

the Norfolk Bee

OCTOBER 2020 • NORFOLKBEEES.ORG

**NEXT CLUB
MEETING
PLEASE NOTE
EARLIER START
TIME!!!**

OCTOBER 5, 2020
6:00 to 8:00 pm

**Hosted via Zoom
Meeting**

An email will be sent with a meeting invite.

This will include a meeting ID # and a password.

In advance of the meeting, please download and install the free Zoom app to your computer, phone or tablet. If this is new technology for you, perhaps you can do a test meeting with a friend.

<https://zoom.us/>

PLEASE NOTE:

Email addresses will no longer be provided in the newsletter. This decision was made to protect volunteers' privacy and help reduce scam emails.

We love publishing your fall bee and flower photos!

Please email photos for the newsletter to Colleen Neutra or post them on the NCBA Facebook page.



Dear Fellow Beekeepers,

This has indeed been a strange year. Just when you thought it couldn't get any weirder, Balance Rock in Holliston came tumbling down (see pic attached). I did not think when deciding to become president again that anything like this would be happening. We are in a whole different world, with many new challenges. I was so looking forward to seeing everyone in person. But here we are. Even though all of this has been challenging, we, as a club, have come out on top. I am so proud of our new board and all the work they have been doing. Between a new web site and completely redoing our google group and Facebook (more on that later), we have accomplished a lot in a short period of time. I am so happy with the last Zoom meeting, the Intermediate Bee School and our Zoom board meetings. Everyone has risen to the occasion. I just wish the weather was a bit better.

Last Friday I was planning on going into my hives, but as I looked around and saw the dryness of the earth, all I could think about was being robbed. Be careful in your hives this time of year. Plan your inspections quickly and preferable earlier in the morning or later in the day. Do not feed sugar syrup during the middle of the day. Put it on late in the day to decrease your chances of robbing. Don't use hive-top feeders. Those neighboring bees will smell that syrup from a few miles away.

We have only a couple of class left of Intermediate Bee School, and before you know it, Beginning Bee School will be starting up again. We have already received several applications. We are unsure if all the classes will be Zoom or if a portion will be at the Aggie. We are waiting on how COVID plays out this fall and what the Aggie is going to be doing.

This now brings up a very important issue. Membership. One of the big projects I took on was to revamp and update our membership list, our Google group membership, and Facebook. You can now renew your membership online and it is very important that you do this. You can still send in your application via snail mail. There is a form-fillable PDF on our web site. Come January, we are going to be cleaning house. If you have not paid your membership by January 1st, you will be culled from the list. Once you do pay it however, you will easily be added back in. This is important as we have over 800 members in our google group and 700+ members on Facebook, when in fact, we do not have that many paid members. The board really appreciates your cooperation on this. So thank you very much for understanding.

We have some great fall meetings planned. The October meeting has a time change to accommodate the speaker. It will be 6 pm on October 5, 2020. I look forward to "seeing" you all there.

Tony Lulik





News from the Landing Board

October Meeting via Zoom: **Monday 10/05**

NCBA BOARD MEMBERS 2020-2022:

PRESIDENT
Tony Lulek

VICE PRESIDENT
Dana Wilson

TREASURER
Stephen Green

RECORDING SECRETARY
Edward Rock

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
Colleen Neutra

MEMBERS AT LARGE
Carin Cohen
Alison Dempsey

NCBA BEE SCHOOLS:

INTRODUCTORY SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Sue Robinson and Tony Lulek

INTRODUCTORY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR
Dana Wilson

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DIRECTOR
Ed Szymanski

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR
Marian Szymanski

COMMITTEES:

APPAREL
Lauralyn Smith

DOOR PRIZE/RAFFLE
Kathy Varney

HOSPITALITY
Rose Thornton and Carin Cohen

EXTRACTORS
Brianda Younie

MEMBERSHIP/FACEBOOK/GOOGLE
Rose Thornton
Deb Spielman

LIBRARIAN
Janice & Mike Barczyns

PROGRAMS
Ed and Marian Szymanski

Please note change of time to 6pm. Dr. Kirsten Traynor will be discussing all aspects of honey: chemistry, properties, uses, and specific bee management for honey production. But she will do it from Germany, so we'll have a 6pm Zoom event to accommodate her time zone.

Dr. Kirsten Traynor is the author *Two Million Blossoms: Discovering the Medicinal Benefits of Honey, Simple Smart Beekeeping*, and the honey chapter in *The Hive and the Honey Bee* (2015 edition). She is the former editor of *Bee World*, and *American Bee Journal*, and the current editor of a brand new quarterly magazine devoted to all pollinators, *2 Million Blossoms*. She's currently a fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg in Berlin, Germany (hence the earlier start time). Kirsten will be discussing all aspects of honey: chemistry, properties, uses, and specific bee management for honey production. She did this talk for Rhode Island Beekeepers in July and it was excellent.

A look ahead... Future Meeting Dates & Agendas

November Angel Roell will discuss more efficient methods of queen rearing. Angela Roell owns They Keep Bees Apiary in Montague, Mass. Angela started in beekeeping in Boston and is one of the founders of the Boston Area Beekeepers Association. Wintering in Florida, they raise queens from overwintered Northeast survivors from Harbo and Comfort lineage. They are currently working on a more efficient method of raising queens and have some results to report. There will be time for Q&A as well.

2021 NCBA Bee School

Enrollment is open. Please use the form-fillable pdf found on the NCBA website or the one found in this newsletter. Mail your form and check to the address on the application!

NCBA 2021 MEMBERSHIP IS DUE NOW!



Please pay online at www.norfolkbees.org or by regular mail via a form-fillable PDF downloadable from our website. There is also a pdf in this newsletter. *Thank you!*

ADVENTURES IN BEEKEEPING

CAPTURING A WILD HIVE!

by Joseph M. Leonardi, CMC, AAC

During our last storm I was notified about a tree that had split in a field about 2 miles from my house. The owner of the land had asked if I would come and look at the bees he had noticed flying around the top of the tree where the split was. After further investigation, it was clearly evident that it was honey bees as the limb that had fallen to the ground had honey comb, and brood in it. We secured a painter's ladder to the tree in order to climb about 36 feet. I was able to remove the built-out comb that had brood in it. As you can see in my video at the link below, the bees were calm and keeping the open colony warm. As I was removing the comb, I told the owner it felt like someone was pointing a hair dryer at my face, the warmth coming from the colony was unbelievable.

I removed the comb gently and place it into a bucket, lowered it to the ground where I placed it into a box. The other bees that were not on the comb I used a bee vac and removed them. The following day I did a complete inspection of the colony in hopes of locating a queen. Wired the comb into empty frames and placed into a nuc box. Unfortunately, I did not locate a queen so my initial feeling was that I was going to combine these bees with a weaker hive and let them live their life out. HOWEVER... after another inspection of the comb that I wired into the empty frames, I found a beautiful, mature queen walking around!



The colony is currently located in my apiary in Plainville MA and pictures and video can be found on my website at www.allthingshoneyandmore.com

An Intermediate-level Bee School at Norfolk County Beekeepers Association

by Ed Szymanski *This article will be shared with MA and RI Beekeepers in the hope that more clubs will institute similar programs.*

It started around May 2019. For many years I had been ranting about losses in Massachusetts being too great to sustain hobby beekeeping. Marian and I had been through 10+ years in beekeeping. We heard and read about the experiences of beekeepers around Massachusetts and Rhode Island, heard reports of losses and increasing loss rates in Massachusetts, and read magazine articles by people like Randy Oliver, Meghan Milbrath and others. I wrote an article for the NCBA newsletter entitled "Toward More Sustainable Beekeeping", so everyone could read what had been brewing inside my head for a few years. I booked the meeting room at the Norfolk Public Library and sent an invitation to the club, inviting everyone to attend a meeting to discuss a change in our ways as a community. In the email I wrote, "I have had enough. It's time for a change. We have made changes in our own apiary practices and I know of others whom have done the same. I would like NCBA to be the club that does something about the sustainability problem in beekeeping. My dream is that other Associations in Massachusetts will follow suit." The meeting was attended by around 35 beekeepers, from NCBA's most experienced beekeepers to some newer members. Most attendees agreed that beekeeping needs to be more sustainable. We agreed that using local nucs and queens, higher quality package bees, home queen rearing and nuc making are definitely desirable and most felt that winter survival rates will improve if we adopt these practices more widely. There was much discussion about how to incorporate these concepts into NCBA education. Many expressed the feeling that further education is key to reinforcing what was learned and possibly forgotten in Intro Bee School. It was generally agreed that the concepts of sustainability need to be taught consistently from Intro Bee School through to advanced education.

We decided that an Intermediate Bee School would be established with scheduled classes, prescribed curriculum, etc., probably for a small fee. Marian and I agreed to take on the job of putting this together.

In July, I sent an email to the club announcing that Intermediate Bee School would begin sometime in the spring of 2020. I asked for help with planning and teaching, Marian would handle Administration. A core group met on several occasions to discuss curriculum and implementation. We put together a syllabus and a group of teachers – Scott and Kari Mofford, Jane Sloboda, Janice and Michael Barczys, Bob Hickey, and myself. We can't thank these folks enough for their efforts in making this program happen.

On January 19, 2020, registration was opened up. Cost for the program would be \$50, a nominal fee to cover room rentals and class materials. Registration closed in February at 80 attendees, the limit for our meeting space.

The curriculum included the following class topics:

Sustainable Beekeeping – an overview, Spring Management, Varroa Mites and their Control, Other Colony Diseases and Problems, Who's Your Daddy – Practical Genetics for Hobby Beekeepers, Queen Rearing for Hobby Beekeepers, Making Late Season Nucs for Overwintering, Advanced Beekeeping Equipment, Winter Preparation, Planting Herbs to Benefit Honey Bees, and Obtaining Bees – what, where, why.

The first class was scheduled for April 22, 2020 at the Norfolk, MA Public Library. The presentation room is available to local non-profits at no cost. Then, in March, the COVID-19 pandemic caused all meetings to be cancelled for a still-unknown period of time. We quickly became familiar with a video conferencing platform called Zoom, which is now a household word. We ran the first class and it seemed to work pretty well. It became apparent that this would be the way classes would be done for a while. We opened a Zoom account for NCBA with a 300 person limit, and subscribed to a video hosting platform called Vimeo so recordings of the Zoom classes (and club meetings) could be saved and distributed to those who had to miss a class or two. The registration income easily covered these expenses, and these services have become a tremendous asset to the club.

The Zoom platform works well for classes, in some respects better than a live meeting. There's less distraction, it's more comfortable for the presenter, and the recordings can be saved for future viewing. Participants don't have to drive to the meeting on a weeknight. On the downside, there's little social interaction and for the presenter, there's no feedback from the audience. The presenter must get used to that.

In May, having resigned ourselves to the fact that class would be online for the foreseeable future, we opened the class up to first year beekeepers as well. Final enrollment was 103 beekeepers. I was heartened to know that this number of people desired, and would get, further education on keeping healthy, productive colonies.

Curious about how we were doing with the program and its intended effects, in July I asked the class, "What have you done, using the principles in this program, to make your apiary more sustainable?" The answers I received were truly heartwarming.

For example:

"I increased focus on creating good quality late season nucs as well as focus on increasing diversity of genetics by introducing new queens to some of the nucs."

"I purchased a locally produced overwintered nuc from a NE queen breeder."

"I split my own hive from a strong overwintered queen to continue her blood lines."

"I've used my strong hive to create splits, rear my own queens, and maintain good genetics in my apiary. I purchased a single package in 2018 when I began beekeeping and have split, combined, and reared. I hope to not have to ever purchase a package again. Next year, any extra splits that I create can go towards maintaining a healthy apiary and can also be used to support other local beekeepers. I've also gained an expanded understanding of diseases and what actions to take to prevent and remedy maladies of the hive."

"I monitor the varroa mite population in my hives more often and systematically."

"I've made my apiary more sustainable by learning how/when to do splits—added 2 new hives this year. I did not have to buy bees this year even though I had lost one over the past winter."

"I have also just become a better beekeeper through taking better notes, reading more from suggested books/articles by others in the class, and being more attentive and present with the activity going on in and around my hives, taking action when needed."

There were many more. It's working! Class attendees could see the results — they are making their apiaries more sustainable and enjoying beekeeping even more. Given that, we will continue this program into the future, always asking attendees for feedback on how the program can be improved.

I personally would like to see programs like this established in other beekeeping associations across Massachusetts and beyond. With a dedicated group of volunteers, and an attentive, willing group of students, great strides can be made in improving sustainability and the overall health of managed honey bee colonies. ✨

Resources for NCBA Members

EXTRACTORS

NCBA owns six extractors which can be borrowed by members for personal use. Contact Brianda Younie to make a pick-up arrangement. **PLEASE BE SURE TO RETURN THE EQUIPMENT YOU BORROW IN A FOOD-SAFE QUALITY CLEAN STATE.** Also, be sure to report any issues with cleanliness or functionality to Brianda.

OUR MEMBERS-ONLY FACEBOOK GROUP

Our Facebook page, *Norfolk County Beekeepers Association*, is closed to the public. Members are added by approval only. This is a great place for members to ask questions, post articles, share pictures and stories. Several members of the club monitor the page. This is also a place that we will post notices, updates, and changes to club related events.

OUR PROMOTIONAL BROCHURE

Are you showing at a fair? Have a table at a farmer's market? NCBA can provide you with brochures to hand out events. Our brochure promotes our mission and encourages membership. If



you are interested in receiving a bundle for your next event, please email Colleen Neutra. Allow time for a reply and a way to coordinate brochure delivery.

OUR LENDING LIBRARY

Janice and Mike Barczys, our super awesome librarians have organized books by theme. Be sure to take a look at how they've done it. You just might discover your next great read. Also, let them know if there is a book you would like added to the Library!

CLASSIFIED ADS

Members in good standing may place a classified ad in our newsletter for free. Please keep it simple and relevant to beekeeping, bee products, or home/cottage industries that would be of interest to other members. Email Colleen Neutra with your artwork, a scan of your business card, or questions.



Minutes of Board Meeting 8/17/20

Board Meeting called to order at 7:06 by Tony Lulek.

In attendance:
Tony Lulek
Greg Rushton
Ed Szymanski
Ed Rock
Kathy Varney
Colleen Neutra
Rose Thorton
Deborah Spielman
Kathleen Gasbarro
Dana Wilson
Stephen Green
Sue Robinson
Brianda Younie
Carin Cohen

Motion to accept meeting minutes from June 15th: Ed R. motioned, Ed S. seconded, unanimously accepted

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ed Rock.

Current Club Business

- Report on Club Funds from Stephen G.
 - \$22,195.21 in Club Checking Account
 - Transition of accounts between treasurers is going smoothly
 - Federal Taxes have been filed
 - Tony L Would like to see current club assets and expenses for each board meeting, and some comparison to prior year and heads up on outstanding expenses

Newsletter / Colleen

- Colleen has started drafting the next newsletter
 - August 5th deadline for submissions - Distribution targeted on August 10th promoting the August 31st Club Meeting
 - Also wants to include Kim Skyrms info on Hive inspections, and info on Mite-a-Thon
 - Ed S. - he'll get a blurb to Colleen N about Erin Forbes presenting on August 31st club meeting
 - Greg R will reach out to Shawn Kent (Audubon Society) to connect him with Ed S.(some miscommunication there about presenting for the club)
 - And of course, membership info
 - Tony L - can we scrub the officer e-mails from the newsletter - seems to be "inviting" spam

Membership Committee

- Dana W - How will we be honoring long term club members - in September - with no in-person meeting and via zoom? Dana will get back to the group with some ideas.
- Tony L & Rose T - membership lists will be merging/fusing (from old versions to new formats) with hopes of capturing all member data, including "join Date"

Bee School 2021 Committee

- Tony L and Sue R - Shooting to get registration for Bee School up on website in September.
- Deborah S - should we discuss classroom options in COVID context for Bee School this Fall?

The Board of Directors Meeting is the third Monday of each month. It's held at 7:00pm via a Zoom Video Meeting. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Intermediate Bee School / Ed S.

- Did 9 classes face-to-face before moving to zoom meetings every week and canceled outdoor practical meetings due to COVID.
- Surveyed participants:
 - Attendance was around 103, with an average of 80. Live attendance fell off a bit once we made folks aware of the presentations being available on video.
 - Mixed feedback regarding summer classes, so we'll start back up in Fall.
 - Very rewarding responses when participants when asked how the classes influenced their beekeeping practices - many sustainability responses (queen rearing, splits, more frequent inspections...)
 - Some feedback from participants on excluding new Beekeepers from these classes, but the initial thinking was there wouldn't be room for intermediates if new beekeepers were allowed to enroll - assuming face-to-face classroom. With an unlimited attendance zoom meeting option, class size limit isn't an issue, so limiting attendance to just experienced beekeepers was moot.
- Colleen N - Note that Kristen Traynor video is available on RI Beekeepers Association web site

Door Prizes / Kathy V. and Greg R.

- Continue with door prizes of gift certificates, but consider having specific items shipped directly to winners via amazon or from bee vendors.



Minutes of Board Meeting 9/21/20

Board Meeting called to order at 7:06 by Tony Lulek.

In attendance: Tony Lulek, Ed Rock, Dana Wilson, Stephen Green, Rose Thornton, Gregory Rushton, Colleen Neutra, Ed Szymanski, Joel Richards, Deborah Spielman, Steven Trieber, Kathleen Gasparro

Minutes from August meeting accepted unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ed Rock.

President's Update – Tony L

- New business:
 - Purchasing Heat Treatment devices (\$207 each) for the club to check out to members – Steven Trieber will research detail and cost to see if we want to add to our resources for lending to members
 - Steven Trieber - Possible club meeting topic – queen marketing process
 - Steven Trieber - Club Swag swap with other clubs, collectable items to sell and trade. Maybe target MassBee – maybe Steven can reach out to other clubs in MA....after COVID with idea
 - Pete Delaney – MassBee & EAS - July 26, 2021: do we want to support sponsoring a speaker Jonathon Lundgren – invite Pete to next board meeting – he can make a case
 - Jim Lifton – should we have an official PPT from NCBA that club members can use if they present to folks (garden clubs...) – good idea – Tony & Ed S will cobble together a draft

Vice President's Update – Dana

- Into next year – we don't know yet if we'll be able to have face-to-face at the Aggie
- New – Club Central Records Manual –history and form-important information. Follow-up – Dana, and others will coordinate moving info to goggle docs and securing password and account information to select secure club officers

Treasurer Update – Stephen

- \$22,721 in club account
- Small checks for mailing club meeting door prizes
- Ed S will need to charge some Zoom items to update the renewal card.

Corresponding Secretary – Colleen N

- October Newsletter – August & September Board notes will be included
- Tony L – writing note about his BPV experience
- Ed S – article about Intermediate Bee School
- Form Fillable PDF for membership and School looking good for updating membership info

Programs – Ed S and Marian

November meeting: Angela Roell – Queen Rearing

Intro to Bee School – Tony and Sue

- Tony L Updated Introduction to Bee School– unlimited reg due to Zoom format, 10 sign-ups
- Maybe doing a one session soon for new beeks – physically setting up hives for winter

Secondary Bee School – Ed & Marian

(FYI : April 21, 2020 was first class)

- Class 9 – 111 people – for winter prep
- Class 10 – Marion – growing Herbs for bees
- Class 11 – Where do my bees come from – focusing on packages, local, the south, requeening packages, and lists of suppliers
- Planning for 2021: To come from Ed - assessment of Intermediate Bee School – what changes to improve next year's sessions
- Start again in May 2021(?). Rose T suggested, 'start a bit earlier' to help 2nd year beeks to start up for with Spring Hive Opening

Extractors – Brianda

- She was authorized to buy replacement parts, details to come

Library – Janice & Mike

- Library page with checkout capacity on the NCBA website – Janice following up with Greg

Door Prizes – Kathy & Greg

- Greg, Tony and Kathy – communicating with George Johnson (donated over \$1,000 of equipment) – we'll be using that stuff for the next several months. Work through how the unique prizes will be awarded. With size of the items – set up a location for pickup instead of sending prize.

Website – Greg

- Membership Payment is set up -Emphasize ease of renewal in Newsletter
- Next is setting up the bee school purchase
- Greg's committee will post monthly newsletters
- Everyone needs to review the site now and share updates with Greg (dates, info, ...)

Membership, Facebook, Google Groups - Rose & Deb

- Deb, Rose, Dana, Ed S can approve new folks into the groups
- Deb – lead for approving Facebook
- Membership list starting – targeting end of year for clean update / with new membership data and merged old data – Google Doc is live

2021 NCBA MEMBERSHIP FORM



NEW MEMBER RETURNING MEMBER

LAST NAME:

FIRST NAME:

CURRENT ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

YEAR JOINED (BEST GUESS):

YEAR WENT TO BEE SCHOOL (IF AT ALL) & WHERE:

- Dues are \$25.00 (single or family membership) per year.
- Please make checks payable to NCBA.
- Membership runs from January 1 to December 31.
- Dues are due prior to the new year.
- Please mail form and payment to:

Stephen Green
Norfolk County Beekeepers Association
PO Box 303
Franklin MA 02038

ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS IN SAME HOUSEHOLD:

LAST & FIRST NAME:

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

LAST & FIRST NAME:

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

- **Do not use this form to apply for Bee School.** Use the bee school application found at www.norfolkbees.org.
- The Bee School fee is \$80. (This fees cover attendance at Bee School and the cost of NCBA membership for the year you take the class.)
- An additional \$20 fee applies if one family member, from the same household, wishes to attend with you.

Remember to check the club's website at www.norfolkbees.org for date changes, weather cancellations, and other information.

2021 NCBA Beginner Beekeeping Course



This course is designed for people who wish to gain an understanding of beekeeping practices to begin the fascinating art of beekeeping. Those who are just curious or unsure about beekeeping are encouraged to enroll.

- The ten classes are held Tuesday nights, beginning at 7:00 pm and ending between 9:00 and 9:30 pm.
- Classes are held at Norfolk County Agricultural School in the **AKC Ring, 400 Main Street, Walpole, MA.**
- Classes run from January to the first week of April.
- If you are a club member in good standing and took bee school previously, you can take the class as a refresher for free.
- **Dates for 2021 Bee School are:** January 26; February 2, 9, 23; March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; and April 6.

STUDENT INFO:

LAST NAME:

FIRST NAME:

CURRENT ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS IN SAME HOUSEHOLD:

LAST & FIRST NAME:

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

If after having attended the first two classes you feel that beekeeping is not for you, your tuition will be refunded in full. To receive a refund, email the Bee School Administrator dwilson831@gmail.com by **Friday February 5, 2021**, stating your intention to withdraw.

- The Bee School fee is \$80. (This fees cover attendance at Bee School and the cost of NCBA membership for the year you take the class.)
- An additional \$20 fee applies if one family member, from the same household, wishes to attend with you.
- Space is limited. The class is limited to 100 students or 65 households, whichever comes first.
- Bee school frequently sells out by the end of December.
- Registration forms received after class capacity has been reached will be will be placed on a waiting list. Checks will be returned if you are not accepted.

- Please make checks payable to "NCBA."
- Mail your check and form as soon as possible and prior to December 31, to:

Stephen Green
Norfolk County Beekeepers Association
PO Box 303
Franklin MA 02038

Check the club's website at www.norfolkbees.org for class schedule, date changes, weather cancellations, and other information.



Interested in beekeeping as your full time job?

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401-305-2355

info@woodsbees.com

Package Bees & Nucs 2019

We have *three* delivery dates for packages this spring. Multiple pick-up locations and delivery available for convenience!

5 Frame Nucs available in deep frame and medium frame options.
Pick-up expected late May!

Hive Starter Kits

Assembled & unassembled complete hive kits available for new beekeepers and beekeepers adding a hive!

We also have:

Woodenware, frames, hive components & accessories, hive tools, extracting & bottling equipment, wide selection of protective gear, & much more!

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franklinhoney3@gmail.com

Custom Hive stand and Screened Bottom

Board Built as one piece instead of two separate pieces for stability. They are made with galvanized 1/8" screen and white plastic slide-in tray to count mites. Glued and screwed together for long lasting durability.

Slatted Racks Completely assembled, glued and nailed. This gives the bees more room in the hive on rainy days and when they are all in for the night making them less likely to think about swarming due to crowding.

Supers Made out of pine; with pre-drilled finger joints, and handles cut into boards, comes unassembled. Deep, Medium and Shallow available.

Inner Cover Ventilated, wooden inner cover.

Outer Cover covered with Tin Made from 3/4" exterior plywood, completely assembled, glued and screwed. Cover comes with tin cover to protect from outdoor elements.

Complete Hive Setup Includes screened bottom board, two deep supers, 20 frames with wax foundation, inner cover and outer cover.

Hive Frames-Deep, Medium, and Shallow

Wooden frame, made out of pine, held together with 10 nails. (Does not include wire or foundation).