



The Skep

October 2017

Columbiana & Mahoning Beekeepers' Association Newsletter

President's Corner

Hello fellow beekeepers,

As this will be my last communication as president, I wish to thank everyone for their continued support these past two years. It has been an enjoyable ride and I hope I am leaving the club better because of my efforts. After thirty-two years in education, I know that my greatest accomplishment was that I changed lives and that is what stays with you long after any accolades you may have received along the way. Nothing makes you feel like a million dollars than having a former student stop you somewhere and say thank you.

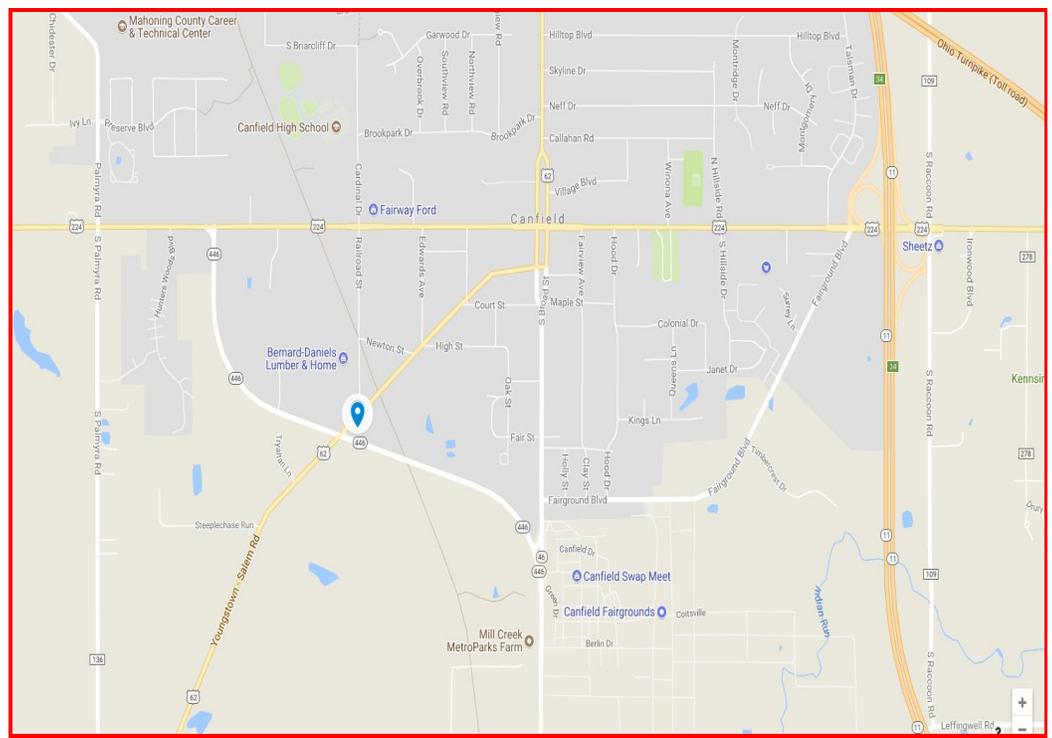
Having just retired in 2016 it's time to travel. I'll miss the banquet so I will not see most of you until January. Have a safe and happy holiday season and good luck to the new officers.

Get them bees all snuggled in for the winter. We want to see their smiling faces in the spring.

Bruce Zimmer

October Meeting Information:

**Next Meeting: 10/15/2017,
Annual Year End Banquet
A La Carte Catering
429 Lisbon Street
Canfield, Ohio 44406**



Reminders from the September meeting:

--We will be having our year end banquet next month on 10/15/2017 at 2 PM. A La Cart Catering in Canfield will be hosting again.. Our speaker will be Melody from Bluesky Bee Supply in Ravenna , Ohio. The menu and pricing will be the same as last year, your choice of stuffed chicken or Swiss steak dinner. Our point of contact on reservations will be Don Kovach, (330 272-3711) kovach87@aol.com, Deadline to make your reservation will be 10/8/2017. Cost: \$21 per person (\$10.50 if you worked one shift at the fair and complimentary if you worked two or more shifts) Guests are always welcome!

--OSBA Fall conference registration is open. It will be held November 4 @ 8:00 AM - 5:00 pm in Plain City, Ohio. [Click link below to register.](#)

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eejiks04e05137b9&oseq=&c=&ch=>



Varroa tip: Now is the time to prepare your colonies to go into winter. Mite checks and treatments will ensure future colony health. Sugar shakes and alcohol washes should be a must on your to do list now.

What you do as a beekeeper now, will dictate your colony's health going into the upcoming winter. Your colonies will soon begin to develop the winter bees that will need to survive the long cold winter ahead. You do not want a mite load going into this crucial time. Please check and treat for mites today!

Please see this link for more information on varroa and virus transmission:

<http://articles.extension.org/pages/71172/honey-bee-viruses-the-deadly-varroa-mite-associates>

2017 Officers

President--Bruce Zimmer 330 547-2273

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Board: Bill Dehoff (2017) 330-549-2984

Chuck Hatch(2018) 330-807-0848

Andrea Deafenbaugh(2019) 330-457-0326

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HillTop Honey Farm--Steve Davis

Click on the company name to visit their web site.

Monthly Honey Recipe: Blueberry Coffee Cake



INGREDIENTS

2 cups blueberries fresh or frozen
1 Tablespoon all-purpose flour
1/2 cup honey
2 Tablespoons fresh lemon juice
1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup honey
2 eggs
1/4 cup milk
2 Tablespoons fresh lemon juice
1 teaspoon freshly grated lemon peel
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
6 Tablespoons butter melted
1/2 teaspoon baking soda

DIRECTIONS

Coat the bottom of greased 9-inch round cake pan with a thin layer of cornmeal and layer blueberries; distribute evenly. Sprinkle with flour; drizzle with honey and lemon juice. Set aside. In a small bowl, combine flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt; set aside. In a medium bowl, combine honey, eggs, milk, lemon juice, lemon peel and vanilla; beat with fork until well mixed. Add flour mixture; mix well. Stir in melted butter; mix well. Pour batter over blueberries in pan; spread to cover evenly. Bake at 350°F for 30 to 35 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center of cake comes out clean. Cool in pan on wire rack 10 minutes. Invert pan.

HONEY VOLUME = WEIGHT 1 Gallon Honey = 12 Pounds 1 Quart Honey = 3 Pounds 1 Pint Honey = 1.5 Pounds ½ Pint Honey = 12 Ounces

FRAME SIZES & AMOUNT OF HONEY IT CAN HOLD Deep = 19 inches x 1-1/16 inches x 9-1/8 inches = 6 Pounds Honey Medium = 19 inches x 1-1/16 inches x 6-1/4 inches = 4 Pounds Honey Shallow = 19 inches x 1-1/16 inches x 5-3/8 inches = 3 Pounds Honey

HONEY PER 10 FRAME BOX A shallow super will typically yield between 25 and 30 pounds of honey, or 2 to 2 ½ gallons. A medium (6 5/8") depth super will typically yield between 35 and 40 pounds, or 3 to 4 gallons. A full-depth box will typically yield between 60 and 70 pounds, or 5 to 6 gallons.

CELLS PER FRAME FOUNDATION (APPROX.) Deep = 3500 Per Side Medium = 2310 Per Side Shallow = 2058 Per Side ESTIMATING COLONY STRENGTH A shallow frame fully covered with bees will hold approx. 0.3 pounds of bees. A deep frame fully covered holds 0.5 pounds of bees or about 1750 individuals. There are about 3500 bees per pound.

AVERAGE DEVELOPMENTAL PERIOD OF HONEY BEES Queen = 16 Days (Needs fertilizing by drones & may not lay eggs for up to additional 7 days) Worker = 21 Days Drone = 24 Days

AVERAGE LIFE LENGTH OF HONEY BEES A honey bee queen could live for 3 to 4 years, as long as she is free from disease. Most beekeepers requeen after 1 to 2 years. Worker bees live for 6 weeks during the busy summer, and for 4-9 months during the winter months.

At the most, drones may live for up to 4 months, however, they may survive for just a few weeks. Note, that upon mating with the queen, drones die immediately. Honey bee colonies consist of a single queen, hundreds of male drones and 20,000 to 80,000 female worker bees. Each honey bee colony also consists of developing eggs, larvae and pupae.

A well-mated and well-fed queen of quality stock can lay about 1,500 to 2,000 eggs per day during the spring build-up—more than her own bodyweight in eggs every day.

Fun Facts Honey Bees •Honey bees fly at 15 miles per hour.

- Honey bees' wings stroke 11,400 times per minute, thus making their distinctive buzz.

- Honeybees will usually travel approximately 2 to 3 miles from their hive.

- Honeybees are the only bees that die after they sting.

- Honeybees are responsible for pollinating approx. 80% of all fruit, vegetable and seed crops in the U.S.

- Honeybees have five eyes, 3 small ones on top of the head and two big ones in front. They also have hair on their eyes!

- Bees communicate with each other by dancing and by using pheromones (scents).

- Honeybees never sleep!

- Honey is 80% sugars and 20% water.

- To make one pound of honey, the bees in the colony must visit 2 million flowers, fly over 55,000 miles and will be the lifetime work of approximately 768 bees.

- A single honeybee will only produce approximately 1/12 teaspoon of

honey in her lifetime.

- A single honey bee will visit 50-100 flowers on a single trip out of the hive.
 - Honey is the ONLY food that includes all the substances necessary to sustain life, including water.
 - Honey never spoils.
- It would take about 1 ounce of honey to fuel a honeybee's flight around the world.
 - Flowers and other blooming plants have nectarines that produce sugary nectar. Worker bees suck up the nectar and water and store it in a special honey stomach. When the stomach is full the bee returns to the hive and puts the nectar in an empty honeycomb. Natural chemicals from the bee's head glands and the evaporation of the water from the nectar change the nectar into honey.
- Out of 20,000 species of bees, only 4 make honey. Beehives
- A populous colony may contain 40,000 to 60,000 bees during the late spring or early summer.
- A honeycomb cell has six sides.
- Bees maintain a temperature of 92-93 degrees Fahrenheit in their central brood nest regardless of whether the outside temperature is 110 or -40 degrees.