

# Update



August and September are typically very rainy months here in Jacksonville and so far they have certainly lived up to that reputation. Unfortunately our meet up Wednesday's have been rained out consistently. My farm hours are 11:00-3:30 every Wednesday so if the weather is bad, you can find me at the farm house. You are always welcome to stop in for additional hive mentoring anytime on that day. Beekeepers all over North Florida are busy readying their hives for the months ahead. What should you be doing in September with your hives? What should you look for during your inspections? What's blooming in our area? Let's take a look at what to expect in September!! Don't miss our next meeting at 8:00am September 17th and 3:00pm on September 18th at the Farm House! **Mika (The Herban Bee) 904-476-6452**

## September

### Check-list

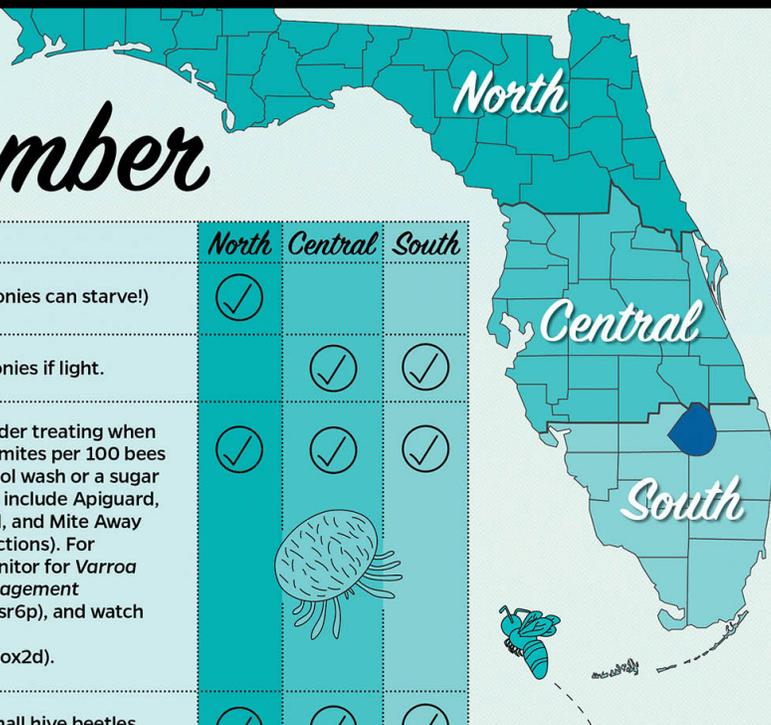
Feed colonies if light. (Colonies can starve!)

If no nectar flow, feed colonies if light.

**Monitor for Varroa.** Consider treating when *Varroa* levels reach 3% (3 mites per 100 bees as determined by an alcohol wash or a sugar shake). Treatment options include Apiguard, Apistan, Apivar, Hopguard, and Mite Away (always follow label instructions). For information on how to monitor for *Varroa* read *Tools for Varroa Management* (<https://tinyurl.com/y4tqsr6p>), and watch *Sampling Methods* (<https://tinyurl.com/y3huox2d>).

Monitor and control for small hive beetles.

	North	Central	South
Feed colonies if light. (Colonies can starve!)	✓		
If no nectar flow, feed colonies if light.		✓	✓
Monitor for <i>Varroa</i> .	✓	✓	✓
Monitor and control for small hive beetles.	✓	✓	✓



## What's Blooming This Month?

### North

Bush aster	Red bay	Spotted mint
Goldenrod	Smart weed	Sumac
Mexican clover	Spanish needle	Vine aster
Primrose willow	Spiderwort/dayflower	

### Central

Bush aster	Red bay	Spotted mint
Goldenrod	Smart weed	Sumac
Mexican clover	Spanish needle	Vine aster
Primrose willow	Spiderwort/dayflower	

### South

Mexican clover	Shrubby false buttonweed	Spanish needle
Palm	Smart weed	
Primrose willow		



## Soap Making

This month we will see a demonstration on soap making at 9am at the farm house. The demonstration is on cold process soap using honey as an ingredient. A small amount of honey goes a long way in creating a moisturizing bar of soap. Honey is a "humectant" which means that it's a great ingredient to add to soap or lotion bars to increase moisture!



## Goldenrod

**GOLDENROD** is one of the most important late-season pollinator plants in our area. Honey bees frequently collect large amounts of goldenrod nectar prior to winter; other bees use the pollen to provision late-season nests. Keep an eye out for this plant that blooms here locally!