

KEARSARGE BEEKEEPERS

www.kbanh.org

JULY/AUGUST 2017

NEXT MEETING

SAT. AUG. 12, 2017

9-11 A.M.

@KBA APIARY, 223 NORTH RD.

SUNAPEE, NH

Topics: Honey extraction and checking for mites. General bee questions and discussion.

President's Message:

Hello KBA Members,

We had a great gathering at Troy's for the club summer picnic. The weather looked iffy for the day but the rain held off nicely for us. I'd like to thank Troy and Pattie for hosting us and to the many folks that helped setup and clean up. We should give a thank you to Charlie and Steve Gillingham for the grills and all the cooking, and to Barbara for purchasing the food and drinks.

I would especially like to thank all of the fellow smoker contestants that must have added water to their smokers to allow me to come away with first place! I was probably the most surprised person there because I had a really difficult time getting mine going, I almost never even got it going!

The person we should thank the most is Susan Rovell-Rixx for all of her great contributions for the raffle and the 3 hives for the club apiary. Many folks will benefit from all of the frames, foundation, feeders and other items.

On August 4th, a friend and I went to Vermont to get some queens from Andrew Munkres and to buy a barrel of honey from Kirk Webster. We were fortunate to be able to visit with both beekeepers in their own setting. Andrew was busy rendering wax while Kirk was done working for the day.

Being your faithful president and often thinking about recruiting speakers for the club we spent some time talking about just that subject. We didn't finalize anything but we may be lucky enough to be having one or both men come and speak to the club. So, as they say----- stay tuned.

On the 12th we will be meeting at the apiary. We have some honey extraction and some mite checking demonstrations planned. So, bring your veils and questions to Saturday's meeting.

See you there and bee well,

John Chadwick



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The July 26 HOWS (Hands On Workshop Series) at the apiary had lots of information about electric fencing. Here is Kevin Sargent's summary of that. He was leader.

What I spoke about in Fencing-I like to space my wire 8" apart as I had a bear go through a fence that was 12" spacing and using a 5 strand minimum for the height of the fence (all my fences are 8-9 strands high). Using a 32" or longer copper Grounding rod I like to solder the copper wire to rod for a permanent connection which leaves no chance for a nut tighten grounding rod clamp to come loose. Bury the wire several inches under the soil and up to the fencer for even better grounding results. If ground is dry pour a gallon of water upon grounding rod this will bring up the voltage about 1,000 higher. More grounding rods could be used in series if you felt the need if you had real sandy soil.

Get yourself a fencer with a higher Joules rating this is stored energy within the voltage and helps overcome voltage loss if you have lots of grass, sticks or leaves that could ground out the fence and loose voltage.

Parmak brand is what I like to run and mainly the 6v to 12v battery solar models or solar panel assist which I wire up myself. The Parmak solar fencers which vary from about \$175 for a 6v to about \$250 for a 12v model. Certainly the biggest bang (Joules rating) for your \$.

Buy a good digital fence tester for about \$30-35 and keep track of your fencers output in Volts with a good clean fence and use that as your standard which will tell you if you do or don't have problems. I don't like to see less then 4000v on fence but certainly wouldn't let it get under 3K or I'd be walking the fencing looking for "Shorts".

Place the fence charger inside the fence that way a bear walking along the outside perimeter doesn't accidentally hit the insulated "Hot Wire" going to the charger and then your problem just begun.

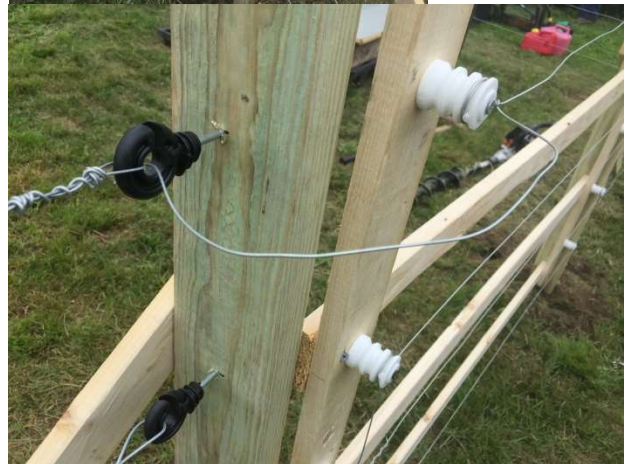
Place beehive 4' or further away from the fence line that way a bear cannot reach over the top of the fence and swipe at a hive and tip over the stack of boxes thus shorting out your fence and letting themselves in without getting shocked.

I like to order most of my fencing supplies through www.statelinetack.com and if you sign up for the email newsletter about every month or two they send out promotions that are usually 25%+ off your entire order and if it totals \$89 or more they will ship free.

Kevin



Couple of new frames that were placed in the top bar hive 8 days earlier that is going Gang Busters at about 20 frames now started from a package in May.



New 60" wide gate at the KBA Apiary. Showing how to wire up the wooden gate with a flexible jumper wire to the gates insulators.

....And an additional picture and note from Kevin:



Picture is of sheep net fencing over 300' around 30+ hives and up to the 2nd wire. The Parmak Mag 12v fencer is still putting 5320v to the wires. Highly not recommended with a low Joules rated fencer. After I Mowed around fencing and tested the Volts went up to 6180v. For best results with sheep fencing get at least a 1 Joules rating fencer any lower or you may be disappointed.



Many thanks to our Recording Secretary, Deb Dunlop for the following report on some of the many activities at the NHBA Summer Picnic

NH Beekeepers Association Annual Picnic Meeting June 24, 2017 at Muster Field Farm, Sutton

This meeting is free to all NH members who have paid current dues to the state organization.

Fence Discussion and Demonstration in morning **Annual Smoker Contest** was held and won by Kevin Sargent
NH Panel of Beekeepers

A number of experienced beekeepers served on a panel for audience questions.

The following are notes from the panelist's answers.

1. What is biggest problem in beekeeping?
 - so much information for new beekeepers so many different techniques and different hives.
 - lots of right ways and wrong ways
 - mites - these did not used to be a problem
 - get mites under control before winter takes young healthy bees made in fall need to make these in the fall this controls the viruses
 - need pollen in fall to make these bees Please treat as you are affecting others may have to treat multiple times follow-up after treatment is important 3-4 weeks after
 - experimentation by new bee keepers - recommend keeping standard treatment for a year
 - wintering information needed need pollen in the top to feed new spring brood
 - queen laying in February winter is tough on bees especially February to March set up hive for winter with pollen between 3-7 pull out empty frames as they won't move across empty frames give pollen patty when they can have cleansing flight if bees eat sugar liquid, they need to get out for waste pollen will be used to feed brood
2. How do you treat mites?
 - Richard - used to use tins one year, strips another. Treat Aug 15 after taking honey.
 - Kevin - Takes bees to Florida and has had big crashes, mixing in Russians, and uses essential oils on some frames
 - Alan - uses mite away strips, he treats in fall as spring time numbers are low he might treat in summer with new Bee Cleanse - non regulated mite-icide
 - Panelist treats with screen boards and drone frames those in his club who treated twice had better success

early summer and fall, early July start with test
 alternates with thymol based and oxalic he will treat twice this year
 you always have drift so one hive can affect the others
 always recommend testing but recommended levels are so low so treat

- Panelist commercial beekeeper
 He treats regardless if he has a problem he does drone brood
 make sure to get this out
 one hatch for drones will be enough and won't lay more
 he does oxalic acid
- Barbara -
 Uses screen bottom boards
 uses drone frames and remove religiously
 will test then use chemical test
 will use quick strips
 7 out of 10 frames should be covered
 need right weather with need plenty of ventilation
 She will move to oxalic vapor but need respirator and more equipment
 what is adequate ventilation?
 screen bottom board
 remove entrance reducer
 leave 1-2 inches in top
 can pull bottom super back
 using it with shim

ABOUT OUR EMBROIDERED SHIRTS AND BAGS: Most all the items have been delivered to those who ordered. We did get some extras to sell at our meetings, so watch for that. There are 5 bags and 10 shirts in basic colors in sizes ranging from adult Med. to adult XL. All are \$14 each. Contact me if you want any and can't get to a meeting. Thanks,
 Barbara Burns, bbbsews@gmail.com 927-4965



The next item from our former Recording Secretary, Kim Tuttle, is a great reminder that many equipment vendors have wonderfully informative newsletters and websites.

I wonder if we could print or send a link to the Melanie Kirby's editorial in the July Kelley Newsletter in our newsletter. I hear complaints about this more and more about new or other beekeepers coming in and placing their hives in close proximity to established hives.
 Kim Tuttle

**Subject: Sweet summertime reading! Kelley newsletter out now!
 Hello Happy Beekeepers!**

Our latest edition of the Kelley Beekeeping newsletter is here! Inside you'll find an interesting look at the honor code and unspoken agreements between all beekeepers, plus a few pictures from our Field Day event in June. This issue also takes a look at the overuse of antibiotics and bees, two fascinating upcoming conferences, and easy ways to keep your bees hydrated through the dog days of summer. We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed putting it together!
Click here to view: [Kelley-Newsletter-July-2017.pdf](#)

Happy Beekeeping!

Dr. Alan Eaton presented a discussion on Integrated Pest Management, introduced his backyard beneficial insect publication and talked about ticks and tick borne diseases

Jan Mercier demonstrated and talked about a Flow Hive.

Notes from D. Dunlop – KBA

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NOTES FROM MEMBERS:

Received from Dana Ramspott July 29 via email:

Just an FYI anyone visiting the KBA Apiary must sign a waiver, available at the Apiary, also no one admitted into the Apiary without a veil.

Apiaries and Beekeeping Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently asked questions regarding apiaries and beekeeping.

Do I need to register my apiary with the state of New Hampshire?

Apiary registration is voluntary in New Hampshire. We encourage beekeepers to register their apiaries for several reasons. The location and contact information can be provided to licensed applicators applying pesticides under special permits, such as for mosquito control, so that beekeepers can be notified of plans to spray in their area. It helps national honey bee organizations, such as the Apiary Inspectors of America, assess the health of the honey bee industry nationwide and develop better methods of honey bee management. It can also be helpful for state and national agricultural statistics and policy, enabling estimates of the size and value of the industry in New Hampshire.


If you would like to register your apiaries, please complete the [apiary registration form](#) and send it to the address at the top of the form.

What are the regulations regarding beekeeping in New Hampshire?


The [laws and rules](#) governing beekeeping in New Hampshire are primarily split into two sections. The first section pertains to beekeeping, whereas the second section pertains to selling honey products.

What do I have to do to be able to sell my honey and hive products?

To get you started, please see:

- [Honey Product Labeling Requirements](#)
- [Homestead Food Operations](#)
- [Homestead Food Operations FAQs](#) 
- NH Department of Resources and Economic Development, Division Economic Development, [Starting a New Business](#)

Do I need a pesticide applicator's license to treat my bees with medications?

If a beekeeper is applying pesticides, including miticides, insecticides, fungicides, and antibiotics, in or around the hive to control pests, parasites, or diseases, the beekeeper is required to obtain an annual [private applicator permit](#).  For questions, please contact the [Division of Pesticide Control](#).

I have a problem with my bees or they died. Can I get my hives inspected? How much does it cost?

Please [contact us](#) to arrange for an apiary inspection. The fee starts at \$5 for up to 10 hives in one apiary location (\$5 total, not per hive).

What is the procedure to ship or transport bees from New Hampshire to another state?

Many states require a certificate of health or its equivalent to transport bee packages, nuc's, queens, or used beekeeping equipment into their state. Please [contact us](#) for more information or to schedule an inspection if you are transporting bees or used beekeeping equipment to another state.

Are there any beekeeping clubs in New Hampshire?

Yes. Please visit the [New Hampshire Beekeepers Association website](#) for links to local clubs.

How can I learn more about beekeeping?

Visit the [New Hampshire Beekeepers Association website](#) to find contacts for local beekeeping clubs in your area.

Who can I contact to remove a swarm or colony of honey bees?

Because the list of beekeepers willing to remove honey bees is constantly changing, please use the contacts on the [New Hampshire Beekeepers Association website](#) for a referral to a removal service in your area.

Guidelines for Selling Honey in New Hampshire

Honey sold in New Hampshire must comply with New Hampshire's Honey Products Law, RSA 429:20-28

Labeling Every shipment, package or container of honey packed, sold, offered or exposed for sale or distribution by any person shall be plainly marked for packaging and labeling, and shall include: (a) The name, address and zip code of the packer, distributor, or producer; (b) The true name of the product; (c) The grade, or the term "not graded"; and (d) The volume of the contents at 68 degrees Fahrenheit or 20 degrees Celsius or the net weight of the contents.

NH Honey

Any labeling on bulk, packaged honey, or honey products which indicates "state of New Hampshire pure honey", "New Hampshire honey", or any other words which imply that the honey so marked was produced in New Hampshire shall be used exclusively upon honey which is entirely produced within the state of New Hampshire.

Pure Honey Honey which is labeled as being pure honey and which is produced, packaged, handled or sold in this state shall not in any way be adulterated with cane sugar, corn sugar, or any other foreign sweetener. Honey which is produced, packaged, handled or sold in this state shall not be bleached or lightened in color by artificial means except by simple filtration through cloth or paper to remove suspended solids.

Advertising All advertisements of honey displayed, circulated, broadcast by radio or telecast within this state which quote a price shall specify the grade and volume of honey in equal prominence with the stated price. Please contact the Division of Regulatory Services if you have any questions or require further information. You may call the Division at 603-271-3685, email Jennifer.Gornnert@agr.nh.gov, or mail inquiries to:

New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food
Division of Regulatory Services
PO Box 2042
Concord, NH 03302

**New Hampshire Department of Agriculture,
Markets and Food
Division of Plant Industry**

State Lab Bldg., 29 Hazen Drive
Concord, New Hampshire 03301
Phone: 603-271-3691
Fax: 603 271-3692

Application for Apiary Registration

Beekeepers are encouraged to voluntarily register their apiaries for several reasons. The contact information and apiary location is provided for notification purposes to licensed applicators applying pesticides under special permits, such as for mosquito control. It helps national honey bee organizations, such as the Apiary Inspectors of America, assess the health of the honey bee industry nationwide and develop better methods of honey bee management. It can also be helpful for state and national agricultural statistics and policy, enabling estimates of the size and value of the industry in New Hampshire.

Please complete the application and mail to the address listed above.

Name (Print): _____ Telephone#: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Mailing Address (If different): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Please list the specific location of each apiary you maintain in the table below

Apiary	Number of Colonies	Location (Street address, town)	County	Name of Landowner
No. 1				
No. 2				
No. 3				
No. 4				
No. 5				

Use backside of this form if additional space is needed.

Total colonies: _____

Please include a diagram or map that indicates the location(s) of the hives.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

