



Monthly Apiary Newsletter

May 2018

Presentation:

May 8th, 7:00pm, at the Defiance Extension Office.

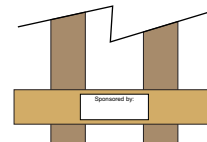
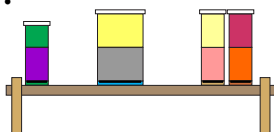
John Grafton - teaches honey judging classes for OSBA and other bee organizations. He will be showing us how to put entries in competitions, what judges are looking for, and how to put together an award winning entry. For 2018 all surrounding counties are opening up their honey judging to anyone who would like to compete. Open discussion: alcohol wash / mite counts, swarm prevention, splits, & OTS.

In the Apiary:

I have been reaching out to everyone in NW Ohio region and everyone for the most part is on the same page, hives are either undersized (1 to 2 frames of open brood) or busting at the seams (over population, Queen cells, ready to swarm). Inspect your hives this week and see if you need to stimulate brood rearing with 1:1 sugar/water or pollen sub or do you need to make splits with nucs. If you are making nucs and splits, you should be feeding 1:1 sugar/water and pollen to help build them up quickly. You can also use some Honey-B-Healthy in the sugar/water solution

Pollinator Sanctuary & Training Facility:

We have sponsorships for hive stands with a plaque for \$65.00 each, 6 of the 24 hive stands are still available.



Mite Count:

Most everyone did a Fall mite treat and even some did an oxalic treatment over the Winter, but what is your mite count now? This week will be the perfect opportunity to find out. I have attached a mite count spreadsheet you can use, page 2.

- #1. Locate frame of open brood.
- #2. Make sure Queen is not on the frame.
- #3. Use 1/2 cup of bees (approx 300 bees) to alcohol wash.
- #4. Record your results.
- #5. Determine what treatment can be used (weather, temperature, honey supers, etc.)

Nucs:

Nucleus colony "nucs" are just building and are behind in brood laying. They are just beginning to lay a frame of open brood. This does not qualify to be quality nuc and they will require more time to be "GOOD". Nuc producers do not want to sell a substandard product, so please be patient.

Pollinator Sanctuary & Training Facility:

We will be having a ground breaking ceremony at the new facility on May 11th at 10 am. We are asking beekeepers to come show up in a "swarm" showing everyone that we mean something. News outlets, County Commissioners, Board Members, Defiance City Mayor, fence sponsors, hive sponsors, and beekeepers from the area will be there. Come show your support for this project!

Defiance Area Events:

Defiance Riverfest - June 24th & 25th at Riverside Park is coming up and we would like to have a booth for honey sales, club information and to answer public's questions. We are looking for volunteers to help, you don't have to stay for hours on end, but every little bit helps. We will have a sign-up sheet at the May meeting, if your available.

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Calendar of Events

BSBA Meeting

Defiance Extension Office
May 8th @ 7:00pm

Pollinator Sanctuary & Training Facility

Ground Breaking
Schick Road
May 11th @ 10:00am

Advanced Internship

Defiance Extension Office
April 12th @ 8:30am

Beginning Internship

Defiance Extension Office
May 26th @ 8:30am

