



Catch The Buzz

**MA
BA**

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: May 11, 2020 at 7 pm – MABA May 2020 Meeting – **CANCELLED** – Y'all, the Agricenter has cancelled this meeting due to the SARS-CoV-2 virus, AKA the COVID-19-causing coronavirus. We will be in contact with our current members in the days ahead. While we weather the days ahead, stay socially connected yet physically distanced, so that we can all come back together when the storm has passed.

MAY AND THE BEES

- The hive is working at top speed, the Queen is laying and the bees are bringing in nectar and pollen. Give them room, give them space to store a honey crop. They'll be happy you did!

MAY AND THE BEEKEEPER

- Keep up with the working bees by adding empty boxes – underestimating how much equipment you need could cost you a honey crop and could enhance the swarming impulse. Make sure to keep an empty box on top during this time of year. Swarming continues as new bees continue to overcrowd colonies.
- Watch for Swarms, add empty Supers, attend Bee Meetings and update "Bloom Calendar" this will help the beekeeper remember when the major honey flow occurs.

Equipment, equipment, equipment. Manage to prevent swarming by adding equipment.

4/27/2020 National Honey Board Report: <https://downloads.usda.library.cornell.edu/usda-esmis/files/m613mx60p/cr56n8226/vm40z1180/FVMHONEY.PDF>

TENNESSEE: During the Covid-19 Pandemic the State of Tennessee Apiary section is continuing to issue entry permits, exit permits and inspect colonies for export, sale of queens, nus, packages and colonies. The state is not currently doing routine inspections of hobbyist beekeepers. However, we are doing inspections for all beekeepers that believe they may have a regulated bee disease or pest issue. Nuc and queen production has started across the state. Colonies have been building well this spring. Most regions have reported that swarm season has begun. The nectar flow is in full swing. Fruit trees, box elder, red bud, privet, henbit, dandelion and other wildflowers are the main sources of nectar and pollen at this time. No regulated honeybee pest or diseases have been found in TN so far this year.

ARKANSAS: No report issued.



Catch The Buzz

Memphis Area Beekeepers Association www.memphisbeekeepers.com
P.O. Box 38028, Germantown, TN 38183
Meeting Location: 7777 Walnut Grove Rd # C, Memphis, TN 38120



MISSISSIPPI: Bees are out trying to work in between rainstorms pretty much all month. Beekeepers have reported the bees to be in good shape and ready for the Spring flow to begin. Wildflowers, clover and blackberries are available and some people that have to stay at home are able to work with the hives on a fulltime basis during the Covid-19 stay in place orders.

BEEKEEPING READING LIST

1) **Go Wild For Pollinators**, from <https://www.thetelegraph.com/news/article/County-wants-people-to-go-wild-for-pollinators-15216061.php>

Madison County is encouraging children to start gardening with pollinator plants. “Without blooming plants to serve as food sources, bees have to fly miles for food and pollen,” Chairman Kurt Prenzler said. Pollinator-planting focuses on creating landscapes that can strengthen and increase native pollinator populations — bees and butterflies — within the county. Madison County Green Schools Program provides support, incentives and additional resources for new and ongoing environmental best practices for schools across the county. “With the current school closures due to COVID-19, Madison County would like to promote the opportunity for hands-on, at-home learning about pollinator gardens,” he said. Baily Lutz, green schools coordinator, said gardening is not only a great opportunity to teach the benefits of pollinators and insects in the environment, but it is also a proven stress-relief method.

“As we practice social distancing, spending time outdoors in our gardens provides the opportunity to get in touch with nature and cultivate beauty in our own yard,” Lutz said. She said in addition to bees and butterflies, other important pollinators include certain types of birds, bats, and many other insects. By planting native pollinator plants such as milkweed and sunflowers in our own backyards, we promote a healthy habitat for these pollinators to live and thrive. These pollinators are vital in transporting pollen from one plant to another, which in turn improves the overall environment in Madison County.

There are many factors to consider when planning for a healthy pollinator garden; these include the size of the garden, the amount of light and water available, site elevation and topography, soil type, plant selection, and maintenance requirements. To find out more about these requirements and what might work best with your garden, visit www2.illinois.gov/dnr/education/Pages/PollinatorsPlants.aspx.

For resources on how to plant a pollinator garden and the importance of pollinators, please visit www.fws.gov/pollinators/. Here you will find downloadable activities, podcasts, and curriculum to help the entire family learn more about pollinators.

Tips for a pollinator garden

- Use plant varieties that bloom in both early spring and late fall.
- Include plants native to Madison County, such as milkweed and sunflowers. They are adapted to our local climate.
- Plant in clumps rather than single plants.
- Keep away from pesticides whenever possible — if you must spray, spray at night.
- Leave the Limb — dead trees and limbs provide essential nesting sites for native bees.
- Add a nectar resource. Build a hummingbird feeder.



Catch The Buzz



Memphis Area Beekeepers Association www.memphisbeekeepers.com

P.O. Box 38028, Germantown, TN 38183

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

The Madison County Green Schools Program website also features many resources on pollinators and the monarch butterfly, including learning activities and book downloads. The downloadable books are in PDF format, are highly engaging for students, and conform to Next Generation Science standards. www.co.madison.il.us/departments/planning_and_development/green_schools_programs.php

Planning and Development Director Chris Doucleff said as the 50th anniversary of Earth Day on Wednesday, April 22 approaches, the county is encouraging residents to take action by planting a pollinator garden, starting a compost bin, or by picking up litter in a neighborhood or subdivision. He said to find out about more actions and opportunities to celebrate Earth Day, visit Madison County Sustainability Facebook page @Plan.Grow.Sustain.

Prenzler said although National Pollinator Week isn't until June 22-28, now is a great time for families to enjoy the outdoors and gardening.

“With kids and families at home it’s time to go wild and plant for pollinators,” Prenzler said.

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

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
2020	\$8.03	\$7.88	\$7.95	\$7.90								
2019	\$7.28	\$7.54	\$7.86	\$7.66	\$7.66	\$7.72	\$7.68	\$7.62	\$7.89	\$7.71	\$7.85	\$8.08
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
2020	\$4.89	\$5.12	\$4.91	\$5.01								
2019	\$4.16	\$4.32	\$4.33	\$4.41	\$4.41	\$3.55	\$4.51	\$4.42	\$4.46	\$4.52	\$4.62	\$4.64
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>



Catch The Buzz

Memphis Area Beekeepers Association www.memphisbeekeepers.com

P.O. Box 38028, Germantown, TN 38183

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

Plan now for National Honey Bee Day 2020, which is Saturday August 15, 2020

June 8, 2020 – MABA June 2020 Meeting – Speaker and subject TBD. We are hopeful to see y'all there!

July 6-8, 2020 – [Heartland Apicultural Society 2020](#) meeting – CANCELLED.

July 13, 2020 – MABA July 2020 Meeting – Speaker and subject TBD. See y'all there!

August 10, 2020 – MABA August 2020 Meeting – Speaker and subject TBD. See y'all there!

September 14, 2020 – MABA September 2020 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!

September 15-16, 2020 – TN Apiary Inspector Course with Mike Studer, Tennessee State Apiarist. **Please let Charles know if you are interested in this class!**

To learn more about beekeeping in Tennessee visit the **Tennessee Beekeepers Association** website at: <http://www.tnbeekeepers.org/>

HONEY-BASED RECIPES

1. Grilled Shrimp Avocado Bowl - Makes 2 servings

INGREDIENTS	DIRECTIONS
<p>For Pickled Radishes:</p> <p>1 1/2 cup - white wine vinegar</p> <p>1/4 cup - honey</p> <p>1 1/2 T - sea salt</p> <p>1 cup - radishes, trimmed and thinly sliced</p> <p>1 - lemon, thinly sliced</p> <p>2 sprigs - oregano</p>	<p>Preheat oven to 400°F.</p> <p>In a small saucepan, bring the vinegar, honey and salt to a boil, remove from heat and drop in the radishes, lemon slices and oregano. Let the mixture cool for about 10 minutes and refrigerate in a covered jar.</p> <p>Next combine the honey, olive oil, balsamic vinegar, lemon juice, flat-leaf parsley and shrimp in a small bowl and refrigerate.</p>



Catch The Buzz

Memphis Area Beekeepers Association www.memphisbeekeepers.com
P.O. Box 38028, Germantown, TN 38183
Meeting Location: 7777 Walnut Grove Rd # C, Memphis, TN 38120

MA BA

For Shrimp:

- 2 T - honey
- 2 T - olive oil
- 2 T - balsamic vinegar
- 2 T - lemon juice
- 1/4 cup - flat-leaf parsley, stems removed and chopped
- 1/2 lb. - shrimp, tail-on

For Honey Tahini Dressing:

- 1/3 cup - olive oil
- 1/3 cup - tahini, stirred smooth
- 1/3 cup - apple cider vinegar
- zest and juice of 1 lemon
- 3 T - honey
- 2 cloves - garlic, minced
- 1 tsp. - kosher or sea salt
- 1 tsp. - freshly ground pepper

For Bowls:

- 2 cups - kale, trimmed and blanched to just wilted (directions below)
- 3 cups - prepared quinoa
- 1 - avocado, peeled, pitted and sliced
- 1/4 cup - dry roasted almonds, chopped

In a glass jar, combine all of the Honey Tahini Dressing ingredients and shake vigorously until well combined, set aside.

In a 4 qt. saucepan bring water and 1 T salt to a boil and drop in the trimmed and chopped kale. Boil the kale for 2-3 minutes, drain the kale in a colander and set aside to cool.

Place the shrimp on an oiled sheet pan. Cook the shrimp 6-8 minutes until cooked through. Remove to a clean plate.

Divide the quinoa evenly between 2 bowls, add the kale, shrimp and avocado slices. Drizzle with the Honey Tahini dressing and sprinkle with the almonds. Serve with some of the pickled radishes and lemon slices.

TIP

You could use packaged kale chips or make your own instead of the wilted kale if you prefer.