

Beekeepers helping Beekeepers!

Sudbury and District Beekeepers Association - 50 years!

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I would like to thank Jo-Anne Beauparlant for doing such an excellent job in her role as secretary over the last few years. As I was out of the country for the Sept 18, meeting, Jo-Anne graciously took minutes for me! Note that I am working from someone else's notes and adding some of my own footnotes (marked with *, so please be forgiving and recognize these are not direct quotes from the presenter!).

Minutes of Sept 18, 2024 meeting

Welcome: VP Justin Gervais

Approval of June 2024 minutes:

- moved by Otto
- Seconded by Judy - approved

Approval of Sept 18, 2024 Agenda:

- moved by Denise
- Seconded by Rose - approved

New business:

- **Memberships:** Going forward the Buzzword will be emailed to paid up members only. Memberships can be paid at the meeting in person to Denise Zappel SDBA Treasurer or by e-transfer to beesforfun64@gmail.com
- **50th anniversary events and ideas**
 - Ideas for a new logo for the association were discussed.
 - There was some discussion and interest in having T-shirts/swag to mark the event.
 - We will plan to hold a XMAS brunch (location TBD) as well as an anniversary picnic/BBQ next summer.
 - Please see additional attachments sent with this buzzword for some snippets of history of the SDBA!

Presentation: Otto Rost on BIOSECURITY

- At the Beeyard – don't move diseases from one yard to another OR between hives in the same yard
- bacterial spores, fungi, bacteria and viruses can be present for many years and will remain dormant until conditions are right.
- A simple way to minimize spreading disease between hives is to clean tools and equipment before accessing the next hive. A soldering torch can be used to quickly sterilize a hive tool.
- Woodenware can be torched inside if disease has been suspected. Flames kill everything including spores.

*some bacteria can form spores such as those that cause American foulbrood (AFB) disease. Spores germinate when conditions are favourable. Spores can be present for years and can only be killed by very high temperatures such as flames.

*It is important to educate yourself on the signs and symptoms of disease in your hives. Understanding what healthy and **diseased brood pattern** looks like will help keep your apiary healthy. In Ontario, European foulbrood (EFB) appears to be making a comeback. The following is a useful link but there are many others:

<https://extension.psu.edu/a-quick-reference-guide-to-honey-bee-parasites-pests-predators-and-diseases>

Presentation Q & A session

Treating for Varroa mites with Formic Acid

Formic acid is useful because it can reach mites that are feeding inside capped brood. While commercial

products such as Formic Pro are quite effective they are expensive. Formic acid is quite inexpensive and can be purchased at 65% concentration. To cut costs, Otto described re-using commercial pads (these provide a more controlled release) by adding formic acid to bring them back to their original weight when new. He typically treats the hives using 3 cycles of 4 to 7 days each.

*You can use Dri-Loc / meat-packing pads which can be easily sourced from bee keeping supply companies or Amazon. You can also make your own by using shop towels or other absorbent material placed in a plastic baggie. The baggies should be sliced to allow vapour out. The reason for this is to slow the release of the formic acid. A typical dose would be 15-20 mL per brood box.

Oxalic acid drip

The oxalic acid dribble method involves mixing a 3.2% solution oxalic acid in 1:1 sugar syrup and applying it straight to your clustered bees using a syringe. Dribble at a time when little to no capped brood is present. A 60 mL solution is sufficient for a 10-frame brood box, applied at 6 ml per slot.

Meeting adjourned around 8:45

Meetings

Our meetings are open to anyone interested in Beekeeping! **Newcomers are Welcome!**

Next meeting Wednesday October 16

Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School
Main Floor Library
Meet and Greet 6:30 pm
Meeting Start 7:00 pm

topics : Agenda to follow

Help to keep us operating!

Memberships can be paid in person at the meeting to Denise Zappel SDBA Treasurer or by e-transfer to beesforfun64@gmail.com

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

- Seniors \$15
- Students \$15
- Individuals \$20
- Family \$25

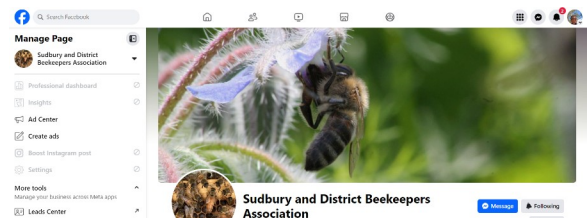
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Or search Facebook for

Sudbury and District Beekeepers Association.



On the Web

SudburyBeekeepers.com

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