Traditional mead

One Gallon Batch:

- 4 pounds honey (can use wildflower, orange blossom or buckwheat). Use all for a sweet mead, use less honey for a dryer mead)
- Yeast: Lalvin 71b-1122
- Nutrient addition: DAP and Fermaid K (subdivide 1 tsp of DAP and ¾ tsp of Fermaid K into 5 equal parts. Initial feeding is 2 parts and subsequent feedings are 1 part each). For the class, this will be premeasured.
- Water (treated with campden tablet) to 1 gallon. When using spring water, no treatment is necessary.

Step 1: put ½ campden tablet into 1 gallon of warm water (tap water is fine). Let it sit about an hour before using.

Step 2: measure honey into fermenter

Step 3: add just enough water to dissolve honey

Step 4: add water to 1 gallon mark and stir vigorously (you want to see a lot of bubbles...you are adding the needed oxygen)

Step 5: rehydrate yeast (Lalvin 71b-1122) as directed on the packet. (I usually add 1 ½ teaspoons of GoFerm and increase the water to ½ cup).

Step 6: put yeast into must. Stir gently.

Step 7: After a few hours (between 2-8), add the first nutrient addition (2 parts of the DAP and Fermaid K). Stir vigorously.

Next Three Days:

Stir vigorously, and each day add 1 part of the DAP/Fermaid K blend. Stir again after adding. The must will foam up.

After 3-4 weeks, rack to secondary.

You can rack again whenever there is a lot of trub on the bottom or leave it.