

Bee Line

www.cherokeebeeclub.com

July-Aug 2007

The Presidents' Corner

by Randy Tudor

Since our July meeting topic is "*Medication and Late Summer Hive Inspections*", I thought it would be good to share some words of advice on the subject from our recent past President Jim Driggers. *Thanks Jim!*

Now is the time that the colonies get ravaged by increasing mite (and beetle) populations. The mite populations usually peak this time of year and if you are not trying to get Sourwood honey, now is a good time to treat. Monitor your mite populations using any of several counting methods such as ether roll, sugar shake, or sticky board. If populations are near threshold, treat with a variety of methods. There is the old standard Apistan strip, but many mite populations are resistant. Then there is the Checkmite strip (which I hate) which has shown some resistance as well. My favorite is Apilife Var or Apigard. Both are thymol treatments made up of natural essential oils, are easy to use and effective. Also there are other treatments such as sucroside, sugar shake, and Formic Acid. Sucroside and the sugar shake methods are labor intensive, but for someone with a few colonies, it's not so bad.

Continued...

It's hard for me with 90 colonies however. I would not recommend Formic Acid however, because the label calls for the treatment to be applied when daytime highs are below 85 degrees! This presents a problem for us in that when our mite populations are highest, the daytime temps are well above 85. Save that one for a final fall treatment or spring treatment if required. With any treatment, I cannot over emphasize **No Consumable Honey Supers are on the Colony.**

Yes, that means pull your honey! If it is not quite ready or you want to not contaminate the combs, store it in the garage or better yet, the freezer to prevent unwanted critters like wax moths and hive beetles from taking over. Also, Please, Please Follow Label Directions and avoid home remedies. This is how the mites develop resistance. We've only got a few treatments left and registrations of new treatments are almost impossible these days.

See You at the next Meeting....July 19th

2007 Calendar of CBC Meetings
(tentative)

July 19 Medications and Late Summer Hive Inspections
Trina Barron

August 16 Preparing for Honey Show & Honey Tasting
Joe Schepers

September 20 Fall Preparations & Wintering Over
Bill Posey & Jerry Floyd

October 18 Observation Hives
Bud Champlin & Trina Barron

*November 16 Holiday Dinner

December No Meeting - Happy Holidays!

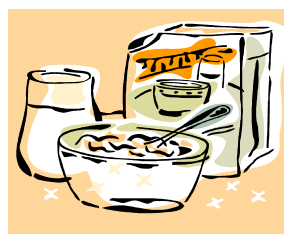
Regular meetings held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM in the Jury Assembly Room of the Cherokee County Justice Ctr. in Canton, except those noted with *.

Quote of the Month:

A Sweet Harvest

The oldest honey I have seen is in the Agricultural Museum at Dokki in Egypt, where two honey pots from New Kingdom tombs (c.1400 B.C.) still have their contents in them. - Eva Crane

Recipe Corner



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at reduced rates (25% off),
as Association Members through the club.



Kelly's Brood Foundation, #120.
Dadant 4 frame motorized Extractor.
Contact Bill Posey @770-386-3311 or billsbeefarm@yahoo.com.

Remember to support your local farmers markets.

Trina and Suzanne will be representing the club for the Cherokee County Summer Reading Program at the Ball Ground Public Library. If you are interested in participating in additional volunteer opportunities, please contact Trina. Your assistance is appreciated!!!

Puppy Chow Snack Mix

- 9 Cups Chex Cereal*
- 1/4 Cup Margarine*
- 1/3 Cup Honey*
- 1/2 Cup Peanut Butter*
- 1 Cup Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips*
- 1 Tsp Vanilla*
- 2 Cups Powdered Sugar*

Measure out cereal and set aside. Combine chocolate chips, peanut butter, margarine, and honey. Microwave for 1 1/2 minutes or until smooth. Stir well after one minute. Stir in vanilla. Pour over cereal and stir until evenly coated. Pour coated mixture and powdered sugar into an air tight bag. Shake until all pieces are coated. Spread mixture on waxed paper to cool and harden.

(The recipe and these tasty treats were provided by Janie Hitchcock at the February Bee-School.)

Minutes of 5-19-07 CBC Meeting

Attendance

Meeting began @ 6:30PM with Randy Tudor presiding

Secretary's Report

Minutes approved as presented in the beeline

Treasurer's Report

Worth Green reported that the treasury has a balance of \$1,794.06 with it going to \$1,814.06 after a twenty dollar check was recently deposited.

Worth also discussed field trip expected expenses of approximately \$100 for the rental of Chiquita Berry's farm and an additional \$65 for a port-a-john rental.

New Business

Ryan Sarks reported on the search for a new meeting location regarding locations and fees required

Randy and Bill noted that we should invite the Bartow Beekeepers Club to attend the field trip.

There was a motion and a second to invite Keith Delaplane to host a program later this year.

Old Business

Bud Champlin mentioned that the Festival of the Arts is this weekend...volunteers are needed

The business meeting closing @ 6:47PM

Program

Randy Tudor & Bill Posey started off telling about selling your extra honey and what to do with it!

They mentioned that all labels should show Net Weight in ounces (oz) and grams (g). This is a requirement from the Department of Agriculture for products to be sold to the public.

The Cherokee Beekeepers Club meeting ended @ 7:47PM

NO Minutes from June Picnic... just a few pictures !

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Health Matters!

Beat nagging allergies and sinus problems-- just by minding your own beeswax

By Jonathan V. Wright, M.D.
(Reprinted From "Nutrition and Healing")

It's not everyday you see nuns in full religious garb anymore, so when two walked into the Tahoma Clinic recently, they attracted a bit of attention from both the staff and patients. But that wasn't what I remember most about their visit. Before they left the Clinic that day, the nuns taught me an approach to respiratory health I'd never even heard of before.

Like many monastic orders, these nuns support themselves and their convent by making and selling products. Their specialty is 100 percent beeswax candles, which, Mother Thecla told me, actually clean the air, helping to reduce the pollutant and allergen load. **Technology actually made candles worse for your health!**

She went on to explain that hundreds of years ago, most candles were made of beeswax. But over the centuries, beeswax candles were gradually replaced by tallow (animal fat) candles, and then in the last century by paraffin candles, which are probably the kind you have in your home right now. It sounds innocent enough, but paraffin is made from the sludge at the bottom of barrels of crude oil, which is then treated and bleached with benzene and other chemical solvents to "clean it up" for use in candles. Paraffin candles put out soot and smoke when you burn them (I thought all candles did that) along with toxins and carcinogens. Since burning petrochemical paraffin smells bad, synthetic fragrance oils are added, many of which are irritating and even toxic themselves when they're burned. Breathing what paraffin candles give off has been compared to breathing diesel fumes.

And, to make matters worse, the soot, smoke, and chemical residue from "regular" candles can stick to walls, ceilings, and ventilation ducts and gets re-circulated whenever the heating/cooling system is in action, exposing you to these pollutants even when the paraffin candles aren't burning. **Allergy, sinus, and asthma relief just from lighting a candle.**

But beeswax candles don't cause any of those problems. In fact, Mother Thecla told me people with allergies, sinus problems, and asthma have reported significant improvement in their symptoms, breathing better and sleeping better after burning the 100 percent beeswax candles in their bedrooms for three to four hours before bedtime. One person who burned a beeswax candle all day when she was home reported that her asthma gradually went away completely.

After the nuns left, I did a bit of my own research to see if I could turn up any scientific evidence on bees-wax's effects. Although scientists still don't know all the intricacies of the complex molecules in beeswax, there's at least a partial explanation for the healthful action of burning beeswax candles. According to entomologist Bill Reno, burning beeswax produces negative ions. Negative ions are nature's air purifiers, cleaning the air of dust, mold, bacteria, viruses, and other pollutants.

Make sure you're getting the real deal. Here's the catch: to get any of these benefits, the candle has to be 100 percent beeswax. And, unfortunately, a candle only needs to contain 51 percent beeswax to be labeled as a beeswax candle. The rest can be paraffin (or anything else burnable), so it may not be as easy as picking one up the next time you're at the mall.

One way to find out is to ask the store clerk to light the candle: 100 percent beeswax candles have a uniquely fresh smell--which is distinctly different from paraffin. (The nuns even showed us the difference, so I can vouch for the fact that it's a noticeable one.)

Beeswax candles can be on the expensive side--at least in comparison to "regular" paraffin candles. But beeswax actually burns slower, so you'll get more for your money than if you opted for the cheaper versions. Plus, the potential for better respiratory health is well worth the few extra cents.

There's not much hard evidence on beeswax's health benefits, but if it's possible that something as simple as burning a candle might be able to help your respiratory problems, it's at least worth a try.

If you've used beeswax candles, please take a minute to share your experience on the Nutrition & Healing website Forum. (Go to www.wrightnewsletter.com and look for the tab labeled 'Forum' at the top of the web page. Click on it, then on the 'New Thread' button that will appear to the right of the page.)

JVW

CBC Library



All club members are encouraged to check out any of the materials.

A Year in the Life of an Apiary	How to Keep Bees and Sell Honey
Beekeeping - A Complete Owner's Manual	Increase Essentials
Beekeeping - A Practical Guide	Observation Hives: How to Set Up, Manage, and Use an Observation Hive
Bees - Lectures By Rudolf Steiner	Queen Management
Bees in America - How The Honey Bee Shaped a Nation	Queen Rearing and Bee Breeding
Bees Were Their Business	Setting Up a Package Swarm
First Lessons in Beekeeping	Small Scale Honey Harvesting
Following The Bloom - Across America w/ Migratory Beekeepers	The Candle Maker's Companion
Health and The Honey Bee	The Class Room
Hive Management: A Seasonal Guide for Beekeepers	The Healthy Taste of Honey
Honey - From Hive to Honey Pot	The Joys of Beekeeping
Honey Bee Biology & Beekeeping	The Life and Times of the Honeybee
Honey Bee Pests, Predators, & Diseases	The Queen Must Die
How Do Bees Make Honey	

Notes from the Editor

The Second Annual CBC Picnic was a big success! It was a great day at a beautiful place with wonderful food and good time was had by all. There was some bee business, in that BJ demonstrated how to prepare for extraction, and a screen tent was set up to display a two frame extractor. Mostly in was just good fellowship among bee enthusiasts. Thanks to Worth for the coordination of the event – Good Job Worth!

Part of the Cherokee BeeKeepers Club's mission is to bring awareness and education on the subject of honey bees to the community. Throughout the year the Club is asked to participate in various local events. We need your help to make this commitment a reality. Please consider donating some of your time in support of the club in these volunteering opportunities. Come on, if I can do it, you can too! And they are fun! You really don't have to be the most experienced bee keeper to take part and once you do, you will be proud of the fact that you are giving back to the community and spreading the Bee word! If you are interested please contact Trina Barron at 2tbarron@comcast.net or 770-861-7784.

We're all too busy for an Interview with a Beekeeper Column this edition. If anyone has suggestions on who else to interview or any other fresh new ideas for the newsletter, PLEASE let me know.

If you have any articles you'd like to share, or if you would like to list anything for sale, please send them to me or call Laney Cagle, lane714@tds.net, 770-893-2635. Thanks for the Health Matters article, BJ!

The opinions expressed in articles in the BeeLine are of the writer & not necessarily of the CBC Membership

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