

Queen Rearing Workshop

2017, Wetlands Apiary

This workshop will consist of four sessions / four hours each. Each 4 hour session will be scheduled on a Saturday or Sunday.



The COST is \$200.00

If you are interested, please contact the Bee Babe at: wetlandsapiary@gmail.com

You will need:

- 1. Bee Suite / Veil / Hive Tool**
- 2. Your own NUC**
- 3. Snack, Lunch box, Drink**

Prerequisite: Certificate from Beekeeper School

SESSION ONE

Sunday, May 21, 2017 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

- Identify proper size larvae / age from a live frame
- Graft larvae with instruction
- Learn how to make up a mating NUC with live bees (the following week, you will bring your NUC)

SESSION TWO

Saturday, May 27, 2017 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

- Install Queen Cells that were grafted into your NUC
- Set up a Cloake Board on a Hive (*Phase One*). This will be a live manipulation of bees

SESSION THREE

Sunday, June 10, 2017 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

- Inspect your Mating NUC
 - Queen Emergence
 - Recognize "Classic" emergence
- Queen Confinement Cage
- Inspect the Cloake Board on a Hive (*Phase Two*).

SESSION FOUR

Sunday, June 18, 2017 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

- Mating NUC Inspection
 - Mated / Laying Pattern / Finding Eggs
 - Marking Queens
 - Review
- Take Home your New Queen and NUC

* Note that Session 4 is on Father's Day. This class may need to be moved to the following Saturday.

2017, Wetlands Apiary

HERE'S A REVIEW OF LAST YEAR'S CLASS....

GRAFTING

PREPARATION

The grafting room should be heated to at least 80 ° Fahrenheit with a humidity level of 70%.

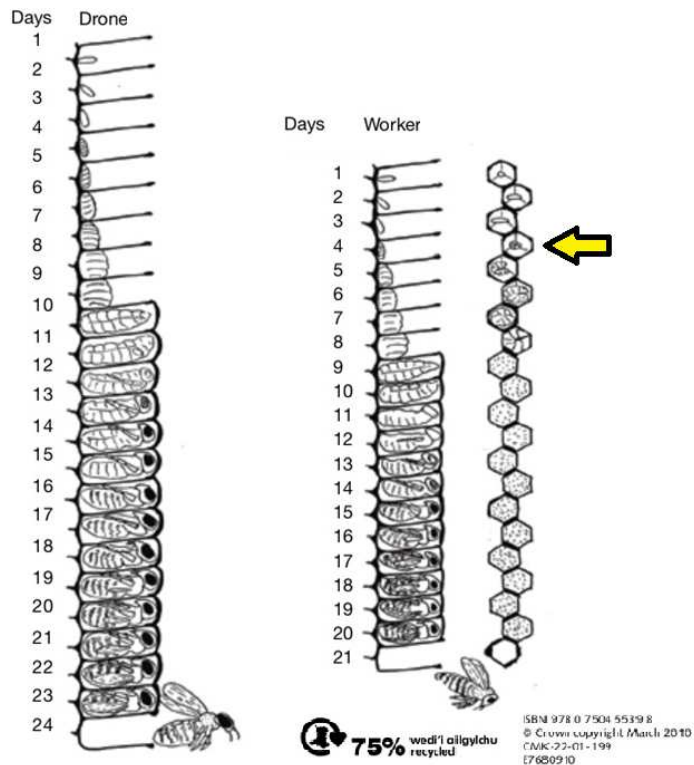


The workshop grafting room was heated with a woodstove with a pot of water boiling to keep the humidity up. Warm, damp towels were available to cover the queen cell caps. The grafting tools were all cleaned with alcohol and rinsed with hot water. The queen cups are ready and have some royal jelly waiting for the lava.

It also helps to have magnification!

IDENTIFYING PROPER SIZE LARVAE / AGE

Before grafting, a frame needs to be selected with the right age lava. The perfect lava to graft would be a female worker at Day 4. The lava will be in the cell curved like a "C"



READY TO GRAFT? THEN LET'S DO IT!

With your clean tools, pick up the lava with the grafting tool. Let it hang off the edge a bit. Roll it off into the queen cup.



Place the lava in the same laying position as it was in the frame cell. Bees have a system of tubes which carry oxygen to and carbon dioxide away from cells. These tubes are connected to spiracles, which are located on both sides of the bee's head. When it is lava, only one side is open. If the lava is placed on the wrong side (or the open spiracles are placed down in the queen cup into the royal jelly), it will drown.



When the lava is added to the queen cup, cover it with the warm damp towel to prevent it from drying out.

Once all the queen cups in the row have completed, they can be added to the frame.



The frame of queen cups is then placed in a hive with nurse bees.

Here, Bob is using the Cloake Board method.





MAKING UP THE NUC FOR THE NEW QUEEN

The NUC which the growing Queen Cell will be added to will be made of the following 5 Frames:

- Drawn out comb
- BROOD --- No eggs! No Queen!
- BROOD (same as above)
- Pollen + Nector
- Empty

This can be made up under 24 hours before the Queen Cell is added. The NUC can be placed over the hive on a Queen Extractor. The entrance should be screened.



NUCLEUS DEVELOPMENT

HANDOUT 2016

TEMPERATURE AWARENESS

IF YOU MAKE UP A NUC TOO EARLY IT MAY SET BACK BOTH THE PARENT COLONY + NUC.

- COLD NIGHTS MAY CHILL BROOD OR QUEEN CELL

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ENOUGH BEES TO COVER ALL BROOD

STRATEGY: PUT INCREASE OVER STRONG COLONY WITH DOUBLE SCREENED BOARD IN BETWEEN COLONY + INCREASE, FOR HEAT FROM COLONY BELOW.

OR
WAIT FOR WARMER WEATHER

KNOW WHERE THE QUEEN IS *

MATING NUC - 5 FRAME DEEP BOX

- FIND 1 OR 2 FRAMES OF BROOD THAT IS SEALED IDEALLY WITH YOUNG BEES EMERGING FROM THE CENTER OF THE FRAME.
- THESE FRAMES MAY ALSO HAVE OPEN BROOD (EGGS/LARVAE).
- MAKE SURE BEES COVERING BROOD REMAIN ON FRAMES.
- CHECK FRAMES FOR PARENT QUEEN.
- MOVE THE FRAMES OF BROOD + COVERING BEES TO YOUR NUCLEUS BOX.
- IF ALL BROOD IS NOT TOTALLY COVERED BY BEES, BRUSH OR SHAKE BEES FROM ANOTHER FRAME INTO NUC UNTIL BROOD IS COVERED.
- ADD FRAMES WITH OPEN NECTAR / HONEY / POLLEN AND DRAWN OUT COMB TO FILL NUC.
- REDUCE OR SCREEN OVER ENTRANCE
- INSTALL QUEEN CELL WITHIN 24 HRS ON BROOD FRAME.
- FEED SUGAR SYRUP.

NOTE: WE DON'T USE INNER COVERS ON OUR 5 FRAME NUCS, INSTEAD WE DRILL VENT HOLES IN THE UPPER BACK OF THE NUC + SCREEN OVER.

