



# Beekeepers Association of Southwest Florida NEWSLETTER

December 2012/January 2013

## Monthly Meeting

Our regular 2013 meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of each month unless otherwise noted.

Our Next Regular Meeting will be  
Wednesday, January 9th, 2013, 6:30 PM  
Lee County Extension, 3406 Palm Beach Blvd, Ft.  
Myers, FL 33916-3736

This month's topic and speaker to be determined!

## Our Association Officers

President: Don Murray  
dnmurray211@gmail.com

VP: Rebecca Wilson  
rebecca@beck-wilson.com

Secretary: Millisa Bell  
tribalbeat@gmail.com

Treasurer: Virginia Riggs  
home@virginiariggs.com

Delegate to FSBA: Ted McGee  
bigcypress01@gmail.com

## Lee County Extension

Agriculture & Natural Resources Agent  
Beekeepers Association of Southwest Florida  
Fitzroy (Roy) Beckford  
(239) 533-7512 Telephone  
(239) 485-2305 Fax  
E-mail: fbeckford@leegov.com

## Florida Apiary Inspection

District 14 Inspector  
Charlotte, Collier, Hendry, Lee & Sarasota Counties  
Freddie Howard Jr.  
PO Box 1502  
Labelle, FL 33975  
Physical address:  
1374 Forestry Division Rd  
Labelle, FL 33935  
Phone: 863-674-4003  
Fax: 863-674-4644  
donald.howard@freshfromflorida.com

## What's Blooming

Blue Porterweed  
Mexican Clover  
Primrose Willow  
Red "Swamp" Maple  
Skyblue Clustervine

Sleeping Hibiscus,  
Turks Cap  
Snow Squarestem  
Spanish Needle  
Tropical Sage  
Willow



*Thanks to Melissa Councill for this photo: Bees working her sweet almond shrub!*

## OTHER BUZZ

Page 2: Bee Removal News, 2013 UF Bee College, January Beekeepers Calendar for SWFL  
Page 3: Apiary Report, Honey Queen News  
Page 4: Christmas Potluck Photos, Backpage Info

## Beekeepers May Resume Feral Bee Collection

While the law hasn't changed just yet, there is a workshop scheduled for January 17th in Gainesville for a new rule to be added to allow beekeepers to collect feral colonies. In the meantime, registered beekeepers may continue to perform bee removal per Michael Page.

### THE PRELIMINARY TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE DEVELOPMENT IS:

#### 5E-14.151 - Removal and Relocation of Live Bees from Structures

(1) The removal and relocation of bees by a beekeeper registered pursuant to Section 586.045, F.S., from a structure, lawn, or ornamental for the principal purpose of facilitating the production of honey or the pollination of plants or crops shall not be considered pest control.

(2) The use of foam or soapy water, pheromone lures, attractants, repellants, and glue boards to control bees by a registered beekeeper when he or she is removing and relocating bees from a structure, lawn, or ornamental for the principal purpose of facilitating the production of honey or the pollination of crops shall not be considered pest control.

(3) It shall be considered pest control if bees are removed from a structure, lawn, or ornamental for the principal purpose of controlling or eliminating bees as a pest or the removal is conducted by a person not a beekeeper registered pursuant to Section 586.045, F.S.

(4) The use of any chemical other than those described above in (2) to control or eliminate bees in, on, or under a structure, lawn, or ornamental shall be considered pest control.

(5) The removal and relocation of bees from a structure must be reported, within 72 hours of the removal to the Bureau of Entomology and Pest Control, 3125 Conner Blvd, Suite N, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1650 using the form entitled Live Bee Removal Record, FDACS-13690, (Rev. 12/12), which is hereby adopted and incorporated by reference and available online at <http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference>.

Rulemaking authority: 482.051, 570.07(23), 586.10, F.S. Law Implemented: 570.02(1), 482.021(21) and (22), 586.10, F.S. History – New .

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## 2013 UF Bee College



Registration is now open for UF Bee College! Bee College is Friday and Saturday, March 8 and 9th. The UF Master Beekeeper exams will be held on Thursday, March 7th.

[Click Here for the 2013 Bee College Schedule](#)

[Click Here for 2013 Bee College Registration](#)

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## January Beekeepers Calendar, SWFL Edition

*From the Melitto Files*

- Feed colonies if light, also supply pollen substitutes if necessary
- Nosema can be a significant colony problem this time of year. You can treat colonies for Nosema disease using Fumigillin. Colonies may need as much as 4 gallons of medicated syrup to control Nosema Ceranae.
- Repair/repaint old equipment

## Apiary Report

The hives at the club apiary received their last treatment of Api-Life Var just before Christmas. We removed the last of the Apistan strips and any leftover wafers of Api-Life Var on New Year's Day, treated the hives with Terramycin, gave them some Bee-Pro pollen substitute and replaced their beetle traps. A few of the hives that were light on stores got their feeder jars filled. Almost all the hives had brood, open larvae and eggs, and most had an excellent laying pattern.

Hive 6, the nastiest hive in the apiary, was found to be queenless. Due to no queens being available this time of year through queen suppliers, we gave them a frame of brood from Rebecca's hive at the apiary that has proven docile stock (queens from Broyles Apiary in Paducah, KY), hoping that will make them a nicer hive than they were previously.



*The single deep hive on the left is Rebecca's hive from which a frame of brood was taken to give Hive 6 an opportunity to rear a new queen.*

We noticed an interesting side effect regarding the experiment with using Api-Life Var in half the hives and Apistan strips in the other half; the hives that were treated with Api-Life Var had virtually no small hive beetles in the hives, while there was a reduced amount in the hives that were treated with Apistan.

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## Honey Queen News



Sarah has various events coming up in February! She has registered for the Chalo Nitka Festival and Parade in Glades County, February 26th - March 2nd. The parade is on March 2nd. She plans to register for the Charlotte County Fair, February 1st - 10th, and she is also planning to register for the Edison Festival of Lights parade, which is February 16th.

She also plans to join Keith at the SWFL and Lee County Fair, February 21st - March 3rd.

Sarah is also ready to help out with any beekeeping presentations throughout the five-county area. Please contact her if you are doing a presentation and would like the presence of the SWFL Honey Queen!

Sarah has also been helping out at the club apiary, getting some more hands-on experience as well as giving us some great photo opportunities!

# WE HOPE YOU ALL ENJOYED THE CHRISTMAS POTLUCK. AND HERE'S TO A SAFE, HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!



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## BASF FORUMS!

We now have our very own online forum! It is a closed forum, for current BASF members only (so pay your dues!) to discuss beekeeping here in SWFL and ask questions specific to our area, as well as a place to announce events, share pictures, all kinds of good stuff. There is also a section specifically for the BASF Mentor Program, where mentors can post their availability to mentor and those that need mentors can find them. Registration approval is based on current membership, so we will be cross-referencing user registration with our membership list. It's also very private, as most of the forums are closed to guests. Any questions, contact Rebecca!

Hop on the forums here and register: <http://swfbees.com/phpBB3/>

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## BASF on Facebook

Keep updated with club goings on and interesting news on our Facebook page!

<http://www.facebook.com/basfl>

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## Newsletter Information

Send suggestions, photos and comments to Don Murray (dnmurray211@gmail.com) and Rebecca Wilson (rebecca@beck-wilson.com).

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## What's going on with your hives?

We would like to know what kind of activity your hives are having. Please contact Don or Rebecca to have your hives featured in the newsletter.