



buzzwords

<http://www.barnstablebeekeepers.org>

February 2020

Upcoming Meetings

7:30 pm at the West Barnstable Community Building on Route 149.

**Refreshments are back!!!
We'd love to have some holiday nibbles!! Bring goodies to share!**

New beekeepers and 2020 bee school attendees welcome to attend!!

February 11

In house presentations by veterans on what to do with left over honey and beeswax from your harvest. Creams, balms, candles, creamed honey and more!



Mark Your Calendars!

These are the dates for all upcoming meetings until our summer break! We'll have more information on presentations closer to the dates!

March 10

April 14

May 12

June 9

Bee School

**West Barnstable Community Building
2377 Route 149, West Barnstable (large room)
7:30 to 9 pm**

Wednesday, February 5th, 2019
Occupants of the Hive

Wednesday, February 19th
Spring Prep

New Pest Alert But Not For Bees!! Just an FYI!

Oak Lecanium Scale on Cape Cod

If you have noticed a black sticky substance on your car, outdoor furniture, the leaves of your trees and landscape shrubs, or just about anything else in your yard, it is most likely caused by this new insect pest.

The Pest: Oak Lecanium Scale is a relatively new insect pest for Cape Cod that mostly infests White and Red Oak but may be found feeding on other hardwood trees as well. The population of this particular scale has exploded in the past two seasons to become a significant pest in 2019 both for the damage it does to the host plant and for the mess the secreted honey dew makes as it adheres to all surfaces near an infected tree. As the insect feeds on liquid (sap) from the leaves and twigs of the host tree it secretes a sugary substance known as honey dew which then becomes host for another organism called sooty mold. Sooty mold is the black, difficult to clean, substance you may be seeing all over your yard.

Life Cycle: We are still learning more all the time about this insect but we know that Oak Lecanium Scale has one generation per year and the females lay eggs in mid to late May. The eggs hatch in June through early July as "crawlers" that migrate from the twigs to the leaves. These young insects will feed aggressively on the undersides of the leaves throughout the summer. Most of the crawlers will molt in early autumn becoming

Newsletter Submissions

Please send Buzzwords submissions to [David Whalley](mailto:david.a.whalley@gmail.com) david.a.whalley@gmail.com.

We are looking for good stories, photos, links, news about talks and presentations you've done or seen, book and movie reviews, and items for sale or free to good home! PDF, scanned document files, and hard copy submissions are not acceptable. You can create files in Word, Pages, Notepad, TextEdit, etc. for articles.

adults and will then migrate back to the twigs and stems to overwinter under a protective shell while some of the insects will overwinter as second instar nymph also spending the winter of the twigs.

Treatment: For several reasons this particular scale insect cannot be completely managed with just one spray. The protective shell produced by the adults to survive the winter is resistant to control using one well timed oil treatment therefore the frequency and timing of treatment has to be increased to three applications of Horticultural Oil annually to manage Lecanium Scale.

If you know your trees are infested a treatment plan is recommended by a landscaper for this year because from what has been seen the population is growing very quickly and as of this moment there is no known natural predator or weather condition that may help control their population. Lifted from a landscapers newsletter

Claire

SEASONAL TIPS

With this unseasonably warm weather, it is suggested we check the weight of our hives. Better yet, peek in on a sunny, no wind day to see what sugar reserves might be left. The bees have had so many days for cleansing flights which certainly benefits their gut. And as the temperature drops, they can recluster closer to their stores. But with temperatures above 40 degrees, then can consume more of their stores.

We usually are reminding folks to clear their front entrances of snow, but how nice to not have needed to do that to date!!

Again, a reminder if you have a dead out, save some of the bees for an alcohol wash. Attached is an article from MDAR and our apiary inspection team. It might be helpful. There are a few testing kits left and will be available at the next meeting.

Call For Mentors

BCBA has a new class of 44 families starting hives around the Cape. Now is the perfect time for you folks to give back. All of you that have gotten packaged bees over the years, we need your help. It is a simple task to answer an email, show off your hives or help folks identify those eggs, larva, capped brood, stored pollen and honey. You can do it and we need you!!

Please email Claire at beekeeper@gmail.com or we will come calling!!

Observations Of An Observation Hive

It is the bees buzz to have an observation hive in the house. Each day you can take a peek to see what is going on. Summer is most enjoyable as one can see the foragers returning with a load of pollen and do their waggle dance telling their sisters just where the source lies. And then rubbing their back legs to drop the pollen pellet into a cell.

Come this time of the year, things are pretty quiet unless one accidentally bumps the hive. Then there is a big buzz! They do cluster on the cold days moving away from the opening and up to the top frame. At this time, as crowded as they are on the top frame, a flashlight is grabbed searching for the queen. Upon locating her, now to see larva. Has she started laying? Yes!! This week we see larva for the first time! There is a question whether the larva will survive as there looks to be no pollen stored in the hive. Now to wonder if our hives out back, wrapped and insulated have larva? Oh, if we could only pull a frame!

Why do observation hives survive with no varroa treatment? This is a lingering question. Anyone have a thought?

Claire

Forage

[Tips For A Honeybee Health Plan](#)

[How Maine beekeepers are helping...](#)

Did You Know?

The weight loss of a hive in winter cluster is in the ballpark of **one pound per week!** This is due to their consumption of honey presumably. (Randy Oliver, ABJ, Jan 2020)

Check out the BCBA Facebook page for shared links, photos, and questions/answers! Join the conversation!
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BarnstableCountyBeeA/>

CAPE BEE'S NEW APIARY

Photos courtesy of Donna Tompkins



We know you have heard that our club apiary had to move due to county construction taking place soon. Well, it has happened and our new storage building is full and organized and as you can see, our nuc boxes are ready to be filled.

And here is the crew that provided all the muscle. Barry and Jay worked non-stop to set the hive stands, secure them and then on a chilly cold day, we

closed up the hives, strapped them tightly and loaded them onto three pick up trucks. Totally uneventful!!

And here is a view of the final layout with hives safely placed on the stands and



securely strapped against the winter winds. Shortly, all-natural snow fencing will be erected behind the hives to help break up the winds coming across the open fields at the farm.

The large double doored barn to the left is our new storage shed.

Notice the soil under the hive stands. Our apiary has been plowed but has yet to be planted. We will spend some time raking out the rocks and leveling the field. Come late March our plans are to seed the area around the hives with a mixture of clover and fescue. This should help to prevent much mud and give a nice playing field for the bees and the beekeepers. Little mowing will be needed and there should be food for the bees. No inspections will be allowed with flip-flops on as the bees collect the nectar. Hopefully by workshop time, the area will be green!!

Most importantly will be the information we hope to relay to club members through some innovative equipment.

Here Lynn is resetting our Arnia scale before we move in one of our best hives. Inside monitors for both temperature and humidity will be installed once the weather is favorable to open the hive. But we will be monitoring for weight changes.

With our new grant, we hope to purchase a few BroodMinder set ups which will also include weight, temperature and humidity monitors. With a solar powered unit, we will have automatic readings which will go right to the beecounted.org site and members will be able to find the readings on the map. In turn, we hope this will give folks an idea of brood rearing when the temperature goes above 90 degrees F. With a weight gain, folks in the mid-Cape area will know that there is a nectar flow on and equipment should be ready for a quick installation. A sudden weight loss will tell us that there is a very good chance that our hive has just swarmed.

The Arnia monitor goes one step further with a weight loss as it forwards an alarm to an email.



This is all very exciting for us and we do hope members will take advantage of the information easily found on sites noted above.

One more piece of equipment that will be used is the “Nectar Detector”. This is a gauge used to take the weight of all hives not on a scale for comparison. It can be found at BetterBee if you are interested.

Recipes

Grandma’s Honey Muffins from [Taste Of Home](#)

I can remember my Grandma Wheeler making these delicious muffins—we’d eat them nice and warm, fresh from the oven! She was a “pinch of this” and “handful of that” kind of cook, so getting the ingredient amounts correct for the recipe was a challenge. Now it’s a family treasure! —Darlis A. Wilfer, West Bend, Wisconsin

TOTAL TIME: Prep/Total Time: 30 min. YIELD: 1 dozen.

Ingredients

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 large egg, room temperature
- 1 cup 2% milk
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 1/4 cup honey

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400°. In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. In a small bowl, combine egg, milk, butter and honey. Stir into dry ingredients just until moistened.
2. Fill greased or paper-lined muffin cups three-fourths full. Bake until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, 15-18 minutes. Cool 5 minutes before removing from pan to a wire rack. Serve warm.
3. Freeze option: Freeze cooled muffins in freezer containers. To use, thaw at room temperature or, if desired, microwave each muffin on high until heated through, 20-30 seconds.

RESOURCES

The following officers and directors are a great resource to answer questions and requests for assistance.

Officers		
President	Michael D. Smith	michaeldgetsmail@gmail.com
Vice President	Maria Cashdollar	winter64@aol.com
Corresponding Secretary	Claire Desilets	beekeeper@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Deborah Carmel	deborahcarmel429@gmail.com
Treasurer	Lynn Heslinga	lynneheslinga@gmail.com

Directors						
Marthe	Ayers	mfoura32@aol.com		Louise	Hopper	lvh2925@comcast.net
Phyllis	Bayer	pbayer@IFAW.org		Mary Anne	Mann	hummann@outlook.com
John	Beach	john.a.beach@comcast.net		Andy	Morris	andymorris02553@gmail.com
Todd	Cashdollar	thruheavenseyez@aol.com		Brian	O'Donnell	bjmdod98@gmail.com
Jennifer	Cattin	jencattin@gmail.com		Lisa	Sheehy	lisasheehy@msn.com
Melissa	Caughey	pcmc2000@msn.com		Donna	Tompkins	donnatomp@comcast.net
Peter B	Cooper	brpbcl@gmail.com		Dave	Whalley	David.a.whalley@gmail.com
Olga	DiSavino	ack_olenka@yahoo.com		Miguel	Zamora	zamorasmiguel@gmail.com
Edward	Hegner	edward.hegner@gmail.com				