

## Tri-County Beekeepers Meeting Tuesday, September 3, 2019

Board members Bob Cross, Dennis Clark and Deb Cross were present.  
Bob called the meeting to order at 7:10.

1 new member present who has lost his bees.

Vern Heise has the extractor if you need to reserve. He will check honey for moisture tonight if you brought honey along.

Paul Theis has club honey left from the fair. Bob Cross will take it in to his office and sell it for the club.

Members reported on how the bees did this summer?

- Excellent, goldenrod started now and bees are still pulling nectar.
- Fair year – not real good. Bees were robbing if an opportunity.
- Brood chambers are heavy. Not touching feed yet. Try for 100 lbs of honey for the winter in brood chambers.

Anyone do a mite check lately? Not a high count.

What should we be doing this time of year?

- Close down the entrances. Lots of robbing.
- Pull honey.
- Feed and treat.

Club hives have about 5 supers of honey. We will schedule an extraction demonstration at the picnic.  
Flow hives haven't been doing well this year.

Questions/discussion:

- Fogger for acid – Mix crystals with water and ethyl alcohol? Buy Everclear to use. Bad thing is this doesn't work. It's not fogging. 30-40 seconds per hive. Hard to know how much acid is going in. This is done after you pull supers.
- Apivar strips – pull supers, treat, done.
- Whatever you do – **SO SOMETHING TO TREAT** this time of year.
- Should we switch out treatments from spring to fall? Yes, just so the mites don't get resistant.
- Paul put his nucs together and stressed out the parent hives. None of the bees were doing their job. The University came by to sample. It's not nozima. A spring virus was picked up. Suggested he simulate a honey flow. Killed 30-40 queens in process. Healthy now. Frustrated with University. Haven't gotten good return on emails and phone calls.
- Hive beetles – Use Brawny shop towels. Lay on top, does no good until the bees chew it up. Beetles legs get stuck in it. They come up from down south when hives are transported. Can live in the cluster through winter. Traps don't work as well. If you can set them in sun for an hour or so – the larva will be killed.
- Wax moths - What to do with hive supers after pulling honey? After extracting, seal up with bags. Stack up 6-7 hive on pallet with cover on them. Frames can go in freezer for 6-8 hours to kill any larva. Then they can be stored. No need to worry about wax moths if there is no protein (pollen/larva).
- Wrap hives for winter after deer hunting. Want temps about freezing. Get moisture boards on. If expecting a blizzard, get it done sooner.

- If brood boxes are full of honey (no brood) can you harvest it? Yes and then feed back sugar water. Be done by mid October with feeding so bees have time to dry it out. DO NOT if you've ever treated for mites or fed sugar water. It'd be best to set aside. The product would be adulterated.

Drones are already being kicked out.

Bob will send an email out with picnic info.

Financials from fair – waiting on final report from Treasurer.

Minutes of July 29 meeting read and approved.

Motion to raise church donation from \$200 to \$300 approved. Check to be made in October.

Education Committee report - Mentors are needed for scholarships winners. Please see Vern Heise tonight.

Nominations for elections open tonight

Volunteer for President – Rick Koetter

Volunteer for Vice President – Amy Jonas

Executive Board – Wayne Rusch

Extractor Update – 3 members in line for use.

Roman Chamomile roll-ons for bee stings - \$25. See Wayne Rusch.

Is trailer insured? If parked on your property is would be under home owners? How much is value? Continue discussion for October meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 8:38 p.m.