

The Bee Line

Pineywoods Beekeepers Association

Next meeting October 9, 6:30 pm

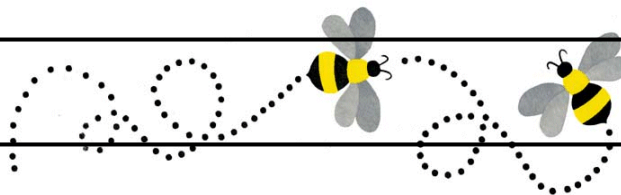
Lufkin VFW Post 1836

1800 Ford Chapel Road, Lufkin

<https://www.pineywoodsbeekeepers.org/>

Volume 25 Issue 10

October 2025



October Program

You may have noticed the mornings have been chilly. Whether you're ready for it or not (I'm not), we're moving into fall. Bob Love will discuss winter preparations for your apiary.

What's Buzzing

For sale – Merle Nerren has quite a few items for sale. She can bring them to the next PBA meeting. Reach out to her if you're interested. mnerr@consolidated.net or 936-635-2121

1. Vevor Manual Honey Extractor- 3 frame-Still in box. \$50.00

Company said I could return it but kept giving discounts to keep it, I just want what I have in it.

2. Ultra Breeze Suit with extra Hood-3 years old- Made in America. \$140.00

3. Ultra Breeze Jacket-bought this year-Made in America. \$ 90.00

4. Mann Lake Rolling Honey Frame Uncapping Punch. \$10.00

5. Mann Lake Comb Capper-Fits on 5-gallon pail. \$20.00

6. Quart Entrance Feeder-in box. \$5.00

7. Quart Entrance Feeder. \$5.00

8. Honey Bucket with Honey Gate. \$20.00

9. Mann Lake Metal Stainless Steel Double Sieve Honey Screen-in box. \$20.00

10. 39 Medium Size Acorn Black Plastic Frames with extra heavy wax foundations. Made in America. Still in shipping box. (unused) \$90.00

11. 8 Wooden Medium Frames with Plastic Foundations. \$15.00 for all 8.

*#1-#11 have been stored inside the house.

12. 7 Medium 8 Frame Cypress Painted Boxes. (empty) Foxhound Bee Company. Made in America. \$20.00 each.

13. Deep 8 Frame Medium Box with Wood Frames and Plastic White Foundations. Painted. \$35.00

14. Foxhound Bee Company Inner Cover-used-\$10.00

15. 3 Medium Frame Cypress Boxes from Foxhound Bee Company with frames and foundations. Made in America. \$30.00 each. (used) They have been stored in the barn in black bags with Ice Moth Crystals.

* #12-#15 Have been stored in the barn.

2026 Board – Bob Love and Don Lymbery are on the nomination committee. Here are nominations so far. We have several positions to fill! If you'd like to volunteer, let Bob or Don or a current Board member know. Elections will be held at the November meeting.

President – Ricky Davis, Mike Hartman
Vice President – Bob Love (Bob has 1 year of his term left)
Secretary – You?
Treasurer – You?
Training Coordinator – You?
Newsletter Editor – You?
Apiary Manager – You?

EPA approves Vadescana for use against Varroa mites. This is double stranded RNA product that works through "RNA interference, which prevents the expression of a specific gene that the Varroa mite needs to survive." The effects are highly specific to Varroa. You may have gotten an email from Mann Lake about their new product, Norroa. Its active ingredient is Vadescana.

<https://www.epa.gov/pollinator-protection/epa-registered-pesticide-products-approved-use-against-varroa-mites-bee-hives>

11/20-22 – Texas Beekeepers Association Annual Convention, Waco. Lots of speakers, lots of topics, Texas Honey Show, Texas Master Beekeeping testing. <https://texasbeekeepers.org/annual-convention-2025/>

Free beekeeping class – 1st & 3rd Sundays at 5:30 pm at Nacogdoches Seventh Day Adventist Church playground April 15th – Nov 15th. Facebook post by Vasiliy Osadchuck from Ukraine with over 40 years' experience. Theory and hands-on for beginners plus advanced discussions for the pros.

At-Home Beekeeping Series presented by the Lawrence Co. Alabama Extension Office. 6:30-7:30pm. Recordings from this series are available **for only two weeks** after each session on the Lawrence County Alabama Extension Office Facebook page. <https://www.aces.edu/blog/topics/bees-pollinators/at-home-beekeeping-series/>

2025 Dates and Topics

October 28 — Flower Power: Establishing Pollinator Habitat

Tammy Potter, Kentucky State University

November 18 — Record Keeping: Finding the Method that Works for You

Julia Mahood, Georgia Beekeepers Association

December 30 — No Session

2026 Dates and Topics

January 27 — Using Oxalic Acid Effectively

Cameron Jack, University of Florida

February 24 — Treating Newly Split Colonies with Organic Varroacides

Dan Aurell, Auburn University

March 31 — Queen Concrete versus Proxy Measurements

Elizabeth Walsh, US Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service

April 28 — TBD

Esmaeil Amiri, Mississippi State University Extension

May 26 — TBD

Michael Goblirsch, US Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service

June 30 — Queen Management Essentials

Juliana Rangel, Texas A&M University

Seasonal Tips

Robert Jones

October will give us the major goldenrod flow along with a variety of other weeds this time of year. The flow can be exceptional, but again, if too much rain is falling the nectar can be washed out and you will need to supplement with sugar syrup. The fall flow normally lasts until the first fall frost but can be slowed by early cold snaps as well.

This is the time, at the end of this flow, to decide what needs help and what can stand on its own. Several things must be considered at this time. The quantity of honey must be at a minimum of 40lbs, or a medium honey super full above a deep brood box. Additionally, the quantity, or number, of bees must be observed. Hives with nests smaller in size than a basketball will not produce enough bees at this point to over-winter. On the coldest winter days, the over-winter process sees the outer layer of bees die off due to cold. If there are not enough bees at this point, the hive will be lost.

It is best to stack two weak colonies, picking the best laying queen of the two, for winter survival. Leaving both as they are will most likely see the die-off of both colonies. Saving the resources this way will allow you to easily spring-split this colony because it survived the winter with the resources that it needed.

Comb-Grown Goodness

Rather than give you one little recipe in this space, I'm going to give you links to lots of recipes! If you have a honey recipe you'd like to share, send it my way!

Fall dessert recipes with honey

https://beeinspiredgoods.com/blogs/honey-recipes/easy-fall-dessert-recipes?srltid=AfmBOop4aTbqDPgcPAnxeF4NOjAiY8uO9WS_tPVeIYeGmVFozG6pxWG3

30 recipes, from main dish to side to dessert

<https://www.tasteofhome.com/collection/honey-recipes/>

If you want to try replacing sugar with honey in some of your favorite baking recipes, here are some tips:

Use ½ to ¾ c honey per cup of sugar.

Reduce other liquids by ¼ c for every cup of honey used.

Lower the baking temp by 25 degrees.

Add ¼ t baking soda per cup of honey.