



## AN INTRODUCTION TO BEEKEEPING CLASSES

This classroom program, which combines both the theory and practice of managing honey bees, is designed for those who have an interest in pursuing this fascinating hobby. Each session will start with a discussion of a topic that is relevant to what is happening in the hives at that time of the year and will be followed by practical demonstrations in the apiary. In this way, the annual cycle of a colony of honey bees will be discussed and demonstrated, at the end of which the participants will have the knowledge and skill to manage hives of their own, with the potential for on-going mentorship from a member of the York County Beekeepers' Association.

The two sessions of beginner beekeeping classes will cover the same information. Classes will meet from 2:00 to 4:00 pm beginning in March and will allow plenty of time for work in the apiary (bee yard). Classes will last a minimum of two hours and will extend longer for those who are so interested. Participants will be encouraged to read between classes. There are many sources available and a choice of at least four will be offered.

### **Class I – Jeremy Barnes**

This group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday  
1722 Union Church Road, Seven Valleys, PA  
March 16, 2019  
April 20  
May 18  
June 15  
July 20  
August 17

### **Class II – Sam Albright**

This group will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday (\*except March)  
Location TBD (Felton or Shrewsbury, PA)  
\*March 16, 2019  
April 13  
May 11  
June 8  
July 13  
August 10

### **Topics and Discussions by Month:**

#### **March - Principles And Materials**

Principles of beekeeping; materials and equipment. Weather permitting, an introduction to inspecting a hive.

#### **April - Bees, Pollen And Nectar**

Bee castes; getting and introducing bees into a hive; the pollen and nectar flow and manipulating a colony in preparation for the nectar flow.

#### **May - Reproduction Via Swarming**

Honey bee anatomy and reproduction, controlling swarming, nucs and splits, expanding one's apiary. Also, maximizing one's honey crop.

#### **June - Disease and Pests**

Diseases and pests with a focus on varroa mites; means of detection and control emphasizing Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

#### **July - Honey Extraction**

#### **August - Winter Preparation**

Honey bee nutrition, feeding colonies, overwintering needs.

**\*September – If needed, a September class will be held.**

**Cost:** \$20 per person per lesson or \$100 for all six lessons, paid at the first class. Payment for all 6 lessons will also include a one-year membership to the York County Beekeepers' Association. **Pre-registration is essential as class sizes are limited to 20 for practical reasons.** Children accompanied by an adult are welcome with a cost of \$30 for parent/child per lesson or \$150 for all six lessons.

**On-line registration can be found on our website at: <https://www.ycbk.org/member-resources/nu-bee-program>**  
**For further information or to register, contact Jeremy Barnes at [honeybeewhisperer@gmail.com](mailto:honeybeewhisperer@gmail.com)**