



SUGGESTED EQUIPMENT FOR BEGINNERS

1. PPE – veil (must), clothing, gloves, footwear.
2. Equipment: smoker (& fuel), hive tool, queen cages, matches, wedges (possibly)
3. Waste wax container (beetight)
4. Soda solution & container for washing gloves and hive tools etc.
5. Medication for varroa management as required
6. Rolls of parcel tape and gaffer tape, drawing pins and varroa mesh offcuts
7. Chalk stick for marking hives
8. Clean plastic washing bowl
9. Short lengths of thin garden wire
10. Small pieces of foam rubber for blocking entrances
11. Magnifying glass if needed
12. Light hammer and pliers for frame and hive assembly

FOR EACH HIVE: FOR AN AVERAGE SEASON (REMEMBER, ONLY ONE TYPE)

In the spring:

- a) stand, floor & entrance block, brood box, super, queen excluder, crown board, roof

In the early summer:

- a) as above list plus one nuc box. and super for swarm management – one set for each three hives or part thereof.
- b) one more super (+ frames and foundation) for each hive + one more spare
- c) queen marking equipment
- d) Running-in board, cardboard boxes, old bedsheets (not nylon) for swarm control/collection

In high summer:

- a) Porter or other escapes, one spare crown board per two hives, jars, lids, labels etc. for honey, large black plastic sacks for protecting supers

Autumn:

- a) rapid feeder per hive + stock of feed syrup
- b) sulphur strip or other storage fumigation agent
- c) baseboards and lids to keep equipment stacks beetight
- d) one mouseguard per hive
- e) chickenwire or other woodpecker protection if required