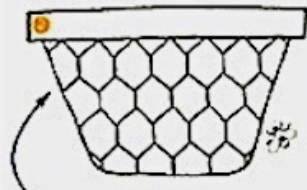
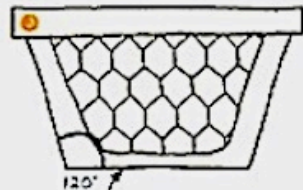


THE TOP BAR HIVE EXPLAINED

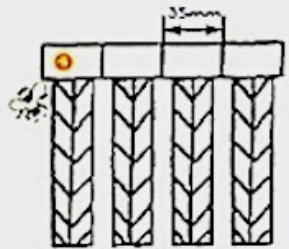
The design is different from hives you might be used to seeing in the UK, because it follows the natural shape of the honeycombs, which hang from horizontal bars laid across the top of the hive. These can be carefully lifted out, one by one, without disturbing the bees. This method produces more honey, more beeswax and gives a greater economic yield from a smaller investment.



The hive keeps the natural stable shape of a comb, so they can be easily harvested.

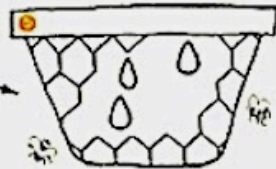


Sides of combs should be inclined at an angle of 120° to stop wastage as combs don't stick to the sides of the hive.

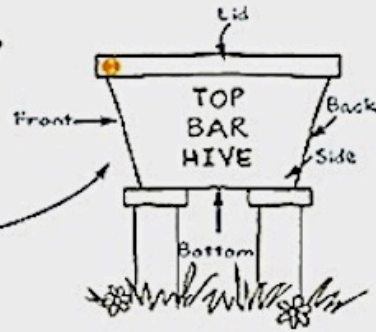


Each top bar is the natural width of a comb plus one bee: 35mm. Any wider, and predators could get in. Any smaller, and the bees couldn't build combs.

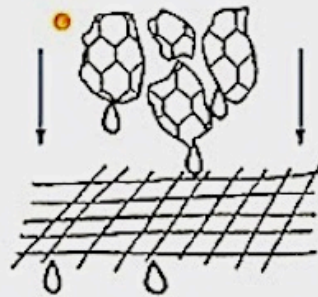
Diagrams not drawn to scale



Bars are removed one at a time, minimising exposure of the colony. Comb is simply cut from the top bar.



Stilts keep predators out and hive at working height.



Combs are squeezed by hand then strained twice through a coarse strainer or screen, then a finer one.



Honey is bottled and capped ready for sale.

