

MINUTES
Tampa Bay Beekeepers Association
January 9, 2009
www.tampabaybeekeepers.com

The Tampa Bay Beekeepers Association monthly meeting came to order on Thursday, January 8, 2009 7:30 pm at the Hillsborough County Extension Office old meeting hall. David Smith presided as president, Joyce Lang as treasurer and Renee Hartmann as secretary. There were 2 guests local and from Ohio. Approximate number of attendees:34. Thank you to the people that brought the refreshments. Door prizes provided by Bert Kelly

New business:

From Todd Jamison: Argentine Ants are in the areas of Wimauma,, Riverview, Ruskin, Gibsonton. Boric acid is the best control. Although some have reported that the ants just go around it. California has had them for a while but do not want any ants coming in with the pollination bees from Florida. They will form mounds and they all work all together. Chemicals excite them; to reproduce. They will take out a colony. They go in the top and push the bee down. If they get on the hive move the hives away. Quickly! Todd reported that in a day the ants took over a double hive. They are black not red, and do not bite. Bert says the ones he had, would bite him. Todd reported in Gibsonton a trail of ants went 35 yards to the hive. The areas they are located are on sand hills.

Todd also reported testing on the associations bees for Africanized bees. The sample from August was not tested until December. Sample 2 was Africanized.

Question: What to do when you find Africanized? Re queen.

100 percent Tampa Port Africanized.

In the club apiary need to dress cover up. Watch the ankles and neck area.

Other news: Manatee Co. Sheriff has a work farm with bees. They need a bee keeper to take care of 10 hives.

Discussion. Possum are getting killed by bees. Not one really know why.

State fair. Bert Kelley needs volunteers for the Florida State Beekeeping Assoc. booth. They sell honey and honey stick. They show bees wax, and observation hive. Insect Encounter will be in the same area of the fair. The fair dates are February 5th thru the 16th. . Change is need for the morning shift.

Flowering shrub. Bees get nectar. Every year it freezes. It comes back. Maple is almost done blooming. The red is the leaves. Coral vine still blooming. Bees are hitting water and that is indications of the bees are eating the stored honey. So make sure there is enough food for them until the flow starts.

Question. .What percent of honey water will the honey ferment? Over 19 to 20 percent. Just because the frame is not capped all the way does not mean it is not ready for harvest.

Discussion. Rebecca Conroy will chair the seminar in May. Renee will call the park.

Bee college is March 20, 21 in St. Augustine., Fl

Club Business Meeting

Treasurers report: Balance in club account. Joyce reported. \$4815.50 Treasurer Report approved and seconded.

Club Apiary Report:

Work day on Saturday.9: 30 Signing waivers at the park. We will be putting Meg a Bee patties on the hives to help feed them through the winter.

Door prizes provided by Bert Kelley.

Meeting adjourned approximately 9:30 PM.

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