

## BEE HIVE

Full depth super (8 or 10 Frame)	\$25
Migratory lid (8 or 10 Frame)	\$18
Wooden base (8 or 10 Frame)	\$13
Welded wire excluder (8 or 10 Frame)	\$17.50
Frame (wood)	\$1.40
Frame (wood) (Box of 100)	\$105
Wire, gal 250g	\$12
Eyelets (packet of 500)	\$16
Eyelets (packet of 1000)	\$28
Sheet of wax	\$1.40
Box 147 wax sheets (10 kg)	\$150
Ideal super (8 Frame)	\$20
Frame (Ideal)	\$1.35

## TOOLS

Hive tool, blue	\$20
Hive tool, American Style	\$18
Bee brush, nylon	\$15
Wire crimper, plastic	\$27
Spur wheel embedder	\$20
8cm galvanised smoker	\$45
10cm galvanised smoker	\$55
Plain knife, light	\$50
Plain knife, heavy	\$95
Steam knife, 10"	\$115
Electric knife	\$210
Eyelet tool	\$11
Queen Catcher	\$15
Emlock hive fastener	\$8
Stainless strap, (per m)	\$1
Spring clips, metal	\$1.30

## SAFETY GEAR

Round wire veil	\$25
Hood Style Veil (no hat needed)	\$70
Full Beekeeping Overalls with Zip Hood	\$160
Leather gloves (M / XL)	\$33

## EXTRACTORS

### 3-Frame Extractor

Geared, stainless steel (includes stand)	\$570
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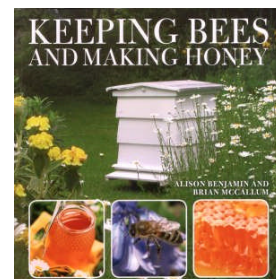
### 4-Frame Extractor

Geared, stainless steel (includes stand & lid)	\$710
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## STORING & STRAINING

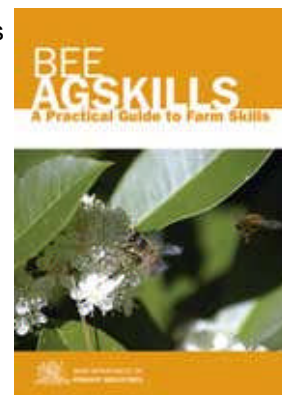
Round nylon strainer (540mm diameter)	\$65
Nylon straining material	\$30
Honey gate, 40 mm	\$25
0.5 kg plastic bucket	\$0.60
1 kg plastic bucket	\$1
3 kg plastic bucket	\$2
15kg plastic bucket	\$10
27 kg plastic bucket	\$22

This is a comprehensive guide to beekeeping - from finding your bees to getting them home, housing them, collecting honey and using their produce. It includes a detailed look at the history of bees and beekeeping, and an extensive introduction to help you to fully understand your bees and keep them happy. Whether you have a tiny balcony or acres of land; live in the middle of a city or in the countryside surrounded by flowers, this book caters for every situation. It features comprehensive advice on how to safely collect your honey and wax, with recipes and ideas on how to use them.



Beekeeping, A Practical Guide	\$29.95
AgSkills by NSW Department of Primary Industries	\$29.95

A basic guide to some of the skills and practices of bee production. Easy to follow for those new to bee keeping, this book contains step-by-step instructions, diagrams and full-colour pictures. Includes how to maintain hives, use a bee smoker, catch a swarm, remove and extract honey, health and pests in the hive, buying equipment, and working safely with bees.



## ABOUT BEES

A wonderful relationship exists between humans and the honeybee. It's one that benefits both - we provide the bees with a home and (in the case of commercial apiaries) transport the hives around the countryside to where the trees are in flower, and the bees provide us with honey, wax and other products.

Each bee colony consists of one queen, a number of drones (male bees) and thousands of workers (female bees). The drones' sole job is to fertilise the queen. The queen lays the eggs, and the workers do everything else including guarding, cleaning, feeding and harvesting.

## ACQUIRING BEES

There are two main ways to acquire bees. Either buy them from a beekeeper or collect a swarm. Either way you need to buy and prepare your hive equipment first. Swarming is the natural way the bee colony divides. Most swarms appear from mid-September to mid-November.

## ASSEMBLING YOUR HIVE

We sell beehives that you can assemble yourself to reduce cost. Timber boxes and frames need to be glued, set and nailed and the outside of the boxes at least must be painted. (We recommend white, Bio non-toxic, enamel lacquer undercoat & paint.)

Boxes must be in standard sizes, either a #8 (8 frames on each level) or a #10 (10 frames on each level). Boxes are sometimes called brood chambers or supers. Once you decide on a size, stick to it!

The hive also needs a lid (with vent holes and a metal cover) and a base (with a landing strip and special risers to create the entrance).

## INSIDE YOUR HIVE

Inside the hive are frames which support sheets of foundation wax. One sheet of wax is used per frame which encourages the bees to build worker cells. With timber frames, wire needs to be strung tightly across the frame with the aid of eyelets (so the wire doesn't cut into the wood). The wax is then embedded into the wire with a spur wheel (or electric) embedder.

To stop the queen laying in the top boxes a queen excluder is used. These can be made of plastic, or (preferably) metal, which allow only the workers to pass so that only honey will be stored in the top boxes to allow for easier extraction.

## STARTING OUT

### 8 FRAME STARTER KIT

2 x boxes	\$142
1 x lid	
1 x base	
16 x frames	
16 x wax	
Galv. wire 250g	
8F excluder	

### 10 FRAME STARTER KIT

2 x boxes	\$155
1 x lid	
1 x base	
20 x frames	
20 x wax	
Galv. wire 250g	
10F excluder	

## BEEKEEPING TIPS

- Contact the Department of Agriculture to register your hives. Victoria 1800 356 761.
- Light smokers with paper and pine needles.
- To move swarms, cut the branch with the swarm or scoop them up in cardboard box and deposit them into the previously prepared beehive.
- Uncapping of the bee frames is done with special knives or scratchers. The knives may be heated with hot water, steam heated or electrically heated. Remove the wax cap of the cell and put the frame into an extractor so the honey can be spun out.

