

Kearsarge Beekeepers Association

March 2021



Next Meeting:

March 13, 2021 at 9:00am

via ZOOM Link will be sent out through email and posted on the KBA Facebook page.

In this issue: January Meeting Notes, Kevin Sargent's Essential Oils Recipes, KBA Directory

President's Message

Hello all,

We've had another successful year of KBA Bee School with 50 students participating. Thank you to all of the presenters, moderators, and students for your help in making our Zoom sessions work!

I know we're all very anxious for spring to be here. Later this month the bees will start raising brood which means they will go through the resources they have stored a lot quicker. Make sure your bees have food. Check to see how they're doing. With warm days ahead, it would be a good time to check to see if your bees are still alive. Later this month, you may want to add some pollen patties to the hives.

March is also the time you'll want to have your package orders in. I know it's been very cold and rainy in Georgia this past month. My package supplier there is delaying delivery by one week. So check with your package supplier to see if they're delaying also.

Bam

January Meeting notes

The meeting was held January 9th, 2021 via Zoom.

Minutes were accepted from the November meeting.

Old Business:

Hive Irradiation

Massachusetts Beekeepers don't do irradiation anymore. He was able to get a New Jersey place from Mann Lake. Bam is waiting on prices. Will need a 16 foot trailer to deliver them. They need to be picked up a week later. Boxes have to go in a plastic bag and a special cart. If your bees have been dying, you may want to have your boxes irradiated. Leave the frames (even drawn frames) inside the boxes.

Bam mentioned that European Foulbrood is supposed to clear up with food, pollen and sugar water.

Dues

Member dues are \$20 a year and are due March 1st.

An email will be sent to all current members.

(Please send any address changes and your dues to: KBA Robin Gray, P.O Box 275, Warner, NH 03278)

Bee Mortality Discussion

Troy Hall has had a lot of bee mortality, widespread from Fairlee to Cornish. He believes it is due to viruses. He said a viral outbreak can spread through the whole bee yard. He did not see deformed wing virus, but you don't always see a deformed wing.

He fed from mid-September to the 2nd week of October and a round of pollen in August.

Troy also stated that robbing doesn't kill bees. It's more of a secondary cause from having a weak hive. He also spoke about mite population and mentioned a study that Randy Oliver did. He wasn't sure if it was conclusive, but you can read about it.

Troy thinks you shouldn't have to treat the bees more than twice a season - or else there's a problem.

David Tarpey said that usually when the bees die, the viruses die.

Bill McDonald Scholarship

Bee School Committee will discuss this in the future.

New Business

John Chadwick nominated Betsey McNaughten to be our new vice president.

Betsey was accepted as the new vice president for a one year term. All officers will stay for the next year.

Marilyn Milne will help Laurie Hardt with the newsletter.

John Chadwick was looking at the by-laws. He thinks the nominating committee is supposed to have three people. According to the by-laws, it is a one year term. Elections happen at the January meeting. The president is still the president until the end of the January meeting.

Barbara Burns sent John the revised by-laws. John is going to send them out when he has combined them.

We may need to have someone look at the by-laws to see if they need to be updated. Bam asked to create a temporary committee to review the by-laws. John Chadwick will be the chairperson, Kim Pease and Jenna Sievers will also be on the committee. Robin Gray, Betsey McNaughten and Bam Fleury will be advisors to the Bylaw Committee. Kim Pease said she would get by-laws from other clubs to look at.

There was a question about the quorum. Is it 20% of the membership that is needed?

Treasurer's Report

Robin Gray reported there is \$7,840 in the KBA account. Treasurer's report was accepted.

Next meeting

No February meeting or newsletter due to Bee School.

KBA Membership Directory

A lot of people in the club have expressed an interest in a member directory. The directory would include your name, phone, email, and town you live in (not your complete address). Knowing who lives near you can be helpful if you need advice or help with your bee hives. There are many people who can help you identify eggs, larva, etc. who are not necessarily the most experienced beekeepers, but because they live close to you, could be very helpful. As the club secretary, I can make the directory and send it out to everyone via email. We will discuss this at the next meeting on March 13th. If the club likes the idea, I'll send an email out to everyone. Of course, you will have the opportunity to "opt out" if you're not interested in being in the directory.

Lots of interesting beekeeping information can be found on the UNH Cooperative Extension website. Check out their site at:

<https://extension.unh.edu/tags/pollinator-habitats>

Kevin Sargent's Essential Oils Recipes

Spring formula

2 Milliliters Of Tea Tree Oil

2 Milliliters Of Thyme Oil

2 Milliliters Of Spearmint Oil

1/2 Milliliters Of Lemongrass Oil

Fall Formula

2 Milliliters Of Tea Tree Oil

4 Milliliters Of Thyme Oil

2 Milliliters Of Wintergreen

These above recipes are for making up 5 gals of sugar syrup to add into the sugar syrup that you will feed to your bees.

Generally feed a minimum of 1 Gal of this essential oil sugar syrup per hive but the more the Qty of this you feed them the better the results.

You need to designate a blender for this only as the smell will stay within the blender/best to buy one for this purpose only. (continued on next page)

In the fall you will notice that the recipe has doubled up on the Thyme dosage as that will give you a Heavy Varroa mite knock down for winter.

Add about 12 ozs of water to the blender and then add oils and run the blender with cover on top upon high speed to emulsify for 5 minutes it will look like a milkshake color inside the blender.

If you can use lecithin granules and a 1/2 teaspoon would be more than enough as that will keep the oils mixed better with water which may separate in an hour but just shake the container and pour out what you need for say a 1 gallon batch.

Add water first as if you put straight essential oils into your blender it will eat up the rubber seals fast. Always rinse blender out at least 3 or more times with hot faucet water and run upon short cycles to get everything/oil residue removed before storage.

A small eye dropper with Milliliter graduations can be purchased in the beauty section of a store which should have these.

Kevin Sargent

Kearsarge Beekeepers Association

President: Randy (Bam) Fleury

Vice President: Betsey McNaughton

Treasurer: Robin Gray

Secretary: Laurie Hardt

Please send information for newsletter to: kbanhclub@gmail.com

Join our facebook page at: KBA-NH (private group)