



Save The Bees & Save The World



Are You Interested in Bees?

- Opa in Villach – keeping bees
- 2016 Started Studying w/ Flow Hive
 - Thought it was an easy beekeeping - not
 - Kept studying, thinking and now testing
- ‘Keeping’ vs ‘Helping’ the bees
 - Will you join me?



Bird Houses & Bee Houses

30 Years ago – Had never seen a Bluebird
but put up a house

Tended and bluebirds came year after year

We can do this for BEES



Bees Fuel Food

- **Three out of four crops depend on pollinators.**
- **Pollinators are under threat**
- **Why are the bees dying?**
 - **bee habitat**
 - **Large uninsulated hives require pesticides & sugar**

World Bee Day: www.worldbeeday.org/en



Fewer Beehives*

- **In the 1940s in the USA**
 - 5.7 million honey bee colonies
 - by 2015 just 2.74 million.
- **Nevada... lost 65.5% of its colonies during the winter of 2019.**



*43 Frightening Bee Statistics & Facts for 2021 by Boriana Slabakova May 18, 2021

USA Hive Survival Only Around 50%

- **Beekeepers across the United States lost 45.5% of their managed honey bee colonies from April 2020 to April 2021**
- **3,347 beekeepers (192,384 colonies) responded (about 7% of estimated 2.71 million managed colonies)**
- **The survey is conducted by the Bee Informed Partnership**

US beekeepers continue to report high colony loss rates, no clear improvement, University of Maryland <http://phys.org> September 2021



How can I help the bees?

**“Get a beehive and
become a hobby beekeeper”**



*Backyard Beekeeping as a Hobby-A Good Idea? Carolina Honeybees August 2021

Bee “Keeping” Too Much For Me

- Too Much Money for a “Try”
- Too Much Time Inspecting & Tending
- Too Much Heavy Lifting
- Too Complicated Knowing When, What & How to “Care”

- Just wanted to help the bees



Maintenance Free Alternative

- HorizontalHive.com
- beekeeping of 100+ years ago
- Bees care for themselves (The Lives of Bees)
- Need good homes
(we cut down 'marginal' trees)



Natural Beekeeping



KEEPING BEES WITH A SMILE: A VISION AND PRACTICE OF NATURAL APICULTURE

by Fedor Lazutin,
edited by Dr. Leo Sharshkin
402 pages, over 100 illustrations and 32
full-color photographs
\$34.95. ISBN 978-0-9842873-5-2
Deep Snow Press, September 2013.
www.DeepSnowPress.com

"Fascinating! It will shake
up your thinking."

"Keeping Bees With a Smile is a valuable guide for independent-minded beekeepers who are seeking ways to keep bees without treating them with chemicals, disrupting their homes, and otherwise intruding on their lives. Fedor Lazutin, one of Russia's foremost natural beekeepers, describes a beekeeping system based on a trust of a bee colony as a living being capable of solving life's challenges without human assistance. Beginner-friendly and complete with fascinating photographs, it is a special book, and one that I expect will 'shake up' the thinking of the independent-minded beekeepers in North America and Europe."

— Dr. Thomas D. Seeley,
Professor, Cornell University
author of *Honeybee Democracy*
and *The Wisdom of the Hive*



Laid-back beekeeping for all, naturally!

While the media are awash with the news of bees disappearing on a global scale, Fedor Lazutin's bees are healthy and happy, and the number of his hives naturally doubles every year. He uses no medicines or any unnatural methods, inspects his hives once per year, and harvests more honey than he can sell! His approach is fun, healthful, rewarding, and accessible to all. Discover his unique insights on how to



Traditional Beekeeping - Easy?

“Peasant families commonly have Tending these takes little effort, so the owner can work his fields and attend to other matters.”

-- Nikolay Vitvitsky,
Practical Beekeeping, 1835



Traditional Beekeeping - Easy?

“Peasant families commonly have 1000 hives. Tending these takes little effort, so the owner can work his fields and attend to other matters.”

-- Nikolay Vitvitsky,
Practical Beekeeping, 1835



Traditional Beekeeping was Easy



“Many farmers in the Ozarks keep a few colonies in nail-kegs and log gums. The bees are never fed in the fall, and receive no extra protection in winter. Modern hives are almost unknown; but five out of six seasons the beekeeper ‘gets enough to rob.’”

-- John H. Lovell,
Honey Plants of N.A., 1926



Bird Houses & Bee Houses

Darwinian vs. commercial beekeeping

Bird watching vs. poultry farming

Backyard apple tree vs. a commercial orchard

Pleasure vs. profit



Dr. Thomas Seeley,
Cornell University



*Dr. Seeley has inspired our design
but has not endorsed it in any way



Attract Local Wild Bees

Guidelines for Darwinian beekeeping

1. Keep bees that are adapted to your location

- Rear queens from your best survivor colonies, **OR**
- Capture swarms with bait hives in remote locations, **OR**
- Purchase queens from a queen breeder who produces locally adapted queens (**and, ideally, does not treat for mites**)



Attract Local Wild Bees

“Pick the hive model that is best suited to your locale, populate it with local bees, and the results will speak for themselves.”

-- Georges de Layens,
*The Complete Course in
Apiculture*, 1892



Bees Swarm



Typical Honeybee Swarm – They are Looking for a New House



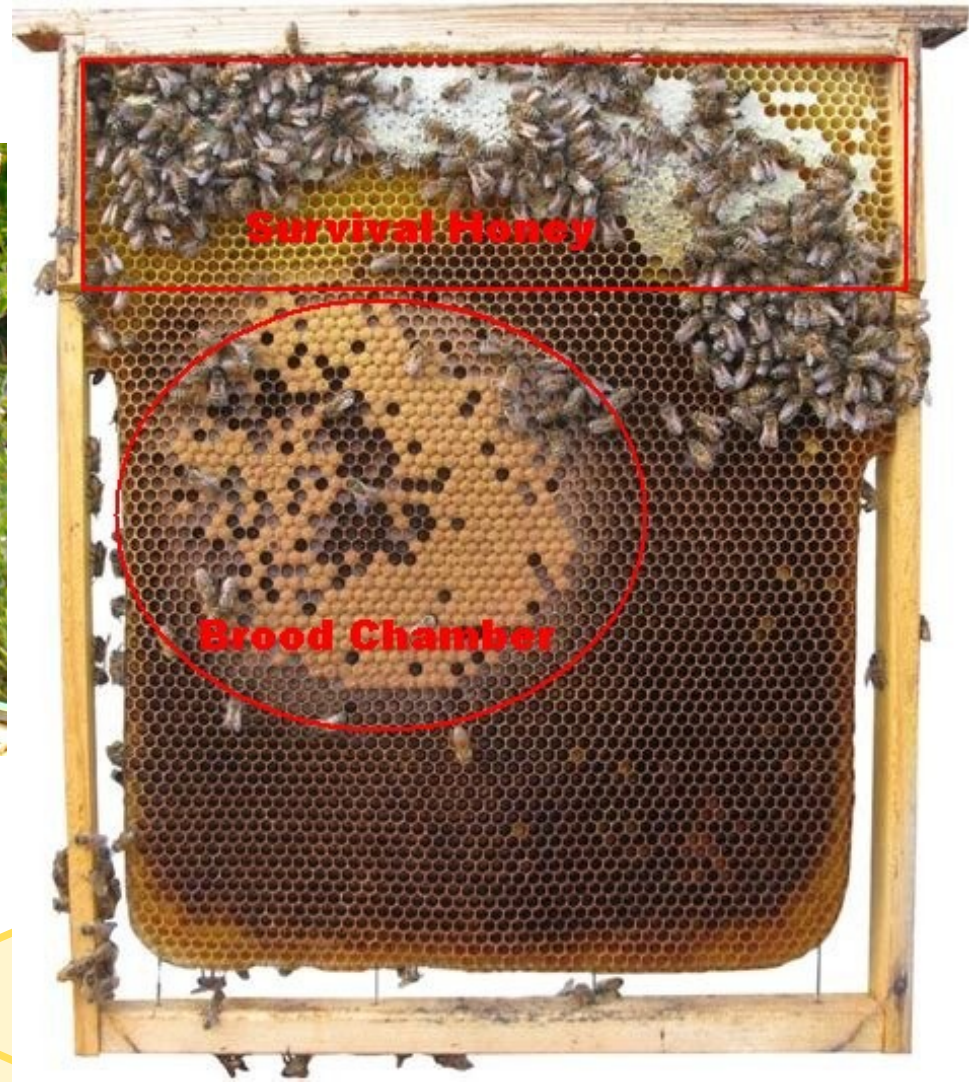
Bees Are Adaptable But Need Houses



Modern vs Horizontal Hives



Modern vs Layens Frames



One Visit Per Year?

“Horizontal hives are wonderfully suited for remote outyards. In the yards that I visit only once per year, I always find the bees in excellent shape with the hives full of honey, harvesting which becomes my sole task.”

-- Jean Hurpin,
Modified Layens Hive, 1941



Small Hives Fight Mites (& Survive)

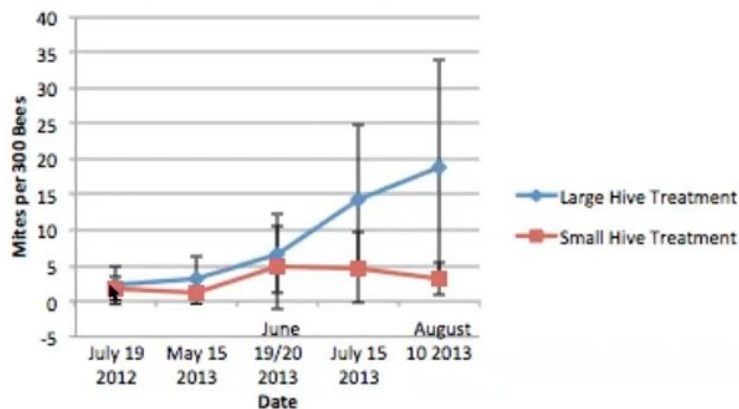
Guidelines for Darwinian beekeeping

2. House your colonies in small hives

- One deep 10-frame hive body + 1 shallow honey super over Q excluder (extract the honey, or produce comb honey)
- Colonies will swarm; 80+% survival even without mite treatments



Mite Counts in Large and Small Hives



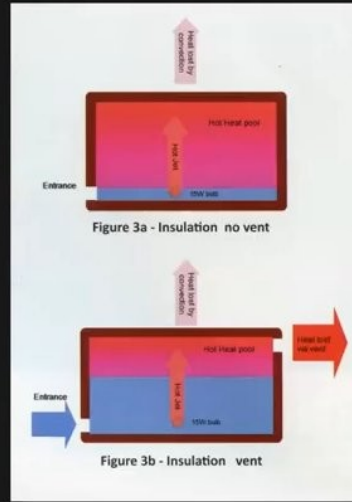
Winter
Survival
17%
83%



Airtight, Small Entrance Benefits

Guidelines for Darwinian beekeeping

7. No top entrance, use just a small bottom entrance
(bees work hard to close top openings with propolis)



Mitchell, D.
2017.
American
Bee Journal
(August),
99. 887-889.

Condensation in hive is the bees' water source in winter.



Treatment - Bad Consequences

Original environment

8. Colonies are not treated for diseases



Bees evolve resistance to Varroa

Current circumstances

Colonies are treated for diseases.



Bees do not evolve resistance to Varroa



Tom Seeley

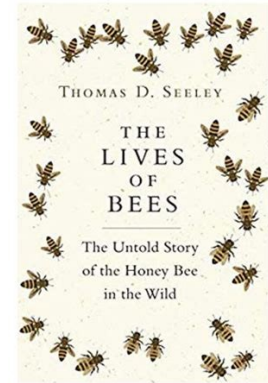


The Lives of Bees

- Local Bees
- Small Well-Insulated Hives
- No Feeding, No Treatment
- No Inspections with Heavy Lifting

Thomas D. Seeley
The Lives of Bees: The Untold Story of
the Honey Bee in the Wild

#1 Best Seller in Entomology



Urban Bees

- **More 'Wild' Bees?**
- **More Varied Pollen Sources**
- **Less Pesticides**
- **A Gateway to Urban Agriculture**



Announcing Poly-Layens Hives

Introducing The World's First Poly-Layens System





John's First Layens Hive



First Prototype Poly Hive



1st Poly-Layens Hives*



*This is Prototype #1 We're Working on #6 at the moment



1st Poly-Layens Hives*



*This is Prototype #1 We're Working on #6 at the moment



Ez-Bees Poly-Layens Hives

- **Bee Houses**
 - Small, Insulated, Tight, with Frames
 - Low Cost, Lightweight, Shipable & Simple
- **Attract Local Bees & Convert to Hive**
 - Popular in Spain
 - For Healthy Bees + Surplus Honey



Ez-Bees Poly-Layens Hives

**Perfect Starter Hive for
Gardeners, Homesteaders,
Farmers & Bee-Lovers**

**The Ideal Way to Provide
Simple Bee Housing**





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