

2006 BEEKEEPING INSTITUTE



May 18-20

Young Harris College
Young Harris, Georgia

Young Harris College and the University of Georgia are offering the fifteenth annual Beekeeping Institute, May 18-20, 2006. Since its inception in 1992, the Institute has grown to become the largest and most comprehensive beekeeping educational event in the Southeast, offering classes for beekeepers at all levels of experience, sponsoring the Georgia Master Beekeeper Program (GMBP), and partnering with the Welsh (U.K.) National Bee Keepers Association to provide North America's only licensing program for honey judges. For 2006 we are continuing the tradition of well-rounded instruction for beekeepers at every level of experience.

The Institute proper, Friday and Saturday, features a 2-track system – one track for experienced beekeepers and another for beginners. Facility limitations force us to cap enrollment at 150. If you cannot pre-register, please call first to make sure there's space before you make the trip.

Participants in the 2006 Institute will have unprecedented opportunity to learn about Africanized honey bees (AHBs). Since their 2005 confirmation in Florida there have been many questions about the implications of these bees for Georgia. Are AHBs bad news? Maybe, but maybe not. There is a good side to AHBs, and there's no better place to prepare for them than the 2006 Institute. To that end, we have scheduled none other than Dr. David DeJong of the University of São Paulo, Brazil as one of our guest speakers. Dr. DeJong grew up in the U.S. but has spent his academic career in Brazil working on all aspects of AHBs. He is literally the world authority on this insect, and it is a supreme honor to have him coming to the Peach State. Our second guest lecturer is Dr. Bob Danka of the Baton Rouge USDA bee lab, home of the famous Russian bee. Dr. Danka is an accomplished investigator of AHBs, Russian bees, tracheal mites, bee breeding, and pollination. Our third distinguished guest is Kim Flottum, editor of *Bee Culture* magazine and a household name in the world of apiculture.

Thursday May 18 is dedicated to training and certification examinations for the GMBP Journeyman, Master, and Master Craftsman levels as well as the Welsh Honey Judge qualifications. Training and certification for the GMBP Certified (beginner's) level are incorporated into the normal activities for the beginners' track Friday and Saturday. Details for both programs are included in this brochure.

One of the most rewarding opportunities of the Institute is the annual Honey Show. Besides typical categories in honey, the Honey Show includes classes in photography, art, candles, section comb honey, mead, and beekeeping gadgets. We urge students to participate in the Institute Honey Show, even if you've never competed before. Cash prizes are given to winners.

All awards and certifications are announced at the Closing Convocation Saturday.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2006 Beekeeping Institute!

THURSDAY, May 18 is dedicated to those wishing to qualify for Journeyman, Master Beekeeper, Master Craftsman or Welsh Honey Judges' Certifications. Master Craftsman audits and exam time by advance appointment.

Morning Sessions (separate and synchronous)		
8:00	Journeyman training lectures	Master training lectures
9:45	<i>BREAK</i>	
10:15	Journeyman training lectures	Master training lectures
12:00	<i>LUNCH</i>	
Afternoon Sessions (separate and synchronous)		
1:00-4:30	Journeyman Practical Examinations	Master Practical Documentation Audits
3:00-4:30	Welsh Honey Judges' training lectures	
5:00	<i>DINNER</i>	
7:00-9:00	Welsh Honey Judges' Examination and Audits	Journeyman and Master Written Examinations

FRIDAY, May 19

7:00 Registration begins

MORNING LECTURES

	Beginners' Track (GMBP Certified Level)	Experienced Track
7:55	Welcome & Institute Overview, <i>Robert Brewer</i>	Welcome & Institute Overview, <i>Keith Delaplane</i>
8:00	Beekeeping Mathematics, <i>Kim Flottum</i>	Tracheal Mite Biology & Control, <i>Bob Danka</i>
9:00	Equipment & Getting Started, <i>Keith Fielder</i>	The Africanized Bee: Biology & History, <i>David DeJong</i>
10:00	<i>BREAK</i>	
10:30	Spring & Summer Management, <i>Jamie Ellis</i>	The Biology of Pollination, <i>Bob Danka</i>
11:15	Management in the Off-Season, <i>PN Williams</i>	The Business of Pollination, <i>Kim Flottum</i>
12:00	<i>LUNCH – Honey Show Entries Due</i>	

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

	Beginners' Track (GMBP Certified Level)		Experienced Track	
1:00- 2:15	Basic Beekeeping Equipment, <i>Keith Fielder</i>	Getting Started: Packaged Bees & Nucs, <i>PN & Evelyn Williams</i>	Principles of Bee Genetics & Breeding, <i>Bob Danka</i>	Do's & Don'ts of Handling AHBs, <i>David DeJong</i>
2:15- 3:30	Optional Time: (1) break or (2) honey pollen analysis available, <i>Paul Arnold</i> or (3) Certified Beekeeper practical exam Friday		Optional Time: (1) break or (2) honey pollen analysis available, <i>Paul Arnold</i>	
3:30- 4:45	Honey Processing, <i>Bill Owens</i>	Year-Round Management, <i>Jamie Ellis</i>	Making Money with Bees - Get All But the Buzz Out of Your Hives, <i>Kim Flottum</i>	Advances in Disease & Pest Control, <i>Jennifer Berry & Amanda Ellis</i>
6:30	Cookout (included in registration)			

SATURDAY, May 20

7:00 Registration begins

MORNING LECTURES

	Beginners' Track (GMBP Certified Level)	Experienced Track
7:55	Welcome & Institute Overview, <i>Robert Brewer</i>	Welcome & Institute Overview, <i>Keith Delaplane</i>
8:00	Overview of Africanized Bees, <i>David DeJong</i>	Overview of USDA Honey Bee Research, <i>Bob Danka</i>
9:00	Diseases, Pests, & Non-infectious Disorders, <i>Jennifer Berry</i>	The Africanized Bee: Management, <i>David DeJong</i>
10:00	<i>BREAK</i>	
10:30	Overview of USDA Honey Bee Research, <i>Bob Danka</i>	Varroa IPM: Does it Work? Does it Pay?, <i>Keith Delaplane</i>
11:15	Advantages of Nucs, <i>Jamie Ellis</i>	Tool & Equipment Maintenance, <i>Bill Owens</i>
12:00	<i>LUNCH</i>	

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

	Beginners' Track (GMBP Certified Level)		Experienced Track	
1:00-2:15	Basic Beekeeping Equipment, <i>Keith Fielder</i>	Getting Started: Packaged Bees & Nucs, <i>PN & Evelyn Williams</i>	Principles of Bee Genetics & Breeding, <i>Bob Danka</i>	Do's & Don'ts of Handling AHBs, <i>David DeJong</i>
2:15-3:30	Optional Time: (1) break or (2) honey pollen analysis available, <i>Paul Arnold</i> or (3) Certified Beekeeper written exam Saturday		Optional Time: (1) break or (2) honey pollen analysis available, <i>Paul Arnold</i>	
3:30-4:45	Honey Processing, <i>Bill Owens</i>	Year-Round Management, <i>Jamie Ellis</i>	Making Money with Bees - Get All But the Buzz Out of Your Hives, <i>Kim Flottum</i>	Advances in Disease & Pest Control, <i>Jennifer Berry & Amanda Ellis</i>
5:00	Closing Convocation, Presentation of Awards, Recognition of Master Beekeeper Grades and Welsh-Certified Honey Judges			

STAFF AND COURSE INSTRUCTORS

Dr. Paul Arnold is Professor of Biology at Young Harris College and co-founder and host of the Beekeeping Institute. A botanist, Paul brings to the Institute a special expertise in honey plants and their pollen.

Jennifer Berry is Apicultural Research Coordinator and Apiary Manager at the University of Georgia and current President of the Eastern Apicultural Society. She is actively involved in all aspects of bee research and education at UGA.

Robert Brewer is Towns County Extension Coordinator with the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service. Robert is a co-founder of the Beekeeping Institute and Coordinator of the Georgia Master Beekeeper program.

Detsy Bridges is the name, face and voice most people associate with the Institute. It is she who runs the registration desk and handles all those terribly important advance details. Thank you Detsy!

Dr. Bob Danka is Research Scientist at the USDA Honey Bee Lab in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Bob's research is diverse and covers tracheal mites, pollination, and Russian bees.

Dr. David DeJong serves as Professor at the University of São Paulo, Brazil where he has built a distinguished reputation for his pioneering work on Varroa mites and Africanized bees.

Dr. Keith Delaplane is Professor of Entomology at the University of Georgia and co-founder of the Beekeeping Institute. He has worked with bees for 31 years and his research and extension work is focused on mite control and pollination.

Amanda Ellis is a PhD student under the direction of Dr. Delaplane. Her MS degree was in wildlife ecology at Rhodes University in South Africa. Her dissertation will address effects of bee parasites on bee pollination and foraging ecology.

Dr. James Ellis is a post-doctoral research fellow at the University of Georgia. A 2000 graduate of UGA, Jamie received his PhD from Rhodes University in South Africa. His research involves the biology of honey bee nest invaders.

Keith Fielder is Putnam County Extension Coordinator, Master Beekeeper, and a leader in state-wide bee education initiatives.

Kim Flottum is Editor of *Bee Culture* magazine and Chairman of the Eastern Apicultural Society.

Dan Harris is a beekeeping educator in the Athens area and lab technician with the UGA bee research program.

Bill Owens has served as President of the Georgia and Eastern Piedmont Beekeeper Associations. Bill is a Master Beekeeper and involved in state-wide education initiatives to prepare emergency responders for Africanized bees.

Eleanor Spicer is a *Cum Laude* graduate of North Carolina State University and currently an MS graduate student at the University of Georgia under the direction of Dr. Delaplane. She is helping run registration and the Master Beekeeper examinations.

PN & Evelyn Williams are founding officers of Tara Beekeepers Association in Forest Park and chief organizers of Tara's annual Beekeeping Shortcourse in Clayton County. The Williams are constantly promoting beekeeping and helping beginners.

GEORGIA MASTER BEEKEEPER PROGRAM

In 2006 the Georgia Master Beekeeper Program (GMBP) is offering qualifications at the Certified, Journeyman, Master and Master Craftsman levels. Training and examinations for the Certified (entry) level are incorporated into the Beginners' Track on Friday and Saturday; the higher levels are covered on Thursday.

Applicants to any level are asked to check their intention on the registration form.

Questions about the program may be addressed to GMBP director Robert Brewer at (706) 896-2024.

Aspirants to all grades must meet advance requirements. Applicants at the Certified (entry) level must have had beekeeping experience prior to the Institute. Applicants for the higher grades must meet advance requirements detailed at <http://www.ent.uga.edu/bees/GMBP.htm>; bring all necessary documentation with you for scheduled audits. Exam questions are drawn from Institute lectures, lecture notes on the website, as well as other sources in the public domain; it is understood that applicants to the higher grades will bring to the exam a degree of independent and prior knowledge. Other details about the Master Beekeeper program are available at the website above.

WELSH BEE KEEPERS ASSOCIATION CERTIFICATION

The Welsh Bee Keepers Association has partnered with the YHC/UGA Beekeeping Institute to offer training and certification for honey show judges. This is the only partnership of its kind between the USA and United Kingdom. Entry-level students are given opportunity during the Institute to complete the first two of four requirements. The Welsh Honey Judge certification requires (1) attendance at the Thursday training, (2) documented experience as a steward (judge's assistant), (3) documented experience as a senior honey show judge, and (4) successful completion of the oral examination. For most aspirants this sequence requires one or more years. The oral examination is offered for those candidates meeting all other requirements. The purchase of an official judge's smock and hat is required of those candidates ready to take the exam, and certified judges, when serving as judge or steward, are expected to wear their official uniforms in respect of the high standards of professionalism the certification implies. Questions about the program may be addressed to Robert Brewer at (706) 896-2024.

HONEY SHOW

Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the Honey Show. Cash prizes are awarded on the following basis: First place winners by class (\$50), second place (\$40), third place (\$30), Best of Show (\$100). Winners must be present at Closing Convocation to receive cash prizes.

GENERAL RULES

- Only registered Institute participants may enter.
- Judges and stewards are excluded from competition.
- Institute reserves the right to limit the number of entries on a first-come, first-admitted basis.
- There are sixteen show classes: (1) extracted honey light, (2) amber, (3) dark, (4) chunk honey, (5) black jar, (6) cut-comb, (7) creamed honey, (8) mead sweet, (9) mead dry, (10) beeswax cake (a single molded piece of two pounds or more), (11) candle straight (poured or dipped), (12) candle ornamental, (13) beeswax ornaments, (14) original bee-related photography, (15) original bee-related art, and (16) beekeeping gadgets. Contestant may enter in any or all classes but may enter only once per class. The same honey cannot be entered in both the black jar class and another extracted honey class.
- All honey and beeswax entries must have been produced by the submitter and within the last 12 months. This restriction does not apply to entries in mead, photography, art, and gadgets.
- All entries for honey and candles must be submitted in triplicate: i.e., three matching jars of honey, three boxes of cut-comb, or three candles.
- Submit extracted honey in standard one-pound queenline jars; either plastic or glass is acceptable.
- Submit chunk honey in standard one-pound chunk honey jars with wide mouths and straight sides. Insert only one piece of comb in jar.
- The sole criterion in the black jar class is flavor. Your three-jar entry will be placed into black jars by staff.
- Beeswax entries must be pure beeswax.
- Art and photography must be presented in a self-standing frame, and each accompanied with a 3 x 5 card giving the title, artist, and brief “story” behind the piece.
- Do not label products in any way; an identifying code sticker will be assigned to your entry at registration.
- All entries must be submitted by 12:00 noon, Friday, May 19.
- Judging criteria are selected at the discretion of Judge, and decision of Judge is final.

LODGING

Excellent lodging is available at motels in Young Harris, Hiawassee, and Blairsville. **Please contact directly one of the numbers listed below to make your reservations.**

Young Harris Motel, Young Harris (706) 379-3136

Brasstown Valley Crowne Plaza Resort, Young Harris (706) 379-9900

Fieldstone Inn, Hiawassee (706) 896-2262

Lake Chatuge Lodge, Hiawassee (706) 896-5253

Holiday Inn Express, Hiawassee (706) 896-8884

Holiday Inn Express, Blairsville (706) 745-6844

Seasons Inn, Blairsville (706) 745-1631

Best Western Inn, Blairsville (706) 745-6995

Chamber of Commerce (can give listings for cabins, bed & breakfasts, etc.) (800) 984-1543

MEALS are available at the Young Harris College cafeteria for \$5.00-7.00 per person, payable at the door; cafeteria serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. It opens Friday morning and closes Saturday evening. Students are also free to visit local restaurants.

MAP TO YOUNG HARRIS

