



Knox - Lincoln County Beekeepers Mentoring Program

OBJECTIVE:

To guide and assist Mentees in all aspects of their first beekeeping year. The year will begin at the end of the annual Bee School and continue through their first beekeeping year.

MENTORING COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITIES:

- A Contact KLCB Board to obtain names and contact information of new beekeepers.
- B Compile a list of member beekeepers willing to serve as mentors. This list will be geographic by county/town.
- C Provide Bee School graduates with a Mentors List.
- D Provide member beekeepers with a current Mentors List.

MENTEE RESPONSIBILITIES:

- A Choose a mentor from the list provided by the Mentoring Coordinator.
- B Contact chosen mentor. This should be as soon as possible after KLCB Bee School ends.
- C Discuss and agree upon a preferred time and type of communication.
- D Respect your mentor's time and privacy ~ do not deviate from agreed upon communication method.
- E Have all equipment assembled, painted, reviewed by mentor if needed and ready for package or nuc before scheduled install date.
- F Practice punctuality when visiting mentor's apiary.
- G Stay informed about beekeeping from various sources (group KLCB email, KLCB events, workshops, books, class materials, magazines, and internet).
- H Maintain hive inspection sheets and logs of hive activity for review.
- I Learn what to look for during a hive inspection.

MENTOR RESPONSIBILITIES:

- A Discuss and agree upon a preferred time and type of communication.
 - 1. Map out a schedule to get everything ready for installing package or nuc. Plan a date, if needed, for mentor to visit new beekeeper/mentee's site for appropriateness of set up and any questions.
- C Guide and assist mentee in all aspects of their first beekeeping year.
- D Invite mentee to either watch or participate when conducting hive management activities in mentor's apiary, if appropriate.
- E Visit mentee's apiary to inspect and give advice only. Exercise patience and refrain from working the new mentee's hives
- F Encourage attendance at KLCB summer monthly hive openings, educational events and meetings. Encourage volunteering and participating in KLCB programs and activities. Encourage attendance at and volunteering in the Maine State Beekeepers Annual Meeting.