

Eversweet Apiaries



Providing Local Honey, Woodenware, Hardware, & Apiary Services for over 10 years.

2014 Beekeeping Guide



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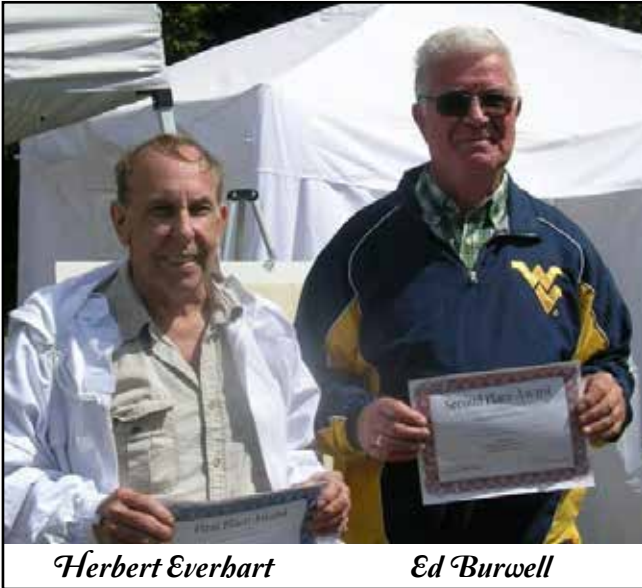
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Herbert Everhart

Ed Burwell

Introduction to Eversweet Apiaries

Eversweet Apiaries was organized about eight years ago to develop a business of producing honey and helping to increase the number of bees in the local area. Herbert Everhart (with thirty years of experience in furniture repair and restoration) and Edward Burwell (a retired chemical engineer) have been friends for many years and formed the business based only on a handshake.

The business, which started out to produce honey, has grown into a bee equipment supply and information source covering most aspects of bee equipment supply and bee education. Written management programs

covering how we do beekeeping have been prepared and made available as a guide. This is not intended as a bible, just one way to operate.

Currently, we operate an average of about 100 hives of bees (all we can physically manage) all located in a 5 mile radius of Kearneysville, WV. In addition, we carry a complete line of essential bee equipment including necessary tools, clothing, and all hive parts.

During the year, we hold numerous workshops for beekeepers throughout the region. Early workshops aimed at new beekeepers cover all aspects of bee equipment assembly as a hands-on experience and are presented free of charge. Necessary tools and equipment are made available for those wishing to have a part in building their own equipment. New beekeepers who wish to obtain their equipment pre-assembled are charged no assembly fees. Experienced beekeepers are regularly present at the workshops to provide assistance and answer questions.

Every attempt is made to supply only high quality products. Our hive components are constructed from yellow pine which is tough and pest resistant. The partners' many years of experience has resulted in numerous improvements in some items and assurance of the best quality product we can provide.

Herbert Everhart Edward Burwell

Herbert Everhart and Edward Burwell

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2013-2014 Apiary Program

*To every thing there is a season, and a time for every purpose under the heaven.
Ecclesiastes 3:1-22*

Growing up on a farm I learned the birthing and feeding seasons for all livestock. This also holds true for beekeeping. All things on earth follow a cycle. The program presented here was developed by us for our area and our education and techniques are an ongoing concern. We hope that in some way this will help others in beekeeping as so many others have helped us.

We started our written program about 6 years ago. People coming to purchase supplies were asking many of the same questions daily or weekly. We found ourselves repeating the answers so often we decided to write things down for easy review.

The beekeeping program starts in July because nucs, packages, and established hives have one thing in common. In July of a normal year the nectar flow has either stopped or is dwindling. At this point you should remove any existing supers and queen excluders. The queen excluders go into a wax melter to remove burr comb and any existing propolis is wiped off. Any remaining nectar flow is for the bees use. Continue to feed one-to-one sugar water to nucs and packages if they continue to take it. If honey production hives do not start to gain weight by July 15th (they probably won't) start a one-to-one sugar feeding program for them.

Next, check the brood. For every 2 to 3 frames of brood make sure there is a full frame of pollen on both sides. If not start feeding pollen patties. There must be protein as well as carbohydrates (corn syrup/sugar water) for brood rearing.

Around August 15th we use Mite-Away II™ as a varroa and tracheal mite treatment. Varroa are at their peak at this time and we want our treatment over so we can start our winter nucs.

Our feeders hold three to four gallons of sugar water (depending on how level the hive is). This allows us to go six to eight days between feedings. One pound pollen patties last about the same amount of time. Some patties, on inspection, will have small hive beetle larvae in them. We remove the patties, freeze them for three days, thaw and feed them to the birds.

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For the month of August and September, we continue to feed pollen patties and one-to-one sugar water for winter brood buildup. Approximately August 10th, after the varroa treatment is over, we start our winter nucs. Refer to chapter "Eversweet Nuc Program" for further reading. Winter buildup continues through September. At this point we add Fumagilin-B to all hives. A double dose of Fumagilin-B to two gallons of sugar water (two sugars to one water) is given for comb storage. They are not likely to feed this to the brood. We have found that if you wait longer than September 15th they might not take sugar water at all. We continue to feed the two-to-one sugar water for storage buildup. You may feed pollen patties all Fall to stop golden rod collection as the golden rod in our area has very poor pollen and is low in protein.

Hives that stop taking any sugar water around September 1st are hives that have a problem that needs to be assessed. They likely are not going to survive as they are stressed in some manner. The top candidates for these problems are small hive beetles, viruses, queen failure, not starting the program on time, or failure to follow the program on a timely basis as stated earlier.

By the first week of October your hives should be winter ready with 30,000 plus bees and weigh 80 pounds or more. We have no Fall nectar flow that creates enough for storage which is why we must follow our feeding program to that date. Our Fall weather has been mild of late. At this time fondant feeding is started as a supplement feeding. The sugar water feeders are removed and the inner covers are now placed as the bees generally stop taking sugar water at this point. During days above 40 degrees or more, until the first of February, we check for candy board or fondant replacement.

In January start feeding pollen patties. Protein is needed for new brood. Mid-February is generally when willow, oaks, and maples produce pollen and some small nectar flow. If you get a warm day, 50 degrees or more, do a quick brood inspection. Your darker races of bees may have no brood while some Italians and crosses should have a partial frame of brood or more. January or February is a good time to use Hop-Guard strips to kill the phoretic mites.

March usually means spring has arrived. The next steps depend on above freezing weather. Remove your inner covers, install your feeders, and add a gallon of one-to-one sugar water. If they take it, step up your feeding as one-to-one sugar water will stimulate early brood production. Keep pollen patties on the hives. Never have a super with drawn comb on with a feeder in the spring. Later, when the feeders are removed, replace them with a top screen to insure proper ventilation. Honey production will be increased because the hive will be cooler and the bees do not have to bring in so much water to cool the hive. The energy saved is used to bring in nectar.

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Place medium or shallow foundation on the hive under the feeders as some may start to build comb. If they do not, at least you had them on early and not late. In beekeeping, late is not an acceptable practice. There should be a minimum of three deep frames of brood or five medium frames before placing any foundation or drawn comb supers at this time. With less than that you have to wait for more brood build up, add brood, or re-queen. This is a monitoring stage. Give the queen until mid-April to prove herself. If conditions are not better by this time, re-queen. You do not want to miss the nectar flow. Nectar flow is from April 15th to the first week of July. Do not miss it because of a failing queen.

By the first of April, dandelions are everywhere. By the first of May, the hives should be busting. Major brood build up should result in four, five, or six deep frames of brood. Nucs and packages may stop taking sugar water toward mid to late May. This means they are bringing in enough nectar and will not need any more sugar water until later in the season for winter stores.

If you are still trying to draw comb, continue to feed for another week or so. Stop feeding by April 15th. If hives are not at their listed numbers you may wish to seek help from a mentor or research why you are not at this level. There can be more than one thing causing a problem.

We are now at mid-April. Pollination hives are in the apple orchards. By the first of May the hives should be busting. Divides or nucs are made at this point to prevent swarming. You should be inspecting your hives every seven to ten days for queen cells. This continues through mid-June. Do not let your hives swarm as you will lose your honey harvest. This is a good time to add foundations and remove the oldest comb. Be on a three to four year comb weeding program.

Some hives will have enough brood to start a nuc. If you pull brood too soon it will affect your honey crop. We generally pull enough brood frames to make nucs that will not set the hives back on honey production. Sometimes only one frame of the two or more needed is pulled per hive for nucs. Nuc brood frames should have eggs, larvae, and capped brood. They should have twice the amount of capped brood as eggs and larvae. There should be a good arch of pollen and honey as the bees on emerging will need to eat as soon as possible.

Packages should contain three pounds of bees (shaken during foraging time of the day as you need young bees). During March you can install packages of five frames or more on comb. On all foundation April 15th is best for installation. Packages need immediate sugar feed and pollen patties. Do this 24/7 for brood buildup and new comb buildup.

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We carry Hygienic queens starting the first week of April through the first of September. Our primary queen suppliers are Olivarez and Honey Bee Genetics (Taber queens). The queens arrive every Wednesday morning and are marked for pickup in the afternoon. We charge \$2.00 for marking and we do not sell banked queens.

We re-queen throughout the season where needed. Our major yearly re-queening is done in July. Throughout the season we sell brood frames with an accepted queen to re-queen hives with laying workers. We re-queen every hive every year. We save the best producing old queens in ten frame nucs for brood production and new drawn comb.

We are West Virginia certified and inspected, usually by WV State Bee Inspector Paul Poling.

Watch for the need to add more supers. We have two supers on queen excluders by mid-March. The supers have nine frame spacers with six frames of comb and three frames of foundation. Our honey extraction sometimes starts by mid-May to insure we get specialized honey. The first is apple honey, by May 15th we get black locust, followed by tulip poplar around May 25th. These are followed by mixed or wildflower such as thistle and clover until mid-July. Most hives, at this point, have supers and queen excluders removed so any nectar flow goes to the bees for storage and feed.

We take good production hives to various alfalfa fields that are allowed to bloom before they are cut. A good hive will produce a super of honey every 5 to 7 days. We sell this honey by the bucket first as alfalfa honey will crystallize in 4 to 5 months after harvest.

In June we continue to make nucs, not for sale as such, but brood frames with an accepted queen to re-queen hives that have problems in accepting new queens for one reason or another. These might include bee Parasitic Mite Syndrome (PMS), European Foul Brood, chalk brood, or other problems where a new young Hygienic queen and new bees are needed. These brood frame / queen kits run about 40% less than a 5-frame nuc price. Use the newspaper method for introduction of the nuc.

Continue swarm control, continue the feeding program on young hives, monitor established hives for a possible feeding program.

In July address the re-queening of one to one and a half year old queens. Use good queens for brood buildup for weaker hives. Leave new queen cages with duct tape over the corks. Do not release until after eight days. This helps to break the varroa mite cycle. Here we are back at

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approximately mid-July. There are other things we do throughout the season that will be addressed shortly.

FOOT NOTES

We use Honey-B-Healthy in our sugar feeding, one ounce per gallon. We use the same amount for fresh water in one gallon chick waterers with small gravel in the water circle to keep the bees from drowning. In our pollen patties we use one ounce of Honey-B-Healthy per ten pounds of mixture. Our mix is 2/3 Mega Bee or Bee-Pro, 1/3 cane sugar, three tablespoons of vegetable oil, and sufficient water to make a pliable mixture that can be formed into a patty. Just multiply above mixture for larger quantities.

We do not use Honey-B-Healthy or anything else in our 2-to-1 sugar water for winter storage. Use pure sugar and water so that when they consume this in winter no additives will have to be digested.

It is also absolutely imperative to feed pollen substitutes during pollen dearths. It is needed for bee bread to feed brood. Also, pollen is essential in building Vitellogenin (stored bee fat). It also is used in building protein stores, in hemolymph and the hypopharyngeal glands and reduces nosema. Pollen substitutes are not stored by bees. Consider it as a supplement feed.

Raising queens will be covered later.

We do not combine bees in the Fall. There is too much risk in putting a poor hive on a good which may serve to merely weaken a good hive. The added bees do not help a healthy population in any way. We practice a live and let die philosophy.

Spray diluted sugar water and Honey-B-Healthy on foundations while installing them. Do not hesitate to spray some on the bees. They will groom each other, knocking off mites. This can be used as a regular method of treating bees without miticides. Do not do this at the same time as the powder sugar method as you will end up with little crawling dough balls. Be careful not to start a robbing scenario when drenching bees.

Because of changes in the weather, it may be necessary to keep the supers on longer or to remove them sooner.

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FOOT NOTES (CONTINUED)

Be sure to keep a log book on what has gone on in each hive. This will be of tremendous help when requesting guidance or assistance.

Be aware of a possible sugar intake problem in September if the hive is losing population and the winter stores (hive weight) are not increasing.

Our biggest change is to go with the bottom screens with the oil trays for small hive beetle control. Using one tray for four hives works well. Have the tray in place before inspection. A great percentage of the beetles drop into the tray during inspection and bees continue to chase the beetles for some time after inspection. Move the trays to another hive on a weekly basis. These trays capture beetle larvae before they can go to the ground.

In July 2011 we started using the Hop Guard strips 3 times a year. Our sticky board tests showed a good drop in mite population.

In August of this year we used Mite-Away II.

Our winter nucs were made in early to mid August and we used one Hop Guard Strip per nuc at intervals of one week for a total of three strips.

We now have two mating yards for queen breeding. The hives contain Hygienic queens and queens we have bred with Hygienic ancestry. These hives have good temperament and high honey and brood production. Our mite count remains low because of these queens. Tabor Russian-Yugo crosses, Hygienic Italians & New World Carniolans, and our queens make for a great diverse offspring.

Be extremely careful to provide sufficient ventilation to the hives at all times. Use notched inner covers with a center hole in the winter and top screens in the summer. Inadequate ventilation in the winter may allow condensation in the hive with a resultant loss of bees. Inadequate ventilation in the summer puts a heavy workload on the bees to keep the hive cool.

Make sure you register your hives and request a state inspection.

Try to attend as many monthly meetings as possible and get involved as this is the best way to learn, keep up with changes, and get your questions answered.

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Nuc

A nuc, or nucleus colony, is essentially a small starter hive. These vary widely in composition so I will describe the most common types. These vary in size from 2-frame re-queening nucs to those with 10 frames.

The ones most people come in contact with are the 5-frame Spring nucs used to start up full colonies of bees. Regardless of the make-up in brood frames or foundations that may come with it, the most important part is to purchase from a reputable dealer whose bees and equipment have been certified disease free. Certification is usually done by a state appointed inspector. After a complete inspection he/she will write a report on the colonies that will be used to provide brood, honey, and pollen frames for the nucs. If possible, the nucs to be sold will also be inspected.

State law mandates that nucs be made from state inspected bees before crossing state lines. Frames of drawn comb can harbor disease and pests hiding in pollen or brood frames. Our state inspectors work hard to control diseases and pests. By working with them it helps to control and contain all of these problems. Never hesitate to call on a bee inspector for any reason as you will benefit greatly by doing so.

The highest quality nucs will contain 2 frames of brood with eggs, larvae, and capped brood and with an arch of pollen and honey. The emerging brood will immediately feed before cleansing cells or other house duties. I like to place a frame of drawn comb next to the brood frames, then a frame of honey, and then a pollen frame. I do not wait any time to install my queens.

We use a California mini cage for all of our queens with no attendant bees. You do not have to remove any frames as the cage is small enough to install in any nucs or colonies.

Install the queen between the top bars or slightly lower onto the combs. Be sure to place the wire side down. Within three days the queen will be out (candy tube empty). Since the

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nucs were made while the field bees were not present you will have a majority of young nurse bees on the frames. Shake plenty of extra bees into the nuc being sure not to get the queen from the donor hive.

The key to a successful nuc is the queen. During April and early May we use queens obtained from Olivarez Honey Bees. They have very good Hygienic Italian and New World Carniolans. We have sold thousands of these queens over the years with great return reports. We also use them in our hives.

All of our stock is hygienic. They produce abundant brood, honey, are gentle, and are reasonably disease resistant. We like Italians and Carnies as they produce more brood and honey when compared to the other European bees. The hygienic queens presently available co-exist with varroa and small hive beetles as well or better than the other types of bees.

These nucs will be monitored for three weeks. They will be released to the customer if they show good brood patterns and healthy larvae. By this time the queen is usually laying on that frame of comb we placed next to the brood frame. This makes a nuc to be proud of. When transferring the frames from the nuc box to the hive box, place the frames in the hive in the same order as when they were in the nuc box.

Always inspect the nuc you are buying and look for assemblage described above.

A starter 5 frame nuc to build on over the summer can be started with one frame of brood (eggs, larvae, capped brood), a frame of comb, and three foundations. We use a 3 inch wooden feeder box on top and adding a quart-size zip-lock bag containing 1-to-1 sugar water and one half of a pollen patty. The Boardman (jar feeder) can cause robbing and the water may overheat. The top feeder is simple; remove lid, replace bag and patty and close up. Hive top feeders are available for 5 frame boxes which we also use. In making a summer nuc, think tomatoes. If it's warm enough to plant tomatoes, it's warm enough to make a summer nuc. Shake extra bees into nuc box to keep brood warm. If not enough nurse bees are present, you will get chill brood, outer edges of brood will die.

As the season progresses you may have to remove brood to keep the nuc from swarming. These nucs progress over the summer and make nice winter nucs.

Winter nucs are made up as described above or you can start one up at the beginning of August. This requires 3 Hop-Guard strips a week apart to kill mites, 2 frames of brood, a

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frame of comb, a frame of pollen, and 2 frames of honey. Again use the best quality of queen you can get. Place another nuc box (medium or deep) full of honey on top as food for the winter. Equip your feeder or feeder box with 1-to-1 sugar water and a half pound pollen patty. Continue to feed the nuc through September and check periodically for the queen.

During 2013 we sold over 80 2 frame re-queening nucs. We receive a shipment of queens every Wednesday morning from Olivarez Honey Bees for our customers. We mark them for a \$2.00 fee. Any queens left in that weekly shipment goes into 2 frame nucs.

We pick out 2 frames of brood (3 if medium) with eggs, larvae, and capped brood. A frame of honey always stays in the box. We place the two brood frames between two frames of drawn comb as this helps to keep the brood warm. Now install the queen. In three or four days we check on the queen. Almost always the queen is there.

After two weeks, when the queen has started laying, this nuc can be sold. The customer takes the nuc box home, transfers their nuc into an empty box on their hive using the newspaper method, using two frames of their comb on each side of the brood frames. They return our two frames of comb and honey for us to start a new 2 frame nuc. Be advised that sometimes the queen will start laying on one of the combs we provided. They can purchase that frame for \$5.00 more. Five-frame cardboard nuc boxes can be purchased for \$7.50. That way the nuc box does not have to be returned.

Installed properly these nucs are almost 100% successful for re-queening. If you have your own nuc box you should start a nuc for a backup in your own yard. They can produce extra brood for honey population buildup. Each yard should have one nuc for every 5 to 7 colonies for back up use. Queens for the nucs may be purchased from April 1 to September 1 to add to the nucs.

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Package Bees



In the world of beekeeping, a small box capable of holding a few pounds of bees and a food source such as a syrup can is called a "package". The use of packages to transport bees has a long history dating back to the 1880's. The main transportation method was by railroad with the bees, then transferred to the local post office for delivery. Commercial transportation and the post office are still used today although the most common method is for an individual to pick up a large

number of packages for bee clubs and/or individuals. More and more clubs are buying direct from the suppliers. Package prices usually range from \$65 to \$80 dollars each depending on the number purchased at a time with price breaks occurring at 100, 300, and 500 packages. These prices are for three pound packages with two, three, and four pound packages being the most common purchases.

Be sure to have your hive bodies ready to receive your packages. In the Shenandoah Valley from Hagerstown, Maryland south, mid-March is acceptable for installing packages if you have at least 5 frames of drawn comb and a frame of honey. Mid-April is better for installing packages because the hives needs are not so great. One-to-one sugar water must be supplied until the nectar flow starts. Use only one hive body if foundation still needs to be drawn as placing more than that will sometimes result in the bees robbing foundation wax for capping brood. This also keeps the bees close to their food source if using hive top feeders. Pollen patties are a very good idea at this time as the weather may not be conducive for flight and no pollen may be available. Pollen equals protein which equals brood.

Boardman feeders have several drawbacks. The amount held is too small, robbing can become an issue, the syrup spoils quickly in hot weather, the syrup may become too hot for the bees to consume, and some medicines, such as Fumagilin-B are destroyed by exposure to sunlight.

If you can obtain two frames of drawn comb from a reputable apiary this will be an excellent boost to starting a package as it provides a place for queen installation as well as a place for the bees to cluster in comfort.

About a week or so after installation of the package, if you have or can get a frame of brood covered in nurse bees it will greatly help the package develop. If you add another frame (deep)

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you will probably get a honey harvest from this package. You will have added thousands of wax secretors who will finish two boxes of foundation into comb in short order.

Installing your package can be accomplished in many ways. When you receive a package, place it in an area of 50-70 degrees, draft-free, and in low light or darkness. Do not accept a package if the bottom is covered with one-half inch or more of dead bees. The package you have accepted can be kept for up to three days by spraying the cage with one-to-one sugar water. Of course, weather permitting, you want to install as soon as possible.

You are now ready to install. You do not need to cover the bees with sugar water to slow flight or to smoke them. The best packages contain all young bees that have never flown and are very docile. These bees were shook into packages during the day when the field bees were not present. Remove the small wooden cover from the top of the package, have five frames or foundation removed so that the package can be placed down in the deep body. You can do the same by taking two medium boxes and adding five frames in the second box, thus leaving a depth to drop the package into. The bees will come out of the shipping cage on their own. Now give the package one sharp bounce to knock the bees to the bottom of the package container. Remove the sugar can with the aid of your hive tool, reach in and remove the queen and quickly replace the small wooden cover. Make sure the queen is alive and active. Install the queen, screen side down, on comb after removing the cork from the candy end. The candy end should face up so any dead attendant bees will not block the exit. It is not necessary to poke holes in the candy. The wire face on the cage should be exposed so the loose bees can feed the queen and the attendant bees. You can hang a queen cage or use pins to install on lower frame of foundation if no comb is available. The queen is kept warmer with a lower installation than placing on or between the top bars or in feeder spaces. Shake a small cluster of bees (two handfuls of bees) onto queen. Place your package down into the empty space made available by frame removal. Close the hive. In 12 hours or so the package should be empty. Remove the cage, replace the frames, and close up using one brood box. A second brood box can be added after all foundation is drawn in the first box. If outside temperature is 50 degrees or less it is better to shake the bees into the hive. Shaking is less desirable as it does small injuries to the bees and dead bees end up in hives. The live bees will remove the dead bees later.

Shipping stresses the bees so a feeding of Fumagillin-B is a good idea. Add one level teaspoon of powdered medicine to one gallon of one-to-one sugar water. Place two Hop Guard strips in the same area as the queen cage for mites. This serves to kill the phoretic mites (the mites on the bees). At this time there is no brood so the strips work to kill most of the mites on the bees. Hop Guard is now considered an organic treatment.

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In eight to ten days after installation, check to see if the queen is present. If you see eggs and larvae you have a queen. Look no further as the least amount of disturbance is best. Check every 10 to 14 days for queen presence.

In the first three weeks a third of the population will die. In another three weeks your original population should be back and your hive will continue to grow.

The packages will have been inspected and approved from your major pack dealers from the south.

Watch with amazement as your hive grows and your management skills improve. Find a mentor and join a local bee group. Beekeeping is 90% common sense. Learn the biology of the bee, know their feeding habits, and learn what a bee does to survive.

Beginners should not buy established hives. There is much to know about the management of these hives. A beginner should start small and grow the first season with starter hives. Your goal the first year is to grow strong hives ready to go into winter. If you do get extra honey the first year it is just a bonus.

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Bee Nutrition

There is enough time to set up your nutrition (feeding) program before you get your bees. Fumagilin-B should be given to both nucs & package bees when you first install them. If the weather is bad, they have to have something to eat right away. The bees are stressed from shipping and Fumagilin-B helps greatly.

Get together with other club members or friends and share an order of Fumagilin-B & pollen supplements to save money & cut out the middleman. Have a pollen patty party and have fun learning how to keep bees!

Mann Lake's Fumagilin-B .5 gram bottle (item # DC-105) makes 5 Spring treatments. Spring treatments: one teaspoon per gallon to 1:1 sugar water. Fall (around Sept. 1st) treatments: double the amount, 2 teaspoons per gallon to 2:1 sugar water. Mann Lake also sells Fumagilin-B in 2.0 gram (item # DC-110) & 9.5 gram (item # DC-115) bottles.



Mann Lake's Bee-Pro or Dadant's Mega Bee pollen substitutes are two really good products we recommend. Order enough so everyone will get 10-15 one pound patties. Freeze surplus patties for your Fall feeding program. A quart ziploc bag will hold a one pound finished product.



Pollen patties are so simple to make. Two parts supplement to one part pure cane sugar. Don't use beet sugar GMOs. One ounce Honey-B-Healthy, three tablespoons vegetable oil per 10 pound mix. Mix, pack, freeze, done. Add water as needed.

When we feed, we take a frozen patty & cut a big circle out of one side. At the bee yard, peel off circle & place that side down. It stays moist & the bees consume it out of the bag. Remember every hive is different; some eat all of the patties you feed it & others will not touch it.

Providing Local Honey, Woodenware, Hardware, & Apiary Services for over 10 years.

Herbert Everhart  85 Everhart Drive  Kearneysville, WV 25430  (304) 876-3832
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Small hive beetle larvae in pollen patty.

If small hive beetles are present they like to lay their eggs in the patties. This is good. Remove and freeze the patty, then feed it to the birds, chickens, etc. Do not throw it on the ground; that would aid the small hive beetles' metamorphosis process.

Ziploc baggies on the ground also litters your yard. Keep your apiary clean. Don't throw burr comb or other clutter in the yard; you could cause a robbing problem.

Package bees are generally one to twenty days old. They haven't set up a foraging force yet. That is why it is necessary to have 1:1 sugar water & pollen patties ready for them to eat in the hive. Sugar water is their carbohydrate (energy) food. Pollen substitute (protein) is needed for their brood rearing. Don't let them run out of these or brood and comb production will stop.

Start out with one gallon sugar water, then step up amount as needed. Add one teaspoon of pure Clorox bleach (without fabric softeners or fragrances) or one teaspoon Honey-B-Healthy to help keep sugar water fresh.

As the hive grows, they will stop taking the food you supplied them for the real things - nectar & pollen.

There are many different products and ways to offer it to your hives. The feeding methods & products we have described have been working very well in our yards for years. Conduct your own research & ask other beekeepers about their methods & come to your own conclusion on which method works best for your situation & hives.

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We sell ALL beekeeping related products, including:

*Woodenware
Hardware
Queens
Nucs
Bee Suits*



Buy locally & save on shipping costs!

Our honey shop is open 24-7-365 & we offer several honey varieties in assorted sizes.

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Are you Queenless or
have a failing Queen?



DON'T WORRY!

Give us a call (304-876-3832) or email us
at info@eversweetapiaries.com.

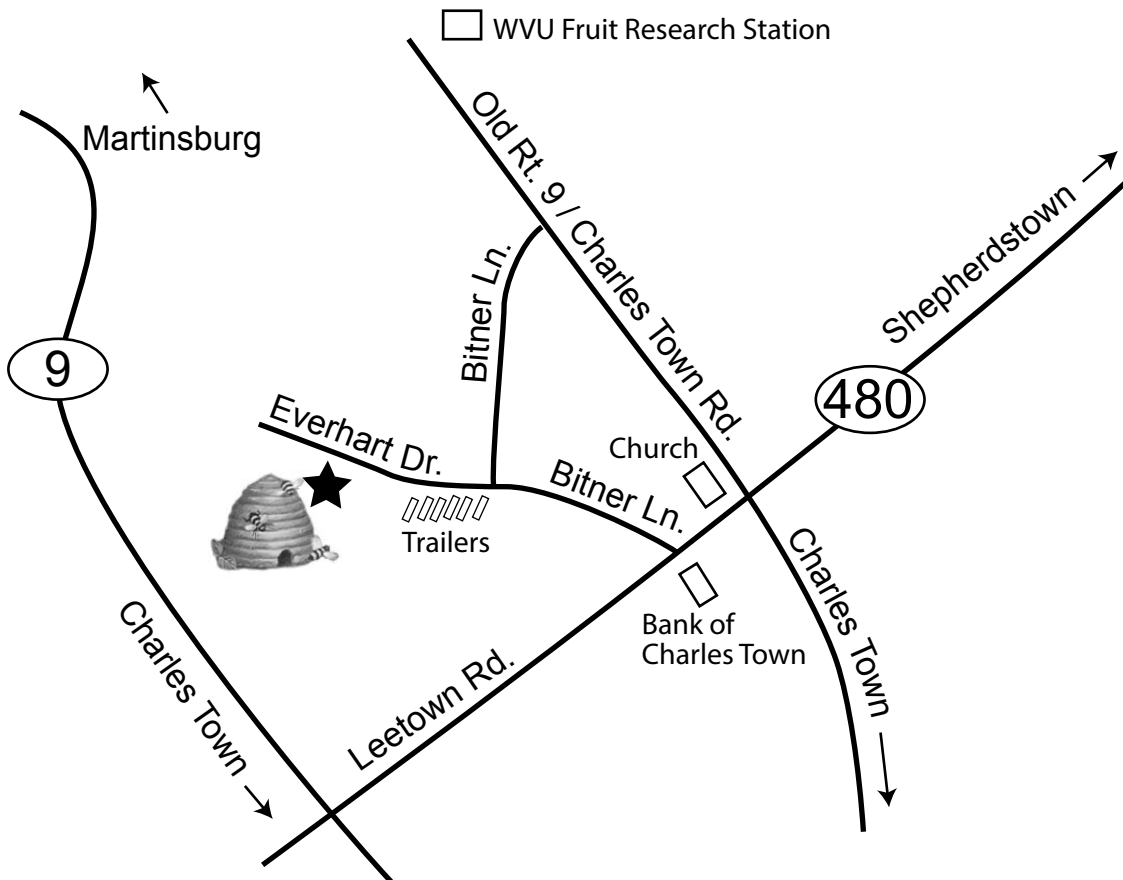
We sell Olivarez's Hygienic Italian &
New World Carniolan queens from the first of
April to the first of September.

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Feel free to visit Eversweet Apiaries located at 85 Everhart Drive, Kearneysville, WV if you have any beekeeping questions. Or give us a call (304-876-3832) or email us at info@eversweetapiaries.com.



WE LOVE TO TALK ABOUT BEES!

We are open weekdays from 9AM - 3PM & Saturdays from 9AM - 12PM. Other times available by appointment.



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