



Elm Fork Beekeepers Association

General Meeting Agenda: July 16, 2020

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 Officer reports**
 - **President – Jan Hodson**
 - The TBA conference, November 5-7, Allen, TX is still in the on the books. We will have to wait and see...
 - I'm hoping that the bank will decide to open up again so we can continue our regular meetings. I miss seeing your faces! If you happen to know of another location where we can have our meetings that will hold 100 people with parking, please let us know.
 - We now have a honey recipe section started on our website. You can send recipes to me or to webmaster.elmfork@gmail.com.
 - Also, if you have any favorite tips or tools you would like to tell us about let me know for future meetings.
 - Same thing for speakers/subjects you would like to hear from/about.
 - Dues are due! \$25 per year, mail or drop off at the Agrilife extension office:
 - Elm Fork Beekeepers Association
 - 301 S. Chestnut Street
 - Gainesville, TX 76240
 - Or you can pay online using PayPal \$2 fee elmforkbeekeepers.org
 - Mark your calendars for the extraction party at the Mountain Springs Community Center, Saturday, August 22, 3pm.
 - **Michael Barber – Vice President**
 - Speakers
 - Scholarship Program
 - Jonathan Hamilton final presentation
 - **Secretary – Louann Barfknecht**
 - June Minutes
 - **Treasurer – Julie Haza**
 - Reports
 - **Communications – Susan Pritchard**
 - **Education Coordinator – Byron Compton**
 - Master Beekeeper Study Group
 - **Webmaster – Stacy Branam**
 - **Director at Large – Tim Branam**
 - **Hospitality – Dana Moss**
- **A few blooming nectar plants:**
 - Garden plants like Basil, Squash, Cucumber, cantaloupe, and watermelon are still blooming along with spotted bee balm, Vitex and crepemytles.

- Prickly Pear
- Common Annual Sunflower (Asteraceae Helianthus species) Native
- Zexmenia (Asteraceae Wedelia Hispidia) Native to southern Texas, Perennial
- Button Bush
- Take pictures of bees on nectar plants and email to janrhodson@gmail.com or text to 214-417-9071
- July Monthly Tips
 - Check for full supers. You can harvest when the honey is at least 80% capped and passes a shake test. Leave honey in the brood boxes for the bees.
 - Allow bees to clean up your super frames but remove them quickly if the nectar flow has stopped.
 - Watch out for robbing
 - Use a fume board, bee brush, or bee blower instead of smoke to remove bees to keep the honey from tasting like smoke.
 - Bottle in a clean environment. If selling, must have labels with beekeepers contact info, weight, and state small beekeepers uninspected facility statement.
 - Freeze empty frames of comb for several days to kill any wax moth and hive beetle larva before storing.
 - Put frames in plastic bags with para-Dichlorobenzene (PDB) to store. *Caution! Be sure to only use PDB crystals and not moth balls (naphthalene). Moth balls will contaminate the wax and kill your bees when supers are returned to the hive.*
 - Check for swarm and supersedure cells
 - Check honey, pollen and brood pattern on frames. Some of my girls are short on pollen I'm feeding them pollen patties.
 - Keep your girls cool, provide a close water source and ventilation.
 - After harvest it will be time to test and treat for Varroa mites. Have your test and treatment supplies ready.
 - Are you doing Fall splits? Get equipment ready!
 - Do not hesitate to call your mentor, another club member, or me (940-637-2702) if you have a question!
- Tips and Tools
 - Clean your equipment
 - Did you know you can wash your bee suit?
 - Did you know you can drink through your veil? I recommend you wash it first!
- Board Meeting: Members are always welcome at our board meetings. Next board meeting August 6th, 6:30 pm, via Zoom
- Next Meeting: August 20th, 6:30 pm
Location: Your house via Zoom. Check the website calendar for links.

Speaker: Byron Compton, harvesting your honey

Website: elmforkbeekeepers.org

Amazon Smile: EFBA charity link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/61-1883488>

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.