

GOOD BEEKEEPING PRACTICES | Apiary Set-up and Maintenance

Find the Right Spot for Your Apiary

Setting up apiaries in an area accessible to vehicles

It is important to ensure a solid prepared ground without flood risk, free of high vegetation and stones, and paved access to the apiary. The possibility of making terraces on slopes should be considered, as well as easy access from the rear.



step 1

Choose a location that is easily accessible by a motorised vehicle. For this, it is important to have a hard (and dry) surface where the vehicle can be left. The apiary itself may be on a softer (but still dry) surface.



step 2

Access to the hives must be guaranteed at all times. The beekeeper must have the right of access to the apiary. Throughout the season, the access road to the hives must be open.



step 3

Once at the site, the beekeeper should easily get the bee material to the site. For example, if a barrier is present, it should be easily and temporarily moved or opened to allow smooth passage.



step 4

The distance from where you leave the vehicle to the apiary should also not be too far considering the weight of, for example, boxes containing honey. If necessary, it should be possible to bring the material to the site with a cart or wheelbarrow.



step 5

Make sure that there is also a sheltered place near the apiary to perform certain tasks that preferably should not be done near the bees. If such a sheltered place is not immediately available, the motorized vehicle can also be used as an alternative, if this vehicle is not too far from the beehives.



step 6

If the beehives are on another person's property, should be made with this person, such as accessibility to the property (preferably as much as possible) as well as what may or may not be done on the site (e.g. chemical treatment of hives).

