



## HCBC Monthly Meetings Summary

[www.hcbees.org](http://www.hcbees.org)

**August 6, 2016**

### **Picnic and Field Day**

We met at 4pm at the Mountain Test Farm off Raccoon Road across from the Extension office. Allen opened the meeting with some questions: " What are we doing this time of year? Selling honey, reducing entrances to prevent robbing, checking the weight of the hives - need 60-80 lbs. of honey to overwinter, and checking brood production for winter bees.

There will be demonstrations of the different treatments for Varroa mites down in the field after the speaker, Lewis Cauble.

Lewis Cauble: Varroa mites are the biggest challenge for over-wintering bees. You find mites on the adult bees and in capped brood. They transmit viruses. Viruses are getting more complicated. We were given handouts with information about the different treatments for Varroa and information about Varroa. Lewis discussed the handouts.

What we need to do and know about winterizing:

1. Know the mite load of the hive
2. There are 8 approved medications to treat mites - Ape means thymol
  - a. Thymol is a non-chemical treatment
  - b. AVOID using Apistan and Checkmite
3. Apply correctly and read the directions
4. Avoid un-registered treatments
5. Monitor after treatments to make sure the treatment is effective

We went down to the field where there were hive demonstrations of 5 different hive treatments. Apivar, Api-Guard, Api-Life Var, Mite Away Strips, and Oxalic Acid (applied in late fall).

- Also, Lewis demonstrated a 'sugar shake' to determine mite load in the hives. Rick Queen had no mites in his hive. Bill Skelton's hive was overloaded!

We ate fried chicken and pot luck. Thank everyone for bringing all the yummy food!

Next beekeepers meeting is September 6. Board meeting before the meeting.

Meeting adjourned

Next beekeepers meeting is June 7 at the Lodge at the back of the Mountain Test Farm.

Vicki Morrison  
*Haywood County Beekeepers Secretary*