

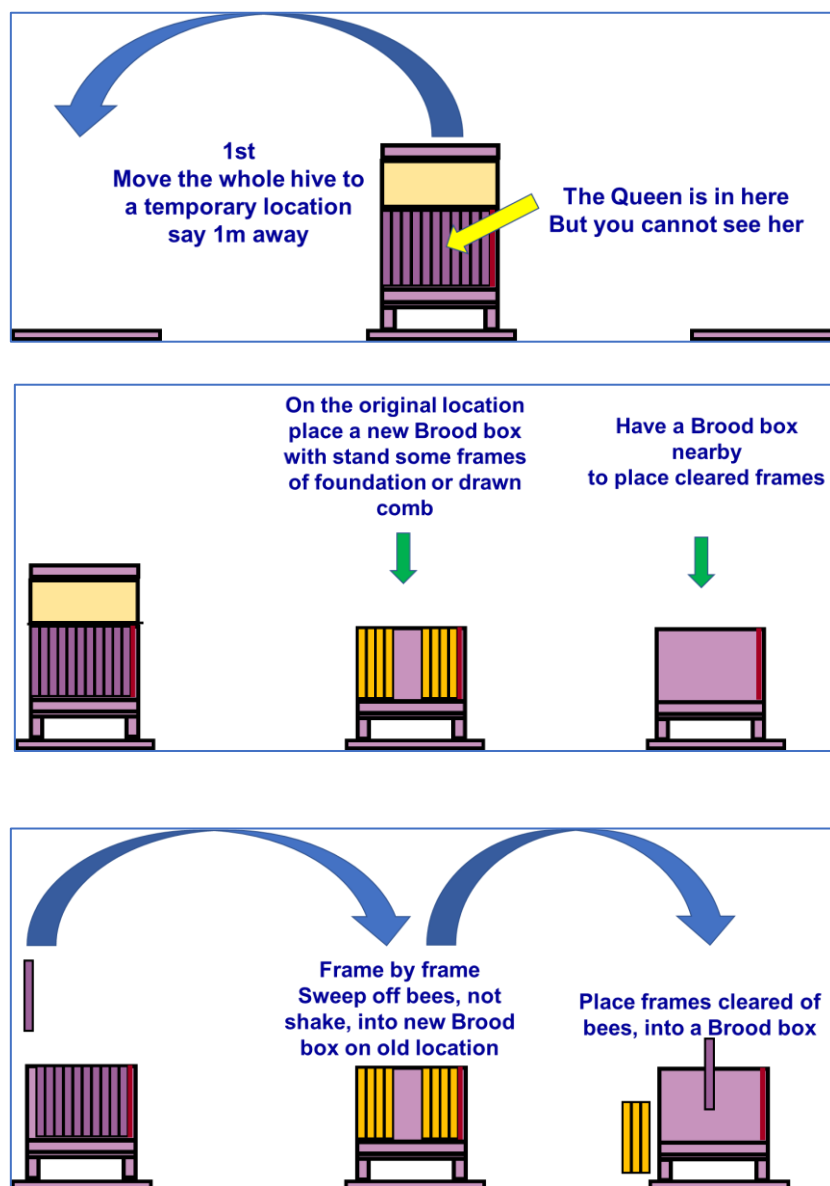
Artificial Swarm *without finding the queen*:

This is the method that I have used twice with success. I have one small tweak from the original text. You can locate the original paper by Brian P. Dennis on the Dave Cushman website, search for

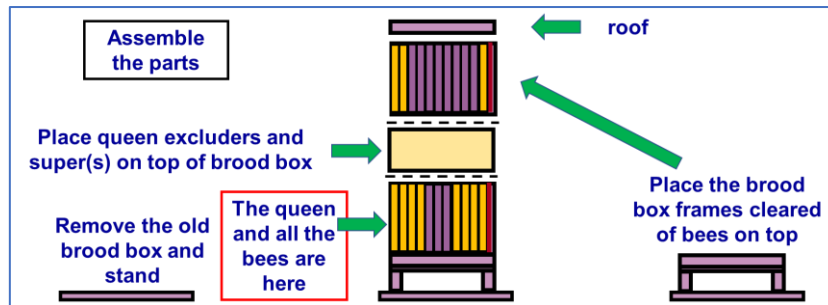
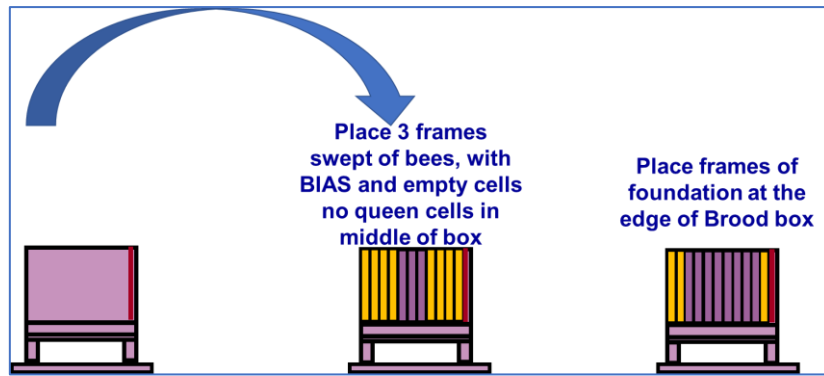
“Artificial Swarm without finding the queen”

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. 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.

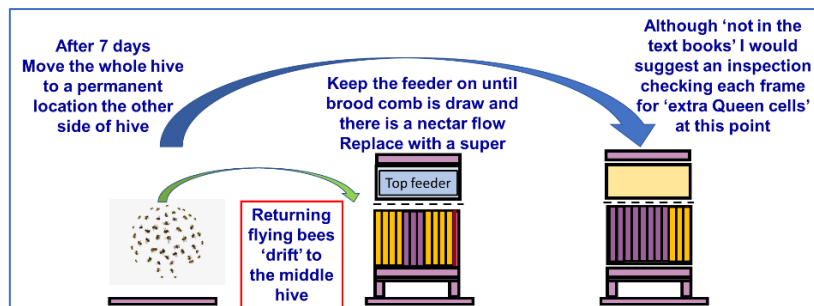
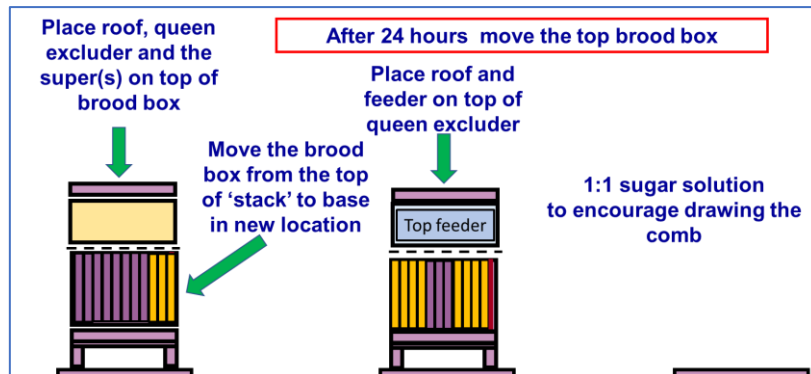
When queen cells are found, move the parent hive.



Select just one good open charged queen cell to place in the brood box with the rest of the frames swept clean of bees.



Leave for 24 hours and most the workers (house) bees will move to the top brood box to look after the brood. The queen must remain in the bottom box, with some nurse bees, kept there by the queen excluder. I have two queen excluders as you will need extra top one later, plus if, like me, miss that the queen was on the excluder and put it the other way up, she only gets into the super.



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