
Honey
Extraction.

Methods of preparing frames for extraction.

1. Hand scrape to open the capped honey comb.

2. Hand cut caps with a hot knife.

3. Chain Un-capper which is one stage into a mechanical operation to speed up the process.

4. Full mechanical hot knife blade un-capper with feeder to speed the process for a more commercial operation.

Frames fat and ready for extraction

Scrape caps on each frame or those that the machine or knife may miss.

Some beekeepers use the scraper totally.

Uncapping with a pin Roller

You can use a Hot Knife or a Cold Knife.


GreenBeehives.com

Gravity Honey Extractor Kit


Insert frame upside down
GreenBeehives.com

Extraction the honey from the opened capped honey frames.

1. Cut the comb from the frame and hand squeeze the honey from the frames.

2. Horizontal rotary extractor.

3. Vertical rotary extractor which has more capacity.

4. The old time was to cut or scrap off the caps and let it drain into a pan.

Honey Rains out onto the tank wall.

Vertical extractor used by commercial beekeepers verses the tub horizontal extractor used by most beekeepers.

Honey extraction setup

Mechanical un-capper using an automated hot knife to remove caps.

Bees clean up the empty supers after extraction.

Staggering the supers make it easy for the bees to access all the supers.

Post Honey Flow Hive Management.

The queen produces more bees to provide a greater work force. She knows there is a honey flow on and she has a lot of room to use.

Splitting takes stress off the hive that is overcrowded after the removal of the honey supers.
You can make up for any hives you may have lost.
You may want to increase your bee yard.

Also it encourages her to lay more eggs to replace the brood you take away giving you fresher bees for the winter.

This would be an opportune time to split the hive.

Yard after Honey Supers were Removed.

June 2012

Things to consider before making any type of split.

Condition of your hives.
Amount of bees.
Amount of brood.
How much to you want to expand your yard.
Is the hive in danger of swarming.

Making a split

Have all equipment in place.
If you get queens before your split date and make a nursery for them.

Making a split

There are two methods to make the split.

Method 1: Pull the frames of brood up and shake off the brood and place the frame in a brood box. Add a frame of honey. Place a excluder in top of the winter super and put this box in top.

Making a split

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Method 1: (Do Little or walkaway split) Pull the frames of brood up and shake off the brood and place the frame in a brood box. Add a frame of honey. Place a excluder in top of the winter super and put this box in top.

Put the inner cover and top back in place. The bees will come up and cover the frames. The next day remove the brood box and make a new hive with additional frames. Introduce the queen and wait 9 days and recheck to see if the queen was accepted.

Making a split

Method 2: Have your hive ready with frames minus 4.

Pull 2 full frames of brood add a frame of brood, eggs, larvae and bees being careful not to carryover the queen.

Add one frame of honey with bees always watching for the queen. Install in a new box.

Introduce the queen and wait 9 days and recheck to see if the queen was accepted.

Always Remember while making a split.

Never take away from the mother hive more than you leave. It will do no good to hive 2 a weak hives that may not survive or do very poorly.

If you have 6 frames of brood and bees take 3 and leave 3.

The most desirable split should have at least 3 frames of brood. Otherwise you may weaken both.

If you are making a split by yourself you will need a holding box or some refer to as a working box.

Make a holding box to hold the frame that has the queen if you find her early on in your splitting process.

The Holding box consist of a brood box with fine screen stapled to the bottom and a queen excluder to place on top. This will confine your queen until you do your work. Always check the holding box, (sometimes also called a working box) that the queen in not climbing on the wall of the box and possible missed. Handle her with utmost care because you may injure her whereby the colony could kill her.

Only split a extremely over populated hive or one that has an abundance of bees and many frames of brood in the post honey time of the year and not after July.

Recovery time is important and most critical

When making splits in the spring you have a longer recovery time but still critical if you want to make honey. Post honey flow splits are the most time critical.

You only have 60 days to expand the hive and winter super prior to cool weather. The introduction of a protein patty may help the queen brood up in the new split. Sugar water 1 to 1 should be applied if foundation is present. If you have 6 frames of foundation it will take at least 5 gallons of sugar water to pull the wax.

I Never use plastic foundation in a new split because you do not have the workforce to pull out plastic foundation.

In the post honey split or fall split I never depend on a hive making their own queen except in a 5 frame nuc to overwinter which will require a lot of attention.

The recovery time is impossible to achieve. It will take a queen cell from conception to the first brood hatch at least 60 days to take place.

By that time the worker bee population is on the decrease leaving the hive in a weakened state putting it in grave danger of loss. You need all the workers you can get to pull wax, cover brood and forage. Remember the queen will not lay more eggs than she has workers to cover and care for.

Queen Introduction

There are several schools of thought on this.

Some like a direct introduction.

Spit on the queen and put her in the hive entrance.

I prefer using a **wire screen saddle** which suspends her much like an superseding cell. If attendant bees are inserted in the queen cage place the snout upward.

Brushy Mountain or Dandelion Bee supply may sells a queen Introduction frame.

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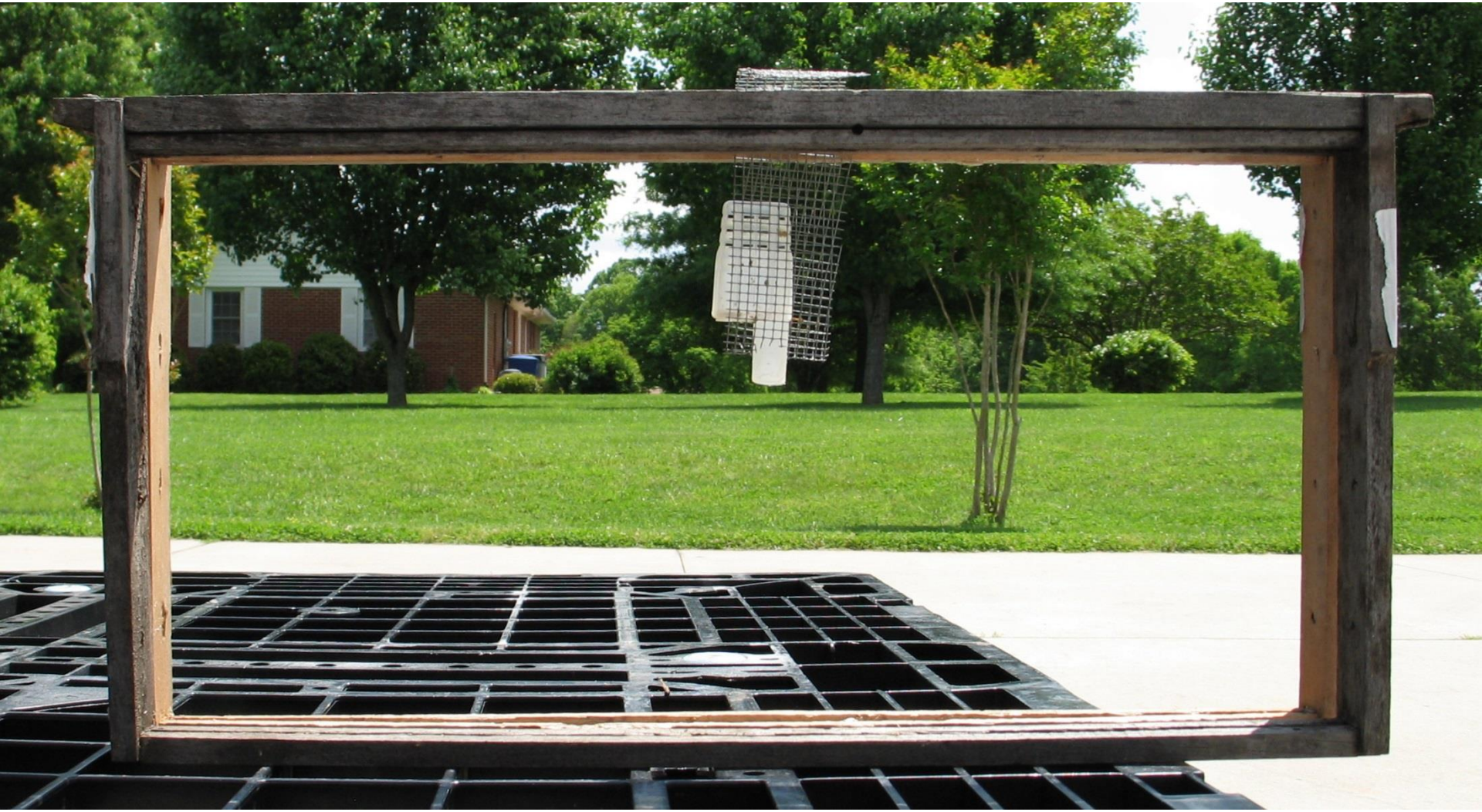
Queen Introduction Wire Saddle



Feeding

Post split Feeding should be done when using foundation which needs to be drawn out. This is also needed in the mother hive.

If you use drawn comb and there is no nectar available some light feeding can be done. You do not want them to become honey bound. Keep splits away from other hives to avoid robbing.

If you are not doing splits you may feed lightly and feed all hives to avoid robbing. Do not yard feed.

Treatments

Timing of treatments is critical to post honey flow hives. This is a good time to take care of mites, hive beetles and Nosema. Three to four weeks after the queen was accepted.

Some also do a **Fall treatment** again for Nosema. **Menthol for tracheal mites** when the temperature is below 90 degrees as it will run the bees out if too hot.

Wait until any splits have matured to at least 80 percent full. The treatment may be too strong and harm the queen or brood.

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Thank you for the Opportunity to share with you.

The End.