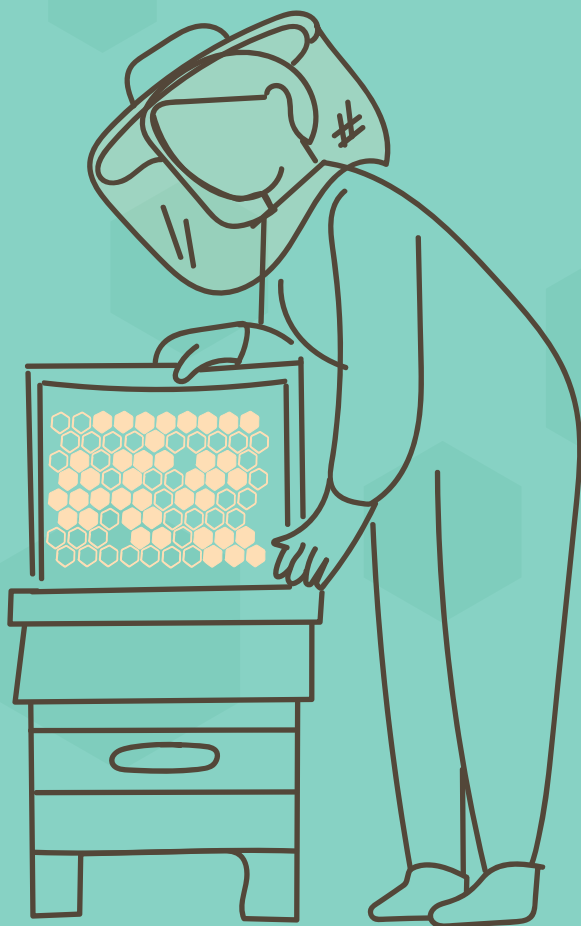


GOOD BEEKEEPING PRACTICES | Colony Set-up and Management/Maintenance

Swarming Prevention

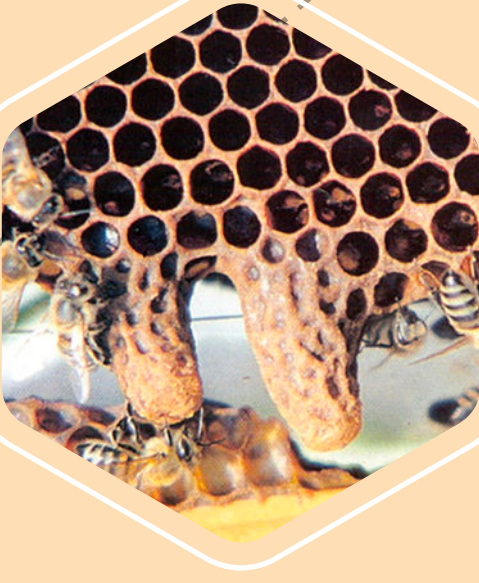
Expanding the colony to give the colony space

When spring comes, the queen will start laying eggs and the colony will grow. To allow the full development of the colony and to prevent swarming, extra space is needed for both brood, bees, pollen and honey.



step 1

Swarming can occur when your colony is expanding and is stressed by space (usually in spring). It is important to inspect the colony in intervals of no more than **9 days**.



step 2

Start inspecting the frames with brood one by one for signs of swarming cells. Usually, you can find them at the bottom of the brood frames, and they need to be destroyed.



step 3

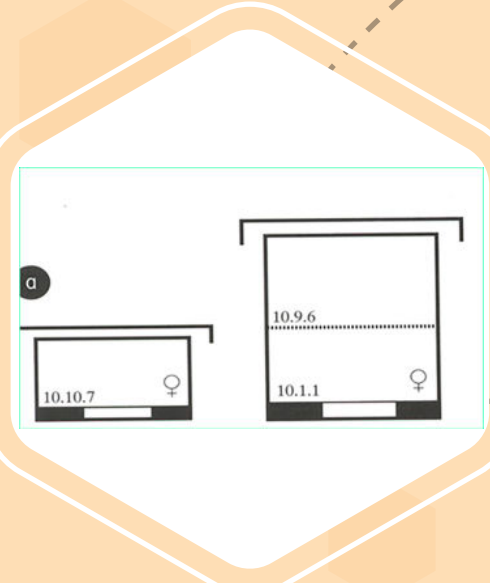
You need to access the space the colony has: for brood expansion and for food storage (pollen and honey).

Insert drownout combs for immediate use, and if needed, you can add wax sheets to give bees new tasks to perform.



step 4

Based on the colony's needs, you might need to add a super.



step 5

If the colony already has swarming cells that you destroy, you will probably need to use more drastic methods, such as the Demaree method.

Whatever you do, you will need to re-inspect the colony after a week to ensure good development, according to your plans.



step 6

Consider starting a queen rearing process to reduce swarming events in your colonies.



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