

BEEKEEPING NEWS

OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, 2009



Kurt Bower, *President*
James Brown, *Vice President*
Barbara Jarrett, *Secretary*
Jackie Wiggers, *Treasurer*
Directors
Martha Boren, Jack Fleming, Harvey Friddle,
Norman Faircloth, *Editor*

a local chapter of NORTH CAROLINA STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Meetings & Programs

• Tuesday, October 13, 7:00 p.m. (no meal)

Come and hear our very own Harvey Friddle. Harvey will be talking about "Everything you wanted to know about beekeeping but didn't know to ask!"

This is also the period for electing officers for next year. The nominating committee has presented the following slate of officers. Officers for 2010

President - Robert Jacobs

VP - James Brown

Secretary - Lavern Allen

Treasurer - Jackie Wiggers

Nominations may also be made by our members. Voting is usually conducted at the November meeting.

• Tuesday, November 10, 6:30 p.m. (covered dish meal)

• Election of officers

State inspector Will Hicks will be speaking. Will recently was working in Bolivia and will be telling us about his experiences as well as answering any questions that you might have.

• Tuesday, December 8, 6:30 p.m.

Annual Christmas Dinner

Covered Dish (bring your favorite main dish, side or dessert. Drinks, ice, plates, etc. and Professional entertainment provided by GCBA. Appropriate for all ages: All members & family welcome. Evening will be used to socialize and enjoy the festive spirit that the Christmas season provides.

Articles of Interest



The Latest Buzz on Russian Bees

By [Erin Peabody](#)

August 9, 2006

The busy bee—that tireless purveyor of plant pollen—has had a rough time of it lately. Parasitic mites are beating down this industrious insect that's crucial for producing more than \$15 billion worth of U.S. crops each year.

But according to scientists with the Agricultural Research Service ([ARS](#)), there's hope for weary American bees. It comes from the hills of southeast Russia.

According to recent studies done at the ARS Honey Bee Breeding, Genetics and Physiology Research Unit in Baton Rouge, La., Russian bees are capable of deflecting three of the honey bee's worst assailants: varroa mites, tracheal mites and cold temperatures.

Ten years ago, Baton Rouge bee researchers led by Thomas Rinderer trekked through Russia's Primorsky Territory in search of bees that could naturally hold their own against varroa mites. There, bees have become battle-hardened against the blood-sucking mite, which has been harassing Russian bees for more than 150 years.

Since Russian bees were first imported by Rinderer, they have continued to impress researchers. In fact, ARS entomologist [Jose Villa](#) recently discovered just how the bees fend off tracheal mites, which kill honey bees by invading and clogging their airways.

Villa discovered that, much like other bees resistant to tracheal mites, Russian bees are fastidious and agile groomers, capable of using their middle pair of legs to brush mites away. Villa and fellow ARS entomologist [Lilia De Guzman](#) have also confirmed that Russian bees are excellent cold-weather survivors. After studying Russian bee colonies for five winters in northeast Iowa, Villa and De Guzman found that the bees are less likely than other bees to lose hive members during harsh, cold weather. Russian bees appear more frugal with their winter food stores.

Thanks to the ARS Russian bee breeding program, promising Russian bee stock will continue to reach U.S. honey bee queen breeders. Kicking off an intensive selective breeding effort this year, Baton Rouge researchers are still striving for the ultimate Russian bee—one that embodies the important economic qualities, like mite resistance and good honey production, which beekeepers look for.

ARS is the [U.S. Department of Agriculture's](#) chief scientific research agency.



CATCH THE BUZZ - NEW VARROA CONTROL ANNOUNCED AT APIMONDIA

This message brought to you by Bee Culture, The Magazine Of American Beekeeping, and on October 5, 2009...Bee Culture Goes Digital! Watch for more information on Digital Bee Culture... The Paper AND Digital Magazine Of American Beekeeping

Celebrate UrbanBees with Bee Culture and thedailygreen.com For details, visit www.thedailygreen.com/bee-photos.

CATCH THE BUZZ

New Formic Treatment Released Today

From NOD Apiary Products, Ontario, Canada: A Solid Solution to Colony Collapse. The Varroa mite has been identified as a major contributing factor in colony collapses around the world. NOD Apiary Products, Canada has developed a new innovative solution to this crisis.

At Apimondia 2009, NOD Apiary Products – Canada, announced today the development of the next generation of treatment for the control of the Varroa mite. The “Mite Away™ Quick Strip”/MAQS™ This new generation of Varroa control works by not only killing Varroa on the bees, MAQS™ targets the next generation of mites before they even emerge, killing them directly were they live and breed. It is effective, killing over 95% of Varroa under the cap. Using a patent pending strip formulation of formic acid (naturally occurring in honey) MAQS. not only controls the Varroa it does this without creating any contamination within the hive. Beekeepers have never had a tool like this before.

According to Steven Haylestrom, of NOD Apiary Products, MAQS™ answers Martial Saddier’s call for help. A French Congressman from Isère, Mr Saddier was appointed by Prime Minister François Fillon to evaluate the French beekeeping industry in 2008.

Hawaiian authorities have requested NOD make an immediate application for a section 24C SLN (Special Local Needs) Registration to ensure beekeepers have MAQS™ available for treating hives by October 2009. Following successful trials conducted in Hawaii and in Canada, NOD Apiary Products is proceeding with new MAQS. trials in Europe.

Trials are now under way in Angers, Lyon and Eastern France. The French trials include testing of Varroa efficacy as well as the effect on brood, bees and residue in honey. In addition the effect of this new formulation on Nosema spores is also being observed. The first results are expected within weeks with final results in early 2010.

MAQS™ – Mite Away Quick Strip

- Targets the Varroa where it is reproducing – killing the next generation without harming the developing bee.
- Easy to use – This is the only formic acid Varroacide in a Strip Formulation. NO ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT IS REQUIRED. The beekeeper simply cracks open the brood area of the hive and lays the strips across the frames. Done.
- Treatment is just seven days TOTAL.
- No residues - Can be applied DURING a honey flow – with no withdrawal period.
- Has been tested successfully in temperatures up to 33°C/92°F
- 100% Fully compostable. – After application is completed MAQS can be left in the hive for the bees to dispose of or can be removed and composted.
- Co-developed with the assistance of a European Partner, this partner will be announced within the next weeks.

Product will be available for beekeepers in Hawaii as soon as SLN Registration is received, this has been requested to be completed for October 2009.

General distribution is being targeted for January 2009 for North America.

For more information, contact NOD Apiary Products, 2325 Frankford Rd., Frankford, Ontario, K0K 2C0, Canada Steven Haylestrom, 613-398-8422 or check www.MiteAway.com in the near future for additional information.

This message brought to you by Bee Culture, The Magazine Of American Beekeeping, and on October 5, 2009...Bee Culture Goes Digital! Watch for more information on Digital Bee Culture, The Paper AND Digital Magazine Of American Beekeeping

- Don Hopkins, State Inspector: (336) 376-8250
- Guilford County Beekeepers Association web site www.guilfordbeekeepers.org
- North Carolina State Beekeepers Association www.ncbeekeepers.org



Guilford County Beekeepers Association

A LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Norman Faircloth, editor (nfaircloth@northstate.net)