

CVBA Newsletter
Volume 12, Number 9
September 1, 2021
Candy Halford, Editor
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Next Meeting:

Thursday, September 16th at 7 pm

Speaker: Jim Garrison

Upcoming:

October 2-3: Sneedville Fall Festival

October 9-10: Rogersville Heritage Days

October 23-24: Morristown, Mountain Makins Festival

Clinch Valley Beekeepers Association meets every month on the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm. Our meeting place is:

Treadway Fire Hall
189 Highway 131
Treadway, TN 37881

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/clinchvalleybeekeepers

Website: <http://clinchvalleybeekeepers.org> Email:
clinchvalley_beekeepers@yahoo.com

Upcoming Speakers

October

Bee Funny

What is more impressive than a talking llama?

(Answer on the bottom of the last page.)

Notes from August Meeting:

I was not able to attend the August meeting. These are pictures that were sent to CVBA from Crystal. Wayne Yates and Tom Ramsey took an observation hive to a car show in July.



Beekeeping Calendar

September

(Adapted from: <https://cookevillebeekeepers.com/tn-beekeeping-annual-calendar>)

Brood production restarts in early September – usually there are some small but unreliable nectar flows which end by late month even in a good year.

Evaluate all hives early in the month, and combine, shake out or requeen any which are lagging. Cut your losses now before you have fed and babied lackluster hives for months only to have them fail over the winter – or fail to be productive in the spring.

Start feeding light hives 2-1 heavy syrup until they put on sufficient weight to overwinter on.

Support Your Bee Club

Clinch Valley Beekeeper Association Hats, T-shirts, and Cookbooks

T-shirts are \$10 and \$12 for XXL+ sizes

Hats are \$8

Cookbooks are \$10.

Club Membership

CVBA dues are still \$10 a year for a single person and \$15 a year for a family. See a CVBA officer to complete a new membership form. You may pay your dues directly to one of the CVBA officers or mail them (please include your phone number and email address in case we need to reach you) to the following address:

Clinch Valley Beekeeper Association

C/O William Barnett

4853 Highway 31

Sneedville, TN 37869

If any of your information (address, phone numbers, email, etc.) changes, please let us know. We want to make sure you can stay connected with the club to help you get the most out of your membership!

Clinch Valley Beekeepers Library

Check out the selection of books and DVDs we have available. If you have a book or video checked out, please return it at the next meeting. Books can be returned to the Club Librarian, President, or Secretary. If you have an idea for a book or DVD you think would be good for our library let us know.

Recipe of the Month

(Adapted from Taste of Home)



Honey Cinnamon Bars

TOTAL TIME: Prep: 25 min. Bake: 10 min. + cooling

YIELD: 2 dozen.

Ingredients

- 1 cup sugar
- 3/4 cup canola oil
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1 large egg, room temperature
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup chopped walnuts, toasted

Glaze

- 1 cup confectioners' sugar
 - 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 - 1 to 2 tablespoons water
 - Additional toasted chopped walnuts, optional
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Directions

Preheat oven to 350°. In a large bowl, beat sugar, oil, honey and egg until well blended. In another bowl, whisk flour, baking soda, cinnamon and salt; gradually beat into sugar mixture. Stir in 1 cup walnuts.

Spread into a greased 15x10x1-in. baking pan. Bake until golden brown (edges will puff up), 10-12 minutes. Cool completely on a wire rack.

For glaze, in a small bowl, mix confectioners' sugar, mayonnaise, vanilla and enough water to reach desired consistency; spread over top. If desired, sprinkle with additional walnuts. Let stand until set. Cut into bars. Refrigerate leftovers.

Bee Insights

Adapted from: <https://carolinahoneybees.com>

Protecting Your Investment In Beekeeper Clothing

In general, beekeeping suits come in 2 price ranges in regard to quality. Less expensive options that are good for light use and not expected to last for years. You can find some economy models for around \$50.

These are appropriate for the new beekeeper on a budget. They also come in handy as an extra bee suit for visiting friends that want to “see the bees.” Extra wear for visitors won’t get very dirty because they are not usually doing any real hive management.

However, with beekeeper suits and jackets – sometimes you do get what you pay for. Less expensive suits can be easier to tear and the veils are often fragile.

If you didn’t pay too much for it, you might be tempted to forgo washing the beekeeping suit and just get a new one.

What about those high-quality suits that cost between \$100-\$200? If you invested in more heavy duty and expensive beekeeper clothing, there will be a time when you certainly want to at least attempt to clean it.

But understand this, a new beekeeping suit is the cleanest it will ever be. In my experience, they never truly become clean and white again.

How Often Should You Wash Your Beekeeping Suit?

The frequency of washing a beekeeping suit depends on several factors. Like any piece of clothing, washing it too often may speed up it’s demise.

The number of beehives you manage, how often you wear the suit and environmental conditions play a role. If you live in the hot South and in an area with red clay — attempting to clean the bee suit at least twice a season is common.

Even then the red clay will never come out of my white suit. But out attempt to freshen our bee wear is about more than just dirt.

Dirty Suits Increase the Risk of Bee Stings

Honey bees are very sensitive to odor. You don’t want to smell like a stinky ole bear during routine hive inspections. But, it is not just dirt and sweat that irritates the bees of the hive.

If any bees have stung your suit during previous trips to the bee yard, they leave behind pheromones.

When the bees in the hive detect this odor, along with a giant dressed in white taking off the top of their house – they may react in a negative way.

Periodic cleaning of your beekeeping suit or jacket prevents problems due to odor in the fabric of your clothing. It also feels much better to put on a freshly laundered jacket.

Steps for Washing a Beekeepers Suit or Jacket

*** Important disclaimer – This information is made available to show you how I wash my beekeeping suits. I am not responsible for any negative effects this might cause on your own clothing. Always follow the manufacturer's directions. ***

Time needed: 2 hours.

Washing a beekeeper bee suit or jacket to remove stains and odor

1. Empty Pockets, Zip and Remove Veil

Remove the veil from your suit. Be sure to empty your pockets of anything you may find in there. Sticks, dirt, pine needles and other various stuff finds its way into those pockets. If your suit has leg zippers, zip them up. And zip the front zipper closed as well. This helps prevent zipper damage as you wash the suit.

2. Pretreating Stains on Beekeeper Clothing

Before the suit is placed in a washer (or bathtub for you hand scrubbers), it is a good idea to pretreat the dirtiest parts.

I often do this outside and lay my beekeeping suit down on the driveway. If you are not as messy as me, this can be accomplished in the shower or tub.

In a small pail, I mix some very warm water, a small amount of laundry detergent (I use Tide) and just a little bleach (perhaps 1/4 cup per gallon of water.)

3. Scrubbing the Most Stained Areas of the Suit

Using a brush wet with the contents of the pail, I scrub a little Oxiclean into the dirtiest areas. This is commonly the area around the pockets, sleeve ends and leg cuffs.

4. Putting Beekeeping Suit in Washer

After pre-treating all the stains, add the suit to the washing machine. Use a generous amount of cold water in the wash with very little laundry detergent.

Do NOT wash your veil in the machine. The veil is completely hand washed and rinsed well.

I do sometimes let the cotton portion of the hood rest in the machine for a pre-soak with the suit.

I presoak the suit about 30 minutes before washing on regular cycle. (Again – follow the manufacturers cleaning instructions for YOUR suit.)

5. Rinse Well and Hang to Dry

Once the beekeeping suit has completed the wash cycle, it is removed from the washer. The veil is zipped back on to the suit and they are hung up to dry.

A nice shady location is a good choice. Do not tumble dry as your suit may be damaged or shrink!

Special Considerations for Clean Your Bee Clothing

Always consult the manufacturer's cleaning instructions because there are many different types of materials used in bee suit construction. But these common tips apply to most.

- some stains will never come out – that's okay
- the use of bleach does cause elastic to deteriorate-use sparingly if at all
- do not use fabric softener – bees are very sensitive to smell
- use cold/cool water in the washer not hot – you may have wax in the washer
- use the regular or gently cycle on the washer
- as a caution – don't wash your beekeeping clothing with other family clothing

Cleaning your beekeeping suit a couple of times a season is a great way to protect your investment. This is also a good time to make a close inspection for any small "bee-sized" rips or tears.

Storing Your Beekeeper Clothing

If at all possible, it is good to store your beekeeper suit by hanging it up. I keep mine in an outdoor shed near my other equipment.

You can also keep the suit safe in a storage box with lid. However, first make sure it is completely dry or water or sweat – or it will mold.

Don't throw your beekeeping wear in a pile in the shed until Spring. You may find that the mice have made a nice cozy home of it!

I honestly enjoy putting on a clean beekeeping suit and I'm sure the bees may like it as well.

Master Beekeeper, Charlotte Anderson shares her love of all things honeybee. She helps others become better beekeepers and teaches new beekeepers how to get started. Her mission is spreading awareness of the importance of honey bees. She is a former Beekeeper of the Year in South Carolina.

CVBA Board of Directors and Officers

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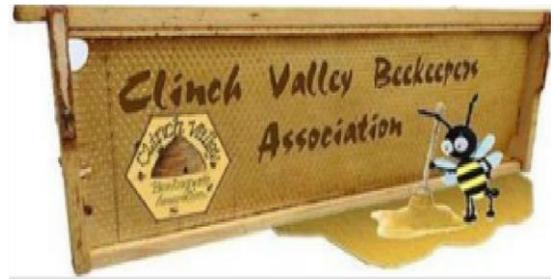
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Sullivan County

Wayne Yates 423-288-6536



CVBA encourages each person to further their education by reading books, checking out various websites, and watching the videos that are available on bees and beekeeping. We also encourage everyone to have a mentor, especially if you are new to beekeeping. If you need a mentor, please let us know at the next meeting and we will try to find one that is close to you and/or your apiary. Remember all apiaries must be registered with the State of TN. Forms are available at the meeting or they can be downloaded from the internet. <https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/businesses/bees/forms.html> We also encourage membership in the Tennessee Bee Association. Forms are available at the club meetings.

Answer to Bee Funny- a spelling bee