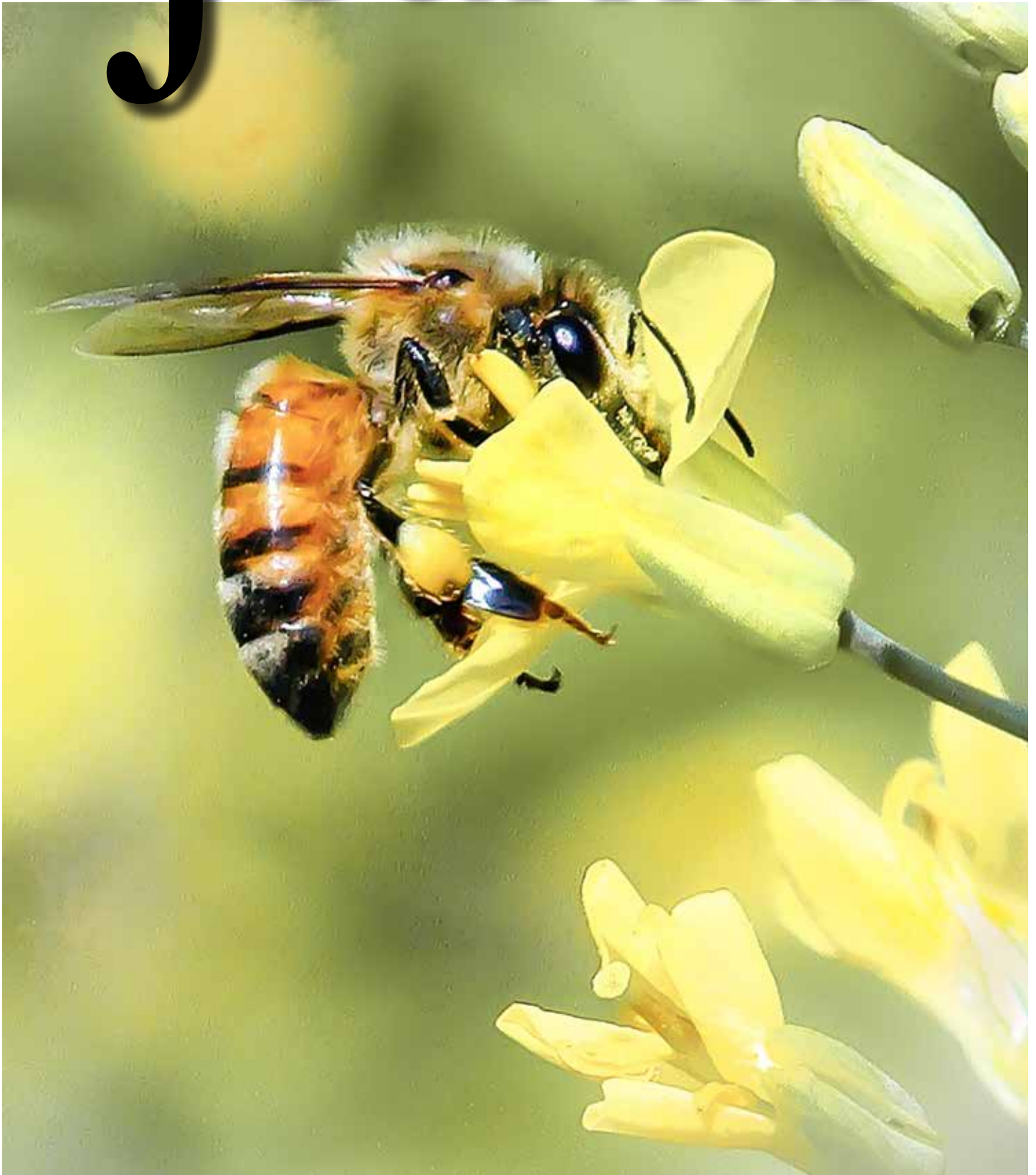


The

Texas Beekeepers Association



Journal



May / Jun 2022

www.texasbeekeepers.org

Issue 22-3

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President's Report from Ashley Ralph

Summer Clinic is right around the corner and I can't wait to welcome Dr. Keith Delaplane, our Texas beekeepers, and the phenomenal speakers and vendors to Conroe on June 25th. It's going to be a great event with tons of information and networking with beekeepers around the state. This is the biggest beekeeping event of the year and you won't want to miss the program our planning team has worked up.

It sounds like many areas around Texas are seeing a better honey flow this year than the last although that's not saying much yet. The tallow trees are in bloom as I sit here writing this update and the horsemint and wildflowers continue to fill the roadsides. In my area, we've seen a little bit of rain although I know many areas are still feeling the effects of drought. Watch your bees and

if you're not sure, verify that they're bringing in food by looking at the frames.

The TBA board is working on a project with Pollinator Partnership to create a Texas Bee Guide to educate people about bees in Texas. While we're focused on honey bee education and advocacy, the awareness and effort to improve health of all pollinators is an effort we strongly support. This bee guide will show Texas residents more about the amazing variety of bees we have in Texas in addition to honey bees.

We're looking forward to seeing you all soon and if you're unable to make the event in Conroe, we hope you'll join us in person in Temple for the Annual Convention in November.

Texas Beekeepers Association

Summer Clinic June 25th Conroe, TX

Register at Texasbeekeepers.org

See Pages 6 - 9

Front Cover by Dan Eudy

Vice Presidents Report

from Dodie Stillman



I don't know a beekeeper in Texas that isn't tired right now!! Queen production is slowing down, splits are just about wrapping up and new beekeepers that have picked up new packages and nucs are feeding their bees! My bees have all been checked for space and it's been added as needed. I've been working on the TBA Summer Clinic, and teaching beekeeping classes. And just for fun, I've helped at my soon to be local bee supply store with their bee pick up, so I'm exhausted! What about you?? Busy too, I'll bet!

The comments that I have heard lately are "Why are my bees outside the hive?" and "When do I add the next box?"

The good news is you probably don't have to worry about the bees being outside their hive. It's the forager bees that are gathering outside the colonies and "bearding" or "washboarding" out there. They don't want to go into the hive, it's hot in there!! They would much rather hang out on the front porch and chill!! Also, your house bees are working hard to cure the honey, to draw as much moisture as they can out of that nectar. With extra bodies breathing in the hive that would just increase the moisture and make it even harder for the house bees to convert the nectar to honey.

Adding the next box, or just more space for the bees is pretty easy, the rule of thumb for Langstroth hives is when you are at 80% of your hive having honeycomb drawn out on the frames you are ready for that next box. That is 8 frames in a 10-frame box and 6 frames in the 8-frame box. For TopBar beekeeping, you should be gradually working in blank bars all through the spring and early summer. But you know what, you also need to think about your bee population! My mentor told me you can't intimidate your bees, it took me a while to understand what he was saying, but it has to do with giving them more space than they can guard. You don't want to invite Small Hive Beetles into your hive at this time of the year. But you also need to think about what the future holds. With a little rain in May, our horsemint/bee balm plants will really start to pop here in

Central Texas, I'm sure there are flowers in your area that are just waiting for a little rain so they can do their thing too. So you want your bees to have someplace to store all that nectar they will be pulling in. If your population is expanding and you know that your next nectar flower is on the way, and your first box is pretty close to or at 80% full of honey comb, go ahead and add that next box, or do what you need to give them more space.

Your TBA Board have really been working hard to get the Summer Clinic ready for prime time! This prime time will be June 25 in Conroe, Texas at the Lone Star Convention Center. We decided that after COVID we all needed a bit of comfort, so we are heading back to our favorite venues not only will we be in Conroe for Summer Clinic, but Temple will host the TBA Fall Convention this year too.

We have Dr Delaplane with us this year in Conroe and his main keynote will be about the news on the origin of our honey bee and what it might mean to us as beekeepers. Dr Delaplane will have 2 other presentation during the day to look forward to as well. We have pretty much confirmed the speakers and presentations, so you can start planning your day in Conroe. We will be posting the schedule online at the TBA website, so be sure to check there for any last minute updates as we get closer to the June 25 event date. Look for the day's schedule, the class descriptions and the venue map later in the Journal and please register soon. The registration will be turned off right before the event so don't delay and miss out on this fun and information packed event. See you there!

Register for Summer Clinic Here: <https://texasbeekeepers.org/summer-clinic-registration/>

Be sure to check for updates to the schedule here: <https://texasbeekeepers.org/summer-clinic/>

Check out the deals on the hotels we have blocked for this event here: <https://texasbeekeepers.org/summer-clinic-hotel-information/>



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SUMMER CLINIC June 25, 2022

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FEATURING DR. KEITH DELAPLANE

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The Lone Star Convention And Expo Center
9055 Airport Rd, Conroe, TX 77303

PRICING:

TBA MEMBERS:

\$85

NON-MEMBERS:

\$100

Author of "First Lessons in Beekeeping", Dr. Delaplane has been beekeeping since he was a child. He will bring his astute observations, experience, and an academic career in bee research to Texas this summer with topics like "Out of Africa or out of Asia? Honey bee biogeography and what it means for beekeepers" "Mutiny and other things that go wrong (besides mites)" and "Pollinator partnerships among bee species" Our favorite thing about Dr. Keith Delaplane is how he perfectly bridges the gap between bee research and practical beekeeper knowledge that helps build stronger bee colonies.



VARIETY OF TOPICS

BEGINNER

Getting Started Beekeeping

Bee Biology

All About Nutrition

Annual Management

INTERMEDIATE

Queen Performance & Breeding

Infused & Creamed Honey

Making Soaps & Salves

Urban Beekeeping

Growth Strategies

Honey Production & Bottling

Monitoring Hive Health

SHARED INTEREST

Native Pollinators

Honey Production

California Almond Pollination

Professional Bee Removal

Finances for Bee Business

Natural Beekeeping Practices

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2022 TBA Summer Clinic

(schedule still tentative)

Purchase your THBEA Raffel Tickets EARLY!!

7:30-8:50	Location & Topics	9-9:50	10-10:50	11-11:50	12-1:20	1:30-2:20	2:30-3:20	3:30-4:20	4:20-5
	TBA BALLROOM Main Bluebonnet Ballroom: Vendors, Demos and Interactive Classes			Honey Show Preparation Demonstration: Honey Entries & Wax Monica Swiak		How To Start a Bee Club Resources Q&A Andy Knight	Texas Master Beekeeping Program Q&A Dodie Stillman	Hives for Heroes - Charlie McMasters	
	Dadant Beekeeping Supplies Ballroom 2 Getting Started Series	WELCOME & KEYNOTE	Getting Started: What Every Beekeeper Should Know Tara Chapman	Bee Biology: A Guide To Understanding Your Hive Chart and James Elam	All About Nutrition Tara Chapman	Texas A&M Student Research Presentation	Texas A&M Student Research Presentation	Texas A&M Student Research Presentation	
	Mann Lake Ballroom 3: Practical Beekeeping		Best Management Practices for Urban Beekeepers Chart and James Elam	Mating and other things that go wrong (besides mites) Dr. Keith Delaplane	Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for Honey Bees Lauren Ward	Pollinator partnerships among bee species Dr. Keith Delaplane	Bee Removal with Charlie Agaz		* * *
	Moore Honey San Jacinto 1: Panel Discussions	KEYNOTE Dr. Keith Delaplane	Beekeeper Hacks: Practical Management Practices Discussion - Brittany Fetterman, Art Thomas, Cameron Crane, Stan Gore	Commercial: Making the Jump to Commercial Justin Russell, Chris Moore, John (Skip) Talbert	Industry Updates Blake Shook, Ashley Rajph, Joe Morris, Cade Houston, Juliana Rangel	Queen Rearing Discussion Panel Meghan Mahoney, Keith Delaplane, Dr. Juliana Rangel, Cade Houston	Pollination Services & Bee Leases Discussion Panel Justin Russell, Dennis Hebert - Cyrus Nser, Chris Barnes		* * *
	Texas Bee Supply San Jacinto 2: Sideline & Commercial	Out of Africa or out of Asia? Honey bee biogeography and what it means for beekeepers	Growth Strategies: Scaled Spills, Acquisitions, Etc. Justin Russell	California Almond Pollination Blake Shook	Tips on Honey Production, Bottling, & the Truth about the honey market Chris Moore	Open Books: What It Takes to Bee Successful in the Bee Business Chris Moore	Monitor & Treat for Bee Health & Grade Colonies for Commercial Beekeepers Blake Shook		* * *
	Yellow Rose 1&2: Special Interest Groups		Building a Youth Program at Your Bee Club Q&A Chris Barnes	Biology of Queen Mating Dr. RANGEL	Queen Rearing For All Aparies Sizes Juliana Rangel	Honey Science Dr. Richard Wilson	Queens: Strategies for Success in a Backyard Apiary Lauren Ward		THBEA Raffel Drawing * * *
	Yellow Rose 3&4: Special Interest Groups		Rainfall Insurance & ELAP Programs: Financial Programs for Professional Beekeepers - Ron@Randg.com	Mead Making: How to, creating flavors, recipes, and more Wildflyer team	Bees for 1-D-1 Special Land Valuation Dennis Hebert	Success at Your Farmer's Market Dannessa Vascuk	Simple Spills to Increase your Apiary Brittany Fetterman		
	Yellow Rose 5&6: Special Interest Groups		Bee-scape your landscape and the Varroa Mite Les Veronica Hawk	Chemical-Free Beekeeping Crowder	Understanding the Nature of Bees Les Crowder	Intro to Top-Bar Hives Brandon Fehrenkamp	Pollinator Talk (Native Bees, Protection, etc.)		

Of Bees, Bovines, Botany, and Baby

"The Continuing Journey of Two Tenth-Year Small-Scale Beekeepers"
TBA Journal Article – May 2022

by Roger and Sue Farr, Caddo Trace Beekeeping Association (CTBA), Mount Pleasant, Texas;
Master Level Beekeeper - Texas Master Beekeeper Program (Roger)

Pictures are by the authors unless otherwise indicated.



Photo - Hudson Old, East Texas Journal

We love to learn.

The Levitical priest, Ezra, was also such a man. He wrote in about 700 B.C., "Now, Ezra set his heart to study the law of the Lord, to practice it, and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel." Set his heart. Study. Practice. Teach.

This applies to our lives right here and right now.

Bees - We raised queens and are selling nucleus colonies for our sixth year. We've put procedures in place that allow us to have reproduceable results...except for the production of queen cells from day-old larvae. We placed 90 larvae on cell bars from our Nicot laying cassette into four different cell builder colonies, expecting 60+ well formed, large, queen cells. We had 20. Clearly, we do not have a working procedure for how we assemble the cell builder colonies, provision them, and then return them back to normal production status. We actually did better, percentage wise, at producing queen cells in our first years when we only wanted 10 to 20 cells!



Photo - Google Images

The interesting part of this is the constant learning we do in observing how God has created the honey bee and the environment in which they function. We share with children and adults about honeybees, and their responses are the same, "Wow, what a great job God did in creating the honey bee; I never knew...!" Well, not exactly. More like "Look at all we humans have learned about God's creation... and how much more we have to learn!" We are the creature and God is the creator. Roger and Sue still have a lot to learn about raising queen cells! Bees.

Bovines – We're Aggie vet parents, so we learned, "bovine, equine, porcine, canine, and feline."

Our county AgriLife extension agent sponsored a half-day seminar by two veterinarians dealing with a few cattle reproductive diseases, and the grading/selection of bulls. Did you know cattle can have STDs just like humans? Neither did we. The females clear the disease after five months of reproductive rest and a menstrual cycle; the bulls are infected for life and are good only for the slaughter house.

This reminded us of what happens with laying workers in our apiary. To clear up the situation, we scrape the drone brood from the frames, and combine the colony with an existing strong colony led by a strong pheromone producing queen, and the situation clears itself up. The workers will send the drones to slaughter in September.



Bulls have one reproductive purpose in life, to inseminate the heifers and cows. If a bull is unable to do that for whatever reason, he is culled for the slaughter house. This is like what a beekeeper does with an unproductive queen; squish her and move on. A bull with misshapen reproductive organs will never get better. A small poorly mated queen will never get better. Interesting how both cattlemen and beekeepers are looking for productivity out of the

animals/insects God places in their possession. A cattleman with a 92% calf-drop each year will be able to make a living, but one with a 65% drop will soon be out of business. A beekeeper that loses 35% of their hives every year will spend a lot of money to stay in beekeeping, or simply quit.

The average lifespan of a cattleman is six years. It takes several years to build up the infrastructure and herd before most realize you are not making any money. Then, it takes a few years to liquidate or declare bankruptcy. Bees and bovines. New beekeepers have only a three year lifespan.

Botany - We're both Texas Master Gardeners so we know that plants and bees go together. Roger visited Daphne Prairie which is still in its 1840's configuration. There were a gazillion varieties of grasses and other flowering plants, most new to me. We collected seed from the plants to distribute on our property. Many of the grasses were in flower. Read that again. Bees of many species were collecting pollen from GRASS flowers. A plant will only produce seed if its flower is pollinated. Many of the grass varieties produce seed...and therefore flower...and therefore are a pollen source for insects, including many of the 2000 species of bee residing in Texas. Never thought about that.



The other Master Gardeners on the fieldtrip admired the flowers, while Roger looked for the bees and other pollinators. Most were solitary ground nesters, including the one carpenter bee which kept buzzing us and would not go away; she gave honeybees a bad name! Staring at the same square meter of ground for a few minutes, I counted more than 30 different bee species, most were smaller than one centimeter. Do the same experiment at your home. Study the tiny white, purple, pink, and yellow flowers right at ground level. Watch the pollinators seeking nectar and, in the process, transferring pollen. Amazing how God utilizes these amazing insects for His creation and allows us to enjoy the literal fruits of their labors. Bees, bovines, and botany.

Baby – Our newest grandson is terrific. Fun to watch the next generation apply what we taught.

These individual learning opportunities connect the dots in several respects. Like Ezra we set our hearts, studied, practiced, and are learning to share what we've learned with others.

- Babies are God's gift the parents.
- Every creature/plant on earth desires to reproduce itself. As a beekeeper or horticulturalist, it is our job to steward that creature/plant to success. God has given man dominion, or stewardship responsibility, over the earth and all that it is in it. This includes reproductive success for food production and beauty.
- Animals, insects, and plants that do not reproduce as intended are culled. This DOES NOT apply to humans because we are created in God's image. This does apply to squishing underperforming queens and removing a bull that is "shooting blanks."
- The intersection of plants, animals, and insects, is amazing, fascinating, and awesome all at the same time. The species diversity is enough to keep us busy for a while. Our tour guide, the owner of Daphne Prairie, told us how a botanist is writing his PhD thesis on the five here-to-for unknown sub-species of Indian Paintbrush (*Castilleja coccinea*) he has found at the prairie. Clearly, we as humans, do not understand all about the creation, nor how to steward it most effectively. However, we've been given the job of stewardship and must accept responsibility do that on our own six-acres. We encourage others to consider what they will do, not in isolation, but in considering the pluses and minus of their intended course of action; think IPM pyramid.

Keep learning and growing in your beekeeping knowledge and experience! We'd love to hear about your beekeeping adventures and what's on your summer reading list!

Roger and Sue Farr - rdfarr@gmail.com



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The Brantley Column

from S. S. Brantley

2016 Life Member Texas Beekeepers Association

2017 Life Member Louisiana Beekeepers Association

The nectar flow will begin to slow by the middle of June. By the last week in June, the bees will begin to search for that last remaining nectar source to fill out the frames. If you pay close attention to the frames of capped honey in the super, you may see cells of capped honey that are not drawn out as far as some of the other cells. These may be a different color than the adjacent cells that may or may not be capped. Honey bees will not, as a general rule, mix nectar sources, i.e., mix different nectars in the same cell.

The honey bee has been doing her thing for a lot longer than you and me and usually does a good to excellent job in the process. Most of the honey in the frames in the Ark-La-Tex area will be capped and ready for extraction by the end of June. If you were observant in late May and early June, you may have been able to selectively pull fully capped frames, extract them, and return them to the super to be refilled for a second extraction by early July. Honey extracted early in the flow season will normally be the lightest and mildest tasting honey. However, this may not be the honey your customer needs to purchase. Tests have shown that the darker honey has more antibiotic properties that MAY help reduce allergic flare-ups plaguing many of the population these days.

Frames of honey that are capped with the beautiful white wax cappings we love to see are normally below the desired 18% water content. There has been some nectar from Tallow trees that can be capped and still be in the 22% moisture range. If a check of your honey shows a high moisture reading, it may be necessary to run a dehumidifier (or two) in the honey house before trying to bottle the honey for sale. Some beekeepers I talked with said they noticed the cappings on frames of Tallow honey look as if the excess moisture in the cell actually “blew” the cap off the cell. Be aware that this has and can happen. Have a plan ready to put in place if this situation arises in your extraction process.

Honey frames that are not fully capped should be given the “shake test” before extracting. Hold the frame of honey by each end bar with the top bar toward the bottom (upside down). Give the frame a sharp shake downward. If NO honey rains out onto your workbench or your boots, the frame is OK to extract. If the nectar shakes out, the frame is “not cured” and should be returned to the hive for the bees to complete the drying and capping process.

One of the first steps in the extraction process is getting the bees off frames you pull for extraction. Smoking the bees out of the super can give the honey a smoky taste. Brushing bees off the one frame at a time is slow and can make the bees irritated but does work if you have only a few frames to pull. Fume boards can move most of the bees out of the super. They work best when temperatures are high and it helps to place the board in the hot sun for several minutes before placing in the super. Special bee escape boards can be placed below the super but have to be installed the day before you plan to pull frames.

My favorite technique is to use a leaf blower to quickly blow the bees off a super of frames. Stand the super on end with the frames running vertically. Direct the air stream from the leaf blower through the frames to blow the bees off the frames. Usually only takes a minute or two to blow all of the bees out. You probably will not need the full force of the leaf blower, just enough flow to blow the bees off the frames. I prefer to blow from the top bar side to the bottom bar so the bees will not be hindered by the top bar as they are blown out. Be careful where you blow the bees so you will not be stepping on them on the ground while you are still working. Interesting side note: supers of capped honey can be blown free of bees in a couple of minutes. However, uncapped frames will take longer as the bees want to continue to guard the uncapped honey and fight to keep from being blown off.



TEXAS
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Youth Ambassador Program

**Apply for the NEW Texas
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**Engage with your
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bees!**

Open to anyone aged 13-18, with an interest in honey bees or beekeeping who wants to advocate in their communities for bees and beekeeping. At the completion of the program, Ambassadors will receive a \$500 scholarship.

Texas Beekeepers Association

Ambassador Program

The Texas Beekeepers Association has a long history of raising public awareness for bee related causes, providing resources to beekeepers and the public alike for bee education, and creating opportunities for research and innovation in apiculture. In order to raise awareness for our mission and help grow our presence among young people, the Texas Honey Queen and Texas Beekeepers Association have created an ambassador program for youth that would allow boys and girls from ages 13-18 to become involved with Texas Beekeepers Association and also to raise youth awareness and involvement at both the local and state level. This ambassador program requires that the ambassadors use their presence among their spheres of influence to communicate the mission of TBA, as well as create and implement a service project in their community relating to beekeeping, honey bee education, or a related subject. Upon completion of their ambassadorship, the recipients are to be awarded a \$500 dollar scholarship. Applications for this program are due June 11, and can be found on the TBA and Texas Honey Queen social media pages. The TBA Youth Ambassadors will be announced at the TBA Summer Clinic in June, and will present their service projects at the following TBA Summer Clinic next June.



You are invited to attend a Celebration of Life for John and Janice Thomas, July 16th, 2022 at 11 AM, at the A&M United Methodist Church, 417 University Dr., College Station, TX. Please feel free to come with a story or memory to share. A light lunch and family visiting will follow in the Fellowship Hall.



The Texas Honey Bee Education Association (THBEA) is proud to introduce a great new way for Texans to support education and research programs dedicated to preserving and protecting honey bees. The new THBEA “Love Honey Bees” license plate is now available for sale online and in county tax assessor offices where license plates are sold and renewed across the state.

For every license plate purchased, \$22 will go to the THBEA for youth and beekeeper education programs, information resources for farmers and the general public, and research programs to improve honey bee health and longevity.

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I Stand Corrected or Beekeeping Stuff I thought I knew but didn't !

from Kirk Kirksey, Master Beekeeper, Dino-Bee Club

I am fond of saying I love beekeeping because there is always something new to learn. But if the truth be told, sometimes learning a new something can be embarrassing - especially if the new something challenges an old something I have been pontificating about to others. I speak from experience when I say; learning new stuff is great, but may require eating a little crow in the process. Here are a few recent examples from my own pontifications...

Get Rid of Propolis

In my very first beekeeping class, the instructor was fanatical about removing every molecule of propolis from boxes, frames and tools. In her class we scrapped, scrapped, and scrapped some more. I religiously followed her example. A few years ago, at a TBA Convention, I sat in a wonderful breakout session listening to a young entomologist describe propolis as nothing less than a powerful antibacterial protecting the colony against a host of nasty germs. So instead of forking out all that elbow grease, these days beekeepers are looking for ways to encourage their honey bees to produce more propolis - like wire brushing the insides of their boxes, or cutting vertical grooves into the inside hive walls.

Varroa Mites Eat Honey Bee Hemolymph

How many years have I been quoting this "fact"? Not long ago, a group of scientists introduced two types of fluorescence biostains into some mite infested honey bees'. One color of stain went into the hemolymph; another stain color was injected into the bees' fat body. The scientists wanted to know exactly what the Varroa mites were eating since one particularly observant scientist noticed the Varroa anatomy didn't appear particularly well adapted to eating "bee blood" (hemolymph). Turns out, lots of the fat body stain ended up in the varroa proving fat body is a major source of varroa nutrition. This very important finding could lead to targeted treatments against the dreaded Varroa.

Oxalic Acid Ends Up in Honey So Honey Supers Must Be Removed When Treating Hives with Oxalic Acid Vaporization.

Not long ago, the beek-o-sphere was abuzz with news the Feds approved Oxalic Acid Vaporization treatment could be used with honey supers on the hive. You could almost hear shouts of joy echoing across the country. But wait. In the time-honored tradition of bureaucratic red tape, things are not as they seem. The new ruling gives Oxalic Acid a "tolerance exemption" which means honey/wax will no longer be tested for OA. Here comes the gotcha. The EPA, which controls chemical labeling, has not yet approved a change of wording on Oxalic Acid labels. ARS (Agricultural Research Service)/USDA website says the label change allowing honey supers will be changed "In the near future." I think this means it is OK touse OAV with honey supers on, but if you do you'll still be violating the label and breaking the law. Your guess is as good as mine on this one.

Hygienic and Varroa Sensitive Hygienic (VSH) are the Same Thing

"Hygienic" and "Varroa Sensitive Hygienic" are often thought (and sold) as the same thing. They are not. Hygienic bees are able to detect and remove pupa (capped) that are infected with a brood disease. VSH can detect and remove Varroa-infested pupa specifically, as well as fight the mites in other ways. This means VSH bees are hygienic, but Hygienic bees are not necessarily Varroa Sensitive. For those buying Hygienic and believe they are getting Varroa Sensitive Hygienic I can only say, caveat emptor.

Bottom Line

Here is what I've learned about learning. If I really do enjoy learning new stuff as much as I say I do, I must be ready to change my mind (and my tune) about the old stuff when new facts come to light. This can be uncomfortable. But, if the price for learning new stuff (and thereby becoming a better beekeeper) means bellying up to the bar for a slice of humble pie once in a while, so be it.

SOURCES:

Przybyłek I, Karpiński TM. Antibacterial Properties of Propolis. Molecules. 2019 May 29;24(11):2047. doi: 10.3390/molecules24112047. PMID: 31146392; PMCID: PMC6600457.

Varroa destructor feeds primarily on honey bee fat body tissue and not hemolymph

Samuel D. Ramsey, Ronald Ochoa, Gary Bauman, Connor Gulbranson, Joseph D. Mowery, Allen Cohen, David Lim, Judith Joklik, Joseph M. Cicero, James D. Ellis, David Hawthorne, Dennis vanEngelsdorp

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences Jan 2019, 116 (5) 1792-1801; DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1818371116

<https://www.ars.usda.gov/northeast-area/beltsville-md-barc/beltsville-agricultural-research-center/bee-research-laboratory/docs/oxalic-acid-faqs/>

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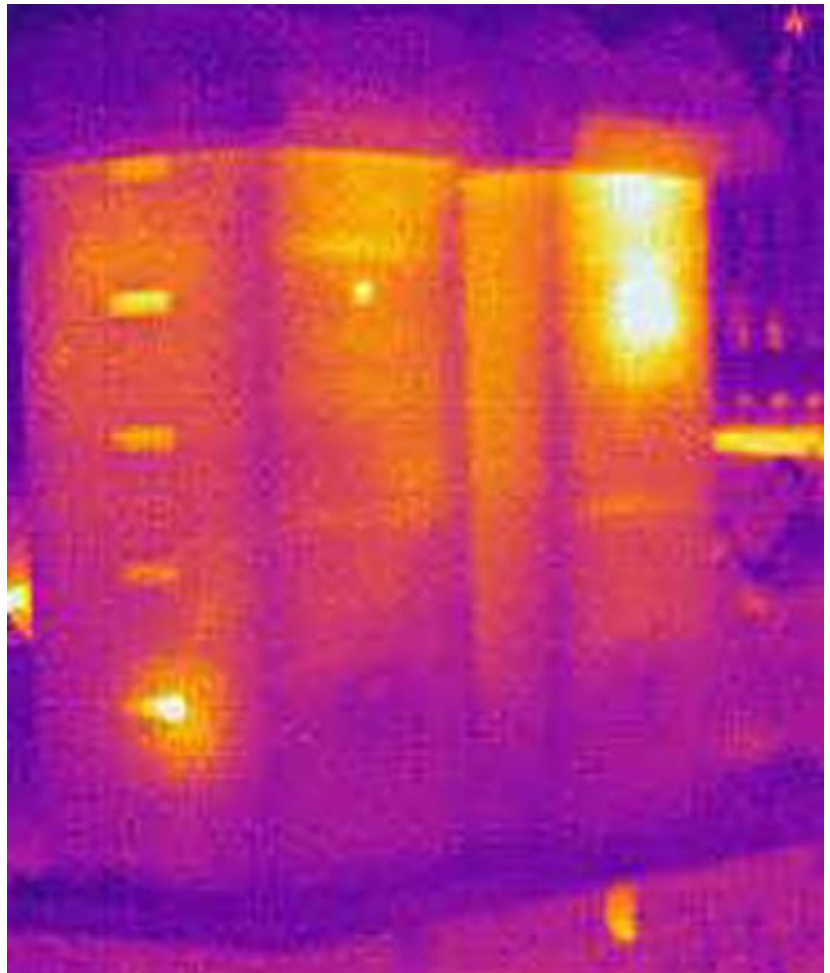
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Use of Thermal Imaging for Beekeepers and Honey Bee Removers

Dayna Druke, www.queenbeetx.com Fort Bend Co, TX

There are many uses for thermal imaging or infrared cameras. When we consider them we may think of their use in diagnosing issues, like in the case of a medical technician or detecting issues with water or gas leaks like a utility worker. No matter the use for the imaging, it works the same way. All matter gives off a bit of energy with moving electrons. Sometimes you can see the heat, like in the case of a stovetop burner, or feel the heat like a hot glass of coffee. Thermal imaging gives us the ability to “see” the heat from across the room, behind a wall, or inside a hive body. Thermal cameras capture infrared energy and use the data to create images through digital or analog video outputs.

For beekeeping, thermal imaging can have some novel but valuable uses. The obvious use is in winter, to see where in the hive the bees are clustered and to make certain that the colony is still alive without having to crack the hive and destroy their propolis seal. If you give your bees a seasonal candy board, you are able to check if the bees have gone up into the candy board and might be running low on food storage. You may be able to identify other pests or intruders into the colony, like a mouse nest. If you became very good at documenting your colony inspections, you may note the temperature of the hives while you are documenting. A broodless colony is actually a few degrees cooler than a colony that is keeping developing brood warm. This could help a beekeeper identify a broodless cycle without having to dig into the hive.





Many beekeepers side-hustle as honey bee removers in Texas, and for some of us it is our livelihood. Personally, I started dabbling in honeybee rescue and removal a few years ago, but just for friends and family. Word spread and I started to make a small summer business out of removals and rescues. I very quickly realized that honey bees often had their “favorite” places to

move into homes, sheds, and businesses, but there was never any way to see beyond just the colony entrance. I have been told by homeowners that honey bees have taken residence in a soffit only to discover them taking up entire walls. Also, every honey bee remover that has been around a few years has heard “the bees have only been there for a month” just to crack the colony open and find a decade’s worth of comb.

A thermal imager is an indispensable tool for a honey bee remover and I would advise any homeowner to not hire a remover unless the remover has one. For the remover, the images save a lot of time, increase the confidence of your work, and stop you from underestimating your removal costs. The camera will quickly identify exactly where the colony is and the extent. And older model FLIR camera will cost between \$200-\$300, is small/portable, and plugs right into your phone, allowing the homeowner to instantly see the colony and for you to take and save pictures.



continued on page 22



In the summer heat of the Texas the gradient image can become less dramatic due to our oppressive summer heat matching the colony temperature. In these instances, you can adjust your camera settings to become a bit more sensitive or attempt to take the thermal imaging in the cooler evenings or early mornings. You can see a few individual guard bees on bricks outside the colony in this image of a ceiling porch removal on the left.

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Greetings from Dr. Juliana Rangel at Texas A&M University

*Associate Professor of Apiculture, Department of Entomology,
Texas A&M University*



Dear TBA members,

It is May, and it is H.O.T.! The spring semester came and went at Texas A&M University, and with it, out went the students. The campus feels like a deserted island now compared to two weeks ago. This was one of the toughest semesters for me, as I taught three courses: the undergraduate courses ENTO 320 Honey Bee Biology and ENTO 321 Introduction to Beekeeping, as well as the graduate seminar course on Insect Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology. Now that the semester is over, I will have more time to work on research and grant writing. Oh, and traveling of course. Lots of traveling as usual.

I was the invited speaker for the monthly meeting of the Montgomery County of Pennsylvania Beekeepers Association. The meeting took place on Thursday, 27 January, and can be found at <https://www.montcopabees.org/event-4109062> I was then Keynote for the South Carolina Beekeepers Association Spring Conference on 25-26 February in Spartanburg, SC. I have a couple of talks about our recent work on bee nutrition. More information about the meeting can be found at <https://scstatebeekeepers.com/>

All of our lab traveled to Ft. Worth on 18-22 April for the Southwestern Branch (SWB) meeting of the Entomological Society of America (ESA). I co-organized a symposium on social insect biology, supervised our student participants for their oral and poster presentations. We got two awards this year, one for McKaela Whilden, who got 1st place for the undergraduate student poster session, and one for Dr. Alex Payne, who got 3rd place in the graduate student poster session. I coached (for the 9th year in a row) the Texas A&M University (TAMU) teams for the Entomology Games. Both of our teams got 1st and 2nd place at the games! Which means that they will be representing our university and branch at the National games later on in Vancouver, Canada, in November! Some fun fact: Two Rangel lab graduate students,

Myra Dickey and Jordan Twombly Ellis, are part of the Entomology games team that

got 2nd place! And finally, I moved up the ranks in the leadership of the SWB of ESA, by now being Vice-President of the branch. If things go as planned, I will be the branch's President in 2023-2024.

The most exciting thing that happened at the lab recently was the 6th Art of Queen Rearing Workshop, which we held on Saturday and Sunday, 21 and 22 May. We had an amazing line up of speakers: Sue Cobey, Dr. Jennifer Tsuruda (University of Tennessee, Knoxville), Melanie Kirby (Zia Queens, NM), Megan Mahoney (MaHoney Queens and Bees, TX), and members of the Rangel Bee lab. We had 37 participants and lots of very useful information and hands-on activities.

Now for some upcoming events. The next session in the At Home Beekeeping Series will be Tuesday, 31 May 2022, from 6:30-7:30 PM CST. Our speaker this month is Dr. Frank Rinkevich from the USDA-ARS. He will be speaking on "Costs and benefits of propolis in the hive." We're offering beekeepers the chance to attend virtual meetings from the comfort of one's own home using a computer or mobile device. Speakers include university researchers and extension specialists from across the Southeast, as well as USDA ARS researchers. Each event will bring participants up to date on timely beekeeping topics with time for Q&A included. Please help us out by sharing this info on your social media sites and sending the flyer to your partners and local beekeeping associations. Here is the link to the event on Facebook: <https://fb.me/e/1cDO2T7Qg>. Feel free to re-share this post from our site or create your own post with the jpgs attached. Information for the entire series can be found here: <https://www.aces.edu/blog/topics/bees-pollinators/at-home-beekeeping-series/?cn-reloaded=1>

Jordan Twombly Ellis and I are co-organizers of a symposium at this year's conference of the International Union for the Study of Social Insects (IUSSI) on 3-7 July in San Diego, CA. The title of the symposium is "The high cost of communal living: Evolution and mechanisms of social immunity in eusocial insects." We have over 15 speakers from all over the world (including Jordan and myself) that will be speaking on their work on social immunity in honey bees. For more information about the meeting visit <http://burkclients.com/IUSSI/meetings/2022/site/>

Finally, continuing with REASONS TO CELEBRATE series, I want to share with you more of the multiple accomplishments of our incredible group of students and staff.

REASON TO CELEBRATE #21:

Congratulations to Alex Payne for receiving the highly prestigious Comstock Award from the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America. Congratulations Alex! This award is given to a graduate student from the Southwestern Branch to promote interest in entomology at the graduate level and to stimulate interest in attending the fall/winter ESA Annual Meeting. The winner will be recognized at the Southwestern Branch Meeting and will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to the ESA Annual Meeting, a \$100 cash prize, and a certificate.

REASON TO CELEBRATE #26:

Congratulations to Alex Payne, who received 3rd Place in the Graduate Student Poster Competition at the Southwestern Branch of ESA meeting. Ft. Worth, TX. 19 April 2022. Her talk was titled "Using nutrition to mitigate the effects of pathogen infection in honey bees."

REASON TO CELEBRATE #27:

Congratulations to McKaela Whilden, who received 1st Place in the undergraduate student poster competition at the Southwestern Branch of ESA meeting. Ft. Worth, TX. 19 April 2022. Her talk was titled "Comparing Nosema levels in wild and managed honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) populations at Welder Wildlife Refuge."

REASON TO CELEBRATE #28:

Congratulations to former Rangel Lab member, Dr. Alex Payne, who graduated with a Ph. D. on 11 May

and is now a postdoctoral research associate at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign to work in the laboratory of Dr. Adam Dolezal on projects related to honey bee-associated viruses and microbiome interactions. We will definitely miss you Alex!

That is all for now. As always, for up-to-date information regarding our program, or for new and interesting posts regarding bees and beekeeping, please visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TAMUhoneybeelab>.



Dr. Alex Payne during her Ph. D. graduation with former Rangel Lab alumni, Dr. Pierre Lau, in May 2022!



Students in the Entomology Games Team #2 from Texas A&M University after winning 2nd place during the regional games in Ft. Worth, TX.



All participants at this year's Art of Queen Rearing workshop on 21-22 May at the Janice and John G. Thomas Honey Bee Facility.



Students grafting during the Art of Queen Rearing workshop.



Texas Honey Bee Education Association

Fundraiser in Memory of Janice Thomas

The Nevin Weaver Fund was established in December of 2009 with an original endowment of \$75,000 from donors Dr. John and Janice Thomas and their daughter Valerie Hamilton under the administration of the TAMU Foundation. A guaranteed rate of 4% per annum of the endowment value is available to be used by Dr. Juliana Rangel to cover expenses and projects in her department. Only the interest on the endowment can be used, ensuring funds for the future.

**Mr. Stanford Brantley has generously offered
\$5,000 in matching contributions to the Nevin
Weaver Endowment Fund, in memory of Janice
Thomas (1937-2022)**

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Email: sdoggett@mindspring.com



TAIS Update

*from Bill Baxter and
Taylor Powell*



Greetings from the Texas Apiary Inspection Service (TAIS)! We hope that you all have had a productive spring season and we would like to wish migratory beekeepers safe travels as they leave Texas. As we approach the summer months, remember to make sure your bees have an adequate water source. If the water can be drained or dumped, please replace the water regularly to prevent mosquito breeding environments. It will also be important to recognize whether your bees need supplemental feeding. Continue to check stores regularly to reduce the likelihood of starvation.

As always, monitor Varroa mite levels and keep an eye out for other pests and diseases which can stress your colonies and weaken their immune health. You can help prevent, prepare, and respond to pest and disease stressors through an Integrated Pest Management approach. Now is the time to learn about the biology of pests and diseases and how they interact with their host so you can approach from a prevention perspective versus an intervention perspective. If you have questions about honey bee pests or diseases, please reach out to our office at either tais@tamu.edu or (979) 845-9713.

On a positive note, our office is excited to announce new leadership in the Texas Master Beekeeper Program (TMBP). As many of you may already know, Mary Reed no longer works with our office or the TMBP. While we are sad to have lost her valuable leadership and insight, we have curated a fantastic board of directors who have experience with the TMBP and volunteer outreach coordination. We would like to give a hearty welcome to Dodie Stillman, Michelle Boerst and Molly Keck as they begin their roles on the board. Taylor Powell, one of our Apiary Inspectors, has taken on the role of program coordinator within the board of directors and hopes that a team effort will encourage growth in the program.

The most recent virtual TMBP exam session

concluded April 10th and the board of directors looks forward to the 2022 fall exam which has traditionally been hosted in tandem with the Texas Beekeepers Association Convention. The next exam session will be held in-person and we hope to see both new and familiar faces participating in the program. In the meantime, if you are completing Public Service Credits, we would love to receive pictures and descriptions of what you are doing to share on our social media page. If you have any questions about the TMBP, please reach out to taylor.powell@tamu.edu, stillmandodie@gmail.com, or michelleboerst@yahoo.com.

In closing, we would just like to provide a few reminders about state regulations and deadlines. If you conduct bee removals in Texas, please mark your calendars for August 1st to send in your new bee removal transportation application since all of the bee removal transportation permits will expire on August 31st. The bee removal page is updated monthly, so if you send in your application late, it may mean that you have to wait awhile before your name will appear on the page.

If you are selling bees, don't forget to provide your customers with either a self-issued certificate of health or an active certificate of inspection issued by our office. This is intended to create accountability for healthy bee sales. We are proud of Texas agriculture, and we hope that you will set high standards for yourself as you represent Texas beekeepers and agriculture. We have some of the best beekeepers around and we love to see strong, healthy colonies that reflect your hard work.

Well, that's about it for this issue, as we begin to move forward into summer the TAIS staff hopes that everyone has a successful beekeeping year with plentiful brood, lots of honey, and low mite counts. As always if you have any questions or know a good bee joke please don't hesitate to contact us (TAIS@tamu.edu) and keep on keeping those wonderful bees!

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Listing of Local Beekeepers' Associations in Texas with TBA Delegate and Regular Meeting Information Shown for Each

Please forward any changes and/or additions to
Leesa Hyder, Executive Secretary, execsec@texasbeekeepers.org

Alamo Area Beekeepers Association

Rick Fink - (210) 872-4569

president@alamobees.org

www.alamobees.org

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday on odd # months

San Antonio Botanical Gdn, 555 Funston Place, San Antonio

Austin Area Beekeepers Association

Brittany Fetterman - (512) 525-9473

austinareabeekeepers@gmail.com

facebook.com/groups/Austin/AreaBeekeeperAssociation

www.meetup.com/Austin-Urban-Beekeeping/

Meeting: 3rd Monday of each month at 7pm

Frank Fickett Scout Training and Service Center

12500 N I-35, Near Farmer Lane, Austin

Bastrop County - Elgin Area Beekeepers Association

Joseph Hakkinen - (713) 408-1260

president@elginareabeekeepers.org

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm

Various Locations

Bees in the East Club

Mark de Kiewiet (210) 863-8024

beesintbeeast@att.net

Meetings 4th Saturday of each month at 10am

Water Garden Gems, 3230 Bolton Road, Marion,

Bell/Coryell Beekeepers Association

Charles McMaster (703) 624-1337

bellcoryellbeeclub@gmail.com

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month (except December) at

Refuge Ministries, 2602 S. FM 116, Copperas Cove - 7pm

Big Country Beekeepers Association

Ken Hobbs - (325) 665-4045

paniolobee@icloud.com

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month except December at 6:30pm

1502 South Treadway Blvd, Suite B

Abilene

Blanco County Beekeepers Association

Teri Albright - (512) 636-9900

blancocountybeekeepers@gmail.com

Meetings: 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm

Blanco County Annex South, 402 Blanco Rd., Blanco

Brazoria County Beekeepers Association

Steve Brackmann - (832) 884-6141

stevenbrackmann@yahoo.com

bcbba@brazoria-county-beekeepers-association.com

www.brazoria-county-beekeepers-association.com

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month

Brazoria County Extension Office, 21017 CR 171, Angleton at 6:45 pm

Brazos Valley Beekeepers Association

Nathan Krueger - (979) 324-1160

info@bvbeeks.org

www.bvbeeks.org

Meetings: 3rd. Tuesday of each month (except Dec.)

First Christian Church, 900 S Ennis St., Bryan from 6pm

Caddo Trace Beekeepers Association

Dale Vanhoose

dcv836@gmail.com

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month

Titus County Agrilife Ext. Bldg., 1708 Industrial Rd., Mount Pleasant

at 7 pm

Caprock Beekeepers Association

Victoria Watts - (806) 392-2355

mystique175@att.net

Meetings: 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm

Freeway Bible Chapel, 5507 Marsha Sharp Freeway, Lubbock 79407

Central Texas Beekeepers Association

Karl Cottrell

CentralTexasBeekeepers@gmail.com

www.centraltexasbeekeepers.org

Meetings: Monthly on the 4th Thursday (except November and December) Washington County Fairgrounds, 1305 E Bluebell Rd.,

Brenham at 7pm

Chisholm Trail Beekeepers

Scott Zirger (682) 385-0008 or (510) 301-5796 (cell)

scott@zirger.us or chisholm-trail-beekeepers@googlegroups.com

Meetings: Last Monday of each month

Burleson Bible Church, 260 South Hurst Road, Burleson

Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.

John (Skip) Talbert (706) 761-7893

president@cchba.org

www.cchba.org

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm

Collin College Conference Center, (Central Park Campus)

2400 Community Dr., McKinney

Colorado County Beekeepers Association

David Behlen (832) 230-5740

coloradocountybeekeepers@gmail.com

Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm

316 Spring Street, Columbus

Comal County Beekeepers Association

James Cobarruvias (210) 858-9011

jcobarruvias@att.net

Meetings: 1st Thursday of each month

Beefy's on the Green Restaurant, upstairs room

12910 US Hwy 281N at 6:30 pm

Concho Valley Beekeepers Association

Rex Moody - (325) 650-6360

cvbeekeeper@gmail.com

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month Jan-Nov at 6:30 pm

Texas A&M res. & Ext. Center, 7887 US Hwy 87 N, San Angelo

Deep East Texas Beekeepers Association

Ellen Reeder - (337) 499-6826

*ellenswartz@sbcglobal.net*San Augustine Chamber of Commerce Building
611 West Columbia Dt., San Augustine**Denton County Beekeepers Association**

Gary Barber - (972) 768-5505

*board@dentonbees.com**www.dentonbees.com***Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm

Please see club website for location

Dino-Beekeepers Association

Chip Hough (817) 559-0564

*dino-beeclub@hotmail.com**www.dino-bee.com***Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of month at 6:30 pm

Glen Rose Citizens Center, 209 SW Barnard St., Glen Rose

East Texas Beekeepers Association

Richard Counts - (903) 566-6789

*dick.counts4450@gmail.com**www.etba.info***Meetings:** 1st Thursday of each month at 6:45 pm;

Whitehouse Methodist Ch., 405 W Main (Hwy 346), Whitehouse

Bastrop County - Elgin Area Beekeepers Association

Joseph Hakkinen - (713) 408-1260

*president@elginareabeekeepers.org***Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm

Various Locations

Elm Fork Beekeepers Association

Jan Hodson - (940) 637-2702

*janrhodson@gmail.com***Meetings:** 3rd Thursday of each month

The VFW Hall, 3332 North Grand Ave, Gainesville

Fayette County Beekeepers Association

Bruce Ford

(713) 818-7348

*rosscreekhoneybees@gmail.com***Meetings:** First Saturday of the month, Feb, April,

June, August, October and December at 5 pm

Fayette County Ag. Bldg., 240 Svoboda Ln., La Grange

Fort Bend Beekeepers Association

Lynne Jones - (713) 304-8880

*info@fortbendbeekeepers.org***Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of each month (except December) at 7:30 pm

Bud O'Shieles Community Center

1330 Band Rd, Rosenberg 77473

Harris County Beekeepers Association

Jim Orr - (713) 213-7080

*rjfarmandapiary@gmail.com**www.harriscountybeekeepers.org***Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm

Golden Acres Center, 5001 Oak Ave., Pasadena

Hays County Beekeepers Association

Georgia Miguez 512) 827-6239

*hayscountyba@gmail.com***Meetings:** 3rd Wednesday of each month at

Suds Monkey Brewing, 12024 US-290, Dripping Springs at 6:30pm

Heart of Texas Beekeepers Association

Gary Bowles (254) 214-4514

*gm.bowles@yahoo.com***Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of each month (except Dec.) at 7 pm

Contact club to confirm meeting location

Henderson County Beekeepers Association

Kathi Murphy-Boley (972) 467-5092

*kdbmurphy@gmail.com***Meetings:** 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm

Faith Fellowship Church, 5330 Highway 175, Athens, TX 75762

Hill County Beekeepers Association

Robin Sliva - (254) 205-0534

*rs.plumleeplace@gmail.com***Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm

Hill County Courthouse Annex, 126 S Covington St., Hillsboro

Hopkins County Beekeepers Association

Jon Dalzell - Secretary, (214) 395-1730

*dalzelljon@aol.com***Meetings:** 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm

Hopkins County Agrilife Bldg., 1200 W Houston St., Sulphur Springs

Houston Beekeepers Association

Sandi Murray (713) 594-9273

*info@houstonbeekeepers.org**www.houstonbeekeepers.org***Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm

5200 Montrose Blvd., Houston TX 77006

Houston Natural Beekeepers Association

Therese Ramirez - (832) 908-5017

*houstonnaturalbeekeepers@gmail.com***Meetings:** Second Saturday of the month at 10 am

4466 Billy Street, Houston TX 77020

Johnson County Beekeepers Association

Bruce Watts, Jr. - (817) 992-2294

*bruce.jr@sbcglobal.net***Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm

2099 W FM 917, Joshua

Kaufman Area Beekeepers Association

John Guthrie - (214) 686-8585

*kaufmanbeekeepers@gmail.com***Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm

Kaufman United Methodist Church, 208 S Houston St, Kaufman

Lamar County Beekeepers Association

Randall Childres - (903) 249-9105

*lamarcoba@gmail.com***Meetings:** 1st Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm

Lamar County Fairgrounds, Bldg B, 570 E Center St., Paris

Longview Beekeepers Association

Myra Smith (903) 639-2910

Meetings: 1st Tuesday of each month at 6 pm

Texas Agrilife Extension Office, 405 E Marshall St., Longview

Magnolia SWARM Beekeepers

Andy Knight - (281) 305-4072
magnoliaswarm@gmail.com
<http://www.magnoliaswarm.org>
Meetings: 1st Tuesday of the month
 Various Locations (go to website)

Metro Beekeepers Association

Russ Killingsworth - (817) 751-9513
president@metrobeekeepers.net
<http://www.metrobeekeepers.net>
Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month 6:30 - 8:30
 Southside Preservation Hall, 1519 Lipscomb St. Ft. Worth

Marshall Beekeeping Association

Beth Derr - (936) 591-2399
marshallbeekeeping@gmail.com
Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm
 Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 501 Indian Springs Dr., Marshall

Montgomery County Beekeepers Assn.

Andy Knight - (281) 305-4072
mocobees@gmail.com
www.mocobees.com
Meetings: 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm
 Montgomery County Extension Office, Tom Leroy Education Bldg., 9020
 Airport Road, Conroe

Northeast Texas Beekeepers Association

Rebecca Vaughan - (972) 841-3751
contactnetba@gmail.com
Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month at 5:45 pm
 Canton Baptist Church, 303 South Athens St.,
 Canton, TX 75103

Palo Duro Bee Club

Paige Nester - (806) 678-8048
nesterpaige@gmail.com
Meetings: 1st Thursday of each month
 Creek House Honey Farm, 5015 4th Ave, Canyon

Pineywoods Beekeepers Association

Terry McFall - (409) 289-7387
tadmcfall@hotmail.com
Meetings: 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm
 Lufkin/Angelina County Chamber of Commerce
 1615 S Chestnut St. Lufkin (just off Loop 287)

Red River Valley Beekeepers Assn.

Larry Roderick (940) 237-2814
roderickwaterwells@gmail.com
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month (except December) at 7pm
 Bolin Science Hall Room 209, Mid West State University,
 310 Taft Blvd., Wichita Falls

Rusk County Beekeepers Association

John Stewart - (903) 842-4433
jes.stewart@gmail.com
Meetings: Last Thursday of each month at 6 pm
 Church of the Nazarene, 906 W Main St, Henderson

San Jacinto County Beekeepers

Andy Knight - (281) 305-4072
sanjacbeekeepers@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/SanJacintoCountyBeekeepers>
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month
 Calvary Baptist Church, 65 Petroleum Rd., Coldspring 77331

San Marcos Area Bee Wranglers

Gay Fraser (512) 264-2021
smabeevranglers@gmail.com
Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month 7:00 pm - 9:15 pm
Extra Meetings: 4th Thursday of the month, March, April, May 7:00pm
 Pecan Park Riverside RV Park, 50 Squirrel Run, San Marcos

Temple Area Beekeepers Association

Jim Billings (254) 760-2053
holly21351@aol.com
Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month at 7pm
 Troy Community Center, 201 East Main Street, Troy

Texarkana Beekeepers Association

Sarah Clinesmith - (903) 277-2145
sarahaddie@aol.com
Meetings: 3rd Monday of each month at 6pm
 Texarkana Public Library, 600 W 3rd St Texarkana

Texas Hill Country Beekeepers Association

Linda Williams - (830) 688-0560
texashillcountrybeekeepers@gmail.com
facebook.com/TXHillCountryBKAssn/
Meetings: 4th Tuesday of odd months at 6:30 pm
 Hill Country Veterans Center, 411 Meadow View lane, Kerrville TX 78028

Travis County Beekeepers Assn.

Tanya Phillips - (512) 560-3732
traviscountybeekeepers@gmail.com
www.TravisCountyBeekeepers.org
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TravisBeeks/>
Meetings: First Monday of the month at 7 pm
 Zilker Botanical Gdns., 2220 Barton Springs Rd., Austin

Tri County Beekeepers Association

Erin Davis - (903) 389-3436
erin.davis@ag.tamu.edu
Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:30pm
 Sam's Restaurant, Fairfield, TX

Tyler County Bee Club

Scott Martin - (409) 283-4507
tcclub16@gmail.com
Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month at 6 pm
 Nutrition Center, 201 Veterans Way, Woodville

Walker County Area Beekeepers Assn.

Larry Fuchs - (936) 661-0633
walkercountybeekeepers@gmail.com
Meetings: Last Thursday of each month at 7 pm (not Nov or Dec)
 Walker Education Center, 1402 19th St., Huntsville

Williamson County Area Beekeepers Assn.

Gillian Mattinson - (512) 961-9955
gillmatties@gmail.com www.wcaba.org
Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 pm (except December)
 Georgetown Public Library, 402 W 8th St., Georgetown

Wise Texas Bee Club

Donny Johns - (817) 939-3249
info@wisetexasbeeclub.org
Meetings: First Thursday of the month at 6pm
 Public Library, Bridgeport

Wood County Beekeepers Association

Bill Zimmer - (469) 222-3901
woodcountybeekeepers@gmail.com
Meetings: First Tuesday of every month at 7 pm
 Winnsboro Civic Center, Hope Ln, Winnsboro

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Picture from Kirk Kirksey