



General Membership Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2020

7:30 pm – Monmouth County Agriculture Building
4000 Kozloski Road
Freehold, NJ 07728

Meeting called to order 7:30

Geff covered online membership

Register your hives or no support from State and no inspection from Meghan

New NJBA Pres introduced himself and asked for suggestions and comments. He asked that members please complete the survey sent out in e-mail.

Geff welcomed new members. Most who had not completed membership application did so on-line before the end of the meeting. Pat distributed new membership kits provided by Sally accordingly.

Geff let all know that the Family Picnic is coming up. He asked for presentation and workshop ideas and volunteers, both for adults and activities for children.

On June 19 Meghan O'Connell will speak at the CJBA meeting. All arrangements were made by Ann Trapani.

Geff talked about upcoming events including:

- Monmouth County Fair
- Bees & Bugs
- Sept meeting
- Thompson Park in November
- Election in November Meeting

Classes – 2 rounds of classes are to be scheduled.

- 5/2 and 5/3 Sat & Sun Beginner Beekeeping Course at Beehive Barn
- Fall class with Jeff “dry class”

State Meeting schedule reviewed - Geff

Master beekeeping exam dates – Geff

Raffle 2311 – Patty (?) won \$91 and \$91 went into the CJBA coffers

Other winners included tickets:

- 2163 Skep Candy Jarr
- 2189 Picture/Note holder
- 2256 Feeder
- 2181 Feeder

About 8:14 John Gaut began Mite Lecture. Highlights included:

EAS first month in August

John.a.gaut@gmail.com if presentation copy desired

Sacbrood (a virus) was known years ago. AFB was the main concern. Mites were of no concern.

Beekeeping is not about how many colonies you have, but how well they do

John has had no losses over last the 2 or 3 years on established hives. Nucs had 5% loss over last 3 years.

Mites transfer viruses

Record keeping and testing is important

Successful beekeepers are good mite managers

Parasitic Mite Syndrome can be confused with EFB and AFB

Melted and chewed down larva typical sign of mites

Cold does not kill bees unless otherwise compromised

Mites feed on fat bodies of bees

Virus epidemics kill bees; easily transmitted

Drones and workers can get black queen cell virus

There are few mites in spring. They peak in early summer.

Bees raised in fall are winter bees

Mite increase and decrease follows brood cycle

Mites mate and breed on pupa; pupa may not survive or may be severely affected

6 mites per 100 will be 35 mites per 100 later in year

Winter bees must be healthy, reared in July and August.

Mite levels must be undetectable in July and August

Apistan and checkmite are no longer affective. Hopguard 2 not so effective either

He recommends Apivar, Mite away quick strips (formic pro), and oxalic acid when colony is broodless.

Plan on requeening old queens after using formic pro

Repeated treatment with oxalic acid is not recommended

The annual plan:

Objectives:

1 Low mite levels in spring

2 healthy nurse bees in July and Aug

3

Goals:

Goal is 0 mites in spring for buildup

Undetectable mites in July and Aug

Low mite levels in Sept, Oct and Nov

(difficult due to migration)

Tactics:

Apivar in spring

Need effective treatment in July especially under cappings

Formic Pro: use full 2 pad Treatment

Extended release miticide, such Apivar in fall

Plan:

(see chart)

Wait for cold front to use formic pro and do not disturb colony. Freeze pad first.

Remove pads after 10 days.

In September put Apivar strips on; pull strips off in Nov

Formic pro can be used with honey super on

Treat nucs if untreated.

Meeting was adjourned about 9:30, but many people stayed passed 10.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Evans, Treasurer (substituting for Angela Juffey, Secretary)