

Make more bees with us!

# The Care & Keeping of Hives



1

Our developed hives generally include 2 deep boxes and 1-2 medium sized boxes. They all have a screened bottom board, slatted rack, all season inner cover, and a custom roof. When needed, a 1-gallon bucket feeder and pollen patty tray are added. Each box contains 10 frames which the bees will cover with wax comb. They then fill the comb with honey, pollen or brood.

2

We place a new colony of bees in every hive along with a young, freshly mated queen. We select our queens by temperament, honey production and overall vigor. A hive will contain either Italian, Buckfast, Caucasian or hybrid honeybees.

3

We provide the bees with gallon buckets that we fill with sugar syrup for supplemental feed during dearth periods. The syrup, along with a few supplements and pollen patties, help keep the bees healthy and productive.

4

To help keep each colony safe, we install entrance reducers and implement robbing screens as needed. We check for small hive beetles, wax moths and other pests at every inspection to make sure no additional intervention is needed.

5

To keep varroa mites in check, our beekeepers implement integrated pest management strategies. This is one of the most critical aspects of our operation since Varroa mites are widely recognized as the leading cause of bee death and colony collapse.

6

Our hives are frequently inspected. Early detection of issues is key to preventing devastating situations within a hive. We manipulate hives, exchange queens, and make splits as necessary to ensure the well-being of the colony.