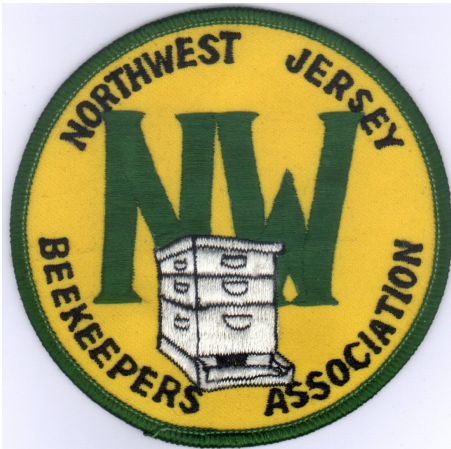




NORTHWEST NEW JERSEY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

March-April Newsletter
March 17, 2008



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Greetings fellow beekeepers!

As listed in our last newsletter, our Winter Meeting consisted of an informational session on our seasonal management and of course a hands on working tutorial courtesy of our State Apiarist Tim Schuler. We're sorry for those who couldn't attend because there is an active epizootic of foulbrood on-going in the State. We will include a Foul Brood fact sheet with this edition of the newsletter courtesy of the Department of Agriculture. According to Tim, foul brood is in about five percent of the hives he investigated. Tim discussed and we all had an opportunity to see what an infection looks like, and what to

do about it. Please refer to the enclosure. I hoped more members would have showed up to the meeting, but maybe more will be able to attend the Chapter Spring Meeting, which now will occur at Echo Hill because we be constructing new trainer hives for the club site, which is real close to Echo Hill. We moved the location of the meeting for this reason at the April. We will install packaged bees at our club site, and begin Spring Management of a New Colony. I'd like to thank the members who were able to attend our Winter Meeting and Tim Schuler for a great presentation. We all need to use Tim to keep his position open with the state and monitor our bees. Thanks all who helped with the meeting and looking forward to seeing you all on April 19th at Echo Hill. - John

Spring Meeting State Beekeepers

We will again host the Spring Meeting on June 7th at Rutgers Snyder Research Farm., Pittstown, NJ. The topic will be a rather marvelous coauthored update on CCD by Diana Cox-Foster, PHD, Penn State University & Dennis Van Englesdorp of The Pennsylvania Dept of Agriculture on 'The Role of Pathogens in CCD and the Impact of Migration and Other Stressors on Bees'. The presentation will be presented by Diana Cox-Foster this time because unfortunately,

Dennis will not be able to attend our gathering. Maryann Frazier will do a presentation on the 'Role of Pesticides on CCD and overall concerns impacting Honeybee Health'. We will have a short executive meeting in the morning between 09:30 & 10:00. Big John will do barbeque while we are conducting our meeting. Is there anyone who has a tripod and some real good home video experience? Let us know. We want to video these presentations to show at the Bee booths at the Fairs in summer.

Spring Meeting NW Chapter Beekeepers:

Northwest Chapter Spring Meeting will be Saturday, April 19th at Echo Hill Park. This meeting will be a training mission for new members. We will be establishing 3 new trainer hives. The boxes and frames will be assembled before the meeting by our training officers. New comers will assemble new boxes, frames, bottom boards, notch inner lids to replace what has been supplied new, as training materials to expedite the training session. There will be senior members for people who have questions. Bring your own lunch and non-alcoholic beverages. We will have access to Echo Hill. Meeting starts at 1000 Hours and finishes with the establishment of the training hives and their first feeding.

Treasurer's Remarks

All those who have not paid their dues should try to get them into Karin Weinberg our Treasurer. Karin's contact information is on the back page.

Seasonal Management

February 15 to March 15

1. Check colonies for signs of viability
2. Check colonies for food. Add sugar to the top as necessary. Do not restrict air flow to vent notch. As water of respiration wets the sugar, the bees will consume it.
3. Check for water condensation on top of the inner lid. Remove water using a towel. Water need to be removed to prevent hypothermia. Increase the ventilation somewhat and check that water stays gone. This water is coming from the hives as they respire and this water condenses under the outer lid and collects on the inner one.
4. Check entrance guards to make sure they are in proper position.-usually at the intermediate sized hive entrance
5. Check for signs of brood rearing.
6. Spring Medication
Terramycin: Dust every week for 3 weeks starting March 15 if foul-brood was observed in the yard the previous year.

Apiguard: Follow the instructions listed.

March 15 to April 30

1. Check colony for a good laying queen.
2. Check colony for signs of disease.
3. Clean the bottom board
4. Remove the entrance guard once it is consistently 55 degrees outside.
5. Check and replace defective comb/wooden

ware. 6. Remove the burr comb and dispose of it. Burr comb cannot be left around because it might be a source of foul brood.

7. Reverse the boxes by the end of March.

8. Make splits and nucleus colonies for swarm control. This can be only accomplished if the hive is monitored for queens. An easy split would use existing queens. This would not require a purchase of new queens but it must the split must be timed properly so that only one queen are at most two queens emerge. This will maximize productivity for the split.

9. Flip the inner cover. The deep side goes down in the spring,

10. Time medication such that all meds are off the hives by April.

Try to start all medications to hives around March 15 so that they can be off by the end of the 1st week April. This means now!

State Calendar:

June 7, 2008: NJBA Spring Meeting, [Snyder Research and Extension Farm](#), Pittstown, NJ. **NEW**

Northwest Calendar:

April 19th, 2008 Hive construction and the installation of packaged Bees. **Echo-Hill: 1000 till 1400 hrs.**

July 27 to August 2, 2008: Warren County Farmer's Fair, Harmony Township

August, 2008: Summer meeting. Echo Hill, details to follow, details to follow.

August, 2008: Hunterdon County 4H and

Agricultural Fair, details to follow.

September, 2008: Fall meeting. Echo Hill Park, details to follow.

December, 2008: Annual Christmas party and Year End Meeting Echo Hill Park, details to follow.

REMINDER

Dues for the year 2008 were due on January 1, 2008. We still have members who have not paid 2008 dues. Please remit *ASAP* or you will be removed from both the States' and our mailing list. Please send your payment to: Karin Weinberg, 337 Tunnel Road, Asbury NJ 08802. Thanks!

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