



EBKA Charity Number: 1031419

September 2017

Romford Division

September Beekeeping Notes - written by Pat Allen

This is a **very important month** for your bees because their winter survival can depend on your actions.

All the honey should be off by now and varroa treatment underway or finished. Don't forget you must record your treatments and keep the records for five years.

If the bees do not have enough stores to get them through winter then top them up with heavy syrup (1kg sugar: 600ml water). Make sure the floor insert is in during feeding if you have mesh floors, to prevent robbing through the mesh. Each colony will need 20–25 kgs stores to get through and as a guide a National brood frame can hold 2.5kgs. Get the feeding finished well before the end of September to ensure the bees can evaporate the syrup down to the water content they need for storage.

When feeding and treating are finished, if you are wintering on National brood and a super, put the super underneath the brood box (remember to cut off any brace comb on the bottom of the brood frames). **Remove the queen excluder.** Floor inserts should be removed and left out for the winter and the holes in the crownboard covered (bottom ventilation is enough). Count the varroa and record the numbers.

Romford Division Contacts:

Secretary ~ Pat Allen

01708 220897 ~ pat.allen7@icloud.com

Chairman ~ Jim McNeill

01708 765898 ~ jimandliz44@aol.co.uk

Divisional Voting Member/Trustee ~ Paul Wiltshire

01277 375454 / 07870 258192 ~ paul.g.wiltshire@btinternet.com

Website: www.ebka.org

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Committee Meeting: Wednesday 20th September, 7.30, Jim's Place, Collier Row

October meeting: Thursday 5th October, 8pm.

Topic: 'Bees and Plants'

Speaker: Darren Lerigo

Venue: Chadwick Hall, Main Road, Gidea Park, RM2 5EL.

Please note

The meeting is back at the indoor venue and 8pm start!

*** Congratulations to Tom Keeper ! ***

Tom Keeper took the BBKA Module 1 exam on Honeybee Management in March this year and passed – with Credit.



Disease Inspection at the Teaching Apiary – 3rd August 2017

Members were put into groups of 6 per hive with an experienced bee keeper for instruction.

Firstly, block the hive entrance with cut grass; this makes it easier to take approximately 40 bees as a sample. The inspection carried out in the brood is best conducted in a gentle manner with no sudden jerky movements.



Next, shake the bees off from each frame, ensuring that the queen is not shaken outside the hive by mistake and taking care not to damage any larvae or stores. Check the amount of stores, drawn comb, the condition of the larvae, sealed brood and whether the bees have adequate room.

When the inspection of the hive is completed, remove the grass from the entrance. Bees will have returned to the hive entrance making it easier for the bee-keeper to collect the bees they are taking to use for dissection purposes, after they have been frozen in the freezer.

Information about all your findings should be written in your records.

JILLY SPEAKMAN-BELL



Romford Honey Show Saturday 14th October IT'S SHOWTIME We need you!

Please support the annual show by entering as many categories as you can from the schedule. There is something for everyone, from novices to seasoned exhibitors.

Even if you have no honey you can enter the bakery classes using another member's honey. How about submitting a photograph, candles, beeswax or frame for extraction? Who will win this year's coveted mead trophy?



I will be taking entries at the October meeting where I will give out labels for your exhibits.

Or you can email me with your entries to angelam59@hotmail.co.uk

Labels will be handed to you on the day when you deposit your entries.

Venue: The Ascension Church
Collier Row Road
Collier Row RM5 2BA

The ANNUAL SUPPER will follow, early evening, when all the winners will be announced.

This is also a good chance to socialise with fellow members. Includes buffet supper and wine for just £12. Maybe you will be amongst the winners this year so please book yourself in.

So get preparing and good luck.
Angela Mander

A reminder... The Mock Honey Show - Thursday 7th September

For honeys only, any colour. I will give out labels for this on the night. Everyone will be given a judging sheet. It is a good opportunity to get feedback on your exhibits in order to improve your chances of becoming a winner at future shows.