

West Suffolk Beekeepers



Beginners' Course

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THE BEEKEEPING YEAR SESSION 2

West Suffolk Beekeepers
Beginners' Course
January 2021

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Autumn

September October November



'In peace we prepare for war'

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Autumn



30,000 bees
1 queen
No drones

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Strong (winter) colonies

- ▣ Laying declining
- ▣ Unite small colonies ?
- ▣ Disease inspection/ varroa treatment
- ▣ Feed, feed, feed for winter bees
- ▣ Protect the hives

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The Preparations

- ▣ Mite count and varroa treatments



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Varroa treatment



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Stores? Feed?

- ▣ Extract
- ▣ Winter bees July/Aug/Sept
- ▣ 5 lbs per frame
- ▣ Queen excluder
- ▣ Super/ feeder/
- ▣ 2:1 syrup 2kg:1lt /2lbs:1 pint

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Feeding

- ▣ 2:1 sugar syrup - 20kg /44lbs of stores



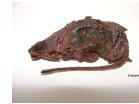
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Repel all borders!

- ▣ Wasps



- ▣ Mice



- ▣ Woodpeckers



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Autumn



30,000 bees
1 queen
No drones

Winter



10,000 bees
1 queen
No drones

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Winter

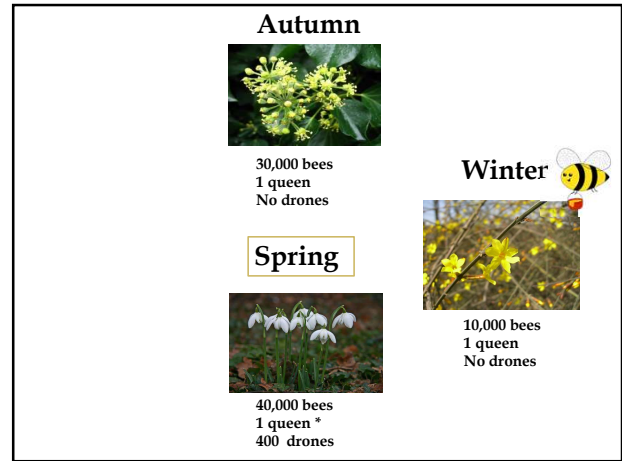
- ▣ Cleansing flights
- ▣ Oxalic acid
- ▣ Heft and feed fondant if needed
- ▣ Read/ Study
- ▣ Clean equipment
- ▣ Make up next year's frames



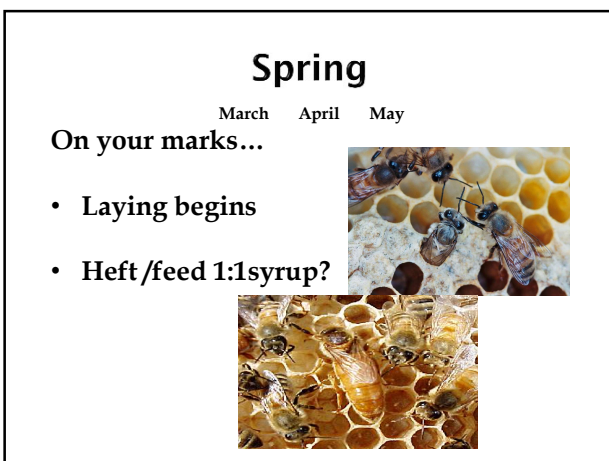
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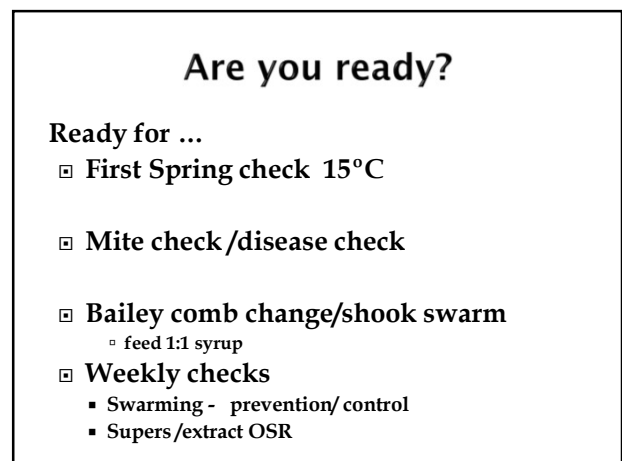
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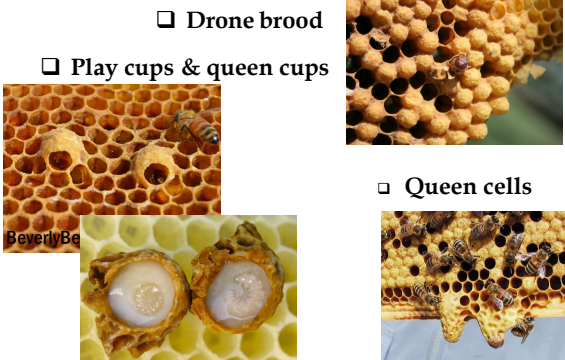
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Are you looking carefully?


- ☐ Drone brood
- ☐ Play cups & queen cups
- ☐ Queen cells



BeverlyBe

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	<h3>Autumn</h3>  <p>30,000 bees 1 queen No drones</p>	
<h3>Summer</h3>  <p>50,000 bees 1 queen 1,000 drones</p>	<h3>Spring</h3>  <p>40,000 bees 1 queen * 400 drones</p>	<h3>Winter</h3>  <p>10,000 bees 1 queen No drones</p>





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Summer

June July August

- ☐ The bees build up to maximum
- ☐ Continue checks for queen cells
- ☐ Add supers
- ☐ Get ready for extraction

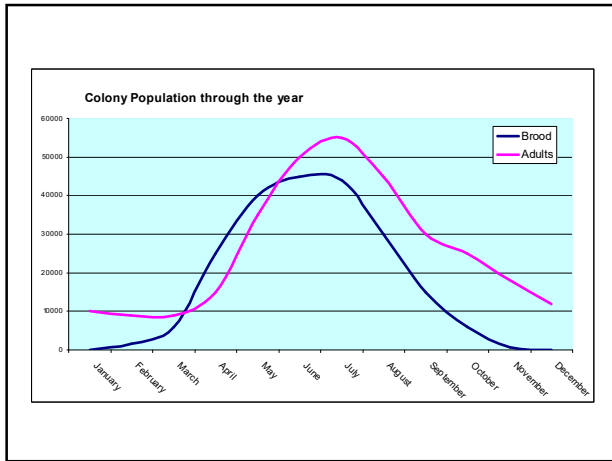
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A Sticky End

- ☐ Extraction
- ☐ Store and repair equipment



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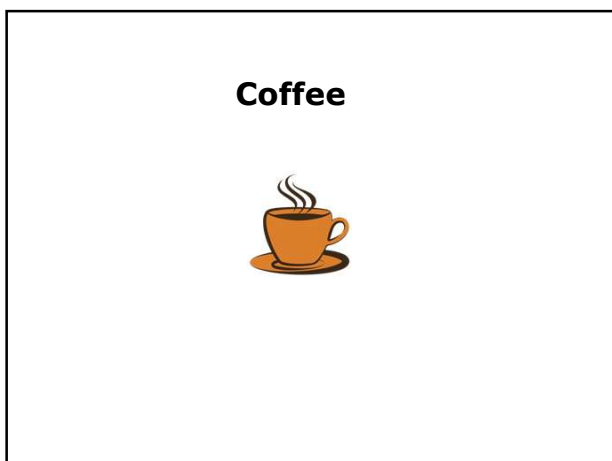
Summer
70,000 bees
1 queen
1,000 drones

Autumn
30,000 bees
1 queen
No drones

Spring
40,000 bees
1 queen *
400 drones

Winter
10,000 bees
1 queen
No drones

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