

SWARMING

Time Line Days	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
EGG	EGG		LARVAE					Θ	SWARM							VQ	CASTS		
12 Hr Larvae	LARVAE					Θ	SWARM						VQ	CASTS					
36 Hr Larvae	LARVAE	Θ	SWARM						VQ	CASTS									
Θ	Sealed Cell																		
VQ	Virgin Queen																		

Old Queen will leave with Swarm, weather permitting, on completion of first cell.

Continual destruction of cells by beekeeper may provoke swarm to leave before sealing of cells.

Larvae of up to 36 hours may be used.

Cell Recognition

Supersedure: Small number of cells (1 – 6) on face of comb. Purpose built cup.

Emergency: Moderate number of cells (6 – 12) on face of comb often of same age. Modified worker cell.

Swarm: Can be large number (up to 100) around periphery of brood nest. Purpose built cups.

DO NOT DESTROY ALL CELLS!

If there are no eggs or young larvae and you cannot find the Queen, the Swarm has gone. Reduce to one cell and make a small nucleus as an insurance.

IF SWARM IS CAPTURED.

Hive on original site move parent hive to one side, then 7 days later move to other side. Parent hive should have new Queen in 5 weeks. Reunite if no increase in colonies is required.