

A CALL FOR CHANGE IN OUR BEEKEEPING PRACTICES


There can be no doubt at this time that we have to look at the real causes of Colony Collapse Disorder. Certainly the environmental factors---GMOs, monocultures, pesticides and insecticides--represent one side of the problem, but our very own modern beekeeping methods cause enough damage to weaken the immune system of the honeybees, making them prone to a host of viruses, bacteria, parasites and beetles.

Long before Colony Collapse Disorder, it was clear to a few beekeepers, that our methods, aimed at maximizing honey production and ease of handling, would lead to an increasingly weakened insect.

The present crisis is a wake-up call and an opportunity to re-evaluate the long term effects of modern beekeeping. We should learn that mechanization, when applied to the living realm, leads to destruction. In these workshops we will look at every part of beekeeping from the aspect of doing justice to the bees' own needs so that they can regain their health. Only a deep understanding of this very special being will give us the tools needed for overcoming the crisis.

SUSTAINABLE BIODYNAMIC BEEKEEPING

AN EVIDENT NEED
IN OUR TIME

SPIKENARD  FARM

SPONSORED BY:
SPIKENARD HONEYBEE SANCTUARY
THE FLOYD COUNTRY STORE

2012

SUSTAINABLE BIODYNAMIC BEEKEEPING

FOUR WORKSHOPS
IN THE HEART OF
THE BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS

March 10
April 28
May 26
August 18



WORKSHOPS



Topics covered in the series will include:

- * the need for a new paradigm
- * wax foundation: the time-bomb in the hive
- * swarming, a blessing
- * grafted queens or naturally raised queens?
- * right timing for making splits
- * effect of sugar and corn syrup feeding
- * increasing the apiary naturally
- * drones, their role aside from the obvious one
- * medicinal teas, mite monitoring, and biodynamic treatments
- * the role of the honeybee above and beyond pollination

SATURDAYS

MARCH 10, 9:00-12:30

Introduction to Beekeeping

APRIL 28, 9:00-4:00

Towards Saving the Honeybee: Principles of Sustainable/Biodynamic Beekeeping Practices. Beginners should have basic knowledge about beehive management.

MAY 26, 9:00-4:00

Expanding the Apiary Naturally: Swarm Management and Working with Naturally Raised Queens

AUGUST 18, 9:00-4:00

Honey Harvest, Mite Treatments, Winter Preparation



SCHEDULE

Each of the three full-day sessions will follow a similar schedule as outlined below:

FRIDAY: Come early and enjoy the special community event, the Friday Night Jamboree at the Floyd Country Store. (www.floydcountrystore.com)

SATURDAY: 8:30am registration at the Floyd Country Store
9:00am-12:00pm (including a break) topic of the day
12:00pm-1:00pm lunch on your own (available at the store)
1:00pm-4:00pm practical activity/topic of the day at the apiary

SNACKS: Snacks, coffee & tea will be served at break time

LODGING: Information on www.visitfloyd.org

DIRECTIONS: The Floyd Country Store, 206 South Locust Street, Floyd, VA 24091
Tel: 540 745 4563; www.floydcountrystore.com

COST: \$65 per session (students \$45)
Introduction Workshop \$25 (students \$15)

CONTACT: 540-745-2153, email: info@spikenardfarm.org

REGISTRATION FORM

Name:.....

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Address:.....

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Email:.....

Phone:.....

Fees: \$65 (students \$45); Introduction Workshop \$25 (students \$15). Please make checks payable to Spikenard Farm. You can pay at registration; in this case please confirm your participation by phone or email so we can plan accordingly.

Send to: Spikenard Farm

445 Floyd Hwy N

Floyd, VA 24091

540-745-2153; info@spikenardfarm.org

PRESENTERS



Gunther Hawk has been a teacher, lecturer, biodynamic gardener and beekeeper for 35 years. In 1996 he co-founded the Pfeiffer Center in Chestnut Ridge, NY and in 2006 Spikenard Farm, Inc. In these years he gave many workshops on biodynamic

and beekeeping topics in 26 states. In his book "Toward Saving the Honeybee" (2002) he calls for a radical change in beekeeping methods.



Vivian Struve-Hawk is an educator, therapist, gardener and beekeeper. She has been carrying the organization's administrative aspects and co-teaches with Gunther at the Sanctuary. Her artistic sense and healing capacities

find expression in the order and beauty developed in the sanctuary.