

LANLP40 SQA Unit Code H5BA 04

Establish a honey bee hive

Overview

This standard covers the establishment of a honey bee hive.

The aim will be to establish a strong healthy force of bees, for the production of honey for consumption in a hygienic manner.

When working with livestock or machinery you need to be appropriately trained in line with current legislation, and hold a relevant award where appropriate.

This standard is suitable for those involved in establishing honey bee hives.

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Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 identify an appropriate location for the hive
 - P2 select, prepare and maintain tools and equipment
 - P3 select appropriate hive
 - P4 ensure hive is correctly assembled in accordance with requirements
 - P5 position the hive on a suitable platform
 - P6 acquire honey bees and queen for the hive at the correct time
 - P7 place the bees in the hive at the correct time, maintaining the safety of yourself and others and the health and welfare of the bees
 - P8 place the queen in the hive ensuring separation until the colony has settled
 - P9 ensure an ample supply of food until the worker bees establish a honeycomb
 - P10 maintain suitable levels of hygiene and bio-security
 - P11 deal with waste safely and correctly in accordance with legislation
 - P12 maintain effective communication with colleagues and others involved in or affected by the work
 - P13 maintain records as appropriate
 - P14 carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental, health and safety legislation, animal health and welfare legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and company policies

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 how and where an apiary should be sited and the factors which should be taken into account e.g. food source, risk to the public
- K2 the different types of hives and components and how they are assembled and used
- K3 the principles which govern the design of hives and frames e.g. the concept of bee space and the main features of their construction
- K4 different species of bees and their characteristics
- K5 the different adult bees within the colony and their specific job
- K6 how to introduce the bees and queen to the hive minimising stress to the bees
- K7 the stages in the life cycle of a bee
- K8 the anatomy of a bee
- K9 how the bee behaviour can help to regulate the environment within the colony
- K10 the methods of communication used by bees
- K11 the make up of a nucleus and how it can be used
- K12 how plants and bees are mutually beneficial to each other
- K13 the principles involved in feeding honey bees
- K14 nutritional value of honey to the honey bee colony
- K15 the management needed to cope with changes in seasons, geographic localities, weather conditions, the timing of the flowering of forage plants and sources of undesirable nectar
- K16 how to detect diseases, disorders and pest infestations of honey bees and the potential impact on the bee health, the economic effects and how these diseases and pests impact on the management of the colony
- K17 the correct procedures to take in the event of an emergency
- K18 the records which need to be maintained
- K19 the importance of maintaining effective communication with those involved in or affected by the work
- K20 the importance of maintaining hygiene and bio-security and the methods for achieving this
- K21 how to deal with the different types of waste produced by the activity
- K22 your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, animal health and welfare legislation, codes of practice and company policies

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Glossary

Beekeeping equipment - hive, smoker, fuel, personal protective equipment, hive tool, queen excluder, feeder.

Adult Bees - Worker, Drone, Queen

Brood - Eggs, Larva, Sealed brood in combs

Cell - hexagonal section of a honey comb storing pollen, nectar and honey

Beekeeping activities - use of a smoker, assembly of a hive, removal of hive parts (roof, crown board, suppers, brood combs), collection of honey, packaging, food labelling, cleaning hive components

Pests, diseases and disorders - Small hive beetle, Tropilaelaps, Varroa, Wax Moth, Tracheal Mites, Nosema, Varroosis, American Foul Brood, European Foul Brood, Sac Brood, Bald Brood, Drone Brood, Chalk Brood, Amoeba, Starved Colony, Chilled or overheated colony, plant poisoning, Pesticide poisoning

Emergencies - unhealthy brood, sting, swarm

Hygiene practice - protective clothing, hand washing, personal illness, cuts and wounds

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Relevant occupations	beekeeper; farmer
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Suite	Livestock Production
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