



North Central Beekeepers Assoc., Inc. • P.O. Box 294 Brainerd, MN 56401

A Non-Profit Educational Organization For Beekeepers.

Next **North Central Beekeepers** meeting is

7:00 pm. Mon. September 17, 2012

-- Brainerd, Minnesota 56401

All members and friends welcome !!

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**Northcentral Beekeepers September 2012 newsletter;**

**Greetings Beekeepers;**

**Have all of you got your honey off and extracted? It is after Labor Day ! Now is the time to get that extra honey off and get the hives ready for winter. The hives need to have either about 90# of honey or be fed 2/1 sugar water until they have this much stored. High fructose corn syrup, liquid sugar or blends of these can be used depending on cost and availability. If you are going to medicate this should be mixed into the very first liquid feed you feed to be sure the bees get it all.**

**Do not feed outside or with a boardman feeder as either may cause a robbing frenzy, not a pretty sight and a sure way to loose a hive. Feeding should be done with a frame feeder, top feeder or bucket feeder. If you use a top feeder or bucket you will need an extra empty deep hive body to cover the feeder and entrance reducers so that the hive can protect itself.**

**When harvesting honey there are various tools used to help remove the bees from the combs. In general use are fume boards with various putrid odors depending on the chemical used. Fume boards work quite well but at the end of removal there will be bees that have not yet left. These are usually blown off with a modified leaf blower or brushed with a bee brush. In spite of what you may think bees don't really mind being blown off but a blower may be expensive as well as**

**tempermental in operation. The bee brush is the small hobbist cheap and easily operated choice. The big secret to successful use is the fact that comb is all drawn with a slight upward slant. So to avoid taking off wings, legs and other body parts simply turn the frame upside down and brush with a firm flip. Bees gone and not injured.**

### **THE TWO SECRETS OF SUCCESSFUL BEEKEEPING;**

- 1. Get rid of the mites,**
- 2. See #1**

**Now is the time to get rid of the mites! The most effective mite removal is brood interruption, this is what mother nature is about to provide you with. To increase the effect of this brood break this is also the time to apply the chemical of your choice. All mitacides are chemicals from Food grade mineral oil to ApiGard they are all chemicals. You need to use one! You need to read the labels and do the research, figure out what amount of colony loss you can allow and apply the choice chemical according to the label instructions. Not more not less, by the book. It may be very hard to decide what chemical to use if you don't know what mite level you have. A mite roll is very easy to do. It can be done with a jar of bees(about 1/2 cup, 300)powdered sugar, alcohol, starting fluid or the good old sticky board if you have enough time. With powdered sugar place the bees in the jar with a couple spoonfuls of sugar shake hard for about a minute then set down and wait for a couple minutes, shake again and then shake the sugar and mites out onto**

**the top of a hive cover or sheet of paper, count the mites and put the bees back in the hive they are not hurt. With any amount of mite count TREAT!! 5 is plenty 10 is a real problem.**

**Don't even think about leaving on the Queen excluder. Take it off with the honey supers.**

**FOR SALE;**

**3 deep, 3 med. With frames wax foundation**

**Telescoping cover with inner cover, screened bottom board, nuc box and a smoker.**

**Dadant junior bench extractor, new never used**

**2 vented inner covers**

**Darin Wattercott**

**[dnkacres@lavabit.com](mailto:dnkacres@lavabit.com)--218-866-0411**

**Lunch committee; Dawn Loschesler and Mary Fogle**

**Next Month; annual elections Who do you want to lead us in 2013? Be thinking, is it you? Volunteers needed!!**