good regular season, and if you want a good regular season, then you have to train in the off-season. When we talk about treating for mites so that you can have a good honey harvest, it's the same as training in the off-season. You have to be diligent because it is the foundation for everything that will follow. Feeding, and general care of your bees is like the regular season, (July-March.) You have to keep your bees healthy, safe and productive during the rest of the year so each colony can perform at

its best for the playoffs nectar flow. And finally, if you have worked hard, done what you were supposed to do when you are supposed to do it, Mother Nature was on your side, and with a little bit of luck, congratulations, you have made it to the finals! In hockey, they have the Stanley Cup, and in Beekeeping we have something much sweeter, something we have all worked for longer than your average hockey season, something in Northeast NJ we proudly call, the Honey Cup!

I look forward to seeing each and every one of you on the 19th!

Bee well,

Frank Mortimer

President, Northeast NJ Beekeepers



Over 1,225 Strong!!!

We quickly blew through the 1000 member milestone and are, as of this writing 1,194 members strong, and growing on our Facebook page! Be sure check it out. See the great pics and stories posted by the Facebook fans we have at our page.

Remember: <http://www.nnjbees.org> is your website! Check that site for everything Northeast New Jersey Beekeeping!



Mary Ann's Gourmet Market
 1011 MacArthur Blvd.
 Mahwah, NJ 07430
 201-962-8611
www.maryannsgourmetmarket.com

Next Month

In October, we will be discussing winter prep as our BeeTalk© Series returns. Bring your questions, enthusiasm and learn from the best (Other NEBA beekeepers). See you then.

All Beekeepers Receive 10% Off!

❖ Volunteers ❖	
Judy and Terry Regan	Refreshments – Cakes, cookies, brownies, tea, etc
Tom Miller	Refreshments – Cakes, cookies, brownies, tea, etc
Rachel Avenia-Prol	Web site creation and training: www.nnjbees.org
Jennifer Phillips	Refreshments – Cakes, cookies and other treats.
John Gaut	NJBA Constitution Committee.
Michael Miller	Apparel production, beekeeping instructor
Hugh Knowlton	Workshop/Event coordinator and presenter
Rob & Gloria Leustek	Legislative Liaisons



August Hive Inspections for NEBA Members by Tim Schuler

Here is a report of the recent inspections by Tim of our member's hives. Another great service brought to you by the Northeast New Jersey Beekeepers Association.

Northeast New Jersey Beekeepers Hive Inspections

Tim Schuler, our State Apiarist inspected 13 Apiaries [over 40 hives] for the members of the Northeast Branch on August 28th and 29th. Tim was assisted by Hugh Knowlton on Thursday and John Gaut on Thursday and Friday. Hugh made the arrangements with all the beekeepers, meeting the challenges of everyone's schedule. Tim was able to be very efficient and effective in the time he had in the Northeast thanks to Hugh's planning.

No European Foul Brood or American Foul Brood was found. Excellent news!

Many colonies were doing well. Some needed help from their beekeepers including feeding and treatment for mites.

Some colonies had good mite control with less than 1 mite per 100 bees. Tim works with all the New Jersey beekeepers (large and small). He fully understands the benefits of treating for mites and which treatments are effective. Without treatment the colony will dwindle and slowly die even though the bees have enough food (honey and pollen) and were not exposed to pesticides. Besides sucking the life out of the bee, the mites infect the bees with viruses (including deformed wing virus). ApiVar and Mite Away Quick Strips were the two treatments in our "beekeeping toolbox" that Tim recommended to a few beekeepers during the inspections.

The Alcohol Wash method was used to measure mites. Alcohol wash is fast and accurate; more accurate than the sugar roll. Measuring mites after treatment is very important to verify the treatment brought the mites to below 1 per 100 bees. The bees collected for the mite samples were also sent to the laboratory to test for Nosema. The Nosema results will be emailed to each beekeeper.

Tim is recommending a threshold of less than 1 mite per hundred bees. If the sample was above 1/100, he recommended a follow-up treatment. For example there was one hive that was still at 1.7 mites per 100 bees after a 42 day treatment with ApiVar. Tim recommended a half treatment (one strip) of MAQS. His recommendation was Right On! After 24 hours with a MAQS, the mite drop was

85, and after 48 hours there was another 30 mites! That colony now has a much better chance to make it through the winter.

Tim really wants every beekeeper to be successful. He provided accurate, up-to-date information and recommendations about mite treatments, feeding and other issues. Following his recommendations will help the colonies survive.

The Northeast Branch and its members were fortunate to have Tim's time for a couple of days. The Northeast Branch is also fortunate to have leaders and volunteers to make the inspections happen. Thanks to everyone that made the inspections successful.



You're Invited!!!

Northeast NJ Honey Tasting Competition

Friday, September 19th, 7:30pm

Ramapo College, Mahwah, NJ

Anisfield School of Business, Room 135S



The Northeast New Jersey Beekeepers

Proudly present the 2nd annual Northeast NJ Honey Tasting competition on Friday, September 19th, at Ramapo College, 505 Ramapo Valley Road Mahwah, NJ in the Anisfield School of Business, Room 135S. starting at 7:30 pm.

Everyone who attends will get to taste different local honeys and cast a vote for the honey they think should be the 2014 Honey Cup Champion.

Admission is free, and everyone is welcome!