

The Buzzword

May-June 2010

A publication of the East Central Ohio Beekeeping Association (ECOBA) serving Fairfield, Licking, Muskingum and Perry Counties

Fellow Beekeepers,

What a fantastic spring, the bees are building nicely and it seems that everything is blooming. Went a little dry for a while but it did rain and the weather for the plants and bees is near perfect. If you are in your first or second year of beekeeping this spring is what it should look like, you can use this as a gauge for future years.

The bee yard is up and running if somewhat delayed by cold weather in the south which caused the packages to be late. Should put this in your memory book also. We invite all to come to the bee yard starting at 6:30 p.m. on May 12th (then, every Wednesday, same time, weather permitting). The bees are just starting to get established so we should be able to note future changes.

The next ECOBA meeting is May 20th, please note this and plan to attend. If you know someone who is interested in beekeeping bring them along. Steve Shane will explain how the bee yard is to work and will discuss supering your colonies.

Make note that the Picnic is June 19th, please plan to attend, bring a covered dish and/or a dessert. The meat is supplied by ECOBA, also bring a item to put in the silent auction and some cash for the 50/50 drawing. This is always a great time where beekeepers get together and tell stories and stretch the truth. There will be a sign up list for other items if cooking is not your thing.

Sincerely,

Roger Miller

Area & Regional Meetings/Events

Ohio State Beekeepers Summer Meeting - June 19th, Piketon, OH. See p.4

Heartland Apicultural Society (HAS) July 8th—10th

Tennessee Tech. Univ. - Cookville, TN
Contact: Jim Garrison,
jimg1850@live.com or
www.heartlandbees.com

Eastern Apicultural Society EAS 2010 August 2 - 6, 2010 Boone, NC

<http://www.eastemapiculture.org/>

—Our Next Meeting—

May 20th, 6:30 p.m.

—June Picnic—

June 19th

Dawe's Arboretum

Noon - 4:00



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BEEKEEPING WEBINAR INFORMATION

On Tuesday, June 1, 2010, there will be a FREE webinar for everybody and anybody just starting out with bees this year. This is especially geared to those who tuned in earlier this year for our Urban Beekeeper Workshop with Cindy, Cameo and Toni.

Entitled 6 Weeks as a Beekeeper, Now What?, the discussion covers what your bees should be doing now, what issues to look for that are problems now, and anything that might come up in the near future that you can prepare for now. We'll be evaluating your queen's productivity, examining brood patterns and balance, along with making sure there isn't a drone laying queen or laying workers mucking up the works. Plus, we'll be looking at IPM programs and options for varroa and other issues. Supering? You bet, it's time to give those bees more room, or if not, we'll look at why not. And in some places this year, feeding is still an issue...we'll explore that too. Some may even have a crop ready to harvest, so we'll take a look at those issues, along with getting ready to harvest...which most of us hope to do in just a little bit. This isn't for Beginner's only though, so if you just want a refresher or what to find out what the newest information is on any of these topics, come on along.

Kim Flottum, from Bee Culture magazine, and Shane Gebauer, General Manager and long time beekeeper from Brushy Mountain Bee Supply are hosting this Free Webinar. How to register is below.

Title:
6 weeks as a beekeeper...Now What?
Date:
Tuesday, June 1, 2010
Time:
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM EDT

Space is limited.
Reserve your Webinar seat now at:
<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/960734619>

—From "Catch the Buzz", a newsletter brought to you by Bee Culture Magazine.—ed.

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romamiller@earthlink.net

Remember, no Thursday meeting in June, See you at the picnic, Saturday, June 19th at Dawe's

ACTIVITY REMINDERS

Bee Yard

Steve Shane and Ed Rollins are heading up the bee yard. We will meet every Wednesday night at 6:30 pm, weather permitting, at the Dawes Arboretum apple orchard off Davis Road. Davis road is north of the Dawes main entrance so if heading north on S.R. 13 (from I70) go past Dawes main entrance and turn left on Davis Rd.



June 19th - ECOBA Picnic

(Saturday - Dawes Arboretum,
Noon—4pm? Bring a dish, dessert,
and/or bee stories. (No Thursday
meeting in June)

September 11 - Lithopolis Honeyfest -

<http://www.lithopolishoneyfest.com/>

October 10th - 16th - Fairfield County Fair

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SMOKERS, ETC.



Black Locust - reputed to be an excellent spring source of nectar and making a nearly water white honey but some say they never see bees on it. Do you? If not locust, where are the bees in May? Tulip poplar blooms just a bit after the locust gets started, and is reported to produce a reddish honey, but this year, almost everything is blooming at once after that prolonged winter. I like to think the bees work locust, but I have not seen them myself like I do on pussy willow, hawthorne, redbud, and russian sage. Let's talk about honey plants at the picnic and what we see, don't see, don't believe, and swear by!

