

INTRODUCTION TO BEEKEEPING COURSE 2018

COURSE SYLLABUS

SESSION 1 THE HONEY BEE – LIFE CYCLE & ANATOMY

27th Feb

Aim:

- Welcome, Health & Safety, Intro to Course
- Introduction - Early Domestication of the Honey Bee & the Use of Wooden Rectangular Frames
- To give a Detailed Understanding of the Anatomy of the Honey Bee
- To Learn The Stages of Development of Workers, Drones & Queens and their Life Expectancy
To Understand the Honey Bee's Life Cycle

SESSION 2 HIVES, FRAME BUILDING, TOOLS, PROTECTIVE CLOTHING & BEE STINGS

6th Mar

Aim:

- To Consider & Identify Different Hives & Hive parts.
To Understand the Importance of & the Difference between Top & Bottom Bee Space
- To Demonstrate the Construction of a Basic Frame & Insert Wax Foundation.
- To Identify the Tools & the necessary Protective Clothing that is required.
- Honey Bee Stings & How to Treat Them.

SESSION 3 THE APIARY –BEE YEAR, RECORD KEEPING &- OBTAINING YOUR BEES

13th Mar

Aim:

- To Consider where to Obtain Equipment
- To know Where & How to site Hives.
- How to Record Events.
- Bee Friendly Plants.
- To Understand the Stages of the Bee Year & know how best to look after your Colonies.
- Getting your Bees & introducing them to your Hive.

SESSION 4 SWARM CONTROL. HONEY BEE HEALTH, HYGIENE & DISEASES

20th Mar

Aim:

- To Introduce Diseases, Health Issues & the Effect they have on the Honey Bee.
- Integrated Pest Management – Month by Month Bee Health Management System.
- Best Hygiene Practices & Disease Prevention Methods.
- Have knowledge of Swarming, why it occurs & best measures to deal or prevent it.

SESSION 5 THE HONEY HARVEST, WINTER PREPARATIONS

27th Mar

Aim:

- To give an Overview of Honey Extraction.
- Winter Preparations & Predators, Pests & Preventative Measures.
- To introduce the Government Involvement and Responsibility
And the Charity 'British Beekeepers Association', including Harlow Beekeepers Division.

SESSIONS 6 & 7 - APIARY SESSION 1 & 2 We have various apiaries for you to visit, a different site per session

22nd & 29th April

Sessions are dependent on good weather - Please note they may have to be delayed

Aim:

- Practical approach to Protective Clothing, Apiary requirements and Hive Positioning.
- Instruction in the use of Tools & Equipment.
- Identifying the Difference between Types of Hives and Hive Parts.
- Introduction to working Hives and Identification of The Queen, Workers & Drones.
- Frame Assessment - to Identify Pollen, Honey, Eggs, Larvae & Capped Brood.