



The Managed Mentoring Program on getting started in beekeeping.

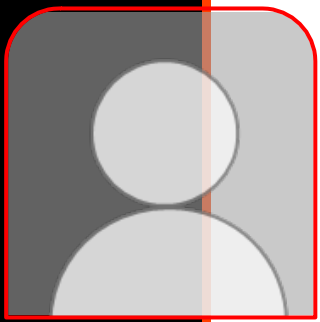
Managed Mentoring



Managed Mentoring

Recommendation on Beekeeping Styles

Lesson | Beekeeping is Local



What is Covered in this Lesson



The Concept of Local

The Influence of Weather

Local Climates

Cultural Influences



Beekeeping is Local

**Acknowledging how locality is a factor in your
beekeeping experience**



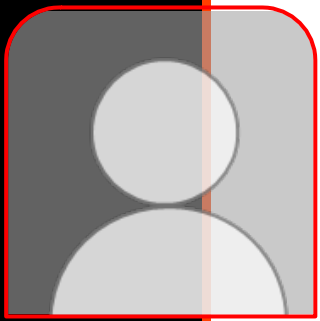
The concept of Local

□ Every situation is different

- *In beekeeping there are typical ways of doing so many things.*
- *Many factors make each beekeepers situation unique... literally the yard the bees are kept in.*
- *Learn early that no two beekeeping operations are alike.*

Definition

Local: belonging or relating to a particular area or neighborhood



Factors in Locality

Influencing a beekeeper's approach

- Potential differences in an operation that could influence unique ways in managing bees:

- **Weather Patterns**
- **Amount of Sunlight**
- **Elevation – Slope of Land**
- **Soil Conditions**
- **Humidity**
- **Forage Availability**
- **Number of Hives present**
- **Wind**
- **Precipitation Patterns**
- **Temperature Variation**
- **Water Availability**
- **Storm Prevalence**
- **Forage Avoidance**
- **Cultural Practices**



One Big Equation

- **Understanding your LOCAL situation**
 - Factoring differences, it becomes evident that each location is uniquely different

- **Variation in Factors**
 - Some are important, others are mere considerations
 - There are a few that are unlike the others – cultural differences for example, that will be unpacked in a moment.
 - This calls out that it is not just weather related, and each beekeeper has to decide what is right for them.



Why does any of this matter?

■ Instruction is not universal

- This program has its origins for the NJ region (as part of the Mid-Atlantic area of the United States)
- As such, much of the instruction applies to beekeepers in the northeast.
 - *That being said, if someone comes upon these instructions from Texas as an example, they will find that these instructions are often unsuitable due to the distinct differences of location.*
 - *Pragmatically, this rings true for some of the instructions for those nearby, even within the Mid-Atlantic.*
 - Those in the mountains of Pennsylvania may have to adjust instruction to accommodate for some differences.



So which factors matters?

■ Primarily Weather

- When it comes to bees, beekeepers need to understand their local climate.
 - *Our local weather, in Central NJ, is 5°F different from the broadcasts coming out of New York City.*
 - We know that because we follow local weather stations
- Follow the biology and behavior of the bees
 - *Bees will generally operate at certain temperatures*
 - Meaning for example that they will go out and forage once the temperature exceeds a certain range.
 - The difference of a few degrees might factor in what you are doing for the day.
- **Temperature** is a leading factor for locality



Weather Patterns

- **Rain, snow, sun, clouds, storms, etc.**
 - Each location has norms about what occurs there.
 - *Going back to the Mid-Atlantic, the weather is somewhat consistent for the region but a snowstorm, rainstorm, or other weather pattern, might impact the whole region or part of it.*
 - Beekeepers need to pay attention to the **forecasted weather patterns**.
 - *This seems patently obvious right!?*
 - *In this day of Facebook and other far-reaching outlets, **beekeepers are constantly bombarded** with other beekeeper reports in real time.*
 - Some manage based on what they see others doing and do not take a proper account of what is outside their window.



Keep Attuned to locality

- **Understanding 'constants' that are differences for you**
 - A beekeeper needs to take stock of certain conditions that are consistent, but unique to the location.
 - *A beekeeper that lives in a valley has a different, but constant, difference when contrasted against someone who lives at a higher elevation.*
 - *Consider your unique situation and keep that in mind while considering how to conduct operations.*



Extending the Concept

- **Observing other differences and how they impact you locally**
 - If you are aware the differences could impact your operation, then you can apply this concept to weigh how other factors could be an input to what you do.
 - Beekeeping is a thinking game.
 - *If you learn now that the differences will impact what, how, and what you should do, then you have a head start to paying attention so you can have success in your location.*



Follow the biology

■ Learning Colony Dynamics

- In time, and with experience, you will come to know more about how the bees operate
- We will coach you to be **biology-driven beekeeper**
 - *We will teach you different things about the bees as a superorganism*
 - *When you grasp the ins and outs of how a colony operates, you can apply that to your planned interactions*
 - *Fundamentally this is a key difference from a 'bee-haver' and a beekeeper*



Coming back to Culture

- **Culture, the last condition, is a unique consideration**
 - Beekeepers can go it alone, can collaborate with a smaller inner circle, or could participate within a community with a lot of influence
 - Certain areas have different beliefs; call it regional
 - *Common wisdom or practice might say that a certain area favors insulating hives in winter.*
 - *In another area, the dominant voices might express that it is not required.*
 - *Who is right – perhaps both are..!*
 - This is where you need awareness that cultural differences vary and how to factor it in what you do.



Biology Driven

■ Cultural Guidance

- Follow the instructions here
 - *You will hear instruction, maybe even from some of our own members.*
 - *We respectfully request that for the time being you follow the programs guidance.*
 - In time, as you become more seasoned and attuned to what you have going on locally, you can adjust to suit your way of doing things (Personal Preference)
 - We teach biology driven beekeeping and as such the things we recommend are attuned to what the bees need and how they operate.
 - Following us during the interaction of the program helps to stem confusion and conflict.



Closing Comments

■ Customary Close

- Where we stand, where we are going...
 - *This lesson closes out how knowing the importance of your local conditions will make you a better beekeeper.*
 - *Our next topic moves to exploring the styles of management for beekeeping:*
 - The background of **Choosing a Style** of beekeeping
 - The obligation to be **Be a Good Neighbor**
 - A primer for **Adherence to Regulations**
 - Recommendations for your **Apiary Design**



Q&A

- **What Questions did we not anticipate?**
 - If you have feedback, you can leave a constructive comment; but be nice.
 - You could also send an email to comments@managedmentoring.com
 - *Please refer to this video in the subject so we know what the reference is.*

