

Central Jersey Beekeeper's Association

General Membership Meeting Agenda - March 22, 2024

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) In Memoriam - Walt Wilson, Sr.
 - Moment of Silence
 - Jeff Burd
 - Gene Armstrong
 - Anyone else?
- 4) Presentation
 - Dave @ BetterBee - Honey Comb - Zoom 7:15pm approximately
 - Jeff Burd - Cleaning Your Smoker - Video
- 5) Member Introductions
- 6) Minutes from Last Meeting
- 7) Treasurer's Report - Lew Goldberg
- 8) Committee Reports
 - Audit Committee ?????
 - Education Committee - Jeff Burd
 - Events Chair - Geoff Vitale
 - Monmouth Country Fair - Volunteers Needed
 - Family Bee Day - May 19th
 - Cancellation of High Five for the Hive
 - Donations Committee - Bill Woodward
 - Honey Queen Foundation - \$1,000?
 - Social Committee - Danielle Garske
 - Potential Meet-Ups?
 - Honey Queen - Angela Juffey
 - Nominations for Honey Queen?
- 9) Statewide Updates
 - New Secretary of Agriculture - Ed Wengryn
 - Essex Merger
 - 2 Positions Opening for Apiarists - New Queen & Nuc Rearing
 - Winter Meeting at Eco Center
 - Katie Culbert's - Parks, Plants and Pollinator's Bill
 - Petrusia Kotlar's - Spotted Pattern Fly Honey Results
- 10) Old Business
- 11) New Business
 - Yellow Legged Hornet
 - Proposal for Revised Extractor Policy
 - T-Shirts for Central
- 12) Raffle Drawing

Walter D. Wilson, Sr.

**View memory board**

Share a memory, offer a condolence

**Share obituary**

Let your community know

**Listen to this story**

Hear your loved one's obituary

**Send flowers**

Let the family know you are thinking of them

**Plant a tree**

Give to a forest in need in their memory

Walter D. Wilson, Sr, 90, of Lincroft, NJ, passed away on Friday, December 22, 2023, surrounded by his loving family. Walt was born the youngest of seven to Lillian and Austin Wilson in Applegarth, NJ. He was a long-time resident of Fair Haven before moving to his farm in Freehold Township.

Walt proudly served in the United States Army, 10th Mountain Division during the Korean War. He was a Free Mason.

Walt was an accomplished wood worker and built many custom-built homes in Monmouth County.

At the age of 17, he started raising honeybees. His love of beekeeping grew from a hobby into a family business for over 70 years. He was a founding member of the Central New Jersey Beekeepers Association. Walt served as a New Jersey State Bee Inspector for 20 years, retiring in 1993.

Walt was passionate about nature. His hobbies included hunting and fishing. He enjoyed spending time at his cabin in upstate New York. Family and friends were all lucky to have heard a million stories and jokes about his adventures.

Walt was predeceased by his wife of over 60 years, Eva N. Wilson (Smith). He left behind cherished memories in the hearts of his three children, Donna Davison (Lewis Davison), Sharon Crane, and Walter Wilson, Jr (Tracey Wilson) – his five grandchildren, Kellie, Chris, Walter, Travis and Austin, and his six great grandchildren, Madeline, Matthew, Ryan, Levi, Ainsley and Wyatt, along with many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held on Friday, December 29th from 10-12 pm at Thompson Memorial Home, 310 Broad St, Red Bank, NJ 07701. A private family interment will follow at Manalapan Cemetery.

Posted online on December 26, 2023

Published in Asbury Park Press





General Membership Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2023

6:30 pm – Networking, 7:00 pm Meeting

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. In Memoriam
4. Presentation: 7:10 pm

“Winterizing and Early Spring Management to Prevent Swarms”- John Benham, Master Beekeeper, Kentucky (via Zoom)

Below please find the highlights from the pdf version of John Benham’s Presentation:

Three very important details:

- (1) The reduction of mites to a minimum with the accompanied result of reduction of viral infections.
- (2) The promotion of immune function and overall health of the upcoming phase of "Winter Bee" production.
- (3) The timeline of the treatment is such that if an unacceptable level of mites still exists after the treatment, a second treatment may be done within a time span that will allow for "Winter Bee" production and overall colony health to assure the harvesting and storage of over wintering food supplies.

The overall health and population of a colony of bees in the Fall will "Bee" reflected in the Spring. Cull and/or combine at this time.

Winterizing Summary

- Low, acceptable mite counts.
- Healthy population with preferably a young queen, culling and combining complete.
- Hives and apiary in general are ready for Winter all the way through the main flow and honey harvest. Mouse guards/entrance reducers, feeding shims, viable woodenware, etc.
- Ample food stores with considerations for supplements established.
- Management decisions and plans made concerning which colonies will be the primary honey producers and those likely to swarm. These decisions will be based on the prior season's colony performance (if applicable) and current reproduction likelihood (young queen, new colony, etc.).
- Quilt boards, hive wrapping and insulation may be required in your area.

Consult those who use these methods in their management programs

Late Winter Hive Assessment

- If and when a break in the weather occurs, the hive should be checked for remaining food stores. The most simple way of doing this without opening the hive is to lift or tilt the hive. A heavy hive means food is available and a light hive means a candy board or other supplement should be added or replenished.
- By mid to late December, the colony population will begin to rear brood and consumption of food stores will increase proportionally
- The Winter solstice will prompt the bees that working toward Spring must begin. Brood rearing will increase and will parallel the weather and associated Spring blooms.

Late Winter/Early Spring Hive Assessment/Look In

- When you open your hive for the first inspection of Spring, if the temperature is not at least 50 degrees but the bees are flying, make sure the winds are calm.
- If you pull any frames during the inspection make sure you *replace them in the location from where they were removed*
- *When you first open the hive, if you notice that the bees are still in a cluster, do not disturb them, close the hive and wait for another opportunity*

- An accurate observation of food stores and an estimation of whether or not more should be added is paramount during this period. This when the majority of overwintering colonies starve.

Conclusion

- Spring management *begins at the end of the honey harvest of the previous year*. During this period, mites are brought under control and colonies and queens are scrutinized with management decisions being made to deal with the weak and/or stifled colonies before Summer ends and the brief Fall flow begins.
- This will allow the beekeeper the opportunity to re-treat and get the mite count under control if the initial treatment did not provide desirable results. Acceptable mite counts are mandatory during late Summer as the bees begin their transition into the rearing of the long lived Winter bees.
- Woodenware suitability and general apiary conditions are also taken into account so that when the Winter season progresses into Spring and the bees transition into their "survival of the species reproduction" mode they can do so with little interference or imposed stresses from the beekeeper.
- The overall condition of a colony of bees in the Fall will be mirrored in the following Spring. This is when strong Spring honey producing colonies are established.
- The Spring build up by honey bees is the most intense and focused part of the honey bees' life and a good beekeeper will be ready to use this brief inflexible period to their advantage.

Additional Resources

Bee Informed Partnership -

<https://beeinformed.org/education-outreach/>

Arkansas Dept of Agriculture

<https://beehealth.uada.edu/assets/pages/beebroodconditions.html>

The Honey Bee Health Coalition

<https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/resources/varroa-management/>

<https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/resources/hive-health-best-management-practices/>

https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/HBHC_VET_revised_1121

The Bee MD

<http://www.thebeemd.com/>

If you would like a pdf of the presentation, email your request to John:

John M. Benham

623 Littrell Road

Smiths Grove, Ky 42171

masterbeekeeperky@gmail.com

270-404-0648

5. **Minutes:** Curtis Crowell motioned to accept the minutes and they were seconded by Elizabeth Piccola.
6. **Member Introductions:** The members of CJBA who joined via ZOOM also introduced themselves.
7. **Save the Date: Saturday, February 24th:** NJBA Winter Meeting and Election at the Eco Complex in Bordentown, NJ. If you intend to run for an office, please send your bio to Jeff Burd as soon as possible.
8. **Treasurer's Report:** Current balance is approximately \$29,000.00 with a few bills to pay.
9. **Committee Reports:**
 - **Membership Committee** (Jeff Burd): Letters were sent to members who have not reregistered and paid dues
 - **Audit Committee** (Vacant)
 - **Education Committee** (chair: Jeff Burd): A beekeeping course will be planned for mid February in Ewing.
 - **Events Chair** (chair: Geff Vitale)
 - **Donations Committee** (chair: Bill Woodard): Committee will request feedback from membership to determine which applications will receive donations. CJBA donates funds to the Friends of the Monmouth

County Park System who provide the tent for our display during the fair.

- **Social Media Committee** (chair: Danielle Garske): CJBA has a facebook page for members only
- **Honey Queen Update:** (Angela Juffey)

Katie's manuscript focusing on my research at MIT this summer on native plants and honey bee overwintering survival was just accepted into Harvard's Journal of Emerging Investigators. It will still be another 6-8 weeks before publication.

After conducting research on native plants and honey bee overwintering survival at MIT this summer, Katie reached out to NJS Assemblyman Alex Sauickie (12 district). Mr. Sauickie serves on the Agriculture and Food Security Committee.

Mr. Sauickie will be introducing her bill, "Parks, Plants and Pollinators" to the NJS Legislature on Monday and she should receive a bill # on Tuesday, 11/21. This legislation is designed to support the DEP use of native plants in landscaping, land management, reforestation efforts, and habitat restoration in New Jersey State Parks and Forests by establishing a grant program to prohibit the planting of non-native and invasive plants at NJS Parks, Forests, and local municipalities.

Below is a link to pictures and a video of the signing...

link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/11ROILZrC02CBe2CydkXyDVxMbJjB7x4H?usp=sharing>

LATEST HONEY QUEEN UPDATE (11/22/23)

The bill # for Katie's Parks, Plants, and Pollinator's legislation is **Bill #A5764: Parks, Plants, and Pollinators** introduced by Assemblyman Alex Sauickie (District 12).

As you know, native plants are an inseparable part of the natural beauty of the landscape of New Jersey and must be preserved. This legislation is designed to support the NJ-DEP use of native plants in landscaping, land management, reforestation efforts, and habitat restoration in New Jersey State Parks and Forests by establishing a grant program to prohibit the planting of non-native and invasive plants.

New Jersey has more than 2,100 native plants species that are well-adapted to NJ soils, temperatures, precipitation levels, and other environmental conditions; thereby, making these plants the best option for conserving and protecting the State's environment. Unfortunately, 812 native plants in New Jersey are listed as endangered or species of concern and 39% of native plants in New Jersey are considered rare with 42 species that are considered globally rare.

New Jersey's native plant species provide food, such as nectar, pollen, seeds, foliage, and habitats, including essential shelter and nesting sites for various types of wildlife in the State. With their extensive root systems to control erosion, native plants moderate floods and filter water to improve water quality.

It is necessary for our State to encourage the increased cultivation of native plants and to improve public awareness of their importance and benefits.

Below is a link to pictures and a video of the signing...

link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/11ROILZrC02CBe2CydkXyDVxMbJjB7x4H?usp=sharing>

10. Statewide Updates: At the Fall Meeting, Chelsea Abegg (Rutgers Researcher) presented at the Cream Ridge location.

- **NJBA Election:** If you intend to run for an office, please send your bio to Jeff Burd as soon as possible.

11. Old Business: Tri-folds are available for each Association. Jeff Burd is storing the trifold for CJBA. Contact him if you need it for a presentation.

Old extractors that are in need of repair may be auctioned at the Summer Meeting.

12. New Business: A discussion followed regarding Farm Assessment and raising honeybees. It was noted that if a member does not meet the acreage requirement for farm assessment, they may receive a benefit regarding license plates or insurance. However this will be pursued on an individual basis and not by the NJBA.

We have been asked to participate in the Ocean County Fair. Elizabeth Piccola will be coordinating this effort and reviewing the application requirements. She will also pursue coordinating the Honey competition at the Monmouth County Fair.

13. CJBA Officer Election

A unanimous ballot was cast for the following uncontested 2024 slate of candidates:

President: Jennifer Cotton
1st Vice President: Mike Rein
2nd Vice President: Yasmin Qazilbash
3rd Vice President: Catalina Molina
Treasurer: Lew Goldberg
Secretary: Angela Juffey

Raffle Drawings (50/50 cash & prizes) Bob LoPresti donated Honeybee Democracy by Thomas Seeley as one of the prizes.

Meeting adjourned: 8:39PM

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Juffey
Central Jersey Beekeepers Association, Secretary

From: New Jersey Beekeepers Association NJBA38@wildapricot.org
Subject: NJ Honey Queen Applications Reopened
Date: March 7, 2024 at 8:30 PM
To: JENNIFER COTTON JennCotton@aol.com



The New Jersey Beekeepers Association

2024 NJ Honey Queen Nominations Reopened

Greetings, Fellow Beekeepers,

The NJBA has reopened the search for a 2024 NJ Honey Queen.

The NJ Honey Queen Committee regrets to inform us that the newly crowned NJ Honey Queen, Taylor Boyer, has stepped down. NJBA thanks her for her brief service and wishes her the best going forward.

The Committee has announced that they have resumed their search for a 2024 NJ Honey Queen and is seeking applications from eligible young women who wish to represent the New Jersey Beekeepers Association at Trade Shows, School Presentations, County/Local Fairs, Agricultural Shows, and other promotional events. The primary goal of the NJ Honey Queen is to educate and promote honey, honey products, honey bees, and beekeeping to the general public, schools, and consumers.

At the end of her term, the New Jersey Honey Queen will have the opportunity to represent New Jersey and compete for the American Beekeeping Federation American Honey Queen title at the ABF National Conference and Tradeshow, held each year in early January.

The Honey Queen Committee is seeking nominations of potential candidates and will review and select the next New Jersey State Honey Queen to fulfill these duties in 2024. Interested candidates are encouraged to apply!

New Jersey Honey Queen Requirements

The New Jersey State Honey Queen Program is a program for young women between the ages of 18 – 25 that are associated with

Beekeeping, and/or other Agricultural related areas such as 4-H or FFA.

Potential candidates must meet the following guidelines:

- a. Must be between 18 and 25 years of age. Candidates must be unmarried and not planning to be married within the calendar year.
- b. Must be able to drive to designated appointments on her own.
- c. Be willing to commit to a minimum of two (2) promotional events per month
- d. Should have a general knowledge of the Honeybee and/or the Honeybee Industry.
- e. Must submit an essay stating her interest in the State Honey Queen Program and her knowledge of honey bees.

Applicants will be evaluated based on their knowledge of honey bees, experience in an apiary, enthusiasm about beekeeping, and their communication skills.

Interested candidates please:

- review the requirements above.
- submit an essay on or before **April 1, 2024**.
- address your application email to the NJ Honey Queen Program Coordinator, Gail Helhoski at NJHoneyQueen@outlook.com **and** gail.helhoski@gmail.com



New Jersey Beekeepers Association, 704 Kline Place, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

[Unsubscribe](#)



Governor Phil Murphy

Governor Murphy Announces Ed Wengryn as New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture

03/22/2024

TRENTON – Governor Phil Murphy announced that Edward D. Wengryn will serve as the New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture, following his appointment by the State Board of Agriculture today. The State Board of Agriculture today unanimously confirmed Ed Wengryn at their meeting, and the Governor approved the appointment. Since July 1, 2023, Assistant Secretary Joe Atchison III has directed the Department of Agriculture, assuming the responsibilities of Secretary, after the retirement of Secretary Douglas Fisher. Incoming Secretary Wengryn will begin on Monday, March 25, 2024.

"I am proud to announce the appointment of Ed Wengryn to serve as New Jersey's Secretary of Agriculture," **said Governor Murphy**. "As the Garden State, agriculture is one of the most important facets of our state's identity and heritage. Ed comes from a farming family and is a passionate advocate for our agricultural community. I am confident that his experience and leadership will benefit the many residents who depend on the Department's programs and services, including for access to healthy, locally grown food. Ed will help to ensure that the agricultural community remains top of mind as we continue to expand economic opportunities for businesses across our state."

"I also want to thank Assistant Secretary Joe Atchison for this exemplary leadership following the retirement of the state's longtime Secretary of Agriculture, Douglas Fisher," **continued Governor Murphy**. "Joe has led with dedication and commitment, and his reliable and steady leadership has served as an asset to the Department."

"I want to thank the State Board of Agriculture for the nomination and the opportunity to serve the agriculture industry in New Jersey as Secretary. I also want to thank Governor Murphy for his support and approval of my nomination. As the grandson of Ukrainian immigrants who settled here in New Jersey as farmers, I am humbled and honored to be able to lead an agency that has been critical to the success of not only my family, but all the farming families in New Jersey. I look forward to ensuring the Department succeeds in its multifaceted missions and to serving the citizens of our great Garden State," **said Ed Wengryn, incoming New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture**.

"The Board enthusiastically endorses Mr. Edward D. Wengryn to be the next, and only eighth overall since 1916, Secretary of Agriculture for New Jersey. In our modern age, farmers are asked to help devise solutions to address challenges facing our nation and world. Whether it's climate change, food insecurity, animal health and welfare, or the increase in invasive species from worldwide trade, agriculture as an industry must be a key player in adapting methods of production and distribution to fit our changing world. We're also seeing incredible growth in opportunities farmers can find to market their fresh agricultural products and services like agri-tourism to residents of New Jersey and beyond," **said Holly Sytsema, President of the New Jersey State Board of Agriculture**. "Both the obstacles farmers face and the opportunities they can find are often rooted in legislation and regulation. With Ed's background of decades influencing agricultural policy on a state and federal level, he is in a unique position to know the history of, and the most current thinking on, agricultural legislative and administrative issues. The Board is confident that Ed will effectively lead both the Department and the agriculture industry in an age where the knowledge and skill set he brings to the table will be invaluable."

New Jersey's Secretary of Agriculture is the Department's executive officer, Chair of the State Agriculture


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Development Committee, and a member of the Governor's cabinet. The Office of the Secretary supports programs relating to the economic development of production agriculture; the marketing of agricultural products through the Jersey Fresh program; conservation and development of natural and renewable resources; distribution of surplus federal commodities to soup kitchens, food pantries, schools, State hospitals, and institutions; and the health and well-being of the state's greenhouse/nursery and livestock industries as well as other programs related to these areas.

Since 1998, Ed Wengryn served with the New Jersey Farm Bureau, where he worked closely with farming communities. His field work included the direct marketing of farm products as well as oversight on issues such as sales taxes. Ed's work at the Farm Bureau spanned ornamental horticulture, land use, forestry, and equine and other livestock issues. From 2002 through 2004, he served as Confidential Assistant to Charles Kuperus, the Secretary of Agriculture for the State of New Jersey, where he coordinated the development of industry-specific action plans to improve the economic viability of New Jersey's varied agriculture sectors. Since 2009, Ed has represented the private agriculture sector on the New Jersey Industry Advisory Council at the State Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, ensuring concerns of the agricultural community are considered in State emergency response plans. This work was critical for keeping agricultural businesses open and running during the recent COVID-19 public health emergency.

Ed has been recognized for his service to the Equine Industry by receiving the NJ Horse Person of the Year award in 2021 and currently serves as Co-Chair of the Rutgers University Board for Equine Advancement (RUBEA).

Ed grew up in the Neshanic Station section of Branchburg Township, and his interest in agriculture and horticulture began when he was helping on the Wengryn Family farm, a dairy and field crop operation in Hillsborough, New Jersey. As a youth, he worked with his father, Myron, growing and selling pumpkins and pick-your-own strawberries, as well as growing and selling tomatoes to area delis in the summer.

Ed is a 1986 graduate of Delaware Valley College of Science and Agriculture Doylestown with a Bachelor of Science in Ornamental Horticulture. He is a resident of Trenton, New Jersey, residing in the Mill Hill Historic District.

For a photo of Ed, please click [here](https://d31hzlkh6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20240322/94/9d/93/16/8c7effef7e052bca19f241b0/Ed-1.jpg) (<https://d31hzlkh6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20240322/94/9d/93/16/8c7effef7e052bca19f241b0/Ed-1.jpg>).

Governor Phil Murphy

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[Lt. Governor Tahesha Way \(/governor/admin/lt\)](/governor/admin/lt)

[In memoriam of Lt. Governor Sheila Y. Oliver \(/governor/admin/lt-sheila-y-oliver\)](/governor/admin/lt-sheila-y-oliver)

[Senior Staff \(/governor/admin/staff\)](/governor/admin/staff)

[Cabinet \(/governor/admin/cabinet\)](/governor/admin/cabinet)

[Office of Climate Action and the Green Economy \(/governor/climateaction/\)](/governor/climateaction/)

[Office of Equity \(/governor/admin/equity/\)](/governor/admin/equity/)

[Office of Health Care Affordability and Transparency \(/governor/admin/affordablehealthcare/index.shtml\)](/governor/admin/affordablehealthcare/index.shtml)

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A 1253/A1252: Parks Plants Pollinators (Letter Template)

Posted by: Kaitlyn Culbert

Download PDF (107 KB)

Hello Fellow Beekeepers! I have been asked to provide a sample letter template you can use to contact your local Assemblyman/Assemblywoman. Please feel free to modify/tailor...

****Date****

Re: "Parks, Plants, and Pollinators" (A1253 and A1252)

Dear Assemblyman/Assemblywoman,

Native plants are an inseparable part of the natural beauty of the landscape of New Jersey and must be preserved. Parks, Plants, and Pollinators" is designed to prohibit the planting of non-native and invasive species and support the planting of native plants, shrubs, and trees in the landscaping of New Jersey State Parks and municipalities (A1253) and promote research on deer-resistant native plant species (A1252).

New Jersey has more than 2,100 native plants species that are well-adapted to NJ soils, temperatures, precipitation levels, and other environmental conditions; thereby, making these plants the best option for conserving and protecting the State's environment.

New Jersey's native plant species provide food, such as nectar, pollen, seeds, foliage, and habitats, including essential shelter and nesting sites for various types of wildlife in the State. With their extensive root systems to control erosion, native plants also moderate floods and filter water to improve water quality.

Please cosponsor the **Parks, Plants, and Pollinators Bills (A1253 and A1252) sponsored by Assemblyman Alex Sauickie** in the 2024/2025 session of the NJS Assembly.

The people of this State want to protect our native plants. We owe it to our children, and all future generations, to provide them the opportunity to enjoy native species and revel in the splendor of native biodiversity. As New Jerseyans, we need to secure these wonders for future generations.

I hope you will add your name to the list of cosponsors of Parks, Plants, and Pollinators (A1253 and A1252), if you have not done so already. I urge you to cosponsor this important legislation today, and I look forward to hearing your position on this issue.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Organization]

[Address]

2023 NJ Honey Queen Katie Culbert

"Parks, Plants, and Pollinators"

2024/2025 NJS Assembly

Bill A1253 Supports native plants and prohibits the planting of non-native and invasive species in landscaping at parks and municipalities

Bill A1252 Promotes research on deer-resistant native plant species

1-Please Contact your local NJS Assembly Representatives

You can find your Assembly Representatives using the link below:

https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/publications/members/printable_roster.pdf

2-Please Also Contact the NJ Legislature Assembly Committee on "Environment, Natural Resources, and Solid Waste"

Kennedy, James J.(Chair)

District 22

1445 Main St.
Rahway, NJ 07065

(732) 943-2660

Sumter, Shavonda E. (Vice-Chair)

District 35

21 Mill St., Suite 5
Paterson, NJ 07501

(973) 925-7063

Collazos-Gill, Alixon

District 27

39 South Fullerton Ave., 2nd Floor, Suite 7
Montclair, NJ 07042

(973) 509-0388

Hall, Garnet R.

District 28

511 Valley Street
Maplewood, NJ 07040

(973) 762-1886

Inganamort, Michael

District 24

One Wilson Dr, Suite 2B
Sparta, NJ 07871

(973) 300-0200

Katz, Andrea

District 8

<https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/legislative-roster/496/assemblywoman-katz/contact>

Scharfenberger, Gerry

District 13

1715 Highway 35N., Suite 306
Middletown, NJ 07748

(732) 856-9294

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The Search for Medicinal Properties for Human Health in Spotted Lantern Fly Honey

Petrusia Kotlar, DC, American Apitherapy Society

The Spotted Lantern Fly (SLF), a.k.a. *Lycorma delicatula*, a beautiful “leafhopper,” recently identified and denounced as an invasive species to the northeastern United States, is affecting apiculture by altering typical honey production by *Apis Mellifera*. Puncturing the leaves of trees, it excretes large quantities of sticky, sweet honeydew as they feed on plant sap, which the honey bees convert into a unique type of “honeydew” honey.

Honey made from SLF honeydew has a smoky odor, the color is dark brown but not as dark as buckwheat honey, is less sweet than other honey, and has a lingering aftertaste. Honeydews have more minerals and macro/micronutrients.

This article aims to explore sources of information on honey testing that would provide consumer information to determine whether the unique characteristics of SLF honey have potential apitherapeutic benefits for human health.

Standard indicators such as diastase, proline, acidity, antioxidant activity, and phenolic and mineral compounds need to be tested to determine the human health benefits of SLF honey. This is necessary to determine the medicinal properties of this potential apitherapy product.

Samples of honeydew honey submitted to Penn State University for DNA testing returned positive for the Tree-of-Heaven and the invasive Spotted Lantern Fly. Another chemical discovered in the honey is aianthone, a bitter chemical produced by Trees-of-Heaven to inhibit the growth of surrounding flora and make the plant taste harmful to predators. Aianthone is a novel and potential drug for treating human cancer.

Similar to the “Unique Manuka Factor” (UMF), a grading system developed by the UMF Honey Association in New Zealand for Manuka honey sourced from the *Leptospermum scoparium* species, SLF honey sourced from the Tree of Heaven, *Ailanthus altissima* producing aianthone, could be the new “Unique Factor” to be tested for in the United States.

Besides all the negatives regarding SLF infestation in the northeast, one positive note for the honey bee: unlike honeydew produced by aphids, the Spotted Lantern Fly honeydew gathered and stored by bees is low enough in ash content to serve as an excellent cold-weather food source. This supports healthier, stronger hives, which can better withstand parasitic mites, a much more dire threat.

The study was titled “The Search for Medicinal Properties for Human Health of Spotted Lanternfly Honey” and the coauthors were: Petrusia Kotlar, DC, American Apitherapy Society; Robyn Underwood, PhD, Department of Entomology Pennsylvania State University; Ferhat Ozturk, PhD, Department of Integrative Biology University of Texas San Antonio.



photo source: <https://static01.nyt.com/images/2021/08/24/multimedia/24xp-lanternfly/24xp-lanternfly-videoSixteenByNine3000.jpg>

INTRODUCTION: Honeydew honey is differentiated honey from the complex result of the association between plants, sucking insects, and bees. Here are some honeydew facts: increased content of polyphenols, significant antioxidant properties, and the intensity of honeydew flows varies.

Honeydew honey samples submitted to Penn State University for DNA testing returned positive for the invasive Spotted Lantern Fly. Another chemical discovered in the honeydew is aianthone, a bitter chemical produced by Trees-of-Heaven to inhibit the growth of surrounding flora and make the plant and SLF taste bitter to predators, stated Robyn Underwood.

Aianthone is a novel and potential drug for treating human cancer (NIH). Aianthone is an allelochemical. Allelochemicals produced by Tree of Heaven: Aianthone; Black Walnut: Juglone; and grape root: Hydroxybenzoic acid and salicylic acid (phenolic acids).

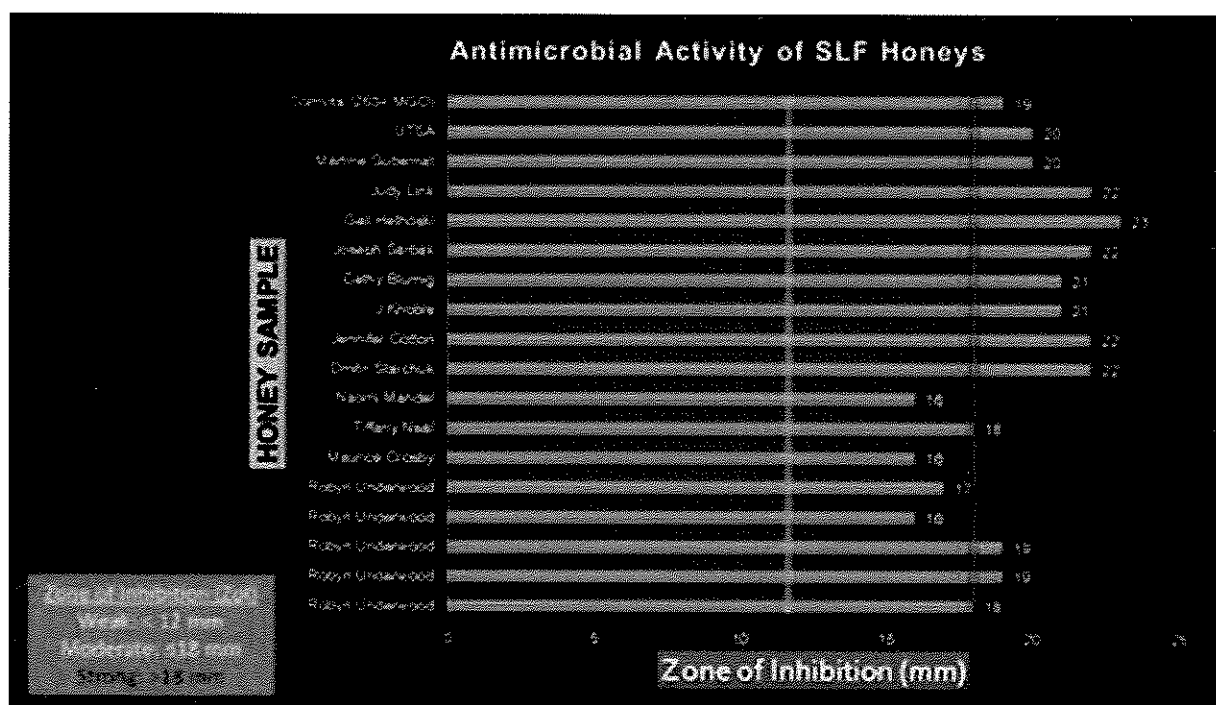
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METHODS:Fifteen samples of SLF Honeydew honey were collected from New Jersey State Beekeepers Association members and five samples from Pennsylvania were sent to a laboratory at the Department of Integrative Biology, University of Texas in San Antonio. The following information was collected from beekeepers: name, address, zip code of apiary, date of harvest, color, honey bee breed, and treatments used in the colonies.

RESULTS: The antimicrobial activity of 16 SLF honeys were compared with Manuka honeys in UTSA lab under direction of Ferhat Ozturk, PhD, in July, 2023.

ZONE OF INHIBITION was measured in millimeters. Measurements less than 12mm was considered weak, moderate was 18mm, and strong was greater than 18mm. See chart for results.



DISCUSSION: Further research on high-phenolic honey may contribute to the future development of cancer therapeutics. Importance of Allelochemicals as Cancer Treatments. Can Spotted Lanternfly Honeydew honey be an alternative to Manuka Honey in hospitals for wound healing? Importance of inter-kingdom interactions: plant, insect, SLF Insect, honeydew, honey, human, mold.

The Penn State Honey & Pollen Diagnostic Lab offers pollen identification service, which identifies what plants are in a honey or pollen sample as well as the proportion of each. Click on the graphic below for more info.



AUTHOR BIO:

Dr. Petrusia Kotlar is a chiropractic alternative health care provider practicing for almost 4 decades and part time farmer/beekeeper/research practitioner since 2004 on her NJ-based Linden Hill Farm and Apiary since 2006. The Towaco Honey Bee Sanctuary was established here where she grows medicinal herbs, linden trees, and

(continued on the next page)

(continued from the previous page)

strives to produce treatment free apitherapy products. She is currently the Vice President of the American Apitherapy Society.

Dr. Kotlar received the Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Grant Award "Alternative Honeybee Nutrition – Beyond Sugar Syrup" in 2011 and continues as a research practitioner with PSU at her Towaco Honey Bee Sanctuary and Apiary. Previous work includes multiple proposals for protocols on the planting of superb bee forage crops to provide ample nectar and pollen for the apiary, teaching about creating honeybee sanctuaries to produce clean products of the hive for use in Apitherapy. She has attended and presented at several international Apimondia conferences.

###

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WHITE DOTTE 3000 SOUTH VALLEY ROAD
SOUTH VALLEY, NJ 07008

END POINT
SWEETWATER MARINA AND
BOATCLUB
2700 7TH AVE
SWEETWATER, NJ 08037

CHECK POINTS
• Hot Diggity Dog
• Lee Brothers Cranberry Farm
• Variety Farms (Blueberry)

HOSTED BY: NEW JERSEY BEEKEEPERS FOUNDATION 501 C-3
Benefits NJ State Honey Queen Program

For More Information and Registration:
High5forthehive@stiles-honey.com

**Introducing:
High Five For the Hive
Poker Run**

Enjoy a day outdoors for educational fun.

We are excited to announce our upcoming event HIGH FIVE FOR THE HIVE Poker Run on June 23, 2024. This event is sure to rev up the engines of beekeepers and Poker enthusiasts. It will be a fun filled day supporting the NJ Honey Queen Program. Our mission is to "enhance and expand the awareness of Beekeeping through outreach and education".

We invite you to play a role in the success of this event by participating as a Vendor, Sponsor, Volunteer, Participant or Donor. In return for your support, we offer a range of benefits, including promotional opportunities, logo placement, acknowledgment in event materials, and more, depending on the role you choose. Your contribution will not only make this event a success but will also contribute to our mission.

Our route takes you to Hot Diggity Dog, Lee Brothers Cranberry Farm and the Blueberry farm. You will have the opportunity to learn about their farm. At each stop you will have the opportunity to learn about the role bees play at each location and their importance to our environment and the pivotal role beekeepers play.

More information on The New Jersey Honey Queen Program can be found at <https://cjbnpbeekeepers.org/Honey%20Queen/> and <https://abfnet.org/american-honey-queen-program/>. This great program strives to educate the public on beekeeping by offering scholarships for research and education.

Please let us know if you are interested in participating as a Vendor, Sponsor, Volunteer, Participant or to donate. If you have any questions please contact our event coordinator, Joan Tak, at High5forthehive@stiles-honey.com or 732-630-0710.

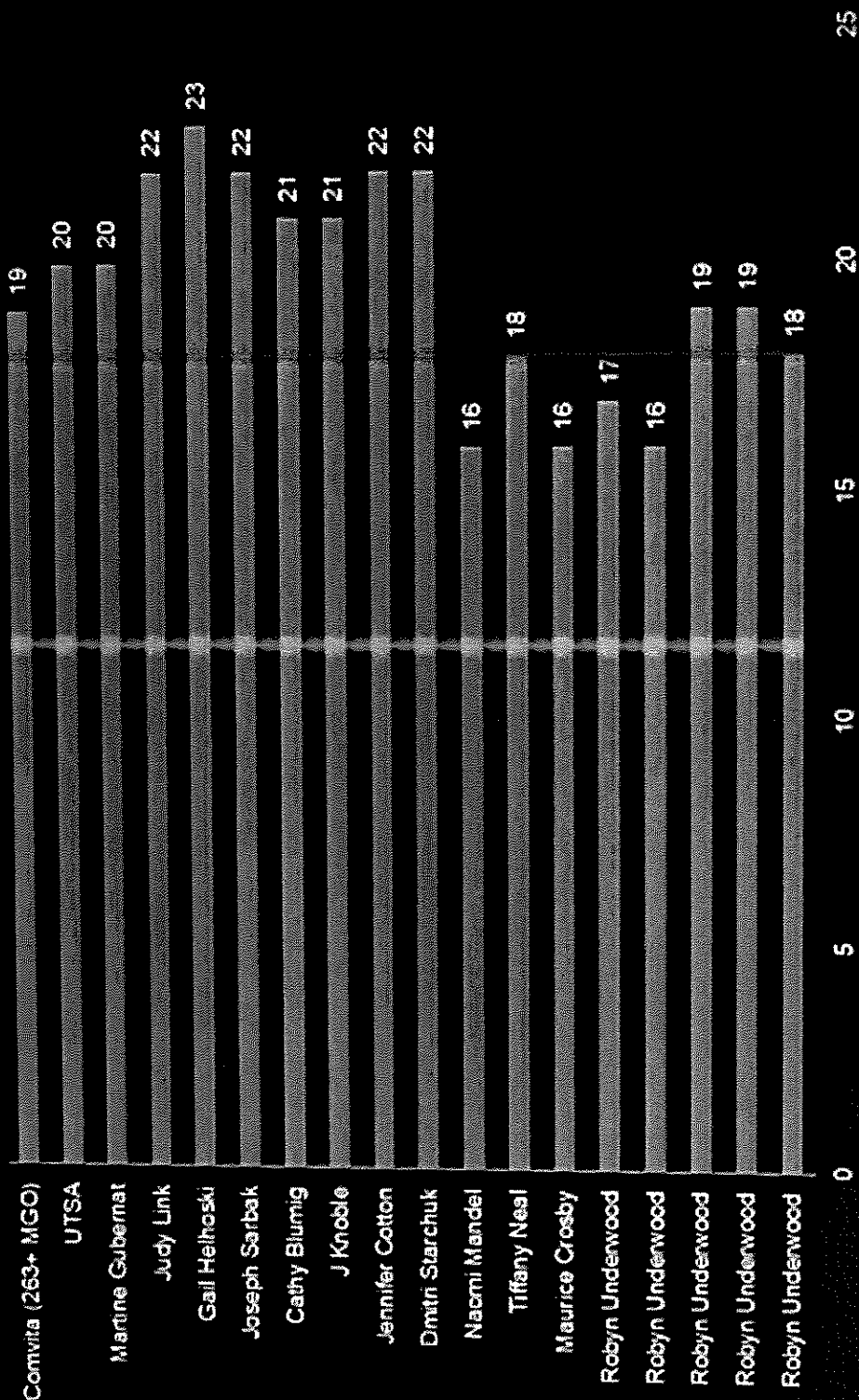
Deadlines are as Follows:
Vendors (limited to 12): May 31, 2024
Sponsors: May 31, 2024
Volunteer: June 1, 2024
Participant Pre-register by: June 14, 2024

Let's come together to make this event a roaring success.
We look hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Grant Stiles, CEO of Stiles Apiaries LLC
Joan Tak, President of MSCBA

Follow us on Facebook for updates: Highfiveforthehive

Antimicrobial Activity of SLF honeys



HONEY SAMPLE

Zone of Inhibition (Zoll)

Weak: < 12 mm

Moderate: < 18 mm

Strong: > 18 mm

Zone of Inhibition (mm)

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DECEMBER 27, 2023

SPOTTED LANTERN FLY HONEY

Spotted lanternflies are still a pest, but the smoky honey they help make could be good for you

By Erin Negley | LNP / LancasterOnline(<https://www.wesa.fm/people/erin-negley-lnp-lancasteronline>)



A spotted lanternfly creeps on the ground during a baseball game in Pittsburgh in 2021. Keith Srakocic / AP

In the years Matthew Libhart's raised bees, he's learned how to care for his hives.

He's learned you can suggest and nudge honeybees, but you can't make them do anything.

A few years ago, he learned they can make a new type of

honey(https://lancasteronline.com/features/home_garden/spotted-lanternflies-are-the-worst-but-theyre-the-key-to-a-rare-dark-and-smoky/article_d9f6f9b0-2869-11ec-922b-0b5a1661f1cf.html).

Libhart removed boxes filled with honey from the hives at his Warwick Township home right on time. Usually by July, the bees start to eat what they've stored. However, the bees were still making honey, building more comb in crevices, filling it with dark nectar. Libhart put a few empty boxes back.

"They filled them up," he says. "And I'm like: What is this?"

Later he learned the late-season dark honey comes from Pennsylvania's least-wanted pest: the spotted lanternfly. Since the bug showed up in Pennsylvania about a decade ago, they've killed grapevines and harmed other plants and trees. Bees didn't get the "kill on sight" memo and the new honey has been one sweet side to spotted lanternflies. New research from honey samples including Libhart's shows it has medicinal potential as well as a fall flavor for foodies.

"This is just the beginning of this research," says Robyn Underwood, Penn State Extension apiculture educator.

A pest's problems

Spotted lanternflies are native to China and have few natural predators in Pennsylvania, where they were spotted in 2014. The ag industry has asked people to stomp, swat and kill to slow the spread. Still, the insects have spread from the ground zero of Berks County throughout Pennsylvania and beyond(https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/where-did-all-the-spotted-lanternflies-go/article_2db3f0e2-3c79-11ee-943c-932cc9eec3be.html).

The insects prefer the tree of heaven but will feed on more than 170 plant species, Underwood says.

The feeding can kill grapevines and is especially harmful to hops, kiwi and cucumber plants, according to new research from Penn State(<https://academic.oup.com/ee/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/ee/nvad084/7254515>). The research also shows they aren't harmful to hardwood trees(<https://academic.oup.com/ee/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/ee/nvad084/7254515>) like silver maple, weeping willow and river birch.

Yet also troubling is what the insects excrete: “honeydew,” sugary liquid that attracts sooty mold. The mold can stress plants and when covering a deck, for example, isn’t great for quality of life.

A silver lining

Insects, however, don’t mind the honeydew. Ants, fruit flies, butterflies and bees, including honeybees, eat it.

For honeybees, spotted lanternflies reach maturity just when their food sources start to disappear. Libhart was one of the beekeepers who didn’t have to feed his bees in the fall for a few years thanks to the lanternfly honeydew. It’s a silver lining to the pest, he says.

As the lanternfly numbers drop in Lancaster

County(https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/where-did-all-the-spotted-lanternflies-go/article_2db3f0e2-3c79-11ee-943c-932cc9eec3be.html), so has the free food for the honeybees. This fall, he’s back to feeding nearly all of his hives.

The honey made from the honeydew has been described as earthy and smoky.

Philadelphia Bee Co. made Doom Bloom

honey(<https://philadelphiabee.square.site/product/honey-doombloom/26>), which it describes as a robust fall honey with a smoky flavor. A Philadelphia baker called it the “epitome of autumn.”(<https://www.phillymag.com/foobooz/2020/11/23/spotted-lanternfly-honey-pennsylvania/>)

Libhart finds it difficult to describe.

“It’s got a kind of a weird taste that, at least in my experience, not too many people find palatable. I guess it’s kind of an acquired taste,” he says. “It kind of has a smoky, kind of maple-y taste to it, which sounds great, but it is kind of odd when you’re expecting honey.”

Underwood is not a fan but she shares individual sticks for people to sample and give their opinion.

She’s also shared honey with researchers, who have tested the honey. In several labs, they’ve found it out-performs manuka

honey(<https://apimondia2023.com/docs/program-book.pdf?a=6874>), the honey approved by the Food and Drug Administration for wound treatment. The spotted lanternfly honey inhibits the growth of bacteria such as MRSA and E. coli.

"No wonder it tastes like crap," Underwood joked to a group of beekeepers last week. "It's medicine."

She would love for chemists to study the honey further to learn more.

In the meantime, beekeepers in four corners of Pennsylvania are taking weekly honey samples to find lanternfly DNA, led by The Grozinger Lab(<https://www.grozingerlab.com/>) at Penn State. Honeybees could be the smallest scouts, discovering where the pests move before people notice.

We are here to share current happenings in the bee industry. Bee Culture gathers and shares articles published by outside sources. For more information about this specific article, please visit the original publish source: Spotted lanternflies help make smoky honey. It could be good for you. | 90.5

WESA(<https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2023-10-15/spotted-lanternflies-honey>)

Sign up for our Yellow-Legged Ledger Newsletter

More Information



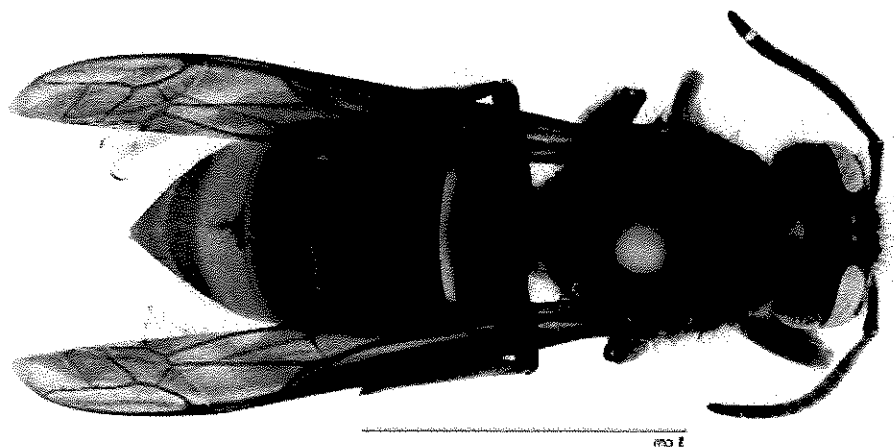
Yellow-Legged Hornet

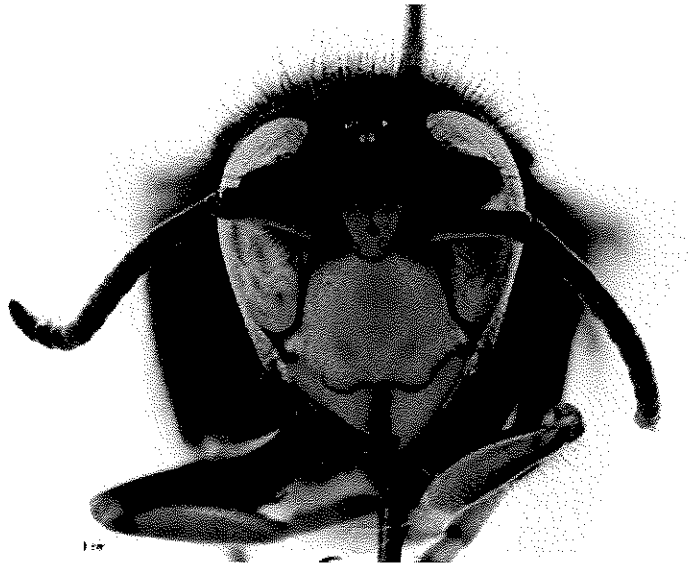
In August 2023, the Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA), in coordination with the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHIS) and the University of Georgia, confirmed the presence of a yellow-legged hornet (YLH; *Vespa velutina*) near Savannah, Ga. This is the first time a live specimen of this species has been detected in the open United States.

The yellow-legged hornet poses a threat to honeybees and other pollinators in our state. These pollinators play a significant role in Georgia's agriculture industry, the state's main economic driver, and it is imperative that these invasive pests are tracked and eradicated. We are working with USDA APHIS and UGA to trap, track, and eradicate these pests and will continue to assess the situation as new information becomes available and allocate additional resources as need.

The public plays an important role, and we are asking Georgians to report sightings of the yellow-legged hornet using this [online reporting form](#). We urge the public to be cautious in the event they come across a suspected yellow-legged hornet. If you can safely take a photo of the suspected yellow-legged hornet, we encourage you to do so to assist us with identification.

REPORT A YELLOW-LEGGED HORNET SIGHTING





About the Yellow-Legged Hornet

This is the first detection of a live specimen of a yellow-legged hornet in the open United States. A native to tropical and subtropical areas of Southeast Asia, the yellow-legged hornet is generally smaller than the Northern Giant Hornet (NGH).

Workers can be around half the size of an NGH, and queens can be around $\frac{3}{4}$ the size. The legs are partially or primarily yellow, hence the common name "yellow-legged hornet." The body and head coloration can vary. This hornet is a social wasp species that constructs egg-shaped paper nests above the ground, often in trees. These nests can become large, housing an average of 6,000 workers.

The yellow-legged hornet feeds on a variety of insects. If allowed to establish in the US, this invasive species could threaten honey production and Georgia's native pollinators. These native pollinators play a vital role in our state's agriculture industry.

REPORT A YELLOW-LEGGED HORNET

If you believe you have seen a yellow-legged hornet in your area, complete this [online reporting form](#) after reviewing the information above. If it is safe to do so, submit a picture and other details about any suspected sightings of the yellow-legged hornet. Photographs allow us to verify the identification, which is important since some native wasps can look very similar. If you are unsure about your specimen, please send a picture anyway.

Questions and/or comments can be sent to yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov.

Please note: There are many domestic lookalikes that are native to the United States and do not pose a threat to honeybees. Many of them are valuable pollinators.

If you are not in Georgia, please report your sighting to your local extension agency or Department of Agriculture, not on this form.



Yellow-legged hornet (Vespa velutina, formerly called Asian hornet) by Gilles San Martin is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0 (cropped)

Yellow-Legged Ledger

[Yellow-Legged Ledger Issue # 1](#)

[Yellow-Legged Ledger Issue # 2](#)

[Yellow-Legged Ledger Issue # 3](#)

[Yellow-Legged Ledger Issue # 4](#)

Contact Us

Yellow-Legged Hornet Media Inquiries

yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov

Report a Sighting

Report a Yellow-Legged hornet sighting online

Central Jersey Beekeepers Association
2024 Club Extractor Policy

Extractors Custodians for 2024:

- 1. [Name]
- 2. [Name]
- 3. [Name]

Extractors will be lent out on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations for extractors must be made by appointment.

A cash deposit of \$xx must be left with the custodian when borrowing an extractor.

Extractors are lent out for a maximum of five days.

Any extractor returned in a dirty, broken, or non-operating condition will result in the forfeiture of the \$xx deposit.

Members who return equipment in a dirty, broken, or non-operating condition will be ineligible to borrow a club extractor for a period of two years.

From: Noelle McGuire noellem@asemb.com
Subject: bee shirts
Date: March 11, 2024 at 8:10 PM
To: JENNIFER COTTON jenn cotton@aol.com



Jenn,

For the shirts with one color front and one color back pricing is below:

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G640 Gildan Soft style Tee S-XL \$11.50 each, XXL \$13.50 each, XXXL \$15.50 each

ST350 Dry fit tee S-XL \$13.00 each, XXL \$15.00 each, XXXL \$17.00 each

49-96pcs

G800 Gildan 50/50 Cotton Poly tee S-XL \$9.00 each, XXL \$11.00 each, XXXL \$13.00 each

G640 Gildan Soft style Tee S-XL \$9.50 each, XXL \$11.50 each, XXXL \$13.50 each

ST350 Dry fit tee S-XL \$11.00 each, XXL \$13.00 each, XXXL \$15.00 each

97-144pcs

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G640 Gildan Soft style Tee S-XL \$8.50 each, XXL \$10.50 each, XXXL \$12.50 each

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Thank you

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allrecipes®

Sugar Cookies with Honey

These sugar cookies with honey are perfect for rolling and for cookie cutters. Frost if desired.

Submitted by **Melody**

Prep Time: 20 mins

Cook Time: 10 mins

Additional Time: 8 hrs

Total Time: 8 hrs 30 mins

Servings: 36

Yield: 36 cookies

Ingredients

3 cups all-purpose flour

½ teaspoon baking soda

½ teaspoon salt

½ cup butter, softened

½ cup white sugar

1 egg

½ cup honey

1 tablespoon lemon juice

Directions

Step 1

Sift together flour, baking soda, and salt in a bowl. Set aside.

Step 2

Beat butter in a bowl using an electric mixer until creamy. Add sugar and continue beating. Pour in egg, honey, and lemon juice; mix well. Add flour mixture and mix dough until blended.

Step 3

Wrap dough in wax paper and chill in the refrigerator, 8 hours to overnight.

Step 4

When ready to bake, preheat the oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C). Line baking sheets with parchment paper.

Step 5

Roll dough on a lightly floured work surface using a lightly floured rolling pin to desired thickness. Cut into

shapes using cookie cutters of your choice. Place cookies 1 inch apart on the prepared baking sheets.

Step 6

Bake in the preheated oven until golden brown, 8 to 10 minutes.

Nutrition Facts

Per serving: 87 calories; total fat 3g; saturated fat 2g; cholesterol 11mg; sodium 70mg; total carbohydrate 15g; dietary fiber 0g; total sugars 7g; protein 1g; vitamin c 0mg; calcium 3mg; iron 1mg; potassium 17mg

Easy Royal Icing Recipe for Sugar Cookies

Beautifully decorated cut-out cookies for every celebration and holiday are totally attainable at home with this easy royal icing recipe for sugar cookies and a few tips & tricks to give you the confidence you need to try this technique yourself!



4.94 from 264 votes

Prep Time
10 mins

Total Time
10 mins

Course: Dessert Cuisine: American Servings: 24 cookies Calories: 81kcal
Author: Amy Nash

Ingredients

- 4 Tablespoons **meringue powder**
- 4 cups **powdered sugar** (about 1 pound)
- 6 Tablespoons **warm water** + additional 3-4 additional tablespoons for thinning to flood consistency
- 1 teaspoon **vanilla extract**
- **Gel food coloring** (I like AmeriColor or Chefmaster)

Instructions

1. In a large bowl of a stand mixer, whisk together the meringue powder and powdered sugar, then slowly mix in the water and vanilla extract while the mixer is running on medium-low speed. Increase speed to medium-high and beat until stiff peaks form, around 5 minutes. This can be done with a hand mixer, but will take a couple minutes longer.
2. Divide the thick white icing into individual bowls and add gel food coloring, a few drops at a time, mixing well until you achieve the shades you like. From there, you can reserve some of the thicker icing for piping borders as described in the post, or thin all of the icing to flood consistency.
3. To thin each color to flood consistency, add 1 teaspoon of water at a time and stir well, continuing to add water by $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon increments until you reach your desired consistency. If you are thinning the entire batch of icing at once to flood consistency, it will take an additional 3-4 tablespoons for a total of 9-10 tablespoons of water.
4. Once your icing is colored and the right consistency, scoop it into a piping bag fitted with

a Wilton #2 or #3 tip. Decorate your sugar cookies by first outlining the border, then filling in the middle with flood icing which should settle into itself. Use a toothpick or scribe tool to fill in any gaps by spreading the icing around, then tap the cookie on the counter a few times to help the icing settle into a smooth, even layer.

5. Dry cookies at room temperature for 6-8 hours until the royal icing is completely firm before adding additional layers or design or stacking for transport.

Notes

- Be sure all bowls and utensils are totally grease-free or your icing will never reach the consistency you are going for.
- **Using Egg Whites:** If you cannot find meringue powder or would rather use raw egg whites, you could just replace both the water and meringue powder called for in the recipe with 3 large egg whites.
- **How to Thicken:** If you thin out your icing too much, you might be able to save the batch by continuing to beat the icing. This incorporates more air and lets some of the liquid evaporate to theoretically thicken the icing. Or if you have additional thick icing that you haven't thinned, you can add that to the icing that is too thin to help save it.

Nutrition

Calories: 81kcal | Carbohydrates: 20g | Protein: 1g | Sodium: 9mg | Potassium: 8mg | Sugar: 20g | Calcium: 1mg | Iron: 1mg