

Bee Handling Tips

- 1 Don't eat bananas before working a hive.
- 2 Good day for hive inspections are sunny, wind-free, with temperatures above 65F
- 3 The best time of day to work a hive is between 10AM and 4PM
- 4 Bees are sensitive to smells
- 5 Wear protective gear that makes you comfortable
- 6 Keep you protective gear clean
- 7 Wear light-colored clothing
- 8 Stay out of the bee flight path
- 9 Let the bees know you are coming and do not overstay
- 10 Have a plan for the inspection
- 11 A little smoke goes a long way
- 12 Be gentle
- 13 Listen as you work
- 14 No Swatting under any circumstances
- 15 Watch where you put your hands

10 Mistakes Beekeepers Make

- 1 Assessing colony health based solely on 'bee traffic'
- 2 Not recognizing being queenless
- 3 Leaving out frames or placing empty supers
- 4 Harvesting honey too early or taking too much
- 5 Not feeding new colonies
- 6 Placing your hive in an inappropriate location
- 7 Not properly suiting up
- 8 Not using the smoker
- 9 Starting with just one colony
- 10 Being satisfied with a limited knowledge of beekeeping