

SKAGIT VALLEY BEEKEEPERS



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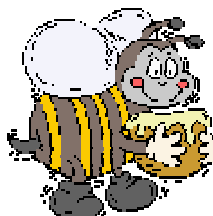
The October meeting will be Thursday the 11th, at 7:00 PM as always. We still meet at the CENEX Skagit Farmers Supply administration building on Park Lane, If you are new to us, go north from Burlington on the old highway 99, turn in east at the KIA dealer, drive over the tracks and take the first right turn.. CENEX is at the end of the road on the right.

Bill tells me we have several important topics to cover at this meeting. Of most importance are Fall hive maintenance activities. Mites are hitting hives heavily around the area. Bill will demonstrate a sugar roll test, a painless way for us to check quickly for mites which does not kill bees. We made a symposium trip to British Columbia two weekends ago and saw this old technique demonstrated among others. Sweet!

Bill will also fill us in on the State meeting he attended last week end.

November is Association election month and some officers are weary. We have become used to one or two people carrying the load for us all. We have some sparkplug members who might step up.

- I am hearing there was some honey made this summer depending as always on your location Fireweed was a bust. I saw \$40 a quart honey at upscale Farmer's Markets in San Francisco recently.
- I will say that if you have bee questions, the official British Columbia apiculture website is a gold mine of information. [Www.agf.gov.bc.ca/apiculture/faq.htm](http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/apiculture/faq.htm) Remember their laws are not ours. I was laughed at when I asked specifically about 'zombie' bees.
- It is late for most mite treatments. HopGuard may still help some.
- Continue to feed syrup and patties as needed.. Unite weak hives, stronger over weaker, unless disease seems present. Be ruthless! Ventilate too.
- Look for EFB and treat if you choose. The brood will not be ropery when pulled from the cells with a toothpick.



Cookies —N to Z

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