

Sandusky River Valley Beekeepers Association



May 2019

srvba.ohiostatebeekeepers.org

Upcoming Events



- **Monday, June 3rd 7:00 pm**
Monthly meeting at the First United Methodist Church.
510 W Maple Street, Clyde.
Open discussions. Bring questions & ideas!

Think Ahead

What is your varroa management plan?

It seems too early to be thinking about varroa management, right? Wrong!! It is important for the health of your colonies, and the colonies in your surrounding area, to be thinking of your management plan now. When looking at the growth curve for mites below, you'll see that now is the time it starts to rise. Be ready to treat before your hives get to dangerous levels.

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/56818659c21b86470317d96e/t/5c0ddee24d7a9c6ed436b2c5/1544412945311/MakingAPlanforVarroa_2018.pdf

This article, written by Dr. Meghan Milbrath from MSU's Department of Entomology, is a great resource for mite management. She explains different methods of controlling and eliminating mites all season long. From something as simple as using a screened bottom board, to the different types of chemical applications available. (If the link does not work, simply Google search "Dr. Meghan Milbrath varroa" and a number of articles will come up for you.)



To summarize Dr. Milbrath's article, here are the general principles to remember:

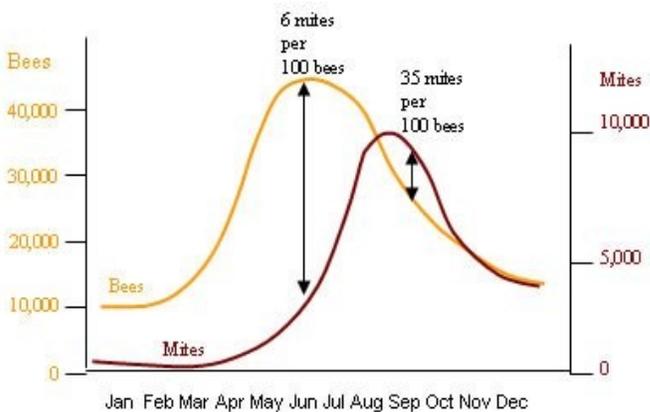


Figure 1. Simplified bee and mite population growth curves for a temperate climate. The mite growth curve lags behind the bee curve. Note how the number of mites per hundred bees greatly increases in fall. A colony is unlikely to survive a fall infestation rate this high.

- 1) Successful management is about the mite population levels and the health of your bees, not the number of treatments you applied.
- 2) Monitor to make sure that your management and interventions are working and are sufficient.
- 3) Be prepared to change/modify your strategy.
- 4) What works for someone else may not work for you.
- 5) Think ahead and be proactive!

Honey Bee Trivia

T or F: Flying drones carry more varroa mites than foraging workers.

True - Young bees on orientation flights, returning foragers and drones tend to drift with prevailing winds. Even when the winds are not strong enough to cause drifting, tired, heavily laden bees will also enter other hives nearest to the floral source. Full of nectar or laden with fresh pollen, they are normally allowed entry into most hives. Drones are special guests in any hive and are rarely refused entry in a prosperous colony. All of these bees may also be carrying female varroa mites. It has been found that drones carry more varroa mites than foragers over three weeks of age.

Sweet Treats

Memorial Day weekend kicks off summer around our house! With summer comes grilling season!! Some tips when grilling with honey...

- Because of its sticky consistency, honey can be hard to brush, baste, or mop onto your meat by itself. Grilling honey that has not been mixed with another liquid, like a juice or an oil, is not a good idea, as it'll burn right up and char the surface before the food is cooked. In a brine or mixed with other ingredients, however, honey is totally fine in direct heat.
- If the acidity of other ingredients in a marinade needs toning down, honey is the ideal mellowing agent. A few tablespoons adds an essential balance to whatever is grilling up. Honey seals in the meat's own juices that begin to seep when the temperature's high.
- For more tips and recipes, visit <https://www.foodrepublic.com/2016/06/22/how-to-grill-with-honey-without-burning-your-food/>



On this Memorial Day, we pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the examples of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of your Son, Jesus Christ. Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with Your strength and peace.

HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY TO ALL

SWARM LIST

If you want to be listed on the SRVBA website for swarm removal, send an email to Linda Miller at

Oneoldbroadwithhives@gmail.com

