

INSTRUCTIONS FOR INTRODUCING MATED QUEENS

Make sure that the colony into which the new queen has been introduced is queenless.

Make sure no queen cells are present or just started.

If the colony is thought to be queenless, but there is doubt and the queen cannot be found, test with a frame of young brood from another colony. If no queen cells are started within three days, then the colony has a queen, and this queen must be found and killed before the new queen is introduced.

If cells are started then the colony really is queenless and the cells started must be removed before introduction.

To make sure no cells are present, the combs must be shaken to remove all bees, to get a better view. Make sure no cells are missed, especially in the centre of the comb and in the hollows around the edge. (The cells may be small.)

See the colony has food, and if none is coming in, give a feed at the time of introduction.

If the colony is known to have been queenless for some time give a frame of young brood at the time the new queen is inserted.

If there is an old queen to dispose of, remove her at mid-day and introduce the new queen in the evening.

Take the cage with the new queen indoors and open it in front of a closed window so that she cannot escape. Remove the worker attendants from the cage and put the queen back in it on her own. Take out the cork, or card cover, from the end of the cage which contains the candy, to enable the bees to eat through this and allow the queen to be released.

Put the cage between two frames so that the bees can have access to her through the mesh which should be face downwards.

Cover up and leave the hive completely alone for at least a week.

Other methods may be practiced with success with any experienced beekeepers. The best type of cage, in our opinion, into which to place a queen for introduction is the 'Butler' cage.

We guarantee live delivery only and cannot be responsible after this.

Please examine the travelling cage on arrival, and ascertain if the queen is alive. If not, please return the cage to us immediately – UNOPENED.



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