



Elm Fork

Beekeepers Association

General Meeting Agenda, June 21, 2018

Mission: To share information and provide education to our members and community about bees and beekeeping. To promote responsible beekeeping practices, through training and education, resulting in effective management of diseases, pests, and other environmental issues.

- **Welcome and Introduction to meeting**
 - Jan Hodson – President
 - Pat C de Baca – Vice President
 - Secretary – Barbara Henderson
 - Treasurer – Julie Haza
- **Need other board members and committees**
 - Hospitality
 - Communications
 - Webmaster
- **Business**
 - We have a Bank Account and are now taking dues \$25
 - New members get a free year TBA Membership
 - TBA Summer Conference June 30th, Conroe TX, fee for members \$50
 - Monthly Speakers: July Pat Tickle, Oklahoma beekeeper
 - Training Classes (Saturday Sept 15 - Basic Beekeeping, Oct 20 - Hive Management, Nov 17)
 - Mentor program after first training class
 - Is there an interest in having an extraction party?
- **June Monthly Tips**
 - Honey Flow begins winding down late June early July.
 - Capped honey may be harvested and the empty frames returned to the hive.
 - You can harvest when the honey is at least $\frac{3}{4}$ capped and passes a shake test.
 - Add super if box is 75% full.
 - Stay out of the brood box as much as possible. Disturbances during honey flow can reduce production
 - Once you harvest your honey, be sure to feed heavily and put at least one super back onto the hive without the queen excluder.
 - Watch out for robbing!
 - Do not medicate hives during honey flow
 - Check for swarm and supersedure cells
 - Check honey, pollen and brood pattern on frames
 - Check for other pests (SHB, moths, roaches, ants), strong hives will keep pests in check.
 - Keep your girls cool! Provide a close clean water source and ventilation.

- **A few currently blooming nectar plants:**
 - Vitex/Chaste Tree (Non-Native, Europe & Asia , Species: Vitex Agnus Castus)
 - Crapemyrtle Tree (Non-Native, China, Species: Lagerstroemia Indica)
 - Purple Prairie Clover (Native Perennial, Species: Dalea Purpurea Family: Fabaceae, Legume Family)
 - Green Milkweed (Native Perennial, Species: Asclepias viridis Family: Asclepiadaceae, Milkweed)
 - Take pictures of bees on nectar plants and email to janrhodson@gmail.com
- **Handy Tips and Tools:**
 - Place your hive on a stand, 12-18in high.
 - A folding TV tray table will save your back.
 - Make your own screened inter-cover(s) this month. Install when it gets hot and humid at night. If you see a large number of bees hanging on the exterior of the hive they could use some ventilation.
 - Use a screened bottom board
 - Drill vent holes in new deep hive bodies. I use 5/8 in bits. I get corks for the winter at Hobby Lobby.
 - Use a journal
 - Have a box/bucket handy to dispose of burr comb and debris
 - Use a quick 1/8" screen scrap to stop robbing
 - UK top feeders for winter
- **Door prize drawing (need donations)**
- **Program: Abby Pettibon, TBA Honey Queen**
- **Meeting Close**

Next meeting July 19th, 6 pm social, 6:30 meeting, Landmark Bank

Websites:

- <https://carolinahoneybees.com/essential-oils-honeybees/>
- Barnyard Bees videos
- Scientific Beekeeping – Randy Oliver
- Bee Culture magazine's website

Apps:

- BeeSmart – Pollinator partnership, pollinator.org, lists plants per ecoregion
- Bee Health – <http://agriculture.alberta.ca/bees> Lists pests and diseases, symptoms list to find possible problems
- Beekeeping – Geek Zeek apps, book on beekeeping
- Apiary book –Creative Software Grup, hive management tool

Advocacy Prohibition: The EFBA mission is to be an educational association. No part of the activities of EFBA shall be devoted to advocacy, lobbying, politically or privately promoting issues, agendas, or businesses or personal endeavors, by propaganda or otherwise, using the EFBA name or themselves as a EFBA member.