



Beyond Beginning Beekeeping Course

Phil Craft, instructor



You may have taken some beginning beekeeping classes, or you may have been keeping bees for a while, but realize that there is a great deal more to learn. Modern beekeeping, while not rocket science, is complex and vastly different from the beekeeping of our grandfathers. Beekeepers face new challenges from diseases and parasites in addition to threats from outside forces such as loss of forage and suburban expansion. Education is the most powerful tool available to anyone seeking to become a successful beekeeper - not just someone who owns bees. While many resources are available, including medications, nutritional supplements, and innovations in equipment, knowing when and how to make use of them is vital to maintaining healthy hives. Phil Craft has been educating and assisting beekeepers for over 15 years. He will share his experience in this one day beekeeping course, including instruction on the following topics:

- Honey bee biology review
- Varroa mites: monitoring & control
- Common queen problems & solutions
- Nosema disease
- Honey bee nutrition
- Small hive beetle & wax moth control
- European foulbrood
- Reducing swarming
- Yearly management outline

The format is designed to allow time for questions as they come up during classes, and there will be an additional period for an informal question and answer session at the end of the day. Lunch is on your own. There are a number of fast food restaurants within a short drive for those who wish to go out to eat, and a microwave and refrigerator are available for anyone who prefers to bring food and continue our discussions over lunch at the facility.

Materials provided will include handouts, a list of recommended additional study material, and Phil's contact information for follow-up questions and opportunities for future instruction. Class size will be limited to 40 participants, so *advanced registration is required*. Contact Phil at philcraftbeekeeping@windstream.net for a registration form or for more information.

The fee for the course is \$40. It will be held Saturday, June 27th, from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM at the University of Kentucky's Ecological Research and Education Center (EREC) at 1737 Russell Cave Road in Lexington. Find out more about EREC at <http://darwin.uky.edu/~erec/>.

Phil Craft bio: Phil is the retired Kentucky state apiarist (Kentucky Department of Agriculture), a nationally known beekeeping instructor and lecturer, and author of the monthly question/answer column, "Ask Phil", in Bee Culture magazine. Phil also offers beekeeping advice and assistance through his PhilCraftHiveCraft.com webpage.

Additional beekeeping information & assistance from Phil, see: <http://philcrafthivecraft.com>