



The University of Georgia

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
Department of Entomology



Vol. 17 No. 1

March 2006

Editor: Jennifer Berry, Agricultural Research Coordinator

This issue of the GBL is dedicated to describing two upcoming events hosted by the University of Georgia Bee Lab.

15th Annual Young Harris / UGA Beekeeping Institute

This year's Beekeeping Institute will be held May 18th - 20th at Young Harris College in Young Harris, Georgia. Young Harris, located in the picturesque Blue Ridge Mountains has been the perfect setting for the institute over the years. This annual event is hosted by the UGA honey bee lab in cooperation with Young Harris College and the Towns County Extension Service. Since 1992 the Institute has represented the single most comprehensive opportunity in the Southeast for concentrated training in all aspects of practical beekeeping. Thursday May 18 is dedicated to training and certification examinations for the Georgia Master Bee Program (GMBP) Journeyman, Master, and Master Craftsman levels as well as the Welsh Honey Judge qualifications.

Training and certification for the GMBP Certified (beginner's) level are incorporated into the normal activities for the beginners' track Friday and Saturday. The honey judge program is partnered with the Welsh (U.K.) National Bee Keepers Association to provide North America with the only licensing program for honey judges. Information about both programs is listed on our website: www.ent.uga.edu/bees.



The Friday and Saturday portion of the Institute features a 2-track system – one geared for beginners and one for the more experienced beekeepers with lectures and workshops by leading authorities on honey bees. Participants this year will have the unprecedented opportunity to learn about Africanized honey bees (AHBs). Since their 2005 confirmation in Florida there have been many questions about the implications of these bees for Georgia and the Southeast. We have scheduled none other than Dr. David DeJong of the University of São Paulo, Brazil, as one of our guest speakers. Dr. DeJong grew up in the U.S. but has spent his academic career in Brazil working on all aspects of AHBs. He is literally the world authority on this insect, and it is a supreme honor to have him coming to the Peach State. Our second guest lecturer is Dr. Bob Danka of the Baton Rouge USDA bee lab, home of the famous Russian bee. Dr. Danka is an accomplished investigator of AHBs, Russian bees, tracheal mites, bee breeding, and pollination. Our third distinguished guest is Kim Flottum, editor of *Bee Culture* magazine and a household name in the world of apiculture.

There are also fun optional activities such as a competitive honey show, and gadgets display. The honey show this year will include the typical classes for honey, but will also include categories for photography, art, candles, section comb honey, mead, and beekeeping gadgets. We strongly encourage people to enter the honey show even if they have never competed before. This is an excellent opportunity to have your entries judged by an internationally-qualified honey judge. Plus cash prizes and accolades are given to the winners during the annual award ceremony on Saturday. For more information about the honey show and the rules, please visit our website at www.ent.uga.edu/bees and click on the 2006 Young Harris Conference.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2006 Beekeeping Institute!

Eastern Apicultural Society Meeting Comes to Georgia July 31st – August 4th



Three years ago, the state of Georgia agreed to host the annual EAS meeting. This will be the first time EAS has ever been to Georgia or this far south, so we have been working hard to make this the best meeting yet. With that said, The University of Georgia Honey Bee Lab, the Georgia Beekeepers Association, and Young Harris College invite you to the 51st annual EAS short course and conference at Young Harris College. If you have never been to an EAS meeting before, let me give you a little background so you know what to expect. First of all, EAS or the Eastern Apicultural Society is the largest non-commercial beekeeping organization in North America. If you want to know more

about honey bees, beekeeping, and all that's involved, here's your opportunity. The short course

begins on Monday morning, July 31st and runs through Wednesday afternoon, August 2nd. The short course is a comprehensive three day program offering classes and hands-on workshops for beekeepers at all levels of experience. The conference begins Wednesday morning, overlapping with the short course, and ends Friday afternoon. It offers morning lectures with afternoons dedicated to demonstrations in the bee yard and how-to classes inside. The program is posted on the EAS website. Check it out. There should be plenty of things that appeal to you.

The location of the meeting is at Young Harris College, in Young Harris, Georgia. The college, founded in 1886, is a small, private, liberal arts college set in the Appalachian mountains of North Georgia. The area is breathtaking and offers numerous activities for everyone including antiquing, camping, hiking, white water rafting, horseback riding, fishing, and boating. Dorms located on campus are air-conditioned and some have private bathrooms. If you choose to stay off campus, there are plenty of hotel rooms, cabins and B&Bs located within a five to ten minute drive. A cafeteria located on campus will furnish breakfast, lunch and dinner for the duration of the meeting.

Now for the exciting part: we have invited over 40 speakers hailing from all around the world. It's a veritable Who's Who of beekeeping.



For starters, how about the scientist who put the *destructor* in *Varroa destructor*? That's right, Dr. Denis Anderson. Dr. Anderson is a researcher for the government of Australia and one of the most distinguished scientists of our era working on parasites of the honey bee. It was his pivotal 2000 paper that showed that the mite visiting hardship on beekeepers around the world was not *Varroa jacobsoni*, but rather a new species unknown to science. As discoverer, the honor of naming the beast fell to Dr. Anderson and his co-author, and with a flair for the dramatic they dubbed it *Varroa destructor*. It is truly an honor

for EAS 2006 to host a scientist of Dr. Anderson's stature.



Also on the roster is Dr. Ernesto Guzman, associate professor at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada. His research has focused on the genetics, behavior, and parasitic mites of honey bees. His studies have contributed to the understanding of the mechanisms that confer resistance to honey bees against *Varroa* mites as well as to the understanding of the genetics of defensive behavior.



Dr. John Harbo is recently retired from a distinguished career with the USDA bee lab in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. John is a recognized expert in bee breeding, instrumental insemination, and mechanisms of varroa resistance.

Other photos and bios can be found on the EAS website but here is a list rounding out the roster: Dr. Dewey Caron, professor of entomology at the University of Delaware; Dr. Clarence Collison, professor and head of the entomology Department at Mississippi State University; Dr. Keith Delaplane, professor at the University of Georgia; Dr. Marion Ellis, professor at the University of Nebraska; Dr. Mike Hood, professor at Clemson University; Dr. Greg Hunt, associate professor at Purdue University;

Dr. Steve Sheppard, professor at Washington State University; Dr. John Skinner, associate professor at the University of Tennessee; Dr. James Tew, associate professor at Ohio State University; Michael Young, international honey judge, chef and artist from Ireland; Dr Larry Connor, Dr. Paul Arnold, Tony Jadczyk, Ed Levi, Don Hopkins, Robert Brewer, Keith Fielder, Jerry Hayes, Steve Forrest, Carl & Virginia Webb, PN & Evelyn Williams, Bob Binnie, Dan Purvis, Cindy Bee, Bill Owens, Dan Harris, Tammy Horn, Eleanor Spicer, Jerry Latner, Kim Flottum, Will Hicks, Bill Troup, Marlene Thomas, Becky Tipton and Jennifer Berry. Where else could you encounter this much expertise in one place?

After learning all there is to know about honey bees during the day, it will be time to sit back and enjoy the fun that Georgia has to offer. We have three wonderful evenings planned with Wednesday night starting it off with a traditional, southern hoe-down. Our main course will consist of a slow-roasted hog, a melt-in-your-mouth feast that will keep you coming back for more, including sides of southern style beans, green veggies, cobbler and sweet tea. There will also be beverages available that will put a fire in your belly. One more thing, a true southern hog roast is not complete unless there is some heart pounding, hand clapping music to stomp your foot to. We have booked a fine blue grass band to accompany your meal and socializing time. This is an event you won't want to miss, so get ready for a good time!

On Thursday night, we're having a low country boil complete with fresh shrimp, sausage, taters and corn on the cob. Just like Wednesday night, this is an all you can eat and drink event so bring your appetites. Plus you will be entertained with music and a live auction. The Wednesday and Thursday festivities will take place right on the banks of the Hiawassee River at the Trout Lodge Pavilion (directions will be in your registration packet). You will be able to sit back, put your feet up, eat, drink and listen to the clear mountain waters rolling by along with some music only fit for a true southerner's party.



Check out the size of those shrimp!

Another event we are planning is a North vs South Jeopar-bee contest which will be held during the Wednesday and Friday night socials. Similar to the evening game show except it will cover subjects pertaining to honey bees. Imagine that! This competition will determine once and for all which geographical location has the smartest beekeepers. So make sure to bring your thinking caps! In each of your registration packets you will receive a Jeopar-bee sheet with questions. If you are interested in competing in the Wednesday or Friday night event fill out the questions and turn them in to the registration desk no later than Tuesday by 4:00 pm for the Wednesday competition and Thursday by 4:00 pm for Friday. Make sure to put your name and state on top of the page. Five people will be chosen to represent the north and five for the south. These individuals will work together as a team, not individually which will reduce the nerves some people have about competing. The contestant's names will be announced during the Wednesday and Friday mornings sessions. This will give the teams time to meet and plan any strategy they feel necessary. Wednesday night will be the first "Jeopar-bee" contest to include the short course attendees and Friday night will be for the Conference folk. If you don't want us to send your

state home with its tail tucked between its legs, then ya'll better be ready to answer some tough questions.

Last but not least is our Friday night costume ball and banquet. We decided to end the week-long event with a bang. Friday nights have always been special at EAS, but this year we are adding a southern touch to the mix. Not only will we have the traditional awards banquet, but we're going to do it dressed up in our fancy, southern attire. For the ladies please remember that the bigger the dress the better and you gentlemen need to replace the regular straight tie with a bow tie. If you don't want to dress up, no problem, you don't have to, we just thought it would be fun. But if you decide to dress for the occasion the fancy dresses are spelled "southern belle" not "southern bell". The first spelling is a southern lady and the second is a telephone company. The banquet will be at the Fieldstone Lodge on Lake Chatuge, nestled in between the Appalachian Mountains. It is an elegant resort with excellent food and great lakeside views. We are also planning on having a band so we can kick up our feet one last time before we have to say good bye. Hope to see all ya'll there!

Just a few more things to tell you about before I conclude. Along with the lectures and socials, there are other fun events you may be interested in: the Master Beekeeper program, honey show, and honey exchange. Let me explain these in a little more detail.

The Master Beekeepers Program was established in 1981 by Dr. Roger A. Morse at Cornell University. He established the program in order to certify qualified beekeepers to serve the community as experts in beekeeping. The certification process identifies people who have a detailed knowledge of honey bee biology and expertise in the proper practices of beekeeping, along with those who present this information to the beekeepers and the public in a detailed, accurate, and authoritative manner. The goal of this program is to certify that those who qualify are competent at a college level in the three areas in which they are tested. The program also establishes Master Beekeepers as authorities and educational resources in the communities in which they live. This is a rigorous and challenging program which honors those when they complete the exam process. Don't be intimidated, just prepared.

The conference will also be hosting a honey show judged by certified honey judges, including Michael Young, internationally-acclaimed honey judge from Ireland. Besides the typical categories in honey, the show will include classes in photography, art, candles, section comb honey, mead, and beekeeping gadgets. This is an excellent opportunity to compete on the world stage, so we encourage everyone to enter, even if it will be your first time. In addition to the honey show, we will also have the honey exchange which has been an entertaining part of EAS for many years now. Participants bring honey to exchange with other members of EAS. It is an opportunity for beekeepers to sample honey from a variety of different places throughout the U.S. There will also be a host of exhibitors selling all the latest in beekeeping supplies. You will definitely want to visit the vendor area when it opens on Wednesday morning.

Please pass this information along to other beekeepers in your association so they can take advantage of this grand event. It's an experience you'll appreciate won't find anywhere else. For more information visit the EAS website, www.easternapiculture.org.

EAS International Honey Show 2006

Rules and Regulations

We have made some fairly significant changes to the Annual Honey Show Rules this year. These changes are meant to bring us into the realm of the major British and European honey shows which attract thousands of entries each year. The show this year will be operated and judged using the British/European Method which means that:

1. There will be no score cards used for most classes; except for a judges personal score sheet towards the wax, mead and confectionary classes 2. There will be only three (3) color grades in the extracted honey classes (light, medium and dark determined by standardized grading glasses); 3. Moisture content will not be given unless it is above 18.6% (which will mean disqualification); 4. One candle in each entry will be burned; 5. All entries will be graded on their individual merit, therefore, single entry classes are not guaranteed first place; 6. Expect to see the judges wearing white coats and hats. Otherwise the rules will be basically the same as in previous years.

Entries may be dropped off on Tuesday from 3:00 to 6:00 PM and Wednesday from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM.

THE PURPOSE OF THE EAS COMPETITIVE SHOW IS TO PROVIDE A FORUM DIRECTED TOWARD THE RECOGNITION OF QUALITY HONEY AND PRODUCTS OF THE HIVE. THIS POLICY STATEMENT IS INTENDED TO ESTABLISH GUIDELINES AND TO CLEARLY DEFINE THE RULES FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF THIS PURPOSE.

The Honey Show Committee is responsible for drafting policies, rules and judging criteria and for disseminating information. Judges will adhere to the Committee's policies and rules.

Judges will be those individuals who have completed formal training and have passed rigorous examination as set forth by The Welsh Beekeepers Assn., Wales, UK, to complete certification. All judges will have this International Certification.

Judges will be expected to leave a comment card with each entry in order to help the exhibitor improve. These cards should contain the individual judge's contact information in the event that an exhibitor wishes to discuss their entry later.

Judges will be assisted by Stewards who wish to seek future judge's certification. Stewards will be expected to carry out those duties requested by the judges or the Honey Show Committee.

Prize cards and points will be awarded as follows: 1st Gold; 5 points, 2nd Silver; 4 points, 3rd Bronze; 3 points, Highly Commendable; 2 points, Commendable; 1 Point. The exhibitor with most points throughout the show will receive Prize for most points. An annual trophy will be allocated for Best in show, entitled The Michael Young Family trophy as well as the most prestigious Blue Ribbon from the London National Honey Show.

The comment cards, prize cards and entries are the property of the exhibitor. Although EAS will exercise all due care in judging and displaying entries, exhibitors enter items at their own risk. If possible judges may hold an open session to answer exhibitor questions after the show is open to the public.

The Honey show Committee will be responsible for:

1. Allocating space for the show and arranging entries.
2. Compliance with show rules and judging criteria.
3. Obtaining judges.
4. Cooperating with the EAS Treasurer in obtaining awards.
5. Accepting entries and opening the show at a predetermined, published time.
6. Within three weeks of the close of the show, filling out an evaluation sheet and making recommendations for future shows.
7. Recording all award winners for the EAS and other journals.

General Show Rules

1. All exhibitors MUST BE current dues-paying members of EAS. Proof of current paid dues status must be submitted at the time of making entries. (unless exhibits are **sent** from overseas – see 16)
2. Only one entry in each class may be made by an individual, their family or their apiary.
3. At time of entering, the exhibitor will be required to fill out an identification label (provided at the registration table) and affix it in an inconspicuous place on their entry as follows: honey in jars or mead in bottles: approx. one half inch (1/2in.) from base

of the jar; affixed on each candle; section, cut comb or comb for extraction affix on right hand top side of transparent lid; cookery classes affixed to the plates; arts, crafts and gadgets affix on suitable area for the judge to see; photographs affix on the bottom of the mount in centre. Cake of beeswax affix on the underneath side of the wax.

4. Separate section or class rules will apply.

5. Commercial or identifying labels with ones own name on entries are forbidden except where it is an integral part of an arts and crafts or gift arrangement entry.

6. The exhibitor must choose which classes to place entries in. Judges may adjust classes at their discretion.

7. Entries can be made only during published times.

8. Entries must be left on display and intact until released by the Show Chairman.

9. No commercial products or displays are permitted.

10. Decision of the judges, in all cases, will be final.

11. Entries will not be accepted by mail.

12. The Show Chairman has the authority to accept, reject and classify entries in accordance with show rules and judging criteria.

13. Any exhibitor wishing to protest must do so to the Show Chairman within one hour of the public opening of the show.

14. EAS assumes no liability for loss or damage of entries. Although EAS will exercise all due care in judging and displaying entries, exhibitors enter items at their own risk.

15. Entries not claimed by the end of the conference will be disposed of by the Show Chairman.

16. International exhibitors may enter any class but a \$5.00 entry fee per class will apply. Excluded from this fee are Canadian Exhibitors who are current members of EAS.

Honey Classes

Class # Description

H1 Three 1lb. jars of honey: Extracted Light

H2 Three 1lb. jars of honey: Extracted Medium

H3 Three 1lb. jars of honey: Extracted Dark

**Entries must be in 1 lb., glass queenline type jars and may have metal or plastic lids. International entries may use 500 gram universal jars. (see clause 3 on show rules)*

H4 Twelve 1lb. jars of honey: Extracted

Entries must be in 12 identical 1lb. queenline type jars with metal or plastic lids. International entries may use 12 identical 500 gram universal jars. (see clause 3 on show rules)

H5 Three section boxes of comb honey

H6 Three packages of cut comb honey: 4 inch square

H7 Three round section of comb honey

Entries must be in the appropriate container: Window cartons, round section lids-both transparent, cut comb box-all sides transparent. (see clause 3 on show rules)

H8 Three 1lb. jars of creamed honey

H9 Three 1lb. jars of chunk honey

Entries must be in cylindrically uniform "wigwam" jar or in the new "shoulder" jar. (see clause 3 on show rules)

H10 One frame of honey: suitable for extraction

Frames may be of wood or plastic and should be housed in a glass sided bee proof enclosure. (see clause 3 on show rules)

1. All entries must be the product of the exhibitor's apiary and have been produced since the previous EAS Honey show.

2. Entries will be judged on their individual merit. Cleanliness of the container, lid or hardware, uniformity of wax cut, proper fill of jar or container, cleanliness and clarity of the honey, moisture content, aroma and taste will be considered by the judges. In creamed honey texture and firmness will also be considered.

3. No tamper-proof seals.

Cookery Classes

Class# Description

C1 Cookies: 1 dozen, no frosting or decoration

C2	Bars or Brownies: 1 dozen, no frosting or decoration
C3	1 Cake: no frosting or decoration
C4	Yeast Bread: 1 loaf
C5	Yeast Rolls: 1 dozen
C6	Muffins: 1 dozen
C7	Candy: 12 pieces

1. At least 25% of sweetening agent must be honey.
2. Entries must be accompanied by the recipe as used, written on 3"x5" cards in duplicate, without the name of the exhibitor.
3. EAS reserves the right to publish the recipes.
4. Entries must be presented on plain paper or foam plates, in dome top cake carriers, or on cardboard covered with foil. Plates and covers will not be furnished by the Show Committee.
5. Enter all cakes, breads, rolls and muffins un-sliced.
6. Items will be judged based on individual merit. The judge will look at appearance, shape and color, uniformity and texture, taste and aroma. *(see clause 3 on show rules)*

Mead Classes

Class # Description

M1	Dry Mead: 1 bottle
M2	Sweet Mead: 1 bottle

Product made of honey, water and yeast. No additional sweeteners or flavoring.

M3	Melomel, Cyser or Pymment (fruit mead): 1 bottle
----	--

Product made from honey, water, yeast and fruit, apples or grapes.

M4	Sparkling Mead: 1 bottle
----	--------------------------

Product containing carbonation made from honey, water, yeast and fruit if desired.

1. All meads must have been made by the exhibitor through the process of natural fermentation.
2. All meads should be exhibited in clear (not frosted), colorless (not tinted), 750 ml or 25.4 fl. oz. wine bottles. All sparkling meads should be exhibited in champagne type bottles.
3. Natural cork stoppers of the hand driven, flanged or T type are preferred for show purposes.
4. No labels (commercial or home) should be used.
5. Each entry should be accompanied by a 3"x5" card with the exhibitor's number and the type of fruit used in flavored meads.
6. Mead should be filled to within ½ inch of the base of the cork
7. Entries will be judged on their own merit based on cleanliness of bottle and cork, color and clarity, cleanliness (lack of sediment), bouquet, body and taste. *(see clause 3 on show rules)*

Beeswax Classes

Class # Description

B1	Single Piece, Pure Beeswax: 2 lbs.
----	------------------------------------

A single cake of beeswax weighing 2 pounds. Can be round or square but should be a minimum of 1 inch but not to exceed 2 inches in depth.

B2	Candles, Dipped Tapers: 3 candles of pure beeswax
B3	Candles, Molded Tapers: 3 candles of pure beeswax
B4	Candles, Novelty, single or Coordinated Set: 3 candles of pure beeswax.

Candles can be of any length and diameter.

1. All wax items should be made from only pure beeswax.
2. One of the three candles in an entry will be burned to determine proper manufacture.
- *3. Exhibitor should furnish candles set up in candle holders for the purpose of exhibiting the entry and burning the single candle.
4. Wax cakes will be judged based on individual merit. The judge will consider wax color, aroma, cleanliness, uniformity of pour, weight (between 1lb -2lbs.), and freedom from defects.
5. Candles will be judged based on individual merit. The judge will consider wax color, aroma, cleanliness, uniformity of length and diameter, proper wick size and placement, freedom from defects, sharpness of lines (novelty), and burn characteris-

tics. *(see clause 3 on show rules)*

Arts and Crafts Classes

Class # Description

A1	Gift Arrangement (including baskets)
A2	Sewing or Needlework
A3	Novelty Beeswax with Additives Permitted
A4	Misc. Arts and Crafts

1. All items must have a beekeeping theme
2. Exhibitor must submit an estimate of time taken to make them on a 3"x5" card.
3. Small changes to commercial items or copies of commercial items may be down-graded.
4. Items will be judged on their individual merit. Judges will look at cleanliness and neatness, originality, craftsmanship, theme, lack of clutter, over-all appearance. *(see clause 3 on show rules)*

Gadget Classes

Class # Description

G1	Large Devices: extractors, wax equipment, etc.
G2	Small Devices

1. All items must be accompanied by a typed or written explanation.
2. Each item will be judged on their individual merit. Judges will be looking at explanatory text, practicality, ease of reproduction, originality and usefulness to bee-keeping. *(see clause 3 on show rules)*

Photography Classes

Class # Description

P1	Close-up Print: 1 print related to beekeeping
P2	Scenic Print: 1 print of apiary subject (flowers, hives, etc.)
P3	Portrait Print: 1 print of person in a beekeeping setting
P4	Essay Prints: set of 4 to 7 pictures depicting a beekeeping scene or story.

1. Prints must be 5"x7" or larger, mounted on a mounting board that extends at least one inch beyond the print on each side. Essay prints may be mounted on one board.
2. No frames are permitted.
3. Prints may be black and white or color.
4. Photographs may be entered only once in an EAS show.
5. Each entry must be accompanied by a 3"x5" card stating the name of the photograph, a brief description and the class number.
6. Winners must agree to have their photographs published.
7. Each entry will be judged on its individual merit. Judges will be looking at composition, treatment of subject matter, quality and clarity and presentation. *(see clause 3 on show rules)*

*Black Jar Class

Class # Description

B1	Black Jar of Extracted Honey: 1 jar, any color
----	--

A single entry of any color extracted honey to be judged entirely on taste.

1. Exhibitor will transfer their honey into an opaque, black container which will be furnished by the show chairman.
2. The container is the property of the show chairman.
3. Each entry will be judged on it's own merit and by taste only. *(see clause 3 on show rules)*

Extracted Honey, Open to the World

Class # Description

E1	Three jars of honey: Extracted
----	--------------------------------

Entries may be in either 1 lb. queenline type jars or 500 gram universal jars.

1. Class open to all exhibitors regardless of country of origin.
2. Extracted honey may be of any color.
3. Entries will be judged on their individual merit. Judging will be based on cleanliness of container and lid, cleanliness and clarity of honey, aroma and taste. *(see clause 3 on show rules)*
4. A \$5.00 entry fee applies to all exhibitors who are not current members of EAS.

Management Calendar: March - May in Georgia

Colonies are quickly building up for the upcoming nectar flow. It is a critical time of year for colonies because brood is being reared and stores of honey and pollen being consumed due to the increase in population. It is imperative that you check your colonies this month for honey and pollen supplies. If colonies are in need of food, feed a 1 : 1 sugar syrup solution. This is important and should not be delayed.

Medications for disease prevention along with Varroa and Tracheal mite treatments should have already been completed. However, Varroa mite treatments may be unnecessary if your colony mite level is below the economic threshold of 60-190 mites in a 24-hour sticky sheet test. Sticky sheet insertion for twenty-four hours without chemical treatments is an effective way to determine mite levels within your colony.

On warm days, check your colony for poorly performing queens. Little to no brood or a patchy pattern is a sign of a bad queen. Re-queen her as soon as queens become available. The longer you wait to re-queen the weaker the colony will become.

Swarming is also on the horizon. Swarm prevention is easy in theory but difficult in practice. The colonies' urge to swarm is intense this time of year. Besides foraging for nectar, swarming is top on their list for activities during the spring months. However, one of the primary goals of any beekeeper is to keep this from happening. If a colony swarms, the beekeeper loses precious bees within minutes. Cutting queen cells, re-queening, equalizing and splitting colonies are good ways to reduce swarming.

Depending on what part of the state you live in will depend on when your nectar flow will begin. South Georgia will receive the flow earlier than our north Georgia counterparts. With that said, I hope the entire state has an above average flow to make up for past years. Good luck and happy beekeeping.

Electronic Delivery of *Georgia Bee Letter*

If you would like to receive *Georgia Bee Letter* via email, send me your address at jbee@uga.edu. Please put a reference to the GBL in the subject line so I know you are requesting the newsletter. Every day I receive numerous advertisements or "spam," and I delete them immediately. If you have sent me your address and not received the *GBL*, please send it again. Since the last time I sent out this newsletter I was hit with a virus which wiped out all my new/old mail. Yes, this has happened before so I have changed my e-mail address which should be more secure. Also, notify me if there are changes to your club meeting times or contact persons, or any interesting information about your club.

How to Get Georgia Bee Letter

GBL can be received electronically by emailing your request to jbee@uga.edu

Regular Meetings


Chattahoochee Beekeepers Association	7:00 pm bimonthly, second Monday	Oxbow Meadows Nature Center, Columbus
Cherokee Beekeepers Club	7:00 pm third Thursday	Cherokee County Justice Building, Canton
Coastal Area Beekeepers Association	7:00 pm second Monday	Southbridge Tennis Complex, Savannah
Coweta Beekeepers Association	7:00 pm second Monday	Coweta Fairgrounds Conference Center
East Central Georgia Bee Club	7:00 pm fourth Monday, (bi-monthly)	Burke Co. Office Park Complex
Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Association	7:30 pm first Monday	Bishop Community Center, Bishop
Foothills Beekeepers Association	7:00 pm third Tuesday, February - September	Banks Co. Ext Office, 413 Evans St., Homer
Forsyth Beekeepers Club	6:30 pm third Monday	Forsyth County Library, Cumming
Heart of Georgia Beekeepers Association	7:00 pm second Monday	GA Farm Bureau, 1620 Bass Rd., Macon
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association	7:00 pm second Tuesday	Dunwoody Nature Center, Dunwoody
Mountain Beekeepers Association	7:00 pm first Tuesday	Mountain Regional Library, Young Harris
Northeast Mountain Beekeepers Association	7:00 pm second Thursday	Northeast Georgia Regional Library, Clarksville
Northwest Georgia Beekeepers Association	7:00 pm second Monday, Jan - June & Sept	Walker County Agric. Center, Rock Spring
Southeast Georgia Beekeepers Association	7:00 pm fourth Tuesday, Aug-March	Wacona School Building, Waycross
Southwest Georgia Beekeepers Association	7:30 pm last Tuesday, even months	Swords Apiaries, Moultrie
Tara Beekeepers Assn (Clayton Co. area)	7:30 pm third Monday	Reynolds Nature Preservation

Beekeeping Subscriptions

<i>American Bee Journal</i> , Hamilton, Illinois 62341	(217) 847-3324
<i>Bee Culture</i> , 623 W. Liberty Street, Medina, Ohio 44256	(330) 725-6677
<i>The Speedy Bee</i> , P.O. Box 998, Jesup, Georgia 31598-0998	(912) 427-4018

Resource People for Georgia Beekeeping

Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers Assoc. Jim Harris, President 34333 Pontiac Drive Columbus, GA 31907 (706) 563-4186	Georgia Dept. of Agriculture Barry Smith, Manager Apiary Program P.O. Box 114 Tifton, GA 31793 (912) 386-3464 bsmith@agr.state.ga.us	Tara Beekeepers Association Gary Cooke, President (770) 507-4661 Lcooke77@aol.com
Cherokee Bee Club BJ Weeks, President 770-735-3263 bnweeks@juno.com	Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Richard Kiefer, President (770) 668-0981	Town County Coordinator Robert Brewer Georgia Master Beekeeper Coordinator PO Box 369 Hiawassee, GA 30546 (706) 896-2024 RBrewer@uga.edu
Coastal Empire Beekeepers Association Greg Stewart, President 124 St. Ives Way Savannah, GA 31419 (912) 232-6734 greg_stewart@mhsml.gulfaero.cm	Mountain Beekeepers Association Larry Sams, President 158 Needlemore Drive Hayesville, NC	University of Georgia Jennifer Berry Apicultural Research Coordinator 1221 Hog Mountain Rd. Watkinsville, GA 30677 (706) 769-1736 jbee@uga.edu
Coweta Beekeepers Association Charles Olsen (770) 304-2737 ceolsenga@juno.com	Northeast Mountain Beekeepers Assoc. John Haaseth, President (706) 865-1085	University of Georgia Keith S. Delaplane Professor of Entomology University of Georgia Athens, GA 30602 (706) 542-2816 ksd@uga.edu
East Central Georgia Bee Club Edwin S. Stephens, President 522 Pine Needle Rd. Waynesboro, GA 30830	Northwest Georgia Beekeepers Association Rick Cline, President P. O. Box 5 Rock Spring, GA 30739	
Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Assoc. Bill Owens, Chairman (770) 266-6619	Southeastern Georgia Beekeepers Assoc. Bobby Colson 945 Sinkhole Rd. Register, GA 30452 (912) 852-5124	
Foothills Beekeepers Association Michael Gailey, President (706) 776-1843	S.W. Georgia Beekeepers Sonny Swords 5 - 28th Avenue N.W. Moultrie, GA 31768 (912) 941-5752	
Forsyth County Beekeepers Jan Payne 2926 Pruitt Road Cumming, GA 30041 (770) 781-2959		


Jennifer Berry, Research Coordinator

County Extension Coordinator