



Beekeepers Association of Southwest Florida NEWSLETTER

December 2011

Monthly Meeting

Our regular 2011 meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of each month unless otherwise noted.

Our Next Regular Meeting will be Wednesday, January 11th, 2011, 6:30 PM Lee County Extension, 3406 Palm Beach Blvd, Ft. Myers, FL 33916-3736

This month's topic will be Native Pollinators by David Gately (Part II).

Our Association Officers

President: Don Murray
dnmurray211@gmail.com

VP: Rebecca Wilson
rebecca@beck-wilson.com

Secretary: Beth Ceilley
bceilley@comcast.net

Treasurer: Virginia Riggs
home@virginiariggs.com

Delegate to FSBA: Don Murray
dnmurray211@gmail.com

Lee County Extension

Agriculture & Natural Resources Agent
Beekeepers Association of Southwest Florida
Fitzroy (Roy) Beckford
(239) 533-7512 Telephone
(239) 485-2305 Fax
E-mail: fbeckford@leegov.com

Florida Apiary Inspection

District 14 Inspector
Charlotte, Collier, Hendry, Lee & Sarasota Counties
Freddie Howard Jr.
PO Box 1502
Labelle, FL 33975
Physical address:
1374 Forestry Division Rd
Labelle, FL 33935
Phone: 863-674-4003
Fax: 863-674-4644
howardd1@doacs.state.fl.us

What's Blooming

Mexican Clover
Primrose Willow
Red "Swamp" Maple
Skyblue Clustervine
Sleeping Hibiscus,

Snow Squarestem
Spanish Needle
Tropical Sage
Willow



Bees on Snow Squarestem. Photo by Tom Allen

Club Apiary Update

Don and Rebecca moved the Club Apiary to its new location on December 19th. The move went smoothly, with no issues. The bees seem to like their new home, as they are bringing in pollen and we have witnessed orientation flights. The bees are currently being fed and we look forward to watching their progress this spring.

See photos of the bees and the Apiary on the BASF Facebook page as well as the BASF blog.



Bee College 2012 Registration is Open!

There are some great speakers planned for this year's Bee College!

Friday and Saturday March 9th & 10th, 2012.
The Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience
9505 Ocean Shore Blvd.
St. Augustine, FL 32080-8610

Click here for info and to download registration

State Preemption/Apiculture - SB 1132 (Hays) & HB 1197 (Horner)

"We have a bill in both the Senate and House. Senate Bill 1132 and House Bill 1197. Time to set sail."
Tom Nolan, Co-Chairman FSBA Legislative Committee.

"This is a good deal and one we have been waiting for and expecting. Let's work behind our Legislative Committee Co-Chairman, Tom Nolan and Tony Hogg, to give them all the assistance necessary to promote these bills." Gary Ranker, President FSBA

This bill would give the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACs) exclusive authority to regulate beekeeping, apiaries and their locations.

Deadly parasite turns Bay Area honeybees into zombie slaves

"It's the flight of the living dead". Infected bees go mad, abandoning their hive in a suicidal rush toward bright lights as a result of a parasitic flies which engage in mind control... bees walk around in circles, with no apparent sense of direction

For more on this Parasitic Fly that turns bees into zombies: ***Silicon Valley Mercury News***

Dennis at the Venice Area Garden Club

Dennis spoke at the Venice Area Garden Club, Venice, FL on Thursday, January 5, 2012. "Thank you for your informative and entertaining presentation." *Bea Holt, VP Venice Area Garden Club, Venice, FL.*



BASF now has a Facebook page!

Keep updated with club goings on and interesting news on our new Facebook page! We hope for it to become another valuable member resource.

<http://www.facebook.com/basfl>

Newsletter Information

Send suggestions and comments to
Don Murray (dnmurray211@gmail.com) and
Rebecca Wilson (rebecca@beck-wilson.com).

What's going on with your hives?

We would like to know what kind of activity your hives are having. Please contact Don or Rebecca to have your hives featured in our monthly Members' showcase.