

# **June Meeting of the Dunn County Beekeepers ~ 2017**

**6/12/2017**

**Secretary's Report**-to be posted online

**Treasurer Report**-to be posted online

## **AGENDA**

- Roll call -- Beekeepers sign in
- Secretary/Treasurer's Report
- Old Business
- New Business
- Meeting Adjourned

## **Old Business**

### **July 10th meeting is our annual picnic**

- All are welcome
- bring a dish to pass
- meet at 7:00PM at Wakanda Park
- 

### **Dunn County Fair**

- organization of our fair booth has begun
- currently, we are looking for volunteers to staff the booth
- PLEASE consider volunteering!

## **New Business**

Dr. Becky Masterman, Ph.D., Program Director, UMN Bee Squad

### **Bee Squad**

increase public concern for bees  
popularity of beekeeping on the rise  
opportunity to educate the public and help beekeepers

Honey Bee problems

A note to be

Honey Bee Diseases and Pests manual-free to download

[https://www.beelab.umn.edu/sites/beelab.umn.edu/files/2016\\_disease\\_pdf\\_version\\_s.pdf](https://www.beelab.umn.edu/sites/beelab.umn.edu/files/2016_disease_pdf_version_s.pdf)

Varroa was discovered in Wisconsin and Florida in 1987.

Today it is found in most places of the world.  
Multiple approved synthetic and organic miticides for varroa control.  
Varroa monitoring methods are varied....it is important that beekeepers are on the same page with monitoring methods so we can “talk the same language”

Varroa are feeding on the fat bodies of the bees.  
This affects thermal regulation of bees, which is important for winter.  
How you manage you Varroa populations can impact the honey bee colonies in your area.  
Honey bee colonies collapsing from mite infestation can be a source of mites transferring to healthy colonies.

Interesting and Relevant article: Meghan Milbrath  
<https://beeinformed.org/2016/03/08/why-did-my-honey-bees-die/>

### **Road to MiteCheck and MiteCheck Kits**

Powdered Sugar Roll Test Kits for backyard beekeepers....directions are in the disease and pest manual references above.

- it is non-destructive sample
- Reliable measure of phoretic mites
- Sticky board might not give results if spiking mite populations as fast as powdered sugar roll test

Test for mites monthly, starting April through October  
test mite levels after management to measure efficacy of management.

### **Varroa Management**

- divides
- drone brood removal
- brood interruption
- requeening with different genetic lines
- keep bees in isolated area
- miticides

### **Nutrition**

- nectar, honey, pollen
- pollen supplement in spring can be critical
- feed your bees if necessary
- encourage everyone to plant food for bees
- neighbors
- customers schools, cities, states, anyone who will listen to you.
- plant flowers & keep them pesticide free

## **Native Bees**

Honey bees are stealing Native bees food...there are circumstances that encourage competition.

rusty patched bumble bee is endangered.

help the effort by encourage others to plant flowers for both honey and native bees.

honeybeehealthcoalition.org excellent resource

[www.beesquadtravel.com](http://www.beesquadtravel.com)

## **yellow sweet clover**

mightcheck.com

you can enter your mite data and it also gives you county level information.

oxalic acid vaporization, dribble method –effective most in November/December so there is little to no brood.

rotate comb every three years unless entombed pollen

what kind of foundation? They use plastic foundation.

You can test a colony at 55 degrees plus.

How long do you treat? depends on method....different methods need different temperatures.

oxalic acid....32 degrees minimum.

how early do you start treating?

a mean hive you just turn it around. this confuses them and they release a pheromone that is lemon scented which distracts them.

robbing screens? look up.