



Guidelines for ABA Mentor/Mentee Match – 2021

Watching another beekeeper open a hive, check on the colony, take notes and diagnose problems is extremely helpful to any beekeeper, but especially newbees (new beekeepers).

This ABA program seeks to match beekeepers willing to open their hives to another beekeeper. The goal is to share techniques, experiences and insights. These are some general guidelines we ask that both mentor and mentee observe to be part of this program.

1. Mentors are willing to open their hive(s) to observation by another beekeeper.
2. In person visits each other's hive(s) is recommended. Once a new beekeeper has seen a more experienced beekeeper inspect their hive, the new beekeeper can invite the experienced beekeeper to watch the newbie open and work their hives. The goal is to learn tips and tricks from each other.
3. After the initial in-person visit(s), the relationship will be primarily by phone to help diagnose problems a new beekeeper may be experiencing.
4. Every beekeeper is encouraged to join an Open Hive Demonstration at the ABA hives located at a County Agricultural Extension Office (see front page of website). Appointments may also be arranged with the beekeeper overseeing the ABA hives there.

This program is a member-benefit of ABA (dues are \$30/year). Mentors and Mentees are members of ABA.