

8/27/15
YCBA Monthly Meeting

- I. Attendance**
 - a. 76 in attendance
 - b. Board: Coral, Renee, Jeremy, Molly
- II. Call to order and agenda**
 - a. Future meetings:
 - i. Sept. 26th- Dave Hackenberg Apiary Tour
 - 1. Leave York by 8:30am
 - 2. Tour at 11am
 - 3. Arranging a carpool
 - 4. Lunch after at Country Cupboard Inc. (101 Hafer Road, Lewisburg PA 17837)
 - a. Coral will make reservations, so if planning on joining for lunch let Coral know by Sept. 10th (717.577.4774 or coral1051@gmail.com)
 - ii. Oct. 10th- Annual YCBA Banquet
 - 1. 5:30pm at Winterstown Fire Hall
 - 2. silent auction, honey tasting, 3rd Annual Russel Wentz Photo Contest, etc.
 - iii. Nov. 16th- Special Tri-county meeting with Claire Densley of Buckfast Abbey, Devon, UK
 - 1. Held at York County School of Technology in the auditorium
 - b. Opening remarks:
 - i. York Fair Auto/Driver Gate Passes
 - 1. Still have 11 slots open
 - 2. Honey Bottling party 8/28 at Coral's house
 - a. afternoon
 - b. Some jars will be bottled at the fair
 - ii. Banquet sign up starts at tonight's meeting and a sign up genius will be sent out to all.
 - 1. Still only \$15 for admission
 - iii. Dawn Ore has fondant to sell- has 50 lbs.
 - 1. She paid \$53 and is willing to sell for \$40
 - iv. Dave Neuberger is absent today, but if anyone wants a honey pot in exchange for 2 lbs. of honey, let him know and he will make it happen
- III. Treasurer Report**
 - a. Checking account has \$1,184.58
 - b. Savings account has \$4,005.26
 - c. Forming a budget committee due to meeting location expenses

- IV. Bonnie Raindrop: Bees, Pesticides, and Us**
 - a. Maryland County losses set the record at 61%**
 - i. Alarming trends
 - b. Public awareness about colony losses has been talked about in the media and there is a lot of public concern**
 - c. Public interests groups need beekeepers to start a dialogue**
 - d. Maryland's Pollinator Protection Act 2015 (PPA)**
 - i. would label nursery plants treated with toxic, beekilling pesticides being sold to consumers
 - 1. 2014 study found over 50% of bee-friendly plants were treated with one or more neonics at levels that would kill a bee
 - e. Why a bill to limit neonics?**
 - i. Confusion in the USA about what is happening with neonics
 - ii. Proven to be unnecessary on corn
 - iii. Found in many row crops and fruit trees
 - iv. Approximately 300 insecticide products containing neonics
 - f. Neonicin oil sales over \$2 billion annually**
 - i. 290 homeowner products have flooded home and garden stores
 - ii. 230 non-toxic/low-hazard product alternative to neonics effective for common pest problems
 - iii. PRI Product Evaluator App available on iTunes:
www.pesticideresearch.com
 - g. Pose unacceptable risk to honey bees and pollinators**
 - i. 1100 peer-reviewed studies show neonics harm bees
 - ii. Too toxic for unnecessary cosmetic use
 - h. Swedish Study- wild pollinators more decimated by neonics than honey bees**
 - i. One neonic treated seed will kill a songbird
 - ii. Reduces adult bee longevity
 - iii. Harmful to babies
 - iv. Harmful to aquatic creatures
 - i. Why isn't the EPA protecting bees?**
 - i. Only looked at what is the lethal dose to honeybees where 50% would still survive
 - ii. 100% reliant on industry data (EPA doesn't have testing facilities)
 - iii. Corporations spend hundreds of millions of dollars in lobbying to have easy access to decision makers
 - j. Studies show consumers may apply pesticides 120 times more than the directions state**
 - k. Get involved in your state Pollinator Protection Plan**
 - i. Get involved!
 - ii. PA must draft a state plan

- iii. Like the nation plan, all state plans so far do not address neonicotinoids at all
 - iv. State plans put the burden on beekeepers to move hives with 48 hour notice of pesticide application
 - v. Omit protection of colonies that are NOT contracted for pollination services
1. Be vocal and visible. Take action. Educate.
 - i. Become a local spokesperson for bee action groups
 1. Sign and distribute petitions
 2. Write letters to your legislators (Governor Wolfe)
 3. Write letters to the editor in local papers
 4. Call your representatives and educate about why it's important to support bee-friendly legislation
 5. Introduce a local bee-friendly bill in your town

V. Coral Still-Glossar

- a. Call Coral if you have two observation hives that you could bring to the York Fair and rotate them
- b. David Papke made motion that we can vote on members of the board for another 2 years
 - i. Vote is carried
 - ii. Board members: Coral-President, Renee- VP, Erin- Treasurer, Molly-Secretary

VI. Nate Webber- PA state bee inspector

- a. Few cases of fowl brood in Montgomery County
- b. Hasn't found any nearby

VII. David Papke: State of the Bees

- a. Nectar at this time
- b. Bees born now will be the nurse bees for the winter bees
- c. Should see several frames of brood
- d. Check for mites or medicate for mites NOW or heavy mite load will put stress on the hive and cause winter bees to be weaker
- e. Re-queening in the fall are less likely to swarm in the spring
- f. Small colonies in the fall
 - i. Not going to put the time into the small/weak colony and let it die
 - ii. Combining colony with a strong colony to boost the population
- g. Winterize the hives
 - i. Move hives to a good location
 - ii. Insulate the hives
 - iii. Close the bottom boards
 - iv. Reduce the entrances
- h. Feeding the colonies
 - i. Strong colony-medium super full of honey and honey in the brood chambers as well

- ii. 60 lbs. of honey to get through the winter
- iii. Feed heavy syrup in the fall (2:1 ratio of sugar to water)
- iv. Not too early to start feeding now

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm (time for socialization and snacks)