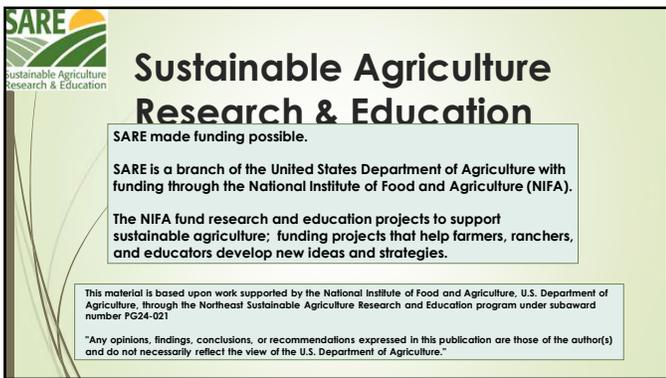
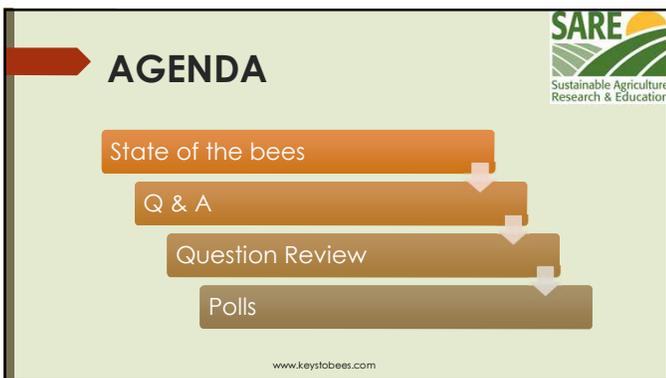




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STATE OF THE BEES



Ventilation

www.keytothebees.com

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Water Source

What are some solutions to water sources?



Photo by: Jose Madrigal

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Frequency of inspections?

Purposes for inspections this time of year?

COLONY INSPECTION SHEET

Date/Time	Blooming
Weather	Temperature
Colony Name	Location
# bees/bugs	Queen Specifics

EXTERNAL INSPECTION

Number congregating with 1 minute	Behavior
Resources contain in:	

HIVE CONDITIONS

Honey Flow (high, med, low)	Pollen (high, med, low)
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BROOD

Pattern (solid, spotty)	Stage % (egg, Larvae, Pupa)
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TEMPERATURE/POPULATION

Temperature (normal, high, excessive)	Population (normal, crowded)
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1. Resource Assessment
2. Space Availability
3. Queen Status
4. Health Checks

ACTIONS (feed, medicate, super, merge):

NEXT INSPECTION (feed medication):

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QUESTION & ANSWER

Place questions in chat feature or raise hand.



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SUBMITTED QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1: I'm down to four colonies. Two are doing well, one is a small swarm catch from two weeks ago, and the fourth is a split I made after spotting queen cells in a strong hive (hopefully that was the right call). I've been feeding both of the smaller colonies 1:1 syrup with Hive Alive to try to boost their numbers before winter. After losing the two hives, I'd really like to head into winter with four viable colonies. Time will tell if they're strong enough or if I'll need to combine them. Is there anything else I can do to increase brood production at this stage?

QUESTION 2: In the hive where I found the queen cells, I also discovered my re-marked queen. I caged her and placed her in a new hive with resources, hoping to prevent a swarm and preserve her. She's been a rockstar this season, but I'm hesitant to overwinter with her due to her age. I don't want to dispatch her, but I also don't want to leave a small colony trying to raise a new queen this late in the season. Her genetics are great — would you recommend buying a new queen in this case? Speaking of which, what's the latest time of year you can reliably purchase queens?

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SUBMITTED QUESTIONS

QUESTION 3: I follow a beekeeper on YouTube who feeds 1:1 syrup in the fall instead of 2:1. He claims it simulates a nectar flow, encouraging the queen to ramp up egg-laying and resulting in a larger population of bees of winter physiology. He then continues feeding through winter. What's your take on this method?

QUESTION 4: Finally, I know I need to treat for mites ASAP. I've got a box of Formic Pro left over from spring, but we're still waiting on cooler weather that just isn't showing up. I was hoping to avoid buying more treatments, but it's looking like I may have to. What do you use for mite treatment this time of year?

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SUBMITTED QUESTIONS

QUESTION 5: I ordered VarroaSan for mite treatment thinking it was organic and safe to use. When I received it, the instructions say I need to wear a special mask, chemical resistant gloves, wash my clothes separately from other laundry, etc. Now I'm afraid to use it. Is there a treatment that is easier and safe for the beekeeper to use that doesn't require a hazmat suit? Also, how do you safely dispose of expired mite treatment ?

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Name	Active ingredient (kind of active)	Season (start)	Honey super safe	Treatment Duration	Application Type	Personal Protective Equipment
Aviapar® Avianol (Pump sprayer)	Fluvalinate	Spring	NO	6-8 weeks	PLASTIC STRIP	Respirator, gloves, goggles, long pants, long sleeves
ApiGuard® Fumigant (Pump sprayer)	Phosphine	Spring	NO	6-8 weeks	SEE OR SEE-TAG	Respirator, gloves, goggles, long pants, long sleeves
Api Life Var® Dust, organic ingredients of (Pump sprayer)	Essential oils	Spring	YES	20-30 days	HAZARD MARKER	Respirator, gloves, goggles, long pants, long sleeves
MAGGI® Formic Pro® (Pump sprayer)	Formic acid	Spring	YES	1-2 weeks	GEL STRIP	Respirator, gloves, goggles, long pants, long sleeves
Osally Acid Api-Bonax® (Pump sprayer)	Osallylic acid	Spring	NO	1-2 weeks	HAZARD MARKER	Respirator, gloves, goggles, long pants, long sleeves
Neotrend APMA Sulfoneamide of high level acids (Pump sprayer)	Sulfoneamide	Spring	YES	1 month	CARDBOARD STRIP	Respirator, gloves, goggles, long pants, long sleeves

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MAIN GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CATEGORIES



- **TOPICS:**
- Definitions
- Biology
- Inspections
- Life cycle
- Varroa Mites, Diseases, & Pests
- Nutrition
- Horticulture
- Honey

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HONEY

Kingdom Animalia
 Phylum Anthropod
 Class Insecta
 Order Hymenoptera
 Family Apidae
 Genus Apis
 Species Mellifera

Apis species: (a) *Apis mellifera*, (b) *Apis cerana*, (c) *Apis dorsata*, (d) *Apis florea* (Makkar et al., 2020)

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IMPORTANT RANGES

CLUSTER
 Photo credit: Scientific Beekeeping

NEED FOR HEATING
 Photo credit: The Waxword and the Honey Bee

Heating coil 60-63
 Core 65-85°F
 Temperature and CO₂
 Broodnest 90-95°F
 Weight and Humidity

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INSPECTIONS #1

QUEENCCELLS???

QUEENCCELLS???

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INSPECTION #1 Poll

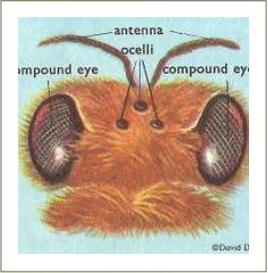
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**QUEEN BEE
ON A MISSION
TO KILL**

PIPING/TOOTING NOISE

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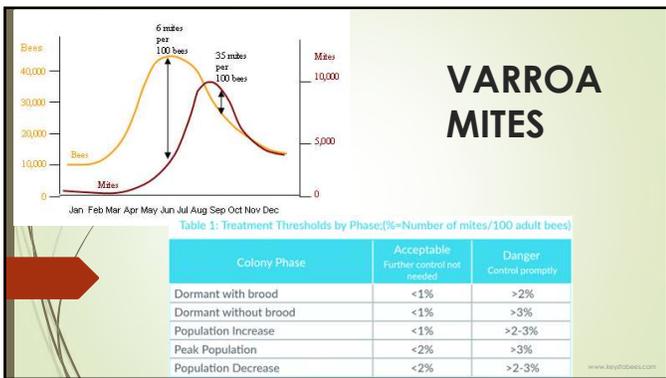


**BIOLOGY
#1**

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Videos by: Barnyard Bees

- REJECTING QUEEN
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qXVON5uZCY>
- ACCEPTED QUEEN
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1FCLxGgu1g>

www.baylibees.com

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<p>NEXT MEETING 8/13/25</p> <p>8/13/25 Virtual Meeting Guest Presenter</p> <p>Mark Gingrich, President Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association (PSBA)</p> 	<p>SOUTH CENTRAL PA LOCAL CLUBS</p> <p>YCBA – meets 4th Tuesday 7:00pm-9:00pm at Aldersgate Church, 397 Tyler Run Rd., York</p> <p>CABA – meets 3rd Friday 7:00pm-9:00pm at HACC, 1 HACC Dr., Harrisburg</p> <p>LCBS – meets 3rd Tuesday 6:30pm-8:30pm at Millersville University, Roddy Hall Room 261</p> <p>PCBC – meets 3rd Sunday 2:00pm at Penn State Ext. Office, 8 S. Carlisle St., New Bloomfield</p> <p>FCBA – meets 3rd Thursday 6:00pm-8:30pm at locations vary check on website fcbapa.com</p> <p>PSBA – July 19th at Del Grosso's Amusement Park</p>
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<p>THANK YOU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KEYS TO BEES • Tiffany Ayres • www.keystobees.com • saybees.apinary@gmail.com 	
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