

Bee Chronicles

6 Oct 2025

Sometimes you can't figure out whether to put comments in the bee letter (current short-term) or in the chronicles for year-to-year comparison. Some times a new *Apis Esoteria* is needed. That is for later.

Look at your apiary, (Bee Yard). See what flowers are within 10 acres? Think about planting native plants that will grow and bloom in your local. This is a fall/winter and spring exercise because that when these seeds and plants need to be put into the ground. There are many native plant nurseries around. At the Georgia Mountain Research and Education Center (UGA experiment station) there is a 5-acre native plant demonstration garden, they give away excess plants and seeds with each season. The blooming plants change every 10 days. There are 6 different micro-ecological environments demonstrated: along a bold stream, on a bare sunny hillside, a bog, the damp forest (a spring in the woods), the dry ridge (most of our terrain around here), and an ephemeral stream (dries up part of the year. There are flowering plants, shrubs, and trees. The honeybees and bumble bees go wild all spring, summer, and fall.

Why worry about this? Seasonal flowers = pollen & nectar= more eggs = more brood

This creates a longer brooding season resulting in more young bees to winter over. If you are short of flowers you need to look to your feeding program (sugar syrup & pollen substitute) to ensure enough food stores for dry seasons, dearth, and winter.