



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

MABA

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!

Need to borrow a MABA extractor to harvest your honey? If so, contact Eddie Nunn, email:

thenunnfarm@gmail.com, phone: 901-412-8128

AUGUST - THE BEES AND THE BEEKEEPER

- August is harvesting time. Harvest your honey and carefully check your bees.
- Remember August is also a time to check for Varroa mite inspections.
- If doing splits August should be the last, early August and the split may build up before winter.
- Remember as Nectar flows run out there may be a need to feed the bees. Re-queening now is good if you can find mated queens.
- It is a time to make plans for feeding in the fall and find sources of feed in case the fall flow does not come in.
- Filter and bottle your honey in preparation for honey sales and shows.

7/29/2019 National Honey Board Report: <https://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/ams/FVMHONEY.pdf>

TENNESSEE: Tennessee beekeepers are reporting a better than average honey crop for 2019. Sourwood, sumac, elderberry, clover and wildflowers were the primary sources of nectar and pollen for the month of June.

ARKANSAS: Weather condition have been hot and humid with adequate rainfall. Pollen sources are various crops and wild flowers. Condition of the colonies were slightly down in the beginning of the month but improved greatly towards the end of June. Demand for local honey is on the raise, and the supply is trying to catch up to demand.

MISSISSIPPI: Beekeepers have not pulled the honey yet, waiting for what is left of the tallow and the red and pepper vines. Weather has been hot, some areas had plenty of rain and the bees are in good shape heading into the hot summer months. Prices remain steady. Wildflower \$1.80 lb local repack for sale at \$2.10 lb



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BEEKEEPING READING LIST

The Key Is Not Whether They Encounter A Disease – It's Whether They Are Fit And Healthy Enough To Fight It Off

https://www.beeeculture.com/catch-the-buzz-the-key-is-not-whether-they-encounter-a-disease-its-whether-they-are-fit-and-healthy-enough-to-fight-it-off/?utm_source=Catch+The+Buzz&utm_campaign=3a3142e0a3-Weekly_Catch_The_Buzz_4_29_2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0272f190ab-3a3142e0a3-332116753

August 5, 2019 – Alan Harman

More intensive beekeeping does not raise the risk of diseases that harm or kill the insects, new research suggests.

Intensive agriculture – where animals or plants are kept crowded together in very high densities – is thought to result in higher rates of disease spreading.

But researchers from the University of Exeter and the University of California, Berkeley found this is not the case for honey bees.

Their study modelled the spread of multiple honey bee diseases and found that crowding many colonies together was “unlikely to greatly increase disease prevalence.”

However, the research only applies to existing honey bee diseases – and the findings suggest intensive beekeeping could accelerate the spread of new diseases.

“Crowding of animals or crops – or people – into minimal space usually increases rates of disease spread,” said Lewis Bartlett, of the University of Exeter and Emory University.

“We carried out this study because beekeepers were worried about this – especially given the many threats currently causing the decline of bees,” Bartlett says.

“To our surprise, our results show it’s very unlikely that crowding of honey bees meaningfully aids the spread of diseases that significantly harm honey bees.”

Bartlett says honey bees live in close proximity to each other naturally, and the models show that adding more bees does little to raise disease risk.

“So, beekeepers don’t need to worry about how many bees they keep together as long as there is enough food for them,” he says

“The key is not whether they encounter a disease – it’s whether they are fit and healthy enough to fight it off.”



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Although the research shows intensification of beekeeping does not boost diseases among honeybees, Bartlett points out that intensive agriculture – especially use of pesticides and destruction of habitats – harms bee species including honey bees.

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	7.68					
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	\$4.51					
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

Think about Volunteering to teach and sell honey at the upcoming festivals in September and October.

September 7-8, 2019 – [The Germantown Festival – Honey Sales!](#)

October 11-13, 2019 – [The Pink Palace Crafts Fair](#)

We'll need help unloading, selling, demonstrating, and teaching the public about beekeeping, we hope to see you there!

Contact Bob Whitworth if you would like to sign up to **volunteer**, bgw92143@hotmail.com or 901-569-3560

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.

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

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



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HONEY-BASED RECIPES

1. BLUEBERRY COFFEECAKE: Makes 8 servings

INGREDIENTS	DIRECTIONS
<p>2 cups - blueberries, fresh or frozen</p> <p>1 T - all-purpose flour</p> <p>1/2 cup - honey</p> <p>2 T - fresh lemon juice</p> <p>1 1/2 cups - all-purpose flour</p> <p>2 tsp. - baking powder</p> <p>1/2 tsp. - salt</p> <p>1/2 cup - honey</p> <p>2 - eggs</p> <p>1/4 cup - milk</p> <p>2 T - fresh lemon juice</p> <p>1 tsp. - freshly grated lemon peel</p> <p>1 tsp. - vanilla extract</p> <p>6 T - butter, melted</p> <p>1/2 tsp. - baking soda</p>	<p>Coat the bottom of greased 9-inch round cake pan with a thin layer of cornmeal and layer blueberries; distribute evenly. Sprinkle with flour; drizzle with honey and lemon juice. Set aside.</p> <p>In a small bowl, combine flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt; set aside.</p> <p>In a medium bowl, combine honey, eggs, milk, lemon juice, lemon peel and vanilla; beat with folk until well mixed. Add flour mixture; mix well. Stir in melted butter; mix well.</p> <p>Pour batter over blueberries in pan; spread to cover evenly. Bake at 350°F for 30 to 35 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center of cake comes out clean.</p> <p>Cool in pan on wire rack 10 minutes.</p> <p>Invert cake onto large plate; cool.</p>