

CLEVELAND COUNTY BEEKEEPERS

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Cleveland County, NC



Note From Steve 1-29-16

2016

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Source of Queens, Packages—2016 Meeting Dates— Bee Friendly Garden Insecticides

2016 Meetings are as Follows:

Feb. 29	Hive coatings, sharing ideas of making your own stuff
Mar 28	Financial Issues and Photography
Apr 30	Saturday Field Day, details tba
May 28	Saturday Field Day, likely at same location as April to follow up on colony manipulations
June 27	Viewing and Discussing Documentary (tentative)
July 25	topic tba, may not have meeting this month
Aug 29	topic tba
Sept 26	topic tba
Oct 31	Family Guest Night to include a honey tasting!

Note there are several tba. Please if you have an idea of a guest speaker, topic let Steve know

There is a local source of queens and packages with pickup on March 26th and April 2nd. If you want to order please call 828-855-6942 and speak to Marti Canterbury of Old Dutch Farm Apiary. Pickup site is 336 Startown Road, Newton, NC Better call soon as she has told me the March pickup date is quickly getting filled. Prices are \$96 for 3# packages with unmarked Italian queens and \$25 for unmarked Italian queens. Add \$4 for marking.



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Many of us also have gardens and use insecticides. Two insecticides available for homeowners can be used with essentially no adverse effect on bees, even if the foragers are directly exposed. One of these ironically is in the neonicotinoid class but in a different subclass as others that are extremely toxic to bees. The other is a biological insecticide specific for caterpillar pests. See details below.

Also some of the garden insecticides that are toxic to bees can be used in ways that reduce injury. For example permethrin and bifenthrin, two synthetic pyrethroids can be safely applied if timing is after foraging and in some cases if directed to parts of the plant that needs protecting. However in this case a spray, not a dust is necessary. Carbaryl, the Sevin TM chemical is very harmful to bees and for homeowner use I don't feel the formulation type is such that bees will not be injured by residual sprays. This is a very complicated area so please give Steve a call if you have specific questions.



Dipel and Thuricide are two brand names of a biological insecticide that is very specific to caterpillar pests. I prefer formulations that can be mixed with water and sprayed. Many formulations available locally are in the dust form. The formulation shown is approved for organic systems. Commonly this insecticide is referred to as BT, short for the scientific name of the bacteria *Bacillus thuringiensis*. If you have worms in your cabbage, broccoli, etc. the BTs are the best and most bee friendly products to use.



I have seen only one formulation of acetamiprid for homeowner use. Being a new product it is not registered for all vegetables so reading the label is imperative. Also treating early for some pests such as the squash bug is advised. So you will need to know what the immatures look like. A recent study found that no foragers were injured after exposure to this product. This is not the case for nearly all other insecticides used by homeowners. Sevin TM is very difficult, nearly impossible to use without harming bees. In many cases home gardeners follow tradition verses trying something new and better.