

SELF ASSESSMENT TOOL - RATE YOURSELF ON A SCALE OF 1 TO 5



- 1 = I don't know what this is
- 2 = I know what this is but I have never done it myself
- 3 = I have tried to do this without success
- 4 = I have done this successfully a few times
- 5 = I think I am good at this

	General skills for inspecting a hive	1	2	3	4	5
1.	Interpreting behaviour of bees by observing before opening hive					
2.	Personal positioning while inspecting colonies					
3.	Using the hive tool to remove frames gently					
4.	Controlling hand movements and personal calmness					
5.	Being conscious of the queen's location before manipulations					
6.	Managing the differences when working with a poly hive versus a wooden hive					
7.	Handling bees carefully with light gloves					
8.	Using the smoker effectively to control bees					
9.	Using a water spray to control bees					
10.	Shaking bees from a frame					
11.	Keeping hive records					
	Managing colony development					
12	Reading the information in the brood pattern					
13	Moving frames in the brood chamber					
14	Assessing colony temperament					
15	Getting bees to draw foundation in the brood box					
16	Getting bees to draw foundation in a super					
17	Feeding syrup - help or hindrance?					
18	Feeding fondant					
19	Moving colonies to another stand / site					

	Queen manipulation	1	2	3	4	5
20	Finding the queen					
21	Marking a queen					
22	Clipping a queen					
23	Putting a queen in a queen cage with attendants					
24	Introducing a queen to a colony or nuc					
	Swarm control / swarm management					
25	Assessing the space required by the bees					
26	Knowing one method of artificial swarm technique and carrying it out reliably					
27	Knowing how to deal with queen cells when you can't find the queen.					
28	Recognising supersedure rather than swarming.					
29	Understanding the development of a colony post-swarm					
30	Preventing the loss of cast swarms					
31	Determining whether a hive is queenless using a test frame					
32	Using a Demaree-type approach to reduce swarm risk					
33	Using a Snelgrove board					
34	Taking a swarm into a nuc box and removing to another location					
35	Looking after a freshly taken swarm					
	Making Increase					
36	Choosing the breeder queen					
37	Producing queen cells by grafting eggs or generating queen cells					
38	Making up a nuc					
34.	Making up an apidea					
39	Uniting colonies / nucs					
40	Queen-rearing process - preparation of drone colony, breeder queen, cell-raising colony, grafting eggs, calculating the timings					

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	Disease recognition	1	2	3	4	5
41	Recognising varroa mites					
42	Recognising effects of viruses					
43	Recognising nosema					
44	Recognising AFB, EFB					
45	Testing for varroa mites					
46	Knowing a range of treatments for varroa and their times of application.					
47	Using Integrated Prevention Methods for controlling varroa in summer					
48	Taking a sample of bees for laboratory examination					
	Honey management					
49	Clearing bees from a super					
50	Extracting runny honey					
51	Storage of extracted honey					
52	Winter storage of supers with comb					
53	Cleaning wax					
	DIY					
54	Building hive parts					
55	Making up frames correctly					
	Feedback 2015 – 1 = needs improvement, 2 = OK, 3 = average, 4 = better than 2014, 5 = excellent					
56	How did you rate this year's Summer Programme overall?					
57	Were there enough opportunities to improve your skills?					
	What topics or items do you think need more learning opportunities?					
	How could the Summer Programme be improved?					
	For how many years have you been keeping bees?					

