

TARA TIDINGS



JANUARY 19TH, 2015
-MEETING @ 7:00 PM

SERGEY VOLZHSKIY
“API THERAPIST”



Tara Beekeepers
Association



ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GBA Early Spring Meeting February 14, 2015
held at Lake Blackshear in Cordele Ga.
Check out the GBA Website.*

*Check out the web site
Tarabeekeepers.org*

*Need Donations For
Monthly Prize Drawings*



Follow Us @ Facebook.com/TaraBeekeepersAssociation

ADDITIONAL WEBSITES

Tara beekeepers Association

www.tarabeekeepers.org

Georgia Beekeepers Association

www.gabeekeeping.com

UGA Beekeepers

www.ent.uga.edu/bees



ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Congratulations to Buster Lane,
Tara Beekeeper of the year**



Please go to our web site Buster's Bees | to the products page to the purchase nuc page for information and the order form for you to fill out and submit to get nucs.

<http://www.bustersbees.com/>

TOOL TALK



Past President.... Tara Beekeepers
Newsletter Editor...

A lot is going on in Tara. We are entering a new year with new officers and a brand new outlook. Melanie Maxwell is your new president. She and her husband have been members of Tara for a while now and attend frequently. She asks great questions and shows a thirst for knowledge. She will lead the club over the next year and direct us as in the fine tradition that we have become accustomed.

January is the month for getting your equipment ready and to start our traditional dreams of spring time. Beekeepers think of all the flowers, nectar and weather, since we do worry about the weather. Hopefully, you are getting your gear in order and you are getting your feeders ready. Personally, I am trying to get my labels ready and my website launched. As a small business owner, who does much of the things I need to do, and am only good at a few, I find it hard to track my time. Like the newsletter, suddenly it is the Friday before the meeting.

You may have noticed the difference in the website, as we have changed to our new host server. Wix. JC, my right hand IT man says it is easy to use. HA. I say to that. I had my son Tylor, give it a go and he had a hard time.

So, get your hive tool cleaned and sharpened, read up on the articles and get the equipment made and ready.

- Mary

2015 TARA CALENDAR

January 19th, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm - Sergey Volzhskiy "Apitherapist"

January 20st, 2015 - Board meeting @ 6:00 pm, pot luck Dinner

February 16th, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm- Keith Fielder Maximizing Your Honey Crop

March quarterly raffle prize

April 18th, 2015 - Board Meeting- 9:00am coffee and donut PN and Evelyn Williams Home

April 20th, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm- Margo Wimbish Children's education

May 18th, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm- Mary Cahill Roberts Hive inspection

May 30th, 2015 - Children short course Reynolds Park - 9:00 am until noon

June 15th, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm- Jim Quick

June quarterly raffle prize Complete hive unassembled

July 20th, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm- Speaker

July 21st, 2015 - Board meeting @ 6:00 pm- Pot luck Dinner

August 17th, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm- Bear Kelley Ga. State Beekeepers

September 5th, 2015 - Short course @ 8:00 am until 4:00 pm- Kiwanis club Building

September 21st, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm- Speaker

September quarterly raffle prize uncapping tank

October 10th, 2015 - Annual Tara Picnic at Rick & Joann Minters Farm @ 11:00 am

October 19th, 2015 - NO MEETING THIS MONTH

October 20th, 2015 - Board meeting @ 6:00 pm - Pot luck Dinner

November 16th, 2015 - Meeting @ 7:00 pm - Speaker - Officer Elections and Honey show

December 7th, 2015 - Annual Christmas Party @ 6:00 pm - Kiwanis club building

December quarterly raffle prize \$250.00 A Hive donated by P.N. Williams

2015 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Melanie Maxwell
President@tarabeekeepers.org

Treasurer, Pat Brookshire
treasurer@tarabeekeepers.org

Vice President, Fran Lane
vpresident@tarabeekeepers.org

Secretary, David Brookshire
Secretary@tarabeekeepers.org

Three-year Director, Ed Mellon

Three-year Director, Maurice Rochester

Two-year Director, Jerry Haygood

Two-year Director, Buster Lane

One-year Director, Jim Moye

One-year Director, Doug Clack

Honorary BOD positions:
President Emeritus, PN Williams
President Emerita, Evelyn Williams



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Our Board of Directors is still looking for members to step up and **TAKE OWNERSHIP OF YOUR CLUB.**

Please volunteer to help with any of the club's various Jobs, committee positions, and service project assignments

The Club needs volunteers to

Take a turn bringing a dish to our monthly meetings in 2015

Please help with this important effort; our socials following the monthly meetings offer opportunities to mingle with your fellow beekeepers and foster cohesiveness in our group.

Here are some other great jobs and positions (to inquire, simply send an e-mail to president@tarabeekeepers.org):

PROJECTS:

- Hive Inspection Leader

JOB:

- Webmaster
-Website Contributor
-Newsletter Editor
-Newsletter Contributor
-Club Librarian
-Cookbook Contributor

COMMITTEES:

-2015 Picnic
-2015 Audit
-2015 Beekeeper of the year
-2015 Christmas Party

SERVICE:

- Public Speaker in Community

CATCH THE BUZZ

MANUFACTURER CAUSES BEE KILL FROM BEETIME EU



In Switzerland last April there was a mass poisoning of bees originally blamed on local farmers, but it turned out that wasn't the case. 172 colonies were poisoned in the regions of Zäziwil and Möschberg.

Authorities analyzed the poisoned bees and found that the poison was the insecticide Fipronil, which is banned in Switzerland. Poisoning occurred during the flowering of fruit trees, so the relevant departments of government continued to seek and identify the active substance in the flowering trees.

Fruit growers had proper documentation from which it was evident that they sprayed fruit trees with a fungicide Folpet, which is allowed in Switzerland. But that didn't stop investigators. They

discovered that approved insecticide Folpet was imported from Israel, where the factory before filling fungicide (Folpet) filled Fipronil for the United States. It turns out that the equipment was not cleaned before they started to use Folpet. Therefore, the Swiss withdrew from the market all the fungicide from those batches.

This is a great example of good practice, how all investigations should be conducted. We hear too many times stories about the mass poisoning of the bees without an outcome.

Source: <http://www.bluewin.ch/de/news/regional/region-bern/2014/11/10/ursache-des-bienensterbens-im-emmental-gefunden.html>, http://www.czs.si/novice_podrobno.php?sif_no=4313 and <http://www.srf.ch/news/regional/bern-freiburg-wallis/bienensterben-bei-zaeziwil-aufwaendige-spurensuche-loest-das-raetsel>.

CATCH THE BUZZ

SAVING BEES: FUNGUS FOUND TO ATTACK VARROA MITES



Scientists in the ARS Beneficial Insects Research Unit at Weslaco, Texas, have found that a strain of the fungus *Metarhizium anisopliae* is deadly to Varroa mites.

Parasites known as Varroa mites infest honey bee colonies, sucking blood from the bees and causing weight loss, deformities, diseases, and reduced lifespan. These mites, who can nearly destroy an entire colony within a few months, now infest honey bee colonies across most of North America. The honey bee is critical to maintaining natural vegetation, transferring pollen between flowers as it collects the pollen and nectar for its hive. And more than 130 agricultural plants in the United States are pollinated by honey bees. Every year, beekeepers send

their best bees throughout the country to help pollinate crops, one farm at a time. In 2003, the value they added to U.S. crops was estimated at \$10 billion, not including the honey, beeswax, and royal jelly also produced. USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service reported more than 2.5 million honey bee colonies—up 1 percent from 2002—and U.S. honey production increased 5 percent, to 181 million pounds. Since 2000, scientists in the ARS Beneficial Insects Research Unit (BIRU) at Weslaco, Texas, have been looking for a disease-causing agent, or pathogen, that can stop Varroa mites. The mite has developed resistance to the only approved chemicals—fluvalinate and coumaphos—now used for control, and coumaphos is on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "hit list" for possible removal from the market. So the researchers have looked at various disease agents, tried different dosages and application methods, and conducted toxicity tests. Finally, they selected a strain of the fungus *Metarhizium anisopliae* that was highly pathogenic to Varroa mites.

CATCH THE BUZZ

SAVING BEES: FUNGUS FOUND TO ATTACK VARROA MITES

This potent fungus, which also kills termites, doesn't harm bees or affect their queen's production. To test it, the scientists coated plastic strips with dry fungal spores and placed them inside the hives. Since bees naturally attack anything entering their hives, they tried to chew up the strips, spreading the spores throughout the colony.

In field trials, once the strips were inside the hives, several bees quickly made contact with the spores. Within 5 to 10 minutes, all the bees in the hive were exposed to the fungus, and most of the mites on them died within 3 to 5 days. The fungus provided excellent control of Varroa without impeding colony development or population size.

"We tried to find a pathogen of Varroa, and we did it!" says ARS entomologist Walker A. Jones, research leader of the BIRU. Tests showed that *Metarhizium* was as effective as fluvalinate, even 42 days after application. "Commercial beekeepers are very edgy about using fluvalinate and coumaphos and are eager to see this natural control get to market," Jones says.

This research was begun by Rosalind James, formerly with the Weslaco unit. Lambert H.B. Kanga, former BIRU research associate and now chair of the Entomology Department at Florida A&M University at Tallahassee, continues to collaborate on the project. "While *Metarhizium* doesn't kill as fast as fluvalinate and coumaphos, the result is the same," Kanga says. "*Metarhizium* gets the job done, and we won't have to worry about Varroa becoming resistant to the fungus."

Editor's Note

If you have an E-mail address, Please send it to me so we can get it in the directory.
Monthly Tara Newsletters are also sent to members by the Internet.

Send me your articles, classified, comments and suggestions.

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Membership Dues :

Make checks payable to:
Tara Beekeepers Association dues are \$20.00
Per family per year.

Special thanks to the following

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