Warré

The Not So Big Hive

Why Warré?

Dimensions are similar to nature

Nadiring

Less intervention by humans preserves nest heat & scent

Apicentric comb/cell construction

Where's Warré?

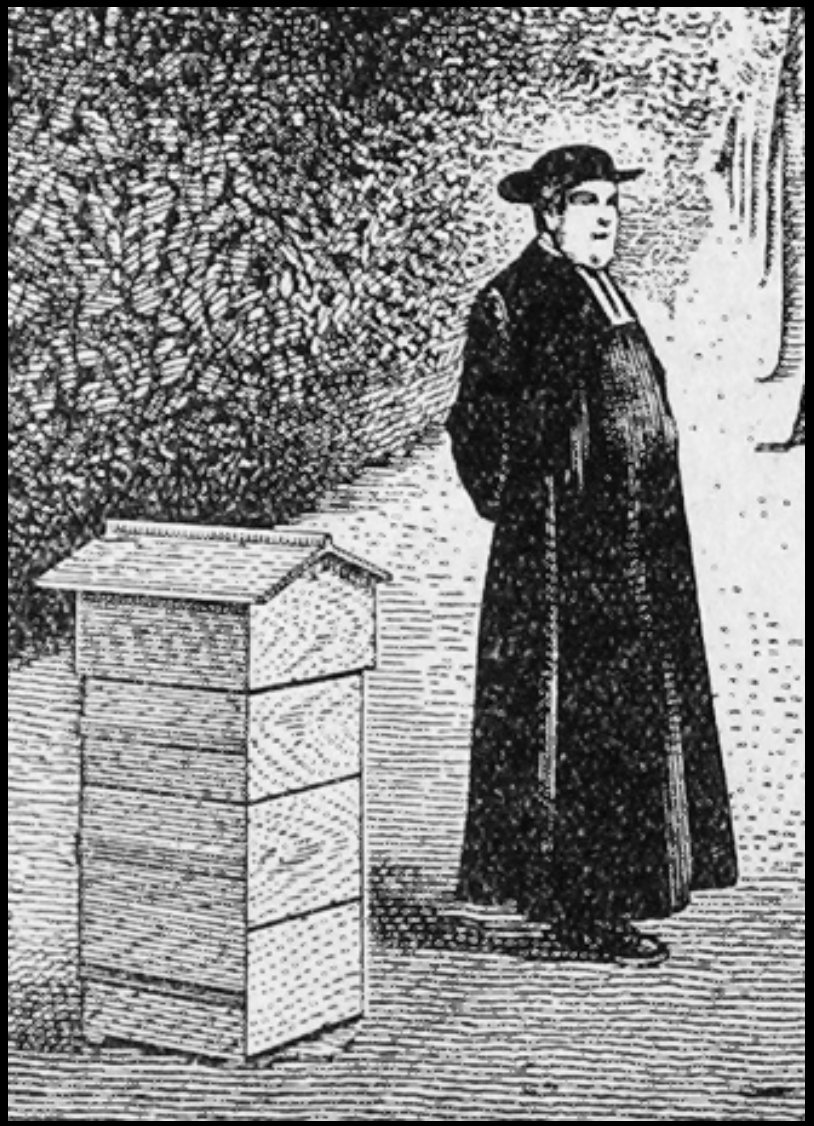
France, U.K., Belgium, Switzerland, Canada, USA,

Spain, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Croatia, Estonia,

Italy, Japan, Latvia, New Zealand, Poland,

Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Sweden, Uruguay

Who was Warré?



"Beekeeping is a **moral activity**, as far as it keeps one away from cafés and low places."

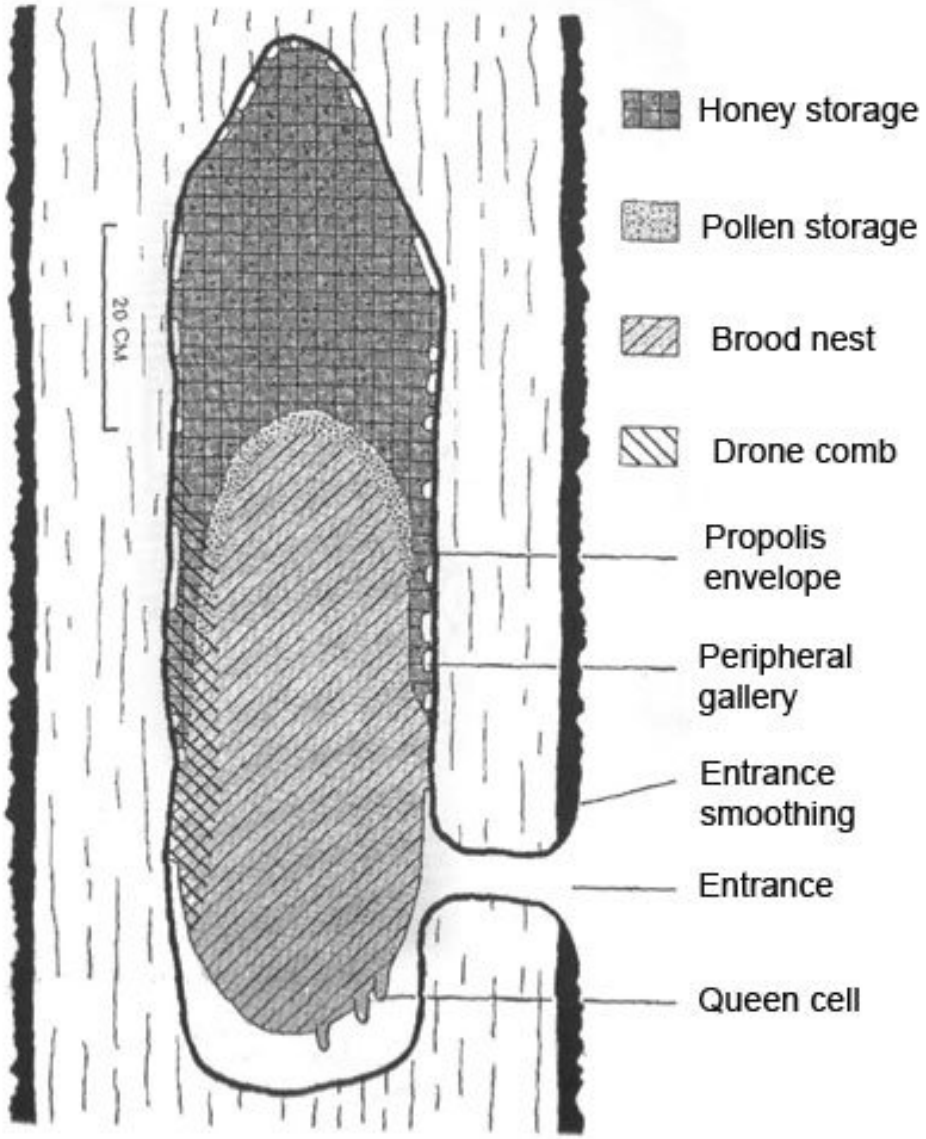
Abbé Émile Warré, 1867 – 1951

“The People’s Hive”

- Abbé Émile Warré
- Tested 350 hive variations
- Simple design
- Sustainable principles
- Vertical TBH

Inspired by a tree…

From:
Seeley, T. D
& Morse, R. A.
(1976)
The Nest of
the honey bee
(Apis mellifera L.)
Insectes Sociaux
23(4) 495-512



Reproduced here
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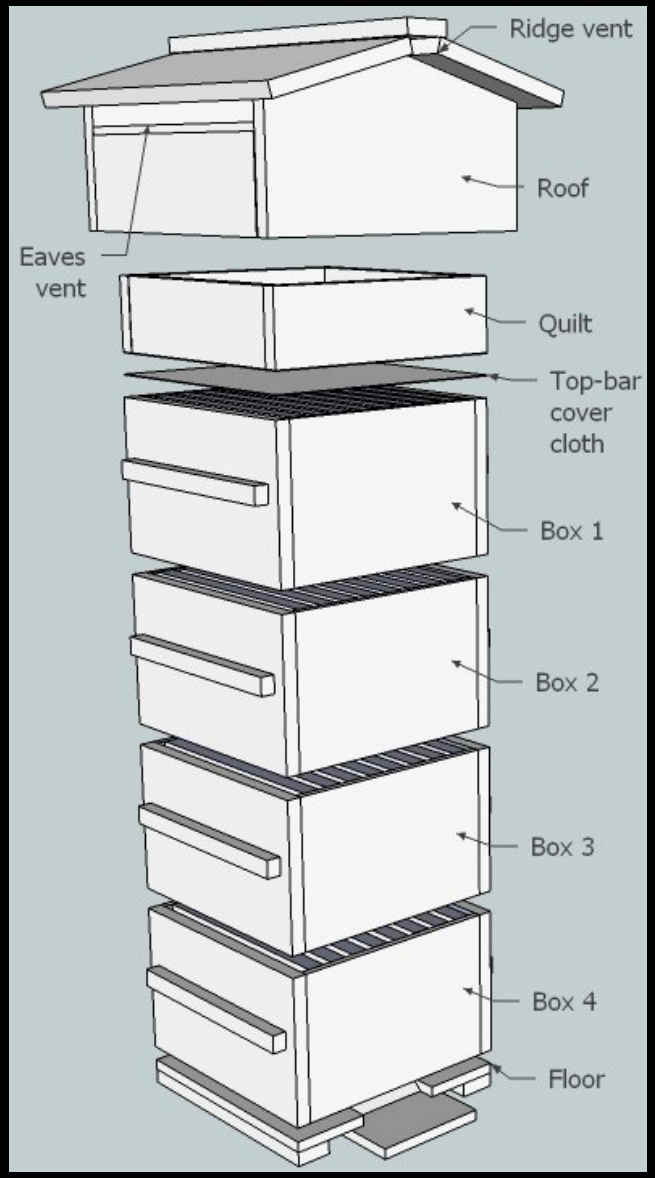
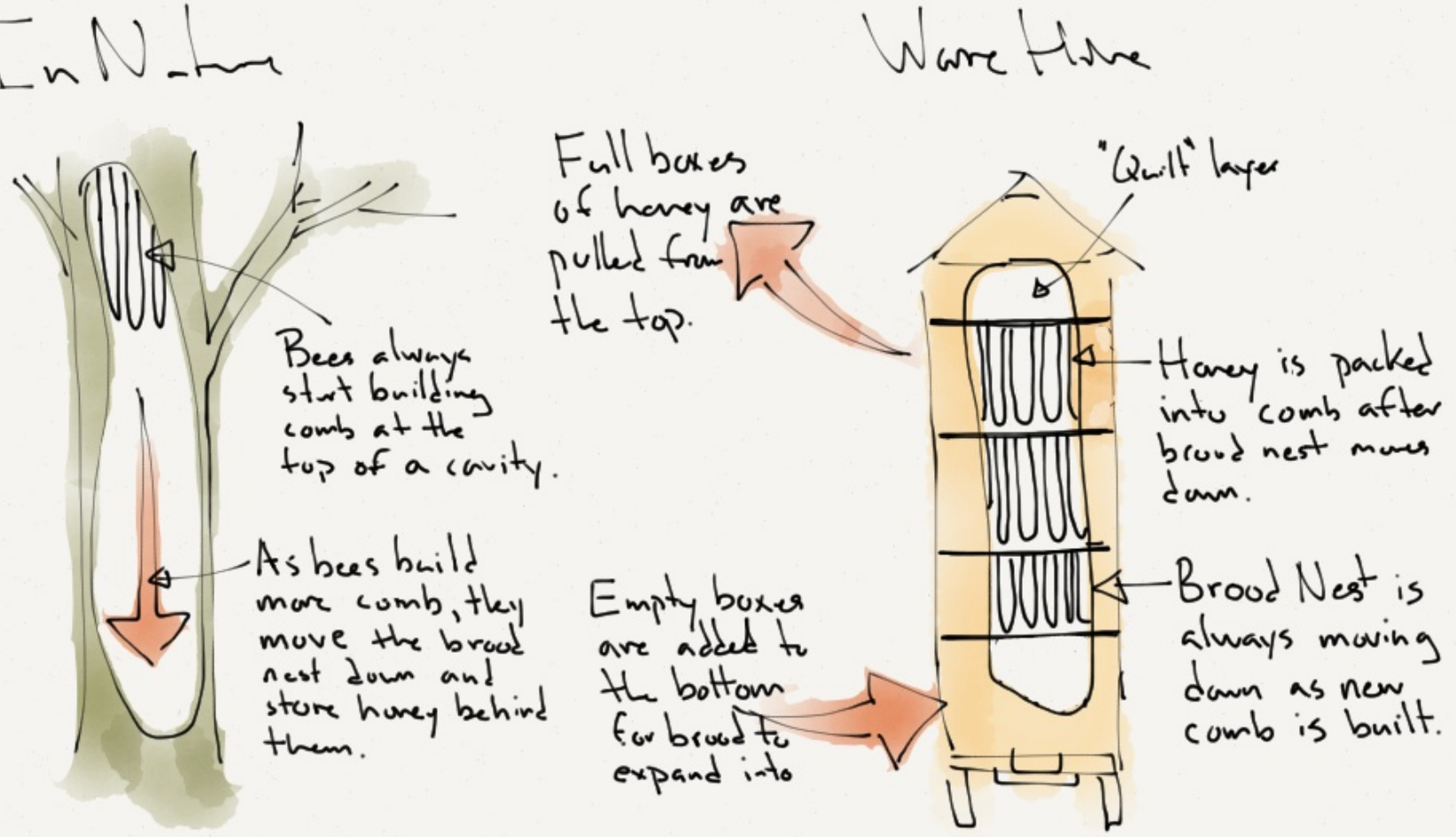
of Tom Seeley

Hive Demo

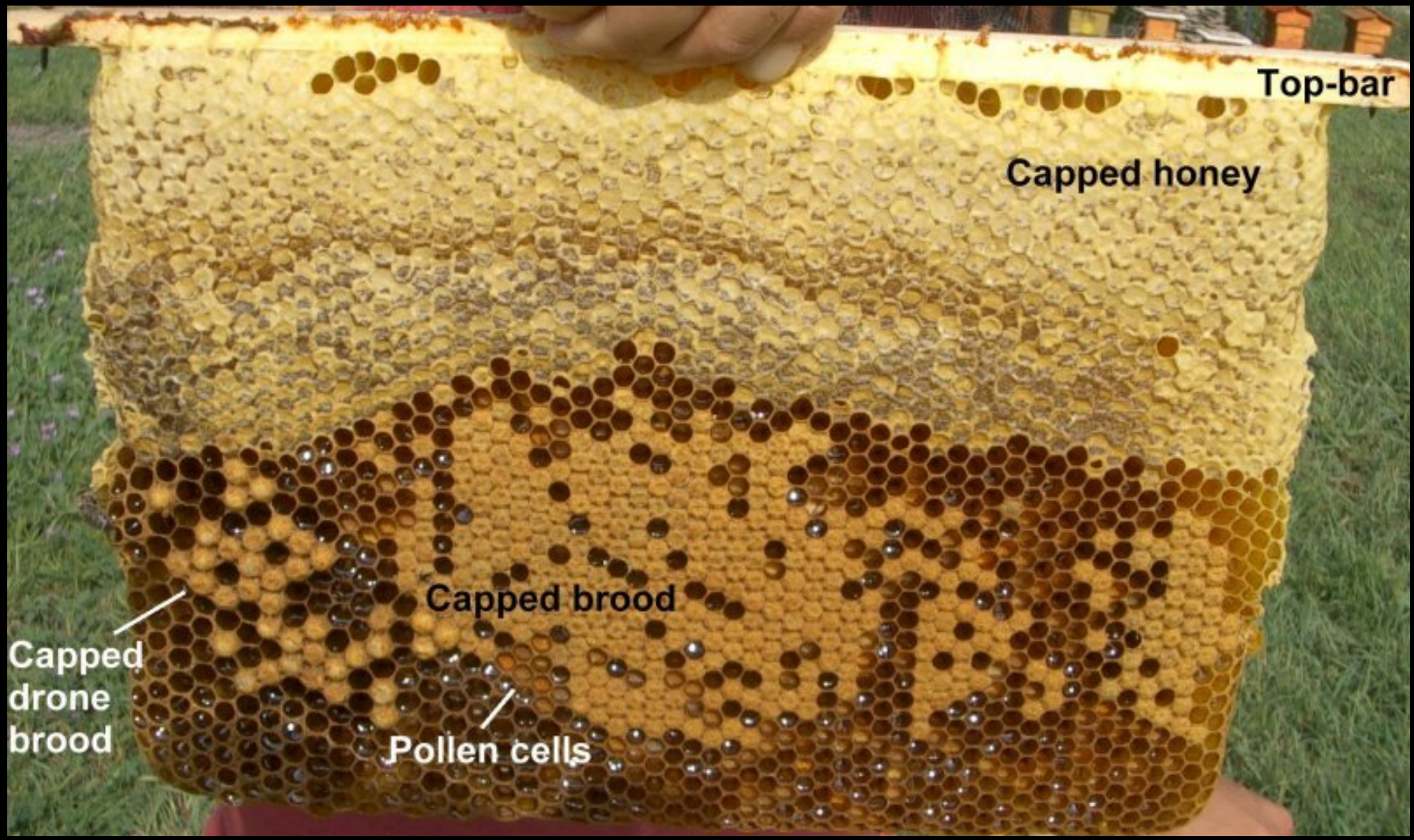

Ridge vent
Roof
Eaves vent
Quilt
Top-bar cover cloth
Box 1
Box 2
Box 3
Box 4
Floor


Roof
Quilt (with wood shavings)
Top-bar cloth
Hive-body box with 8 top-bars
Hive-body box with 8 top-bars
Floor with entrance



Warre Hive ⇒ Modified Tree Trunk

No frames.
No foundation.


Top-bar
Capped honey
Capped brood
Capped drone brood
Pollen cells

Normal variations in comb building without frames

Management

Dominator

Steward

Partner

Lower profits.
More bee-centric.

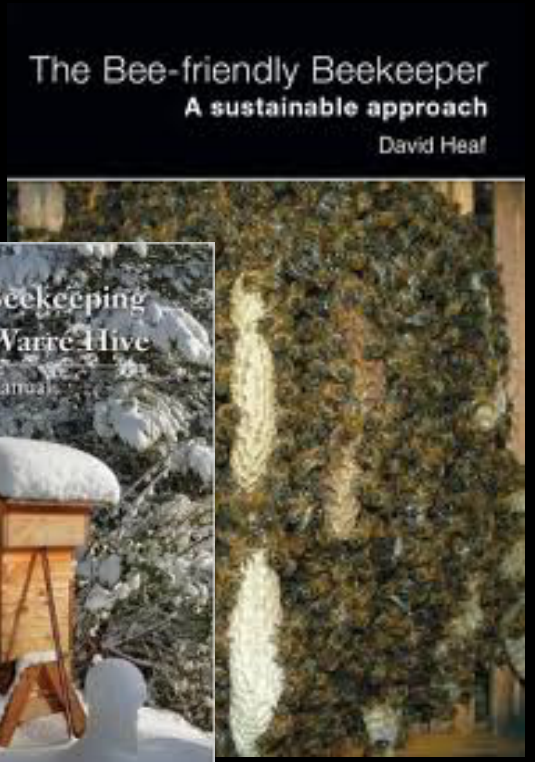
Participant

The comb is home, womb, pantry, exo-skeleton, sense organ, dance floor, nerve system, memory organ and immune system

"I don't treat, so I don't use IPM. I use **Evolutionary Pest Management.**"

David Heaf,

Biochemist & Biodynamic Beekeeper



Tools for inspection

Modified Warré frames

Lifts for nadiring

Harvest

Capped comb ready for harvest

Crush and strain

Press

25-40 lbs. per box…

Warré Advantages

- Smaller size than Lang
- Thermal & Hygrological benefits – walls, quilt
- Reduced winter honey consumption
- Pest control easier for bees
- Frame-free minimizes crushing bees
- Old comb cycled out
- Cell size is up to the bees

Warré Advantages

- Nadiring doesn't chill brood or disturb cluster
- Entirely biodegradable
- Rough interior invites propolizing – see Marla Spivak study

Warré Challenges

Few mentors, vendors

Brood inspection difficult

Low honey production

Harvest is not mechanized

Cross-combing

Detaching of combs

Hard to share brood comb

Nadiring requires 2 people or lift

Warré Challenges

False floor effect

Small entrance

Swarming in urban areas

Top bars stick to upper hive bodies

Art to using hive tool

Basics for Any Hive

- Prioritize queen & worker strength.
- Keep bees where there's a lot of forage all seasons – or feed.
- Provide a warm, dry, sunny hive.
- Monitor and suppress pests.
- Avoid synthetic miticides and pesticides.

Warré Support

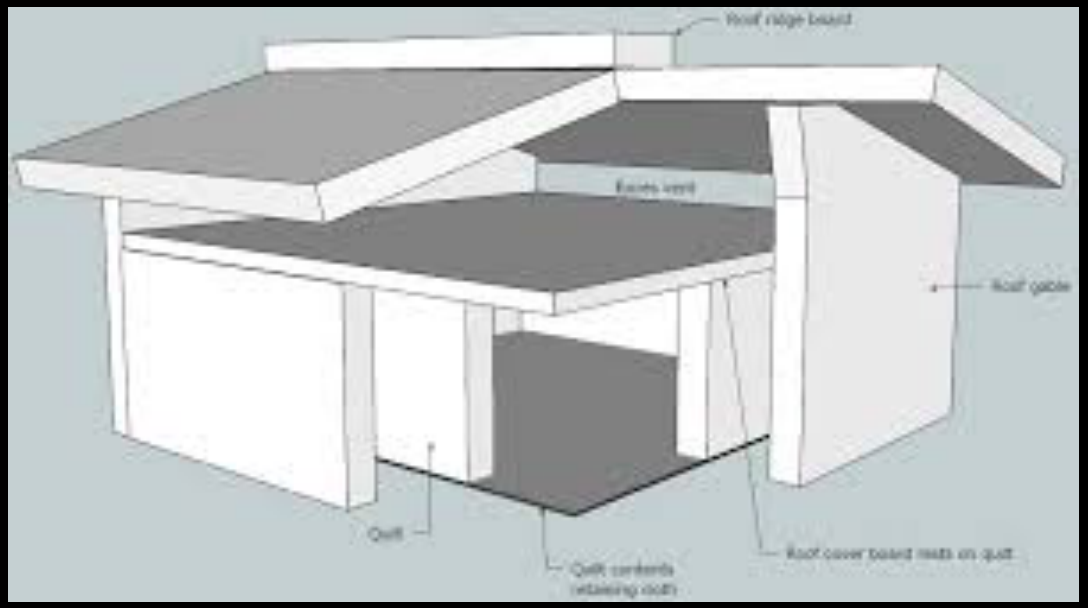
BioBees Forum & Warre plans
http://warre.biobees.com/plans.htm

Nearly half of the 1500 members of the **Warre Yahoo e-Group** are in the USA
https://uk.groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/warrebeekeeping/info

David Heaf's beekeeping pages, Wales, U.K.
http://www.bee-friendly.co.uk/

Thank You

Extra Stuff


Roof ridge board
Roof gable
Quilt
Roof cover board rests on quilt

Roof & Quilt

Sugar syrup in a top feeder

Top Bars

Wax starter strips must be added

Each top bar must hold up to 4 lbs.

Walls ¾” to 2” thick

Internal space
11 13/16” x 11 13/16” x
8 ¼”

8 top bars

Hive body

Floor & Stand