

The logo features the word "The Buzz" in a large, bold, black font with small white flowers interspersed between the letters. Above the text are several small black bees in flight. To the left of the text is a small illustration of a beehive on a stand, and to the right is a small illustration of a beehive on a stand.

The Buzz

Susquehanna Beekeepers' Association

Serving Bradford, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Susquehanna & Wyoming Counties, Pennsylvania

Volume 19 Number 3

July 2013

WORK DAY & PICNIC SATURDAY JULY 27 AT 10:00 AM



HONEY SHOW ENTRY FORM DUE THURSDAY, AUGUST 1st

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It's time to get your honey / wax
entry forms into the Harford Fair

Secretary

Due by August 1st

For FREE jars, call James Wood

SCHEDULE - 2013

July 27 Harford Fair Work / Picnic 10 AM

(Aug 1 Honey Show Entry Form Deadline)

Aug 18-24 Harford Fair

Sept 13 Wax Processing Methods
Claverack 7PM

Sept 28 Combined Meeting with So. Tier
Luncheon / Speaker: Jennifer Berry
Univ. of Georgia, Master Beekeeper
Chenango Town Hall

Oct 11 Planning Meeting - Jas. Wood Home

Nov 2 Annual Dinner / Election / Speaker
Landi Simone,
EAS Master Beekeeper
100-150 colonies in Morris Co., NJ
Past Pres., Essex Co. Beekeepers
S. Montrose Community Church 6 PM

Dec 13 State Meeting Recap - Claverack 7 PM

CONFERENCES

Aug 5-9 Eastern Apicultural Soc. Short Course &
Conference - Westchester College, PA
*Jim Barber, Dick Chapin and James Wood are planning to
attend one day on Aug. 7th.
Frank Licari plans to complete the requirements for
EAS Master Beekeeper certification
Aug. 8th*

Nov 8-9 PA State Beekeepers Meeting
Country Cupboard, Lewisburg
SPECIAL for SBA first time attendees
see page 8



NECTAR SOURCES

July 4th is not a time of vacation for most beekeepers because it marks the usual blooming time for basswood another great but iffy nectar source. According to ABC-XYZ it is not a “dependable source. Even when the trees are laden with flowers, no surplus will be obtained if the weather is cold, cloudy and windy. Hot clear weather and a humid atmosphere are conditions most favorable for active secretion of nectar.” see ABC and XYZ of Bee Culture.

As summer continues blackberry, blueberry, buckwheat, sumac, grape, honeysuckle, and other herbaceous plants will bloom giving the bees something to tide them over until mid August when Japanese knotweed or false bamboo begins to bloom. This so called weed has a stem like true bamboo but its leaves are broad instead of lance shaped. It does however have a chambered stem like true bamboo. It produces a white bloom at the tops of the stems and, since it is the only plant blooming at this time of year, the bees work them well and collect a dark, buckwheat-like honey with a fairly strong flavor. Many beekeepers think that they have a good buckwheat honey in their supers only to find out its knotweed or Japanese bamboo. It is a good honey however, and many beekeepers are selling it to their customers as a specialty flavor honey . -Harry Volker

SBA Meeting – June 14, 2013
Claverack Building, Montrose
(31 present)

Dave Taylor: Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance

Ginny Wood is doing better and thanks everyone for their well wishes

Old Business:

Kandy Taylor – read minutes from 4-12-13 meeting

New Business:

Dave Taylor per Ginny Wood:

Polo Shirts \$20 and T-shirts \$10 – email Ginny or get them at the clean up

Harford Fair Clean-up: July 27th @ 10:00 a.m. at the Harford Fairgrounds – potluck picnic

Arlene Taiariol – made curtains for the bee booth

The split hive created at the Wood's Apiary is doing well and was checked on Jun 1st.

The Honey Princess will be at the Fair on Friday

Dave Smith is the person to contact about signing up for working at the Fair

Presentation: Frank Licata – lives in Broadheadsville and grew up in Dimock, worked with Jerry Ely- has 40+ hives – sells apiary products at Farmers Markets and other small stores

Discussed making lip balm, lotion and soaps which contain bee products, such as honey and wax.

Provided a handout entitled: “Products from your hives for extra income” – contact Dave Taylor if you would like an extra copy

Question/Answer during presentation: FDA regulations – not too strict on lotions

Lost 52% of his hives last year and this is a way to make some money in different ways

Did for a LLC – approx. \$800 to originally set everything up

Frank's Website: www.brambleridgehoneyfarm.com

Sanitizing and preservatives that must be used in water based products

Referenced the book: “The Soapmaker's Companion”

General Q/A after presentation: Washing of bee suits and catching swarms

**It's time to get your entry or entries into
the Harford Fair Secretary**

Due by August 1st
Form on page 7

Extracted honey,
light, amber and/or dark
Light comb honey
Dark comb honey
Light round comb
Dark round comb
Finely crystallized
Honey spreads
Cut comb
Chunk honey
Frame honey

For FREE jars, call James Wood
934-1166

Beeswax
2# single piece
candles dipped
candles molded
candles fancy

Collective exhibit
(apiary products
in an attractive arrangement)

Please consider entering something.
Live dangerously!
Win colorful ribbons and “big bucks”!
Help us keep our Honey Show

Keeney and Ziegler

Dennis C. Keeney
9351 Old 22
Bethel, PA

Honey Producer / Packer
Supplies, Queens

Honey Jars & Caps

BREEDER of
NORTHERN QUEENS
717-933-8565

International Honey Market

by RON PHIPPS

Committee for the Promotion of Honey and Health

via ABJ Extra, 6/21/13

The current international market situation is one of short and delayed crops, tight supplies, rising prices and burgeoning international demand. This situation prevails for all colors from White to Amber. The era of bumper honey crops of 100,000 metric tons or more in both Argentina and the USA are over and unlikely to return. As the middle classes in both India and China expand to levels where each exceeds the entire populations of the USA, dietary traditions change to a base of more meat and poultry. This in turn is leading to an insatiable appetite for soybeans and other grains as animal feed to serve the changing dietary habits in India and China. As consumption of meat and poultry increases in Asia, pasture lands and U.S. federal lands devoted to alfalfa and clover decrease. This relentless pattern leads to increased honey prices. With higher production costs, more expensive and difficult efforts to protect bees, lower yields per hive and significantly lower total production, in order to stay solvent beekeepers in Argentina and the USA need considerably higher per pound prices for their honey.

Please sign up to help at the Harford Fair. We need four people, in two shifts each day. Call or e-mail Dave Smith to volunteer. We need your help!

967-2810

dwsjsmith39@yahoo.com



Vita Launches Smartphone Application

about Keeping Healthy Bees

via ABJ Extra 6/17/13

The first-ever smartphone app [application] about keeping healthy honeybees has been launched by Vita (Europe) Ltd, the world's largest dedicated bee health company. The app is free and gives beekeepers easy mobile access to information and photographs about honeybee disease identification and treatment.

The app, suitable for nearly all smartphones and tablet devices, can be downloaded free from www.healthybeeguide.com. It runs on Apple or Android, on iPhones, iPads, Samsungs and Blackberrys and the full range of smart mobiles.

Seb Owen, Commercial Development Manager at Vita who has led the development of the app, said: "Beekeepers often need information at a moment's notice in their apiaries, so we devised this app to be used anywhere they can receive a mobile signal.



Our School Program

Final Report for 2012 - 2013

Jim Barber, James Wood,
Dick Chapin, Coordinator

10/16	Blue Ridge Elementary	2nd grade
10/19	Bradford Co. Field Day	- Sayre
10/26	Bradford Co. Field Day	- Wyalusing
11/13	Lathrop Street Elementary	4th grade
1/20	Lackawanna Trail Middle	5th grade
12/4	Carbondale Elementary	3rd grade
2/5	Roslund Elementary	4th grade
2/12	Evans Falls/Mill City	3rd/4th grade
2/19	Mehoopany Elementary	4th grade
2/26	Mill City/Evans Falls	3rd/4th grade
3/5	NE Bradford	3rd/4th grade
3/26	Susquehanna	3rd/4th grade
4/9	Epiphany, Sayre	3rd/4th/5th grade
4/16	Towanda Elementary	3rd/4th grade
4/19	Elk Lake Elementary	2nd grade
4/23	Choconut Valley	5th grade
4/30	Forest City	3rd grade
5/7	Mt. View	4th grade

FIELD DAYS

James Wood, Coordinator

- 4/26 NE Bradford - James Wood
& John Brunner**
- 5/1 & 5/2 Wyoming County - Jim Barber,
John Brunner & Dick Chapin**
- 5/17 Sayre - Jim Barber & Dick Chapin**
- 5/28 - Troy - James Wood & John Brunner**
- 6/21 - Ulster - James Wood & Kevin Baker**

Robinson's Apiary

Bobby & Jack Robinson
Members of our Association
PO Box 1
Stevensville, PA
*Spring Nucs & Pollination
ordered in advance*
Honey, Honey Products
Pollen, Candles,
Gift Baskets, Beeswax



Bee Culture Magazine

Box 706
Medina, OH 44258
800-289-7668
Or subscribe through our
association for a discount
Ginny at 570-934-1166

BC has a free e-mail newsletter:
"Catch the Buzz"

American Bee Journal

51 South 2nd Street
Hamilton, IL 62341
888-922-1293
<http://www.americanbeejournal.com>
Or subscribe through our
association
for a discount
Ginny at 570-934-1166
Also, ABJ has a free e-mail newsletter

Insecticide Causes Changes in Honey Bee Genes, Research Finds

from American Bee Journal Extra News

Also found in Bee Culture's "Catch the Buzz"



New research by academics at The University of Nottingham (UK) has shown that exposure to a neonicotinoid insecticide causes changes to the genes of the honeybee.

The study, published in the scientific journal PLOS ONE, supports the recent decision taken by the European Commission to temporarily ban three neonicotinoids amid concerns that they could be linked to bee deaths.

There is growing evidence connecting the decline in the honeybee population that pollinates one-third of the food that we eat, and insecticides, but this is the first comprehensive study to look at changes in the activity of honeybee genes linked to one of the recently banned neonicotinoids, imidacloprid.

The study, led by Dr Reinhard Stöger, associate professor in Epigenetics in the University's School of Biosciences, was conducted under field realistic conditions and showed that a very low exposure of just two parts per billion has an impact on the activity of some of the honeybee genes.

The researchers identified that cells of honeybee larvae had to work harder and increase the activity of genes involved in breaking down toxins, most likely to cope with

the insecticide. Genes involved in regulating energy to run cells were also affected. Such changes are known to reduce the lifespan of the most widely studied insect, the common fruit fly, and lower a larva's probability of surviving to adulthood.

Dr Stöger said: "Although larvae can still grow and develop in the presence of imidacloprid, the stability of the developmental process appears to be compromised. Should the bees be exposed to additional stresses such as pests, disease and bad weather then it is likely to increase the rate of development failure."

The study was funded by The Co-operative Group, as part of its Plan Bee campaign.

Chris Shearlock, Sustainable Development Manager at The Co-operative, said: "This is a very significant piece of research, which clearly shows clear changes in honeybee gene activity as a result of exposure to a pesticide, which is currently in common use across the UK.

"As part of our Plan Bee campaign launched in 2009 we have adopted a precautionary approach and prohibited the use of six neonicotinoid pesticides, including imidacloprid, on our own-brand fresh and frozen produce and have welcomed the recent approach by the European Commission to temporarily ban three neonicotinoid pesticides as this will allow for research into the impact on both pollinators and agricultural productivity."

The research paper *Transient Exposure to Low Levels of Insecticide Affects Metabolic Networks of Honeybee Larvae* is published in PLOS ONE.

Note: Our Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will consider issuing a verdict at the earliest in 2016! NO COMMENT NECESSARY

HARFORD FAIR ENTRY BLANK

Do not combine animals with other items on this entry blank.

Please read all rules and regulations before making entries. ENTRIES CLOSE: MIDNIGHT, AUGUST 1ST.

Please make entries early as possible. Please make copies of this form or go to www.harfordfair.com and print

HARFORD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

PO Box 288

Harford, PA 18823

570-434-4300 e-mail: hfair@nep.net

One individual per entry blank!

Make for me, in accordance with the rules of the Society,

the following entries, which I promise to present to the

proper Department at the specified time and leave on

Display until given permission to leave Sunday after the Fair.

Name _____

Phone _____ Date _____

Address _____

State age if entering any youth categories _____

County of Residence _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

E-mail address _____

Tags will be mailed on request if self addressed stamped envelope is enclosed. Eight tags can be mailed for one first class stamp.

Tags may be picked up the week before the Fair from the Secretary's Office.

FOR TIMES TO BRING ITEMS TO THE FAIRGROUNDS, SEE PREMIUM BOOK.

Livestock and Contests - Refer to specific Department in the Premium book. Use special Entry Blanks.

NOTE: Exhibitors entering three or more items receive a one day pass to the fair.

	Dept.	Section	Class	Description of Article (Use exact wording of Premium Book)
Ex.	19	2	2160	Creative Holiday Article--Christmas

Deadline August 1st

Some Beekeeping Suppliers:

Brushy Mt. NC & PA) 1-800-233-7929;

Betterbee (NY) 1-800-632-3379;

Dadant (IL & NY) 1-888-922-1293

Rossman (GA)(1-800-333-7677

Mann Lake (MN) 1-800-880-7694

Walter Kelly (KY) 1-800-233-2899

Brushy Mt. has some very good free

U-Tube helps. See: [https://](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLULmyvKFHmg1r-sf7eZkh5Lp0V0gWihmP)

[www.youtube.com/playlist?](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLULmyvKFHmg1r-sf7eZkh5Lp0V0gWihmP)

[list=PLULmyvKFHmg1r-](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLULmyvKFHmg1r-sf7eZkh5Lp0V0gWihmP)

[sf7eZkh5Lp0V0gWihmP](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLULmyvKFHmg1r-sf7eZkh5Lp0V0gWihmP)



If you think you might be interested in attending the Eastern Apicultural Society conference, Aug. 7-9th, check out the EAS website. See page 2 under "CONFERENCES"



Harford Agricultural

Fair Contest

August 16 - 21, 2010

Dept. 23 Apiary Products

Sec. 570-434-4300

Entry Form due by

Aug. 1st

Section 1A - Honey and Wax

Class 1 - Honey

- A. Light comb, 3 sections
- B. Dark comb, 3 sections
- C. Light comb, 3 round combs
- D. Dark comb, 3 round sections
- E. Light extracted honey, 3 One-pound jars-glass
queenline jar with white lids
- F. Amber extracted honey, 3 One-pound jars-glass
queenline jar with white lids
- G. Dark extracted honey, 3 One-pound jars-glass
queenline jar with white lids
- H. Finely crystallized honey, 3 One-pound jars-glass
queenline jar with white lids
- J. Honey spreads, any kind, one jar
- K. Cut comb - 3 cut combs, approximately 4"x4"
- L. Chunk honey - one 2 1/2 pound chunk honey jar
- M. Frame honey - one frame of any size (must be
enclosed in a wooden case)

PA State Beekeepers Conference in Lewisburg - November 8th and 9th -

SBA members who have not attended in the past can be reimbursed for \$20 entry and \$25 banquet cost - Jane Robinson will reimburse. Those attending are asked to share their experiences at the December meeting.



Class 2 - Beeswax

- A. Single piece, pure beeswax, 2 lbs. or more
- B. Candles, dipped, one pair pure beeswax
- C. Candles, molded, one pair pure beeswax
- D. Candles, fancy, one pair, pure beeswax

Special rules - beeswax

- 1. All entries must be covered with clean
transparent
plastic film.
- 2. All entries must have been made by the
exhibitor.
- 3. Optimum color for in all classes is light yellow.

Beeswax Class Scoring

Objectives

Max. Pts.

- 1. Cleanliness.....35
- 2. Uniformity of appearance.....20
- 3. Color.....15
- 4. Aroma.....15
- 5. Absence of cracks and shrinkage.....15

Class 3 - Collective exhibit

of honey, wax, and honey products

Comb honey to be judged on perfection in filling, capping uniformity, neatness and cleanliness of section. Extracted honey to be judged on body, clarity, and cleanliness.



Officers & Directors 2013

President: James Wood

934-1166 jimnginw@epix.net

Vice Pres. Dave Taylor

378-3728 drt105@aol.com

Recording Sec: Kandy Taylor

378-3728 taylor82404@aol.com

Financial Sec. Ginny Wood

934-1166 jimnginw@epix.net

Treasurer: Jane Robinson

746-3235

Directors:

James Barber, Past Pres.

767-1312 jbeekeeper@hotmail.com

John Brunner, Past Pres.

278-1774 elsejohnmolly@gmail.com

Richard Chapin, Past Pres.

432-4007 oldbeekeeper83@gmail.com

LeJune Ely

278-2170 jlely8@frontiernet.net

Aubrey Elbrecht

879-4733 aubrey.elbrecht@us.army.mil

It's time to get your honey /
wax entry forms into the Harford

Fair Secretary

Due by August 1st

For FREE jars, call James Wood

Required by law if you have bees:

PA State Registration \$10.00 / 2 years

Bureau of Plant Industry – Apiary Section 2301 North
Cameron Street Harrisburg, PA 717-110-9408 Phone
717-772-5225 Fax

717-705-6518 forms at meetings or online: [http://
www.pastatebeekeepers.org/inspection.htm](http://www.pastatebeekeepers.org/inspection.htm)

The Buzzer Staff:

Editor: Richard Chapin

432-4077 oldbeekeeper83@gmail.com

Production Manager: Valerie

Hotchkiss

553-2086 valeriehotchkiss@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Local dues- \$10.00
(includes newsletter)

PA State Assn. dues - \$20:00
(Optional)
(includes state newsletter)

Name:

Address and Zip:

Tel. #

E-mail:

Payment Method:
() check or () money order
Check payable to
**Susquehanna Beekeepers
Association**

**Send to Ginny Wood
4466 State Route 367
Montrose, PA 18801**

Prior to the emergence of a swarm, a small number of bees become highly excited, and appear to initiate emergence from the hive. These bees force their way among the other bees in the colony in zigzag running steps, vibrating their abdomens and producing a perceptible whirl with their wings. As more and more bees become involved, the queen is aggressively pushed towards the hive entrance by the worker bees and forced to become part of the impending swarm.

-From Montgomery Co. newsletter

Our Website

www.susquehannabeekeeping.com
Dave Taylor, Webmaster

The Declaration of Independence

“It is the product of the spiritual insight of the people. We live in an age of science and of abounding accumulation of material things. These did not create our Declaration. Our Declaration created them. The things of the spirit come first. that, all our material overwhelming though turn to a barren If we are to maintain which has been must be like-minded created it. We must materialism. We must reverence which they are holy. We must follow the spiritual and moral leadership which they showed. We must keep replenished, that they may glow with a more compelling flame, the altar fires before which they worshiped.”

President Calvin Coolidge, 1926

(Despite modern pundits, one of our greatest presidents,
a constitutional scholar)

