



Catch The Buzz

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Memphis Area Beekeepers Association www.memphisbeekeepers.com

P.O. Box 38028, Germantown, TN 38183

Meeting Location: 7777 Walnut Grove Rd # C, Memphis, TN 38120

MEETING DATE & TIME: July 8, 2019 at 7 pm – Van Power will present The Art of Honey Extraction. Many of you are seeing the bees cap the honey in your supers, so this is a timely subject for many. You will not want to miss this!

Need to borrow a MABA extractor to harvest your honey? If so, contact Eddie Nunn, email: thenunnfarm@gmail.com, phone: 901-412-8128

JULY AND THE BEES

- **Summer is here and The Bees are hot.**
- They are bringing in water and any pollen and nectar.
- They may hang out on the front of the hive as a way to cool themselves and the brood chamber.
- The HOT bees may be a bit more aggressive as the honey flow may be tapering off and the bees have less to do.
- Swarming is possible but they are searching for water. They bring it back and fan it over the hive, some bees will transfer it to other bees in the brood chamber.

JULY AND THE BEEKEEPER

- Check the hives, looking for evidence of a queen/eggs and larvae. Pay careful attention to weak hives to make sure strong hives are not robbing—taking the resources out of the weak hive. Again, watch for robbing.
- Try to determine if the honey flow a slowed or not in your area and mark that date on a calendar for future references.
- Add honey supers, do not forget the queen excluder, a good rule is to add them when the bees cover 7 of 10 frames. As the supers fill up, add new supers.
- It is also a good time to harvest honey, once the honey is harvested put the supers back on the hive for the bees to refill or stand them on end and allow the bees to clean them out. If they are not to be used again until next season add para-dichlorobenzene—Moth Crystals and put a solid bottom and a solid top on them after treating them. (The Beekeeper may choose to put the super back on and allow the bees to fill it for the winter).
- Some beekeepers believe this is the time to re-queen.

6/27/2019 National Honey Board Report: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/fvmhoney.pdf>

TENNESSEE: The weather has been wet in the western part of Tennessee and dry in the middle and eastern parts of Tennessee. Beekeepers overall are reporting a better than average honey crop this spring. Clover and tulip poplar has pretty much finished blooming. Sumac and wildflowers are the main nectar and pollen sources blooming now.

ARKANSAS: No report issued.



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MISSISSIPPI: The whole state has reported spotty production caused by excess rain early in the month and cooler weather than usual. This has caused a delay of the popcorn flowering and other sources of food to produce more honey. Beekeepers can only wait for the flow to begin that has been slowed down by weather conditions.

IMPORTANTLY, from Mike Studer, TN State Apiarist: for everyone with Registered or unregistered apiaries in the following counties: **Weakley, Stewart, Obion, Dyer, Henry, Gibson, Carrol, Benton, Humphreys, Houston, or Montgomery**. Tests confirmed 11 colonies in 3 apiaries were positive for American Foulbrood. These colonies were in Weakley and Stewart counties. Those colonies have been destroyed. We will be notifying all registered beekeepers within the affected area and inspecting all apiaries within the affected area in the next few weeks. Any beekeeper that thinks they may have AFB should send an e-mail to mike.studer@tn.gov ASAP. Anyone that knowingly has American Foulbrood and does not report it is subject to a \$500.00 fine. Please be careful moving colonies within these counties get your local area inspectors to come out and inspect before you move anything. Anyone moving colonies out of these counties or within these counties without a health certificate is subject to a \$500.00 fine. Please everyone be diligent about hygiene when going from one apiary to the other. Designate a hive tool for each apiary or burn them between apiaries. Use disposable gloves when inspecting hives in these counties.

BEEKEEPING READING LIST

POLLEN COLLECTED BY US HONEY BEES IN URBAN SETTINGS SHOWS DRAMATIC SEASONAL VARIATION, By: [Public Library of Science](#)

The diversity and availability of pollen foraged by honey bees across urban and suburban areas in the US varies drastically with the seasons, according to a study published June 12, 2019 in *PLOS ONE* by Juliana Rangel from Texas A&M University, USA, and colleagues.

Honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) colonies require a diversity of protein-rich pollen in order to rear healthy brood and ensure colony survival. During certain seasons, insufficient or poor-quality pollen can limit brood nutrition. In this study, the authors investigated the variation in pollen collected by honey bees across developed landscapes in California, Michigan, Florida, and Texas over the seasons of the year.

The authors tracked a total of 394 sites with at least two hives each in urban and suburban locations across California, Texas, Florida, and Michigan. They placed a pollen trap at each hive entrance, which passively collected pollen from foraging bees, and sampled pollen from the traps in multiple months of 2014 and 2015. The researchers used a **light microscope** to identify pollen grains to the family, genus, and species level where possible.



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The total overall pollen species diversity varied significantly across all four states, with highest diversity in California and lowest diversity in Texas. Nationally, the total pollen diversity was significantly higher in the spring across all locations as compared to other seasons. Top pollen sources across all states included legumes, oaks, roses and daisies. Only a few plant groups provided pollen throughout the year—for example, eucalyptus and palm pollen was consistently available in California and Florida.

Since pollen traps were only in use over limited periods, the assessment of pollen collection was not comprehensive, and the pollen was not quantified to examine the proportion collected of each type. However, these results provide information about honey bee foraging patterns over the year. The authors hope this might help urban planners and gardeners choose plants that can provide appropriate pollen resources to honey bees in developed areas year-round, and plan pesticide treatment regimens around honey bee foraging schedules.

The authors add: “This study describes the seasonal and geographic variation of floral sources of pollen for honey bees in urban and suburban landscapes, giving us for the first time a comprehensive look at some of the most important plants for honey bees in developed areas, and serves as a foundation for studies related to honey bee nutritional ecology in urban settings.”

Read or heard of good, science-based beekeeping articles? Please let us know, we will get them into the MABA newsletter.

UNIT HONEY PRICES BY MONTH

Retail-Average Retail Price per Pound across all reporting regions - Data from <https://www.honey.com/honey-industry/statistics/retail-honey-price> used with permission. Based upon average price across all reporting regions. Assumes various sizes sold at the same rate.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
2019	\$7.28	\$7.54	\$7.86	\$7.66	\$7.66	\$7.72						
2018	\$7.57	\$7.22	\$7.34	\$7.28	\$7.03	\$7.23	\$7.37	\$7.41	\$7.17	\$7.34	\$7.51	\$7.46

Average Wholesale Case Price Per Pound across All Reporting Regions. Data from <https://www.honey.com/honey-industry/statistics/wholesale-honey-price> used with permission. Based upon average price across all reporting regions. Assumes various sizes sold at the same rate.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
2019	\$4.16	\$4.32	\$4.33	\$4.41	\$4.41	\$3.55						
2018	\$5.30	\$5.18	\$5.22	\$5.31	\$5.21	\$5.31	\$5.12	\$5.42	\$5.24	\$5.26	\$5.42	\$5.44

To subscribe to the National Honey board newsletter visit: <https://www.honey.com/signup>



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UPCOMING EVENTS

UT Extension Master Beekeeping Program Schedule – 2019

Basic – http://tiny.utk.edu/mbp_basic

Advanced – http://tiny.utk.edu/mbp_adv

July 10-12, 2019 – [Heartland Apicultural Society 2019](#) meeting in Bowling Green, KY! HAS 2019 will be hosted by Western Kentucky University. With 6 [keynote speakers](#) and 24 more great speakers this meeting will have everything you need at any level of beekeeping. Registration and more details forthcoming.

August 12, 2019 – [MABA August 2019 Meeting](#) – Kent Williams is a EAS Certified Master Beekeeper. He has been keeping bees for about 30 years. He manages 800 or so colonies in western Kentucky, and is based in Wingo, KY. We have linked to Kent's Facebook page over the years, as he presents the yearly [Kent Williams Bee School](#) each April, along with the Lake Barkley Beekeepers Association. Come ready with your questions, he might just have an answer!

September 8-12, 2019 – [Apimondia 2019](#) – The 46th Apimondia International Apicultural Congress is in Montreal, Quebec, Canada this year, the first and last time in North America for several years. This is the place to be to learn about international beekeeping challenges and practices! Let us know if you plan on attending!

September 9, 2019 – MABA September 2019 Meeting – Mike Studer, Tennessee State Apiarist, will present the state of beekeeping in TN and how to keep our bees healthy and thriving. You will want to attend this meeting! If there is enough interest Mr. Studer will hold a TN Apiary Inspector Course. Please let Bob if you are interested in this class!

The [2019 Tennessee Beekeepers Association Fall Conference](#) will be held October 11 and 12th at the [Hyder Burks Pavilion at Tennessee Tech](#) in Cookeville, TN.

Confirmed speakers include our keynote presenter, [Dr. Leo Sharashkin](#). He is a proponent of natural beekeeping with extensive experience in horizontal hives. Other confirmed speakers include Gene Armstrong, Dennis Barry, Dr. Clarence Collison, Sue Dickhaus, Sterling Earhart, Jim Gentry, Joel Hausser, David Hughes, Dale McCleskey, Judy O'Dell, Charlie Parton, Lynda Rizzardi, Mike Studer, Mike Torda, Jennifer Tsuruda, Susan Welchance, Joel White, Jay Williams, Kent Williams, and Mike Wilson.

Need containers? If you need glass jars or plastic honey bears please contact Robert Hodum, 901-603-6492.

To learn more about beekeeping in Tennessee visit the Tennessee Beekeepers Association website at:

<http://www.tnbeekeepers.org/>



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HONEY-BASED RECIPES

1. NO BAKE CHOCOLATE PEANUT BUTTER ENERGY BITE

Makes 15 servings, each serving is 2 bites

INGREDIENTS

1/2 cup - peanuts, finely chopped
1 1/2 cup - old fashioned Quaker oats, divided
1/3 cup - flax seeds
1/2 cup - almond flour
3 T - unsweetened cocoa
2 T - peanut butter powder
2/3 cup - mini chocolate chips, divided
1/2 cup - peanut butter
1/3 cup + 1 T - honey
2 T - almond or soy milk

NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION (per serving)

Calories 214 kcal; Fat 13 g; Sat Fat 3 g; Carb 23 g;
Protein 6 g; Fiber 4 g; Cholesterol 0 mg, Sodium 48
mg; Potassium 182 mg; Calcium 34 mg; Iron 1 mg;
Vitamin D 1 mcg

DIRECTIONS

Line a sheet pan with parchment or wax paper.

Place peanuts in a small bowl, set aside.

In a food processor, combine 1 cup of the oats, flax seed, almond flour, cocoa, peanut butter powder and 1/3 cup of the chocolate chips. Pulse several times until it resembles coarse meal.

Add the peanut butter, honey and almond milk to the oat mixture and process until the mixture comes together.

Transfer the oat mixture to a large bowl and mix in the remaining oats and chocolate chips, your hands work best for this!

Scoop out 1" clusters of the mixture and roll into a ball with your hands. Then dip the bites in the finely chopped peanuts. Place each ball on the sheet pan and chill in the refrigerator.

When the bites are chilled and set, store in an airtight container for up to a week.

TIP

You can substitute the peanuts, peanut butter powder and peanut butter for almonds, additional almond flour and almond butter.

SEE YOU AT THE JULY MABA MEETING, PLEASE VISIT WITH YOUR MENTOR.

It's getting hot out there, drink plenty of water when you are working your bees!