



## Beezette

October 2024

Warren County Ohio Beekeepers  
Meeting at: Lebanon Presbyterian Church  
123 N. East Street, Lebanon, OH 45036  
[warrencountyohiobeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:warrencountyohiobeekeepers@gmail.com)  
[www.warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org](http://www.warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org)  
[www.facebook.com/groups/1769801953287281/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1769801953287281/)

Club members had a nice time visiting with each other and enjoying good food during our annual picnic at Armco Park. Thank you Mike Hutchinson for presenting information on oxalic acid towels.

### Next Meeting:

Our October meeting will be on Sunday, October 13 at 1:30pm, at the church.

During this meeting we will have a Roundtable format with four facilitators. The topic covered will be: Mentor/mentee relationship, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Honey harvesting and Re-queening. There will be time for Q & A.

### OSBA Fall Conference:

Ohio State Beekeepers Association will be holding annual Fall Conference on October 25 – 26<sup>th</sup> at Central State University in Wilberforce Ohio, very close to our area. There are many informative speakers and presenters lined up. The cost is \$60 for OSBA members, \$80 for non-members. For more information and registration, go to <https://ohiostatebeekeepers.org/fall-conference>

### What To Do in the Month Ahead:

- Referenced from “*Beekeeping for Dummies*” by Howland Blackiston from the Beekeeping Calendar for October:
  - Test / Treat for Varroa mites.
  - Check hives for food reserves.
  - If food needed, use 2:1 sugar syrup
  - Feed a pollen substitute
  - Check ventilation

- Add mouse guard
- Check for supplies needed for winterizing hive.

**General Club Information:**

**MEMBERSHIP**

- Membership renewals for 2024 continue to be accepted. Membership dues are due on January 1st of each year. Member dues remain the same at \$20 individual and \$25/family. Registration is online. Fill out the form at: <https://warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org/join-or-renew-with-paypal/>
- Payments are made via PayPal, but a PayPal account is NOT required.

**Mentors**

- Club members with a minimum of three years of beekeeping experience looking to mentor are welcome to fill out a Mentor Form on the club website.
- For members looking for mentors, go to [www.warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org/mentors](http://www.warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org/mentors).
- **Calling bee enthusiasts, many hands make light work;** please consider getting involved with the club in a volunteer position. It’s a great way to learn and share “beek” knowledge and experiences. Send an email with your comments or questions to [warrencountyohiobeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:warrencountyohiobeekeepers@gmail.com)

**WCOB Club Officers:**

President ..... Paul Dorger  
Vice President .....Laura Fazekas  
Treasurer .....Alan DeJarnette  
Web Manager..... Rose DeJarnette  
Director of Education ..... Beatriz (Bea) Woodall  
Secretary .....Dian Danino

A list of responsibilities for our board positions is posted on the WCOB website under “Members” at [www.warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org/members/officer-job-responsibilities/](http://www.warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org/members/officer-job-responsibilities/)

**WCOB logo** hats, shirts and outerwear can now be purchased online. Go to our website [warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org](http://warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org), then click on Members/WCOB Logo Wear.



### **Honey Extractor Rental**

Our club has a honey extractor that can be rented by members for \$5.00 per day. Any questions or comments should be directed to

**[wcobeetreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:wcobeetreasurer@gmail.com)**

### **Club Disclaimer:**

**Warren County Ohio Beekeepers makes no warranty of any kind whatsoever, expressed or implied, that any information, materials, techniques or products or anything else presented at/during its meetings is accurate, valid, adequate or fit for any purpose whatsoever. Event attendees are solely responsible for determining the validity, adequacy and fitness of any information, materials or products or anything else presented at/during the event for any and all uses.**

### **EPA Information**

**EPA Issues Advisory on Pesticides Used to Control Varroa Mites in Beehives, Including Coordinated Efforts to Support the Beekeeping Community**

**Released on January 8, 2024**

Today, EPA is issuing an advisory to clarify what pesticide products and active ingredients are registered to control Varroa mites (Varroa destructor) in beehives, what tolerances or exemptions under the Federal Food Drug and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA) apply to those products, and how the Agency views the use of unregistered products to treat beehives for one's own personal use. Additionally, EPA remains committed to collaborating with and supporting the beekeeping community and is providing an update on those efforts. This includes working with

the beekeeping community to register new tools for managing beehive pests and working with our federal and local partners to advance valuable research.

#### **Advisory on Pesticides used to Control Varroa Mites**

Varroa mites are parasites that feed on honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) and transmit numerous honey bee viruses, both of which lead to reduced lifespan of bees. The health and longevity of a honey bee colony can be critically damaged by an infestation of Varroa mites. Once infested, if left untreated, the colony will likely die. Varroa mites are a national threat to bee colonies and in turn to farmers with crops dependent on pollination services provided by bees, and ultimately to food security in the United States.

EPA has recently learned that beekeepers may be using products containing pesticide active ingredients (*e.g.*, oxalic acid, formic acid, amitraz, and thymol) that are not registered pesticides to control Varroa mites in bee colonies. In the advisory issued today, EPA continues to affirm that the use of registered pesticides must comply with labeling requirements under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), that pesticide residues in or on food derived from beehives (*e.g.*, honey, comb, wax, propolis, royal jelly, pollen) must comply with any federal tolerances under FFDCFA, that use of unregistered pesticides to control varroa mites cannot extend beyond personal use, and that there may be more restrictive state requirements that must also be followed. EPA remains committed to supporting states with primary enforcement authority to ensure compliance with FIFRA requirements.

#### **Additional Efforts to Support the Beekeeping Community**

In the past several months, EPA has registered two new Varroa mite control products (*i.e.*, Varroxsan™ and Ez-Ox™ tablets) containing oxalic acid as the active ingredient. Each product allows for easier application of oxalic acid, and in the case of Varroxsan™, a slower release and longer acting application of oxalic acid in the honey bee colony. In approving pesticide products for use, EPA completes a robust evaluation and determines that uses of these products will not pose any unreasonable adverse effects when used according to the label instructions. EPA will continue to prioritize the registration of pesticides that target Varroa mites and continue to provide helpful information about these products.