

Artificial Swarm: *The 'Pagden' method*

I have used this method maybe 6~8 times with success. I have tweaked the basic method and I will explain why. You can locate on the internet other methods of describing this process if you wish.

Search for

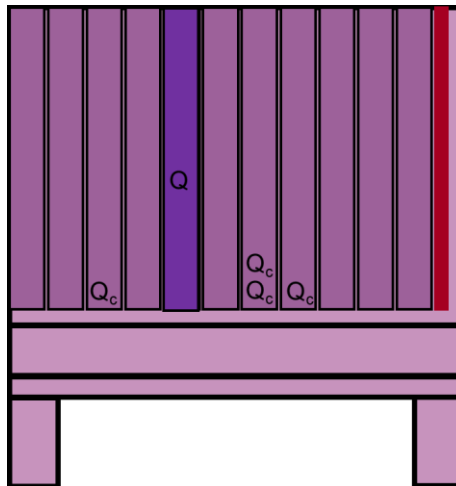
“Artificial Swarm *the 'Pagden' method*”

May I suggest that you fully understand this process and have it clear in your mind long before you come across Queen cells in your hive. Have all the equipment ready weeks ahead of the swarming season. Take the time to have drawings of what to do on paper to have with you 'on the day'. That way you have the equipment you need to do the job and a reference on the day. Yes, there will be a lot of flying bees and like you I find that many bees can be distracting.

OK this is what you are looking for and you have been planning for.

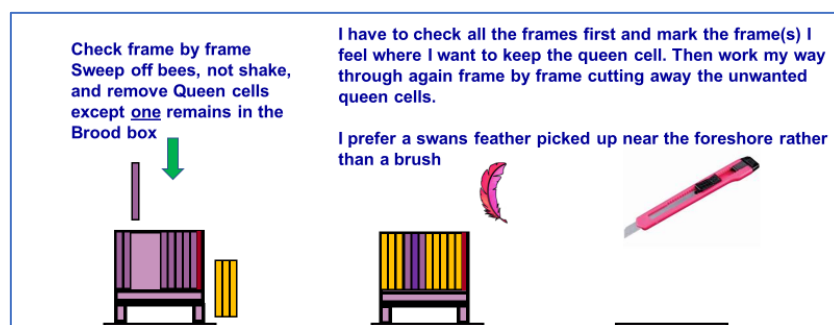
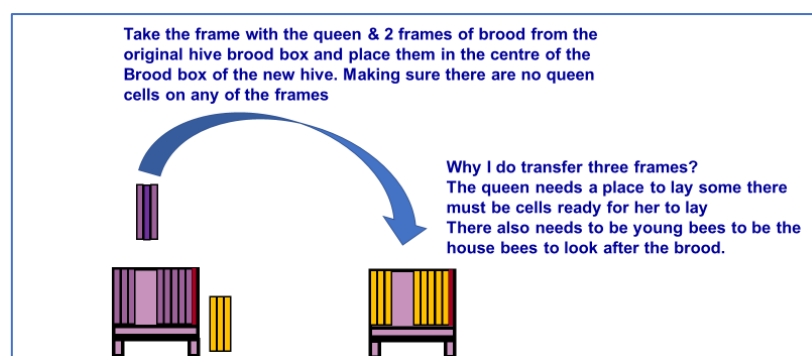
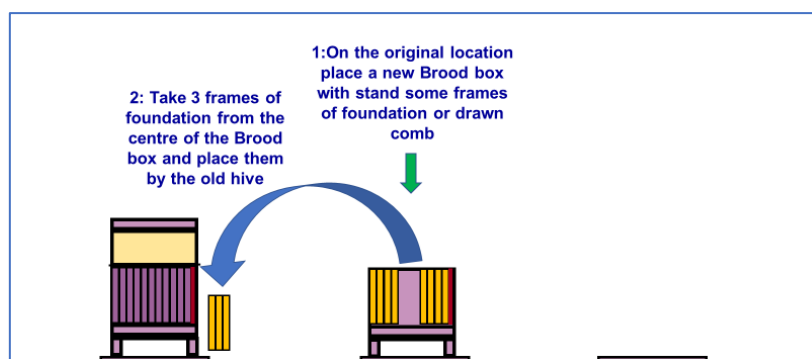
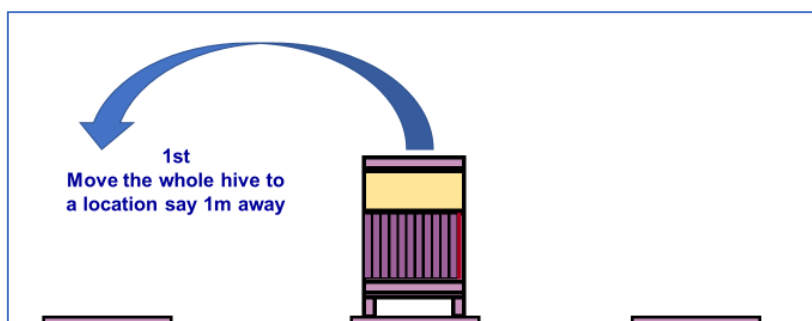


First, you are not surprised, you are in fact looking forward to creating another colony.

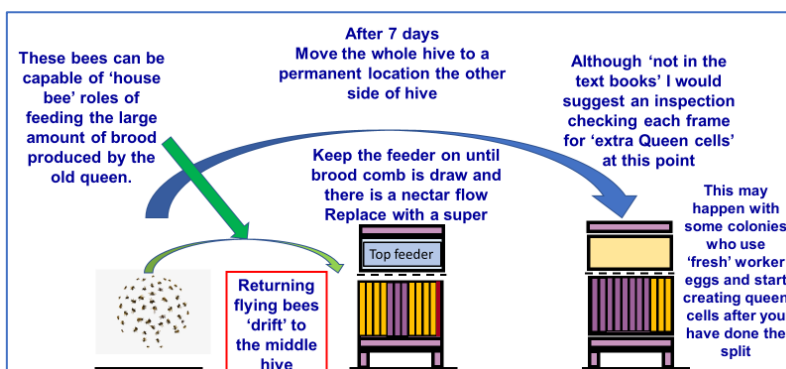
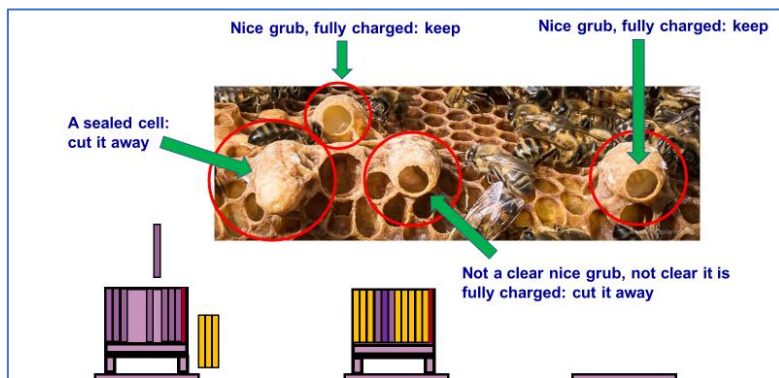


The queen cells may appear singly or in clusters, in one or more frames. So be vigilant.

When queen cells are found, move the parent hive.



Select just one good open charged queen cell to place in the brood box. Some people say have an heir and a spare, that is keep two cells one more advanced than the other both good open charged queen cells.



Leave the hive with the queen cells for at least a further 21 days, before inspecting, to allow the new queen to mate and start laying

Percy Phelps