Apiary Safety!

Montgomery County Beekeepers Association
Bee Prepared

- Suit with Veil & Gloves
- Smoker w/fuel & lighter
- Hive Tool
- Bee Brush
- Frame Gripper
Have a PLAN!

- Know what you want to do!
- Make a checklist
- Try to stick to a routine so things move smoothly.
Use common sense!

- Always stand at the rear of the hive...Not at the entrance!
- Work quickly and with purpose.
- Be prepared for changes in your plans!
Expect the unexpected!

- DON'T PANIC!!!
- Remain Calm
- TAKE A BUDDY !!!!
First Aid Tips

- Don't panic!
- Remove the stinger, quickly!
- Walk away
- Apply something for the pain
  - *Benadryl
  - *Baking Soda/water
  - *Ice cube
  - *Honey
  - *EpiPen – Extreme Allergic Reactions
Bee a good neighbor!

- Bee upfront
- Educate the neighbors
- Invite them to observe
- Minimize problems
- Bribe them with honey!
QUESTIONS?
Survey Results

- Less than 1 year beekeeping

- How to start a new hive and how to make sugar water to feed them
- How to get started; cost
- Is it best to use one large box on bottom & one small on top or 2 larger boxes when you first set up bees
- How to keep hive strong and producing
- What is average number of hives a member has?
- How to pollinate the greenhouse & gardens
- Which type of bees are best in this area?
- How do you maintain a certain number of hives without losing any?
- What are some non-chemical "organic" ways to deal with hive beetles, mites & moths?
Survey Results (cont.)

- **1 year Beekeeping**
  - How fast can a bee fly?
  - Sugar in bulk,
  - **Beetle control**
  - When do you make a split?

- **Over 1 year but less than 2 years**
  - Hive **beetle control**, bloom report
  - Will removing queen cells prevent swarming? When to add supers?
  - Splits
Survey Results (cont.)

- **2 years Beekeeping**

  - Signs on when to do a split and the different ways to do it
  - How to bank queens for future use & how to raise queens

- **Over 2 years but less than 10 years**

  - What plants do bees like the most during each season
  - Non-grafting queen making
  - Queen rearing
  - Wax rendering
  - Processing wax, filtering and creating other products
  - How does the genetics of the queen and drone genetics affect the nature of the hive
  - Mite Information, *Small Hive Beetles*
Summary

Hive beetles are a concern no matter how long you have been keeping bees.

Next up...Judy Woodcock will speak to us about Hive Beetle Control

BUT FIRST....WHAT’S BLOOMING?