



NEWSLETTER

Bowie-Upper Marlboro Beekeepers Association

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Next BUMBA Meeting & Elections

Thursday, April 7, 7:30 PM

Watkins Park Nature Center

Guest Speaker: Mike Church

Our guest speaker for the April meeting will be **Mike Church**. He is a current member and the founding president of the **Gateway Beekeepers Association** of King George, Virginia. He will be speaking on **Swarm Management**, a timely topic. With this year's very warm winter, the bees are stronger than usual for this time of year. Drones abound, so you may find queen cells in your hives very soon. Come to the meeting to review what you think you knew about swarming and learn something new.

BUMBA Annual Elections will be held during the April meeting. If you are interested running for office or wish to nominate someone, please notify a **BUMBA** Officer.

The President's Smoker

Happy Spring!

First, I would like to congratulate the 50+ participants from the **2017 BUMBA Short Course**. Please help make them feel welcome! The **Field Day** will be held **April 8th** at **Scott Secomb's** apiary in Clinton, MD. Many of you have signed up to help at the Field Day. If you did not get an email from me last week and you want to participate, please get in touch with me. Lunch will be provided to members who have signed up. All students will also receive lunch. I want to thank **BUMBA** member **Vic and Linda Curtis** who are providing lunch consisting of smoked chicken (cooked on site), vegetarian baked beans and their signature "Boardwalk" French fries. The club will also offer coleslaw, green salad, drinks and plates/utensils. I can't wait to see everyone next Saturday. Full details on the field day are available in the newsletter. I want to thank the many club members who helped to make the 2017 short course a success. I sincerely appreciate the volunteer hours you all have given.

Please welcome **Frank Fennell** as our new **Outreach Coordinator**. I am sure you will be hearing more from him as we announce this year's outreach activities. I want to thank Frank for his contribution to **BUMBA** in this role as it is very important.

Our warm March temps and mild winter have my bee colonies bursting at the seams! Last week I started to see active swarm cells in my biggest colonies. I hadn't expected to make March splits, but I have. This is exciting, but also a bit stressful as I diligently try to stay "ahead" of my bees! If you have not inspected your overwintered colonies, please do so soon! And be prepared to split colonies. I recommend people move the overwintered queen to a nucleus and give her open comb to continue laying. I have done this in the past and frequently, these queen-right splits will produce a honey crop. For our younger beeks: If you haven't re-visited the chapters on Spring/Summer management, I urge you to give them another read. I also encourage you to read up on Swarming – and know the signs.

I'm very excited for our April speaker, **Mike Church** from Virginia. I have heard such great things about his talk on **Swarm Management**.

Our April meeting will also include annual **club elections**. After more than 5 years as **Treasurer**, the amazing **Jutta Dunaway** will be "retiring". I

can't tell you all how much I have enjoyed working with Jutta. She will be missed! **Larry Prikockis** has been nominated to fill this role and we have involved him this past year to ease the transition.

Thanks again to all of you for making **BUMBA** such an incredible club.
Peace, Love and Bees -

Maggie Mills

Message from the VP

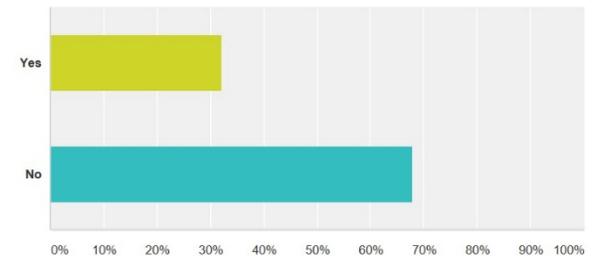
Tracy Velazquez

We Bee Mentoring

Happy April. Well, the anticipation is over and the results for the BUMBA mentoring survey are in. Thanks to those who filled it out online or in person. There ended up being 30 completed surveys. Not everyone filled out every question, so for some there are less than 30 responses. Here are some of the results:

Did you have a mentor to help you during your first year or two of beekeeping?

Answered: 28 Skipped: 2



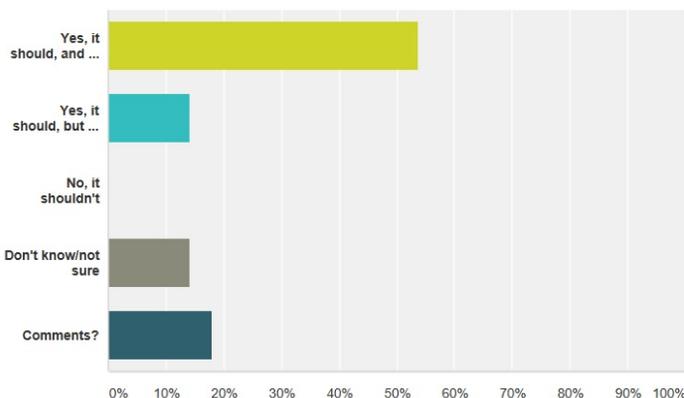
- Two in three respondents indicated they had not had a mentor during the first year or two of beekeeping.
- Most respondents would like mentoring to be a formal part of the BUMBA activities.
- Half of the respondents said they would be willing to be a mentor (although some indicated they didn't feel ready to mentor yet).

- Respondents felt that the most important role for BUMBA would be to match mentors and mentees.

In terms of comments, one of the most frequently expressed sentiments was that, while field day is nice, they would like to be able to see beekeepers working their hives throughout the year. This seems like the most actionable suggestion for the time being. As BUMBA officers are stretched

Should a more formal mentoring program be a part of BUMBA's regular activities, and if so would you sign up to be a mentor?

Answered: 28 Skipped: 2



pretty thin, to have a full-blown

mentoring program would require a mentoring coordinator. If you might be interested in this position, please contact Maggie or me.

In the meantime, I am hoping some experienced beeks would be willing to have a day once a month or so where a few new beekeepers – perhaps matched by geographic area – come to your apiary to observe your hive management. Nothing fancy – just watching you look at frames, make splits, treat for varroa, pull off a honey super. You are not expected to be a perfect beekeeper; they will learn as much from your looking in your hive post-swarm, or dealing with a dead-out as they will seeing a full super of perfect capped honey.

If you are a new beekeeper and would like to be matched with an experienced beekeeper for monthly hive observations, or you are an experienced (or even “less new”) beekeeper that would be willing to have some newbies at your apiary, please email me at tvelazquez@mcn.net. I

will also pass around a sign-up sheet at the meeting on Thursday.

If you had a mentor, how helpful were the below activities for you as a new beekeeper? (If the mentoring didn't include an activity, mark N/A.) If you did NOT have a mentor, how helpful do you think the below mentoring activities WOULD HAVE BEEN for you?

	not helpful	somewhat helpful	very helpful	N/A	Total
Discuss issues you were facing by phone, email, or in person	0.0% 0	3.6% 1	96.4% 27	0.0% 0	28
Invite you to his or her apiary	3.6% 1	7.1% 2	78.6% 22	10.7% 3	28
Come to your apiary	0.0% 0	10.7% 3	89.3% 25	0.0% 0	28
Provide you with helpful information such as links to online articles, etc.	3.7% 1	29.6% 8	55.6% 15	11.1% 3	27
Connect you with other beekeepers	3.7% 1	22.2% 6	66.7% 18	7.4% 2	27

Beekeepers also expressed interest in regular “fact sheets” on what they should be looking for/doing throughout the year. I would like to also recommend that we include a seasonal tip sheet in the BUMBA newsletter. It'd be great if someone would volunteer to do just that.

If BUMBA starts a mentoring program, how important do you think each of the below components are	Not important –	Somewhat important –	Very Important - Necessary –	Total –
Coordinator to match mentors and new beekeepers	0.0% 0	50.0% 13	50.0% 13	26
Handbook/manual for mentors	16.0% 4	52.0% 13	32.0% 8	25
Agreement form that lays out expectations for both mentors and mentees	26.9% 7	50.0% 13	23.1% 6	26
Periodic check-ins by a coordinator to see how it's going	11.5% 3	53.8% 14	34.6% 9	26

Resources (seasonal tip sheets, etc.) for mentors to share with mentees	8.0% 2	52.0% 13	40.0% 10	25
Evaluation at the end of the season to see how the program went	0.0% 0	38.5% 10	61.5% 16	26

Given that most of the survey respondents believed a mentor program should be a BUMBA priority, we'll work towards a more robust program. But in the meantime, I hope that matching some folks up for mentor apiary inspections will be a good first step.

MSBA Summer Meeting

June 17, 8:00AM – 3:30PM

University of Maryland
College Park, MD

www.mdbeekeepers.org

Featured Speaker: TBD

The **Maryland State Beekeepers Association** Summer Meeting will be held at the University of Maryland in College Park. The schedule and exact location to be announced later. Doors open at 8AM and morning refreshments will be available. Check back with the MSBA website for future announcements.

DC Beekeepers' Alliance

www.dcbeckeepers.org

The **DC Beekeepers Alliance** monthly meet ups are scheduled for third Wednesday of each month at the Hill Center (www.hillcenterdc.org) at 921 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20003



(Capitol Hill), 6:30 PM to 8 PM. Monthly meetings always include member discussions and speakers on topics of relevance to local beekeepers. For directions and other meeting information, visit www.dcbeckeepers.org.

EAS 2017

**University of Delaware
Newark, Delaware
July 31 to August 4**

*by Timothy McMahon
Maryland EAS Director*



Have you ever considered taking a “Beekeeping Vacation”? Well now is the time to make your plans as **EAS 2017** will be taking place at the **University of Delaware in Newark, DE**. EAS (Eastern Apiculture Society) is one of the largest non-commercial beekeeping organizations in the United States and one of the largest in the world. Every summer EAS conducts its week long Annual Conference of lectures and workshops in one the 26 member states or Canadian provinces. This year’s EAS conference will be held at the **University of Delaware in Newark, DE**, from **July 31 to August 4**. The conference usually brings in about 600 to 800 beekeepers from around the world to attend.

The conference is made up of the Short Course, running from Monday to Wednesday, and the conference proper, running from Wednesday to Friday, with Wednesday the overlap day. Normally about half of the attendees stay the whole week with the other half coming just for the conference. The Short Course will contain classes for beekeepers of all levels and special events such as an open apiary with Langstroth, Warre’ and Top Bar Hives, a microscope workshop on bee anatomy, a Honey Show for you to enter your bee products, and classes on all aspects of beekeeping. The conference proper will consist of over 100 different talks about all aspects of beekeeping including classes on Queen rearing, Mead and Beer brewing and on IPM (Integrated Pest Management).

I first attended EAS several years ago in Boone, NC,



and the experience was so great that I became a life time member. I've not missed an EAS conference since. Every year I go with a set of questions in mind that I then try to find the answers to from the best minds in Beekeeping. You can't get much better than that. Maybe the best thing about the week-long EAS was that I get to talk "bees" all week long and no one says that they had heard enough (normally my family asks me to shut-up after the first 2 minutes or so). You can find out all about the specific topic covered and how to sign up at the EAS webpage here <http://www.easternapiculture.org/>.

I hope to see you there.

EAS 2018 is scheduled for Virginia. Come and join the fun!

CLUB HAPPENINGS

BUMBA Field Day
April 8 11AM - 3PM
7804 Woodyard Rd., Clinton

The **2017 BUMBA Field Day** will be held at **Scott Seccomb's** apiary on **April 8th from 11 am to 3 pm.**

BUMBA will supply lunch, drinks and utensils.

Directions to Scott Seccomb's Apiary, 7804 Woodyard Rd., Clinton (if you have trouble finding the house, call **301-580-8031**)

PLEASE ENTER THE FIELD ON THE EAST SIDE VIA THE GATE AND PARK IN THE FIELD, NOT IN THE DRIVEWAY.

Rain or shine, unless we have a typhoon!

From Md. Route 301:

Take Md. **Rte. 4** west (towards DC) to **Rte. 223**, the **Woodyard Road** exit. At the bottom of the ramp turn **left onto Woodyard Road (South)**. Go about 2.5 miles and at the **third stop light veer right**, (this is still Woodyard Rd.) After you go around 3 sharp S turns, you will see Don Drive on the right and **TALL PINE TREES AHEAD ON THE LEFT**. Just past the pine trees there is a small field and gate on the left. Enter there.

From Md. Route 5

Take **Woodyard Road** towards Upper Marlboro/ Mellwood. Go past the Dash In gas station at the 4-way light and continue until you see **Resurrection Cemetery** on the right. After the **7th house on the right**, past the cemetery and across from **Tanglewood Plant Nursery**, is a small field and a gate on the right, before the tall pine trees.

Drive through the gate and come back by the house and park anywhere you want.

BUMBA 2017 Short Course **February 16 - March 23**

BUMBA concludes another successful Beginning beekeeping course with 52 graduates. This year's students are: Adriana Ray, Amy Reitz, Brahim K. Diallo, Brian Hummel, Bridget Caldwell, Brittany Mari Seborg, Candee Van Iderstine, Hussein Alali, Carole M. Brady, Carl L. Brady, Csilla Szabo, Michael Erdos, Delbert Propst, Erik Nyce, Fatimah Ahmad, Gary Eldridge, Glenn Bryce, Ian Bellayr, James D. Thompson, James Hardesty, Lisa Lowman, James Tibbs, Joe Milby, Marisa Hotchkiss, Mary Lou Ingeholm, Matthew Smith, McKenna Rain, Melody Nordvik, Michael Heller, Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth, Mick Wisner, Nicole Bontrager, Olivia Bontrager, Paul Earp, Deborah Earp, Reshma S. Kasim, Rian Welch, Richard Rooks, Ron Humbertson, Ronald Marshall, Sarah Bixby, Sarah Pickens, Scott Proctor, Paula Proctor, Christopher Proctor, Simone Trott, Daniel Trott, Susan Brown, Sarah Brown, Thomas Parenteau, Wayman Smith, and Elizabeth Mackessy-Lloyd. Welcome to the fascinating world of beekeeping!

BUMBA would like to recognize and thank the following members for their help during the Short Course: **Jim Rank, Vic Curtis, Gerry Jones, Bob Greenwell, Leigh Walton, Fran Toler, Chris Nichols &** anyone I might have missed (if any one sees someone I missed, please provide a name). I'd also like to thank our speakers: **Jeff Forbes, Tony Drake, Bob Greenwell, Jan Day, Gregg Gochnour, Tracy Velazquez, Leigh Walton, Maggie Mills, Toni Burnham, David Morris and Linda Thompson**

The **2017 Short Course** will begin on **February 16th** and take place every Thursday evening through **March 23rd**. Class begins promptly at 7 PM and we'll wrap up by 9:30. Class is held at **Watkins Park Nature Center**, 301 Watkins Park Dr., Upper Marlboro, MD 20774. Our **Field Day** will be held on **Saturday, April 8th** at **Scott Seccomb's** apiary (more information to follow). If you haven't signed up, time is running out. As of this morning we have 1 slot remaining, with just a few applicants unpaid who may get bumped to the wait list. Registration for first family member is \$75 and includes a copy of **Diana Sammataro's** book "[The Beekeeper's Handbook](#)" (4th Edition). The price for additional family members is \$35 per person and includes field day lunch and handouts. Students must be at least 11 years old and students under 16 years must be accompanied by an adult family member. The fee also includes membership to **BUMBA** for all registrants in 2017.

BUMBA Outreach Calendar

*Frank Fennell, Event Coordinator
Bumba.Outreach@gmail.com*

Hello everyone. I am **Frank Fennell** and I am the new **BUMBA** Outreach Coordinator. The 2017 spring season is here and the calendar is starting to fill with events **BUMBA** has been asked to support. I am seeking your help in fulfilling these requests by volunteering to sign-up and support one or more of these outreach opportunities. This is a great way to promote bees and beekeeping, help educate the community about the issues affecting pollinators and the environment, and gives you the chance to work with your fellow apiarists to share knowledge and tips. Only a few hours of your time is needed. We have posters, pamphlets, a demo hive, frames, wax, tools, etc., all the items needed to support an event. We just need some of your time and experience. Please be an advocate for those without a voice and do what you can to help.

When available I try to reserve us a location indoors so we do not have to worry about the weather impacting our outreach effort. If you are interested in helping to support any of these events please contact me at bumba.outreach@gmail.com.

These are the events **BUMBA** has been requested to support so far. If we can get at least two members to support each event or shift that would be fantastic.

Bowie Green Expo

April 8th (Sat) from noon to 4pm

Kenhill Center 2614 Kenhill Dr. Bowie, MD 20715

The **Bowie Green Expo** is a free, family-fun, event open to the public. Includes live entertainment, electric car display, and environmental friendly products and services. **BUMBA** can sell honey and soap if available.

Maryland May Day Event

April 29th (Sat) from 10am – 4pm

Farm and Regents Drives, College Park MD

One of our biggest events! We've asked members to show up by 9 AM to set up. Observation Hive helpful. Our educational displays are most helpful as we use them to explain everything beekeeping. Someone usually brings a little equipment for hands-on demonstration. Even one hive body with frames, inner, outer covers, skimpy as it is, helps. A bag of tools, smoker etc. everyone wants to know more about how this works. Simple drawings of children beekeepers and flowers and bees that we could hand out to the kids.

If we can get members to support two separate shifts (10am-1pm and 1pm-4pm) that would be great.

Spring Farm Festival

May 6th (Sat) from 11am – 4pm

Alice Ferguson Foundation 2001 Bryan Point Road Accokeek, MD 20607

Come enjoy the view, natural areas, and the lively barnyard that teach and inspire thousands of students each year.

If we can get members to support two separate shifts (11am-2pm and 2pm-4pm) that would be great.

Greenbelt Green Man Festival

Sat, May 13, from 10am – 6pm

Roosevelt Center Historic Greenbelt, Maryland

Join us, rain or shine, for two days of music, vendors, crafts,

environmental awareness, food, and fun in beautiful downtown!

If we can get members to support two separate shifts (10am-2pm and 2pm-6pm) that would be great.

Cheverly Day

Sat, May 20, 1pm – 4pm

6401 Forest Rd, Cheverly, Maryland, 20785

Annual community event. We usually get a great location with plenty of foot traffic.

THANK YOU!

MEMBERS' CORNER

This is *your* space for *your* story. Tell us why you started beekeeping, what you enjoy most, or least? What have you learned? What do you want to share?



2016-2017 Colony Loss and Management Survey is Live: Take the Survey Today!

April 1st is just around the corner and for beekeepers, that means spring and the opening of the **2016 – 2017 National Colony Loss and National Management Survey**. The results that are received from this survey provide valuable information that help us obtain a clear picture of honey bee health throughout the country.

The Loss survey began in 2006 and we added the National Management survey in 2010 and from both of those, we have been able to gain actionable information on which management practices work and which ones do not. By correlating management practices with colony losses between the two surveys we have been able to refine a model to develop the best management practices in beekeeping. [Click Here to view our new data management explorer tool](#) and read [our blog](#) on how to use the app to view the loss/management correlations.

Without the aid of the many thousands of beekeepers who participate in this survey we would never be able to obtain the results that we have received in the past and hope to continue to receive in the future.

Help us continue this effort. To take the National Colony Loss and Management Survey for the 2016-2017 season, click on the link below.

[2016-2017 National Honey Bee Management Survey](#)

If you would like to take a look at the 2016 – 2017 survey questions before beginning, or to download the survey so that you can take some notes before taking the survey online, click on the link below:

2016 – 2017 National Colony Loss and Management Survey Preview

This copy of the survey is meant to serve as an aid to the questions that will be asked on the survey. It is not meant to be mailed in as a hard copy submission.

We would like to thank everyone who has participated in this survey in the past and hope that you will be able to take some time out of your busy days to fill out the survey this year. **You are what makes the survey successful and by taking the time to complete it, you are doing your part in contributing to the national research efforts to increase honey bee survivorship!**

Learn more about the **Bee Informed Partnership** and their management recommendations at BeeInformed.org

February Meeting Notes

Our February meeting had some interesting news. I will have to get around to writing up my notes on **Luke Goembel's** information about treating hives with Oxalic Acid drip, but not this weekend.

Candee Van Iderstine demonstrated a very interesting USB digital microscope. The Banggood USB Microscope is \$11. With a USB connection to your computer, it can zoom 15x to 500x. It can record videos or still shots but only stores one video at a time. You can then download it to the computer.

Tim McMahon talked about **EAS 2107** and one of the speakers, **Peter Lindtner**, a University of Delaware horticulturist, beekeeper, and author of "Garden Plants for Honey Bees". Tim highly recommends the book.

Jeff Forbes provided a zoning update. The **Prince George's County Council** passed a law recently that okayed beekeeping just about everywhere except in high density housing.

BEES IN THE NEWS

American Bee Journal "Extra"

Social Bees Have Kept Their Gut Microbes for 80 Million Years

About 80 million years ago, a group of bees began exhibiting social behavior, which includes raising young together, sharing food resources and defending their colony. Today, their descendants--honey bees, stingless bees and bumble bees--carry stowaways from their ancient ancestors: five species of gut bacteria that have evolved along with the host bees.

These bacteria, living in the guts of social bees, have been passed from generation to generation for 80 million years, according to a new study published today in the journal *Science Advances* and led by researchers at The University of Texas at Austin. The finding adds to the case that social creatures, like bees and humans, not only transfer bacteria among one another in their own lifetime--they have a distinctive relationship with bacteria over time, in some cases even evolving on parallel tracks as species.

"The fact that these bacteria have been with the bees for so long says that they are a key part of the biology of social bees," says Nancy Moran, a professor of integrative biology at the university who co-led the research with postdoctoral researcher Waldan Kwong. "And it suggests that disrupting the microbiome, through antibiotics or other kinds of stress, could cause health problems."

Most insects, including nonsocial bees, don't have specialized gut microbes. Because they have limited physical contact with individuals of their own species, they tend to get their microbes from their environment. Social bees, on the other hand, spend much time in close contact with one another in the hive, making it easy to transfer gut microbes from individual to individual.

"Having a social lifestyle enabled the specialized community of bacteria to diversify along with the bees through deep time," says Moran.

Just as these five species of bacteria seem to be indispensable to their bee hosts, they too can't live without their hosts. By adapting to life inside

bees, they've lost their ability to live in the outside world. For example, the bee gut has lower oxygen levels than the atmosphere has.

Scientists refer to a species that can't live on its own without its host--such as these ancient microbes that have specialized to live only in the guts of certain bees--as a symbiont.

Bee Culture – “Catch the Buzz”

Full Ban on Pesticides Suspected of Killing Bees. Green Groups Praise Decision But Call for Loopholes To Be Closed

The European Commission has proposed a full ban on pesticide substances suspected of having a negative impact on bee colonies in the EU, inflicting a major upset on two of the world's largest agri-chemical businesses.

Although EU member countries must still vote on the Commission's proposal, the decision by Brussels will send shockwaves through the farming industry which is fearful that a ban on the substances could deplete crop yields across Europe.

The Commission's decision comes amid an intense scientific battle over the impact of three neonicotinoid pesticides produced by Bayer and Syngenta on bees. The three substances — Clothianidin, Imidacloprid and Thiamethoxam — are already partially restricted in the European Union pending further scientific study because they have been shown to contribute to bee deaths.

Draft documents seen by POLITICO show that the Commission has proposed taking all seed and plant protection products containing the three substances off the market unless they are used inside permanent greenhouses. Member countries will still be able to obtain permission to use a neonicotinoid if the situation is considered to be an emergency and farmers can show that they have no alternative other than resorting to neonicotinoids though.

Green groups praised the Commission's decision but warned that current rules in the legislation to allow for emergency use of the substances could still result in negative consequences to Europe's pollinators.

“This is great news for bees and the environment. For years, evidence that these chemicals harm bees has been mounting. Now governments must close the remaining greenhouse loophole and eliminate these chemicals once and for all,” said Franziska Achterberg, EU food policy director for Greenpeace.

The pesticide industry, however, complained that the Commission's proposed ban was based on EFSA's so-called Bee Guidance Document, which provides rules on how to assess the potential risks to honey bees, bumble bees and solitary bees from the use of pesticides.

“This theoretical guidance document is not supported by member states. It is impractical, overly conservative and does not take into account realistic scenarios,” said Graeme Taylor, director of public affairs for the European Crop Protection Association, a pesticide lobby. “It lacks the legally required approval by EU Member States, and is not applicable for regulatory purposes in the EU.”

Read more [here](#)

Fungicides Commonly Used in Almond Orchards Can Be Harmful to Almond Growers' Best friends – Honey Bees

Texas A&M University researchers say the fungicide iprodione, when used alone or in combination with other common fungicides, leads to a significant reduction in the 10-day survival rate of honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) when they are exposed at rates usually used on the almond crops.

“Given that these fungicides may be applied when honey bees are present in almond orchards, our findings suggest that bees may face significant danger from chemical applications even when responsibly applied,” says Juliana Rangel, Texas A&M assistant professor of apiculture.

Rangel and colleagues report in the journal *Economic Entomology* that they tested the effects of fungicides on honey bees through a wind-tunnel experiment, in which groups of honey bees were exposed to various dosage levels and combinations of fungicides, sprayed and carried through the wind tunnel at speeds simulating aerial crop dusting.

They were then removed to separate habitats and monitored daily over a 10-day period. They tested an iprodione fungicide on its own and in combination with boscalid, pyraclostrobin, and azoxystrobin. The trials were repeated three times in September, October, and November 2015.

The results showed a significant increase in mortality rate among

honey bees exposed to the fungicides compared to a control group. In two of the three trials, bees exposed to the recommended concentration of iprodione died at two to three times the rate of the unexposed bees after 10 days. The effect was even more pronounced when iprodione was combined with the other fungicides.

The exact reasons for fungicides' negative effect on honey bees is not well understood, the researchers note, though previous research has shown that some fungicides have heightened potential to persist in residual amounts in honey bee wax in hives.

The Almond Board of California says the industry in California alone produces about 80% of almonds consumed worldwide, and growers rely almost entirely on managed honey bees for pollination.

“Our results may help to encourage discussions on altering spraying regimes or perhaps finding different ways to apply chemicals in such a manner that takes the biology and behavior of pollinators into account,” says lead author Adrian Fisher, a doctoral student in Rangel’s lab at Texas A&M.

CLUB PROGRAMS

BUMBA has initiated several programs over the years *and we are always looking for members' assistance*. For more information about a program please contact an officer.

BUMBA Extractor for members' use

BUMBA now has two honey extractors for members to use. The extractor managers are **Gerry Jones** in Mitchellville (gejones486@verizon.net, 301-577-1365) and **David Clark** in Dunkirk (dadicl.clark@gmail.com, 443-871-0494, seven days a week from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm). Each has a complete set of equipment. The Board has established an extractor agreement, rules, and cleaning instructions. Copies are available from the managers. To reserve the equipment, call the manager, bring a \$50 refundable deposit (cash or check upon pickup), and sign the use agreement and inventory form. Please be sure to read what you are signing☺. The first 4 days are free!

www.BUMBAbees.com

Check out the club web site maintained by **Toni Burnham**, www.bumbabees.com. You will find meeting schedules, newsletters, information and membership application forms (payments are still by mail or at a meeting.) We need content, pictures, ideas, suggestions and help with administration. If you have any interesting photos to add to the photo gallery, send them with a short description or story to Toni at phang@tonitoni.org.

www.BUMBAbees.com/forums

Check our web forum for questions, answers, opinions and help. Thanks to **Scott Seccomb** and **Toni Burnham**, our private web forum on the BUMBA web page is available for members' use.

Electronic Newsletter

As with all organizations cost cutting is always on the table. One way we reduce our expenses is by eliminating the printed newsletter mailed 6

times a year at a cost of roughly \$1 per newsletter. People who don't have email, of course, continue to receive a printed copy. Help keep club \$\$'s in the bank for club activities.

Sentinel Hive Project

In the past, **BUMBA** has participated in the **Bee Informed Sentinel Hive Project**. This is an ambitious undertaking with the University of Maryland to intensively study honey bee hives to better identify the reasons for high hive losses across the country. Volunteers are needed to organize **BUMBA's** participation as well as to perform the inspections and record keeping. This is an opportunity to participate locally in a significant, national scientific study of apicultural science. Contact **Maggie Mills** (contact info on back page) for more information.

FREE STATE Bee Supply

Your local bee supply dealer

Crownsville Gardens

1241 Generals Hwy, Crownsville, MD 21401

Phone: 410-923-9800 (store); 443-336-1411 (cell)

Email: dedelmann30@gmail.com

Call or email if you have any questions.

Store hours M-S 9-6PM, Sun 9-5PM

As always, thank you for your continued support!

Delia Edelmann

Notice of your dues will either be on your label or in your email message

Every club needs a little money to keep it going. Although **BUMBA** is solvent, dues are needed to cover meeting room rental, speakers, refreshments and the newsletter. **BUMBA** annual dues are **\$15**. Please remember to bring your dues (**checks preferred**) to the next meeting. Consider paying for two years, as a commitment to beekeeping. Jutta loves to find checks in the mailbox, so you can mail your dues to:

Jutta Dunaway, **BUMBA** Treas., 11814 GALAXY LANE, BOWIE, MD 20715

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Check if you are willing to help out with a club activity or program

Bowie-Upper Marlboro Beekeepers Association Officers			
Pres.	Maggie Mills	301-683-8853	maggie.m.mills@gmail.com
VP	Tracy Velazquez	406-539-9715	tvelazquez@mcn.net
Treas.	Jutta Dunaway	301-464-1093	kasseljutta@aol.com
Sec'y	Debby Heyes	301-855-0071	dbheyas@comcast.net
Event Coordinator	Frank Fennell	301-675-0971	frankfennelljr@hotmail.com
Editor	David Morris	301-725-6185	beefriend@verizon.net
P.G. Inspector	Gregg Gochnour	301-261-8106 x5920	gregg.gochnour@maryland.gov
MSBA Pres.	Allen Hayes	410-489-2835	Thehayeshouse4@aol.com
P.G. MSBA VP	David Morris	301-725-6185	beefriend@verizon.net

David Morris, BUMBA Editor
9309 Montpelier Drive
Laurel, MD 20708-2553

**BUMBA Meets at
Watkins Park Nature Center**

BUMBA annual dues are \$15. Our regular meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of the even months at the **Watkins Park Nature Center, 301 Watkins Park Drive in Largo**. From Route 301 or I-495 take Central Ave. (Rte 214) to the intersection with Enterprise Rd. (Rte 193). Turn south onto Watkins Park Dr. and go ½ mile to the park. Follow the road all the way to the back to the Nature Center. We thank the Nature Center Staff for their assistance. For information about the Nature Center, please call **301-218-6702**

Club Calendar

Put these dates on your **2017 BUMBA** Calendar:
April 6, 7:30PM, **BUMBA** Mtg.
April 8, Saturday **BUMBA** Field Day
June 1, 7:30PM, **BUMBA** Mtg.
June (17), **MSBA** Summer Mtg
July 31- Aug 4, **EAS**, U. of Del, Newark, DE.
August 3, 7:30PM, **BUMBA** Mtg.
October 5, 7:30PM, **BUMBA** Mtg.
November 4, 9AM **MSBA** Fall Mtg/Honey Show
December 7, 6:00PM, **BUMBA** Holiday Party