

HONEY DRIPPINGS

Franklin County | January 2017

extension.psu.edu

Plan to attend! Invite other beekeepers!

Franklin Co. Beekeepers' Assoc. Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, February 16, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.

at the Franklin County Ag Heritage Building,
185 Franklin Farm Lane, Chambersburg, PA (next to the extension office)

Speaker: Dr. Kirsten Traynor

Program: Bee Breeding Around the Globe

Dr. Kirsten Traynor & Michael Traynor of Flickerwood Apiary have met with bee breeders in many parts of the world to learn unique techniques to improve the qualities of their bees. See how a club in Denmark teaches all new beekeepers how to rear their own queen, so they can start their first hive. Visit Buckfast Abbey, where Brother Adam bred the unique Buckfast bee. Dr. Kirsten Traynor will highlight some of the best aspects of bee breeding that she and Michael Traynor have studied in their world travels.

Tools For Varroa Management Guide
<http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/>

The Honey Bee Health Coalition has developed the “Tools For Varroa Management Guide” to explain practical, effective methods that beekeepers can use to measure Varroa mite infestations in their hives and select appropriate control methods. The Honey Bee Health Coalition offers this Guide free of charge and asks that you please reference the Coalition.

Every honey bee colony in the continental United States and Canada either has Varroa mites today or will have them within several months. Varroa mite infestation represents one of the greatest threats to honey bee health, honey production, and pollination services. When honey bee colonies are untreated or treated ineffectively, colonies can fail and beekeepers can incur major economic losses, and, ultimately, agricultural food production may be impacted. In addition,

colonies with Varroa are a source of mites that can spread to other colonies, even in other apiaries, through drifting, robbing, and absconding activity of bees. All beekeepers should remain vigilant to detect high Varroa mite levels and be prepared to take timely action in order to reduce mite loads. Effective mite control will reduce colony losses and avoid potential spread of infectious disease among colonies.

Almost 40 organizations and agencies from across food, agriculture, government, and conservation have formed the Honey Bee Health Coalition with the goal of reversing recent declines in honey bee health and ensuring the long-term health of honey bees and other pollinators.

The Honeybee Health Coalition has posted a series of videos to help beekeepers combat Varroa online at:
<http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/>

Franklin County Beekeepers' Association Dates for 2017 – Mark Your Calendar!

FCBA Winter Meeting - Thursday, February 16, 2017 - 7:00 p.m. at the Ag Heritage Building

FCBA BEGINNING BEEKEEPING BASICS -Thursdays, March 2,9,16, & 23, 2017 at Ag Heritage Building next to the Extension Office. Field Day, Saturday, April (TBA).

American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) Conference, Galveston, TX, Jan. 10-14,

<http://nabeekeepingconference.com/>

North American Beekeeping Conference - January 5 - 9 at the Sawgrass Marriott in Ponte Vedra, FL. For additional information, visit www.abfnet.org

Pennsylvania Farm Show January 4 - 14, 2017 at the Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg.

Western PA Beekeeping Seminar, Feb. 17-18, Monroeville, PA

<http://extension.psu.edu/beaver>

10th Annual Organic Beekeepers Meeting – March 3-5, 2017, Oracle Arizona.

Franklin County Fair - July 9 - July 15, 2017

EAS 2017 - July 31-August 4, 2017, University of Delaware, Newark, DE.

<http://www.easternapiculture.org/conferences/eas-2017.html>.

2017 PennApic Spring Workshop – PennApic and the Pa. Backyard Beekeepers' Assoc.

Open to the Public - Free to Attend When: March 19, 2017 Time: Noon till 4 pm.

Place: Dover Union Fire House, 30 E. Canal Str., Dover.Pa 17315

More info at: <http://www.pennapic.org/2017springworkshop.html>

Beekeepers sought to assist with research on how landscapes affect bee health

The Penn State Center for Pollinator Research is recruiting beekeepers from Pennsylvania and surrounding states to assist in research on how landscape features affect the quality of apiaries. The Landscapes for Bee Project will inform land managers, growers and beekeepers about how to find and create optimum resources for bees.

"It is very clear that, no matter how well you take care of your honey bees, they survive better in some locations than others," said Christina Grozinger, director of the Center for Pollinator Research. "However, doing research to understand how location affects bee health is incredibly challenging, since we need to be able to evaluate a very large number of sites to get reliable data. Thus, we are hoping to create a partnership with a large network of beekeepers from urban, agricultural and rural areas to address these questions comprehensively."

The location of an apiary, a collection of beehives, has long been known to play a role in colony productivity and survival. However, little research has been done to understand which aspects of "location" are important for bee health. Beekeepers will assist the center in evaluating how land use, forage quality and microclimate impact colony health to determine what makes for good and bad apiary sites.

Interested beekeepers can apply at <http://ento.psu.edu/pollinators/beekeeper-registration>. The Center will contact you soon to confirm your registration and provide additional instruction. This project is a collaboration between Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences' Center for Pollinator Research and the College of Earth and Mineral Science's Center for Environmental Informatics as well as Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster and the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association. For questions, contact Christina Grozinger, grozingerlab@gmail.com (phone: 814-865-2214).

Bee Breeding Around the Globe - February 16, 2017, FCBA Meeting

Dr. Kirsten Traynor of Flickerwood Apiary in Middletown, MD is the featured speaker at the Thursday, February 16 Franklin Co. Beekeepers' Assoc. Quarterly Meeting. The meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. at the Franklin County Ag Heritage Building, 185 Franklin Farm Lane, Chambersburg, PA (next to the extension office). Dr. Traynor will speak on "Bee Breeding Around the Globe." Dr. Kirsten Traynor & Michael Traynor of Flickerwood Apiary have met with bee breeders in many parts of the world to learn unique techniques to improve the qualities of their bees. Her presentation will describe how a club in Denmark teaches all new beekeepers how to rear their own queen, so they can start their first hive. She will also talk about her visit to Buckfast Abbey, where Brother Adam bred the unique Buckfast bee. Dr. Kirsten Traynor highlights some of the best aspects of bee breeding they've studied in their world travels.

Dr. Traynor received the prestigious German Chancellor Scholarship from the Humboldt Foundation in 2006-2007, annually awarded to ten American leaders in their field. She and her husband drove over 50,000 miles throughout Western Europe to study the differences between European and American beekeeping, reporting their findings through 50+ published articles in national and international magazines. At the same time she interviewed scientists and medical doctors, gathering information for her book: *Two Million Blossoms: Discovering the Medicinal Benefits of Honey*.

Fascinated with the social complexity of a honey bee hive, Kirsten earned her PhD in biology from Arizona State University. While a grad student, she spent almost a year in Avignon, France in the lab of Dr. Yves Le Conte as a Fulbright Fellow. She currently investigates how pesticides impact honey bee health for the University of Maryland in the lab of Dr. vanEngelsdorp

and is the editor of *Bee World*, published by the International Bee Research Association. Follow her on Twitter @FlowersLoveBees. (<http://www.mdbee.com/flickerwood/index.html>)

Bacterial Imbalances Can Mean Bad News for Honey Bees

By [Jan Suszkiw](#), USDA Agricultural Research Service

A team of U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) scientists and their collaborators have established a strong link between honey bee health and the effects of diet on bacteria that live in the guts of these important insect pollinators. In a study published in the November issue of *Molecular Ecology*, the team fed caged honey bees one of four diets: fresh pollen, aged pollen, fresh supplements, and aged supplements. After seven days, the team euthanized and dissected the bees and used next-generation sequencing methods to identify the bacteria communities that had colonized the bees' digestive tract. The team also compared the thorax (flight muscle) weight and size of each group's hypopharyngeal glands as measures of the diets' effects on bee growth and development. The glands enable nurse bees to produce "royal jelly," a substance that's fed to developing larvae, ensuring the hive's continued survival. The flight muscle weight represents the potential for work after the nurse bee transitions into the role of forager.

In general, bees given fresh pollen or fresh supplements fared better than bees given pollen or supplements that had first been aged for 21 days, reports Kirk Anderson, senior author and a microbial ecologist with USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) in Tucson, Arizona. Bees fed fresh diets suffered fewer deaths, made better use of energy for growth, and had lower levels of gut pathogens such as *Nosema ceranae*, according to Anderson and co-authors University of Arizona graduate student Patrick Maes, ARS lab technician Brendon Mott, and Randy Oliver of ScientificBeekeeping.com.

In the study, the nutritional value of pollen lasted longer than that of supplement. Bees consumed significantly more aged supplement than aged pollen, but this didn't translate into long-term benefits. For example, bees consuming aged supplement had plump nurse glands but suffered significant losses in flight muscle, suggesting that nutrition diverted to feed developing larva came at a significant cost to the bees' own adult development. Poor development, in turn, can translate to early mortality or inefficient food collection when these nurse bees transition to the role of foragers.

Anderson says the effects of diet on gut bacteria populations (or "gut microbiome") are poorly understood but warrant study because of the implications for honey bee health and the insect's importance as a chief pollinator of 100-plus flowering crops. Put another way, consumers owe one in every three bites of food they eat to the work of honey bees and other pollinators.

Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences research and extension programs are funded in part by Pennsylvania counties, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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Penn State encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact George Hurd at 717-263-9226 in advance of your participation or visit.

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

An **OUTREACH** program of the College of Agricultural Sciences

University policy or by state or federal authorities. It is the policy of the University to maintain an academic and work environment free of discrimination, including harassment. The Pennsylvania State University prohibits discrimination and harassment against any person because of age, ancestry, color, disability or handicap, genetic information, national origin, race, religious creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status and retaliation due to the reporting of discrimination or harassment. Discrimination, harassment, or retaliation against faculty, staff, or students will not be tolerated at The Pennsylvania State University. Direct all inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policy to the Affirmative Action Director, The Pennsylvania State University, 328 Boucke Building, University Park, PA 16802-5901; Tel 814-863-0471. Honeydrippingsinword2014.pub

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Direct all inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policy to the Affirmative Action Director, The Pennsylvania State University, 328 Boucke Building, University Park, PA 16802-5901; Tel 814-863-0471. Honeydrippingsinword2014.pub

Other key findings include -

- Bees fed fresh pollen or fresh supplements had more beneficial gut bacteria, like *Snodgrassella alvi*, whose presence was correlated with increased health, and decreases in gut pathogens *Nosema* and *F. perrara* bacteria.
- Five to eight types of gut bacteria were consistently found in bee gut.
- Dysbiosis was systemic, occurring throughout the honey bee gut.

Anderson says that with continued research, new supplement formulations or usage practices could be created to improve not only the health of honey bees but also the bacteria that live within them.

ARS is USDA's principal in-house scientific research agency.

Sincerely

George Hurd

George Hurd,
Multi-Co. Educator

In consultation with

Randy King,
FCBA President

Franklin County Beekeepers Association Annual Membership Form

Franklin County Beekeepers dues are \$5.00 for individual or family membership. Annual Dues can be paid at the Annual Banquet or can be mailed in using the form attached.

_____ Yes, I/we want membership in the Franklin County Beekeepers Association which includes receipt of the quarterly "Honey Drippings" Newsletter. My check is for _____.

Make check payable to: *Franklin County Beekeepers Association*

_____ No, I/we do not want membership in the Franklin County Beekeepers Association but do wish to receive the "Honey Drippings" Newsletter.

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____

Zip Code _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Please complete, detach and return to: Beekeeping c/o Penn State Extension, 181 Franklin Farm Lane, Chambersburg, PA 17202

FCBA Education Committee

Randy King is looking for assistance from other beekeepers to assist with the Franklin Co. Beekeeper Assoc. Education Committee to help plan and organize educational events for beekeepers in 2017. If you would be willing to assist with this or would like more information, contact Randy King by email at: rking@kingslandgallery.com or by phone at 717-328-9256.

FCBA Beginning Beekeeping Basics Course

The Franklin County Beekeepers' Association is conducting a five session Beginning Beekeeping Basics course for anyone interested in becoming a beekeeper. The Thursday evening classroom sessions will be on March 2, 9, 16, & 23, 2017, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Franklin County Ag Heritage Building located at 185 Franklin Farm Lane in Chambersburg. There will also be a field day at a local apiary on a Saturday in April. Cost is \$40.00 per family. For information, contact Penn State Extension at 717/263-9226 or by email at FranklinExt@psu.edu. Subjects that will be covered include an introduction to beekeeping, bee biology, beekeeping equipment; maintaining healthy bees, installing packages and apiary colony management. Registration is required and is limited to the first 50. You do not have to be a member of the Franklin County Beekeepers' Association to register. Registration includes a beekeeping manual, refreshments and membership in the Franklin County Beekeepers' Association.

The Pennsylvania Native Bee Survey Citizen Scientist Pollinator Monitoring Guide is now available for free online at: http://www.xerces.org/download/pdf/PA_Pocket_Guide.pdf

2017 FCBA Officers

Randy King, President:
rking@kingslandgallery.com;
Tim Weller, Vice President:
tim17225@yahoo.com
Georgia Townsend, Secretary-treasurer:
townsend.georgia@gmail.com

Directors:
Winona Huber;
pleasanthillapiary@gmail.com
Steve Hill: shill2148@yahoo.com
David King: 1king@kingslandgallery.com

Peanut Butter Balls

1/2 cup natural peanut Butter
1 cup instant oatmeal, not cooked
3 Tablespoons Honey
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/3 cup dried cherries or you can use another dried fruit

Mix well, form into balls. Should make about 14 balls
Each ball equals about 100 calories each

2017 FCBA Nuc Purchases

We ask that everyone please fill out the form and submit it with your payment and mail it to FBCA/co Georgia Townsend or at any FCBA function. Deadline to PAY IN FULL by 4/23. Forms will also be available at all FCBA functions if you need one or call Randy King to have a form emailed to you.

Please don't try and make payment or change pick up dates with Myron. You will not get the discount price and will have to pay \$160.00 for your nucs.

Please contact Randy King if you have pick up date or time issues or need a refund. Contact Randy King by email at: rking@kingslandgallery.com or by phone at 717-328-9256.

FCBA: NUCS FOR 2017 ORDER FORM

date: _____

name: _____

email: _____

phone: _____

#nucs: _____ @ \$145.00 ea = _____

_____ i am tax exempt .06 sales tax = _____

_____ tax number total pmt = _____

makes checks payable to : **FCBA** (Franklin County Beekeepers Association)

all nucs must be paid for in full by **APRIL 23,2017** mail payments:
FCBA / co GEORGIA TOWNSEND 771 Mount Cydonia Rd., Fayetteville, PA 17222
or turn in at any FCBA function.

_____ i am a 2017 current member of the FCBA

_____ I need a membership to the FCBA for 2017
membership is \$5.00 to be paid with separate check or money order or cash
at any event. do not mail cash! **DO NOT ADD** membership to nuc payment.

-----cut bottom off for receipt and pick up reference -----

Date pd _____ # nucs _____

PICK UP ADDRESS

Myron Showalter
178 Milnor Rd., Greencastle, Pa 17225

signature FCBA officer _____

pick up date and time: **Saturday, May 6th 8:30-10:00am**

- if tax exempt. provide copy with payment or bring exemption form to pickup nucs
- if you are **unable** to pick up at the date above contact **Randy King** for arrangements.
- all nucs are first paid for first served, if number of bees become limited.
- all nucs are 5 frame deeps in cardboard nuc box.
- guaranteed nuc contains live, bred queen
- anyone going directly to Myron will **not** get the fcba discount pricing.

FRANKLIN COUNTY BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION
BEGINNING BEEKEEPING BASICS
Thursdays, March 2,9,16,23 & April 8, 2017

WHO: The Franklin County Beekeepers' Association in cooperation with Penn State Extension is conducting a five session course on beginning beekeeping basics for any interested beekeepers.

WHEN AND WHERE: The Thursday evening classroom sessions will be on March 2, 9, 16, 23, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Franklin County Ag Heritage Building which is located at 185 Franklin Farm Lane in Chambersburg. There will also be a field day tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 8 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at a local apiary.

COURSE SUBJECTS: Subjects that will be covered include; an introduction to beekeeping, bee biology, beekeeping equipment, maintaining healthy bees, installing packages and apiary colony management.

COST: \$40.00 per family if you are not a member of the Franklin County Beekeepers' Association (\$45.00 after February 21, 2017). \$35.00 if you are a paid member through 2017.

REGISTRATION: Registration is required by February 21 and is limited to the first 50 who register. Registration includes a beekeeping manual, refreshments and membership in the Franklin County Beekeepers' Association. For additional information, contact Penn State Extension, 717/263-9226 or by email at FranklinExt@psu.edu.

Franklin Co. Beekeepers Association Shortcourse Registration Form
Make check payable to: **Franklin County Beekeepers Association**

____No, I am not a member of the Franklin County Beekeepers Association. My check for \$40.00 is enclosed (\$45.00 after February 21).

____Yes, I am a 2017 paid member of the Franklin County Beekeepers Association. My check for \$35.00 is enclosed.

Name(s) _____ Number attending(____)

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip code _____ Phone _____

Email: _____

Please complete, detach and return to: Penn State Extension, 181 Franklin Farm Lane, Chambersburg, PA 17202