

MIAMI VALLEY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

January 2007

Meeting Notes:
Our next meeting is February 5th



Featured Speaker: Robin Mountain

Dadant Branch Manager-Frankfort KY. He has been involved in Queen Rearing in both Africa and the U.S. He will be discussing beekeeping, queen rearing, pollen trapping and more. There will also be a question and answer session.

Important Bees-ness: Winter Management: THE NEED TO FEED

We have been enjoying almost balmy weather for January, as have our bees. When our pantry starts to run low, we have the benefit of running out to the store. Our bees, unfortunately, don't have the luxury of Meijers, Krogers or Wal-Mart. When their supplies run out, they starve. Low food supplies also stress the bees and can lead to nosema.

It is our responsibility as beekeepers to ensure they have enough supplies to get through the cold weather ahead. Some basic steps to take when the temperature is above 40, the day is sunny and the bees are flying:

1. Pop the lid/or gently heft the hive from the rear—check to make sure there is at least 10-20 pounds of honey reserves (3-4 sealed filled honey combs).
2. If there is not enough honey—YOU NEED TO FEED
3. Food Choices (You can also add essential oils to encourage them to eat):



Use a 2: 1 sugar to water ratio
High fructose corn syrup
Regular sugar sprinkled on the top of the inner cover
Fondant. You can find the recipes in most bee books

4. Feeder Choices for liquid items:



Mason Jars, with small holes in the lids, turned upside down over the inner cover hole (remember to maintain ventilation too)

Top Feeders

Entrance Feeders—although bees won't break cluster to use them in the really cold weather. You can use these as a top feeder. Place an empty super on top of the inner cover, and place the entrance feeder inside. Cover with the telescoping lid.

5. Once you start feeding, you will need to continue feeding until spring

Come and chat with fellow beekeepers at our next meeting. Whether as a new beekeeper who is brimming with excitement and anticipation about getting that first hive of bees, or the veteran who has questions about what is going on in the world of beekeeping. There is always something to learn as we share our knowledge at the meetings. We look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting which will be February 5th.

MVBA CONTACTS

PRESIDENT

John Rowley

VICE PRESIDENT

nominations/voting

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Julie Saluke

NEWSLETTER

Terry Lieberman-Smith

COUNTY BEE INSPECTORS

CHAMPAGNE: Bob Kaiser 937.484.3249

CLARK: Tim Gifford - 614.562.7265

DARKE: Steve Brumbaugh - 937.548.8520

GREENE: TBD

LOGAN: Jim Kerns - 937.593.7355

MIAMI: Tony Rimkus - 937.667.1420

MONTGOMERY: Jack Turner - 937.294.5917

Brukner Nature Center (Debra Brill)- 937.698.6493

Bee-ing A Step Ahead:

February 5: MVBA Meeting—1st of the year. 7p.m. at Brukner Nature Center. **2007 Dues** —\$7 for individual, \$10 for family. We will have nominations and voting for Vice-President. **Featured Speaker: Robin Mountain-see information inside. If you place your order with Dadant Frankfort (1-888-932-3268), mention to them that you would like Robin to bring your order to our meeting. Robin said that there will be no shipping costs!**



February 24: Paul Reuter's Bee Class: Urbana. Call 937-653-8896 for more info.

March 3: Tri-County Bee School, Wooster, OH

March 5: MVBA Meeting: 7-8:30 p.m. at Brukner Nature Center

March 24: Southwest Ohio Beekeepers School

Come to our meetings or visit our website:
www.mvbeekeepers.org for more information about the classes listed above.

Please note: We are going electronic! As of next month, our newsletter will be available by direct e-mail and on our website. When you pay your dues, update your e-mail address so we can send you our monthly newsletter. If you do not have internet access, we will gladly send current members their copy through the postal system.

Miami Valley Beekeepers Association
Terry Lieberman-Smith, Editor
P.O. Box 24181
Dayton, OH 45424



Our First 2007 meeting: Monday, February 5th, 7 p.m. at Brukner Nature Center!