The LAAZY Hive

A-Z Style Hives From Langstroth Components

Presented by
Jeannie Saum
Groveport, Ohio

Funded by a grant from NC-SARE

Slovenia
Climate, Habitat

Cradle of Beekeeping

Inventor

Anton Znidersic -1874-1947

AZ Bee Houses


Inside Beekeeping


...and other things


...or this.

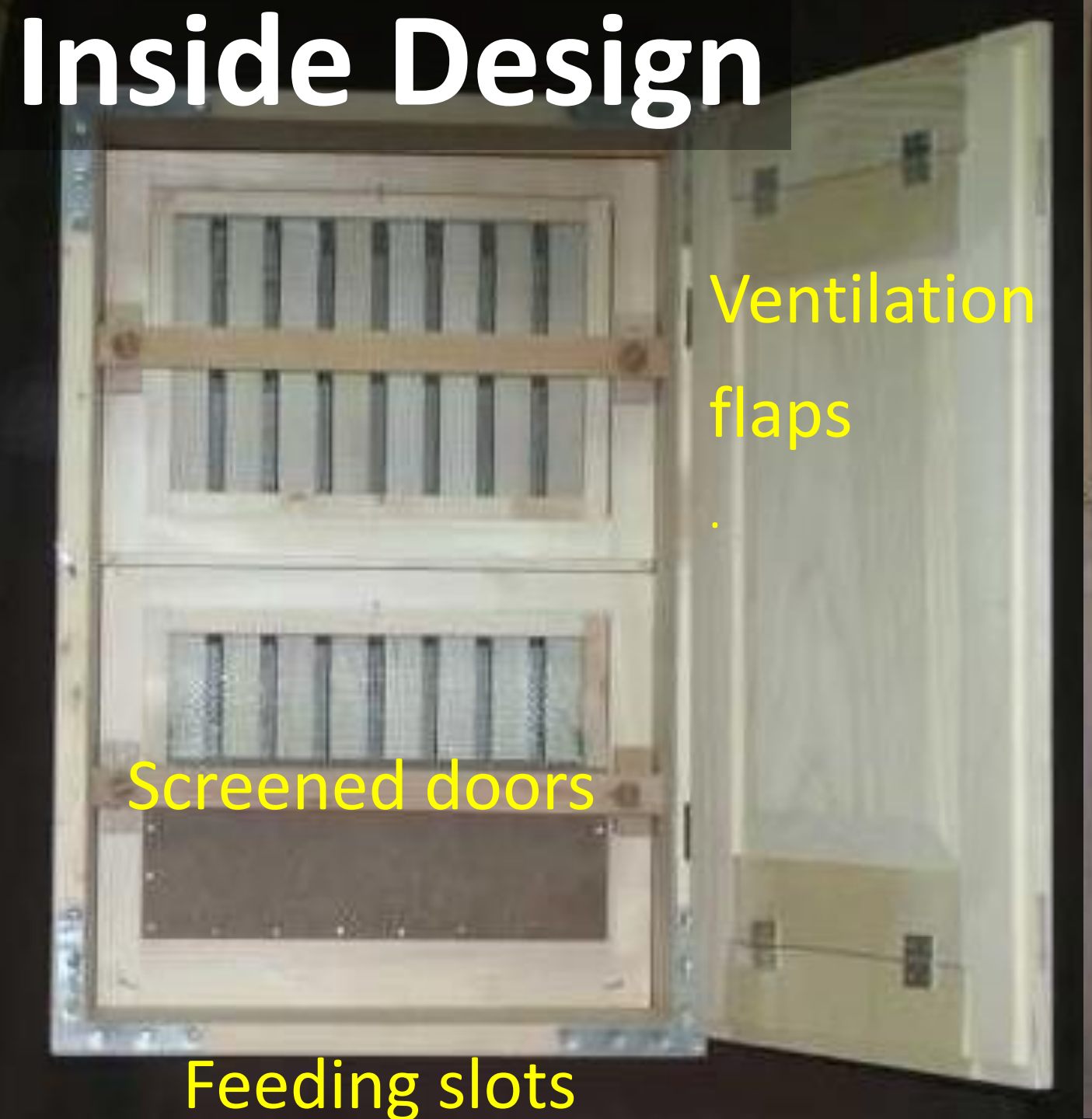
Design - Same components as Langstroth

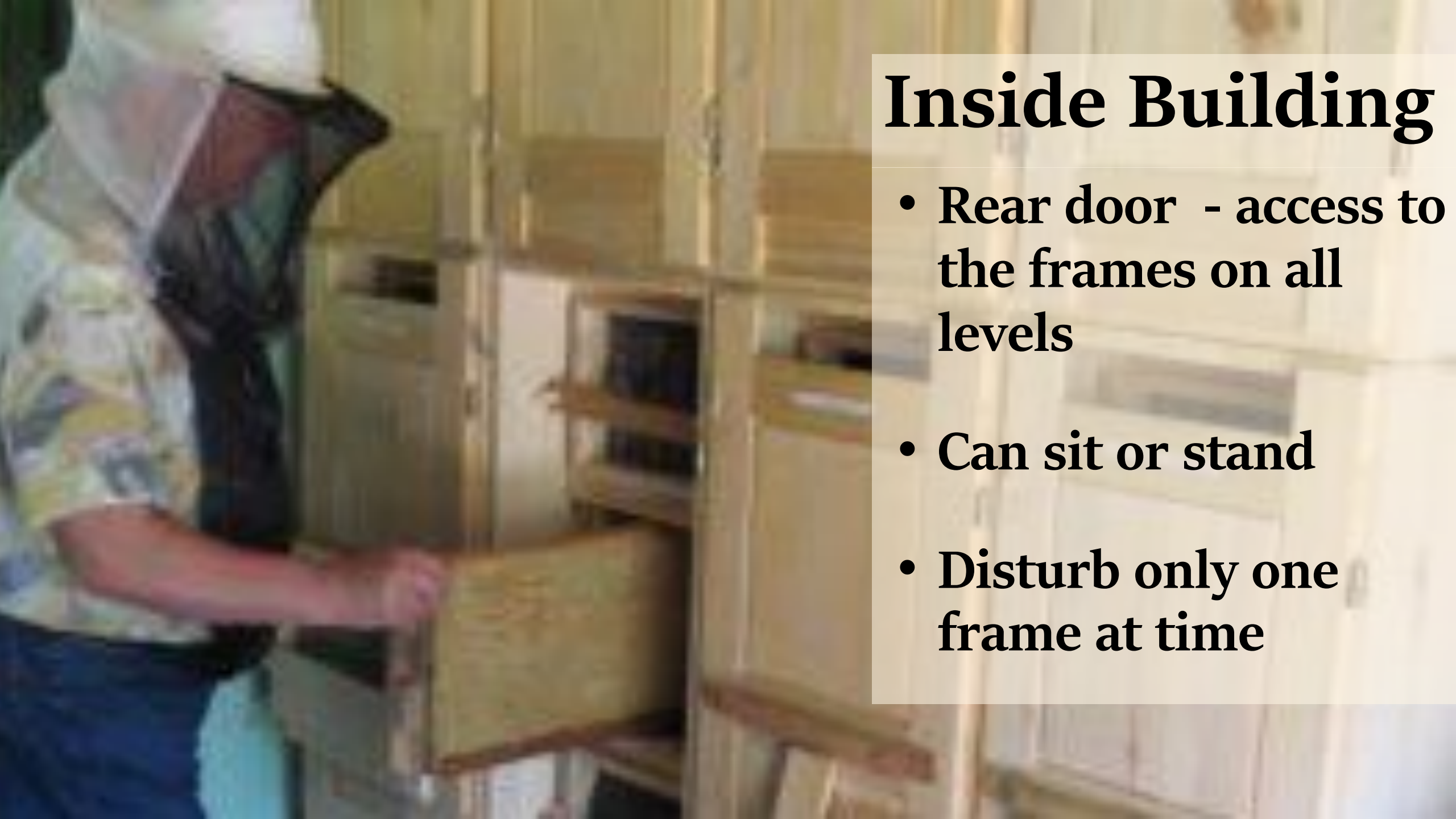
- **Fixed size**
- **Outer back door**
- **Inner screen doors on boxes**

Box Interior

- Frames slide on metal rods
- Solid, slotted or queen excluder dividers

Inside Design





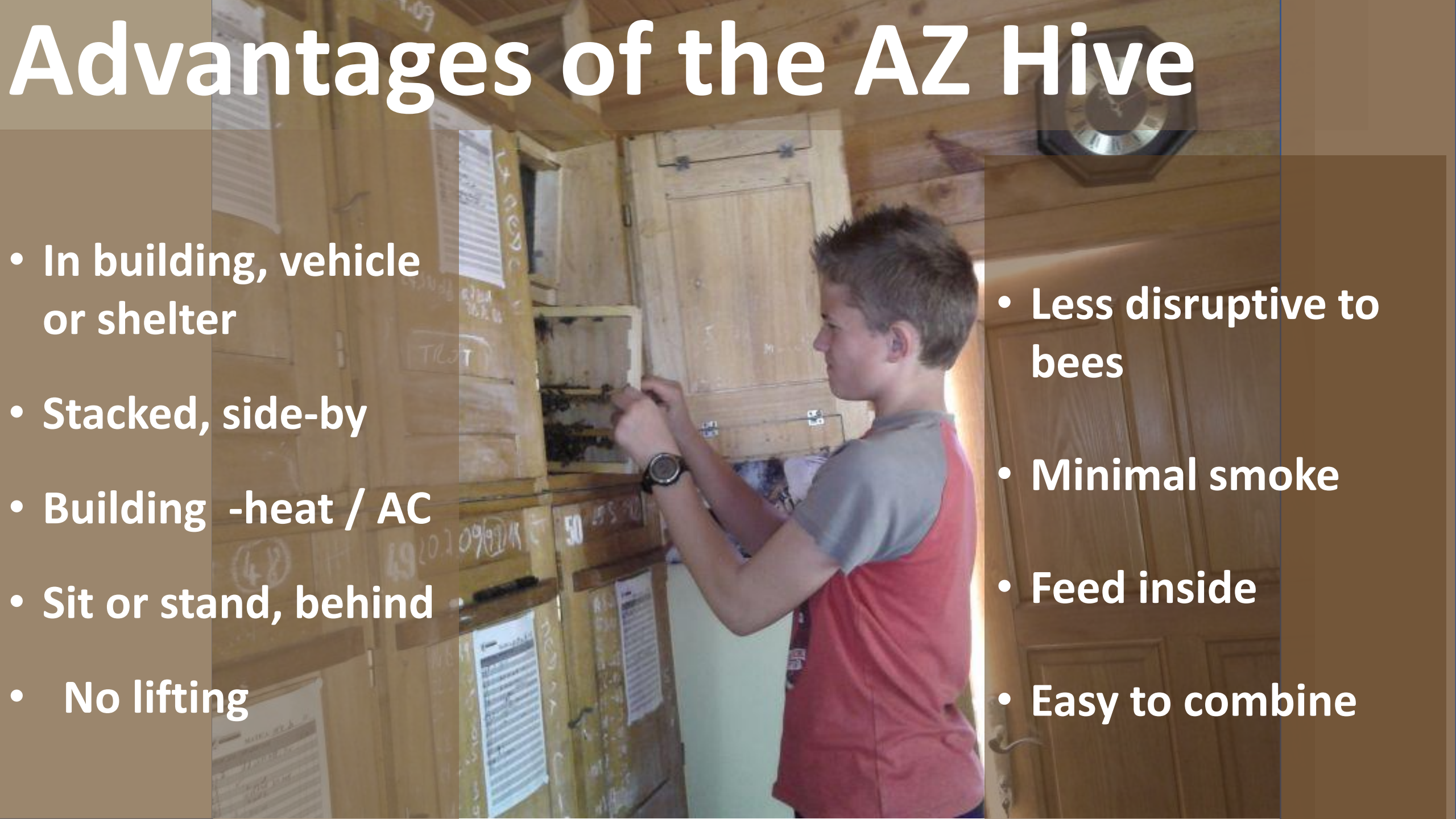
Inside Building

- Rear door - access to the frames on all levels
- Can sit or stand
- Disturb only one frame at time

Outside

- Opening at each level
- Closeable
- Paint only front
- Usually folk art

Advantages of the AZ Hive



- In building, vehicle or shelter
- Stacked, side-by
- Building -heat / AC
- Sit or stand, behind
- No lifting

- Less disruptive to bees
- Minimal smoke
- Feed inside
- Easy to combine

Disadvantages of the AZ Hive

- Fixed size
- Swarming
- Manage by splitting
- Propolis
- Longer tool needed
- Frequent inspections

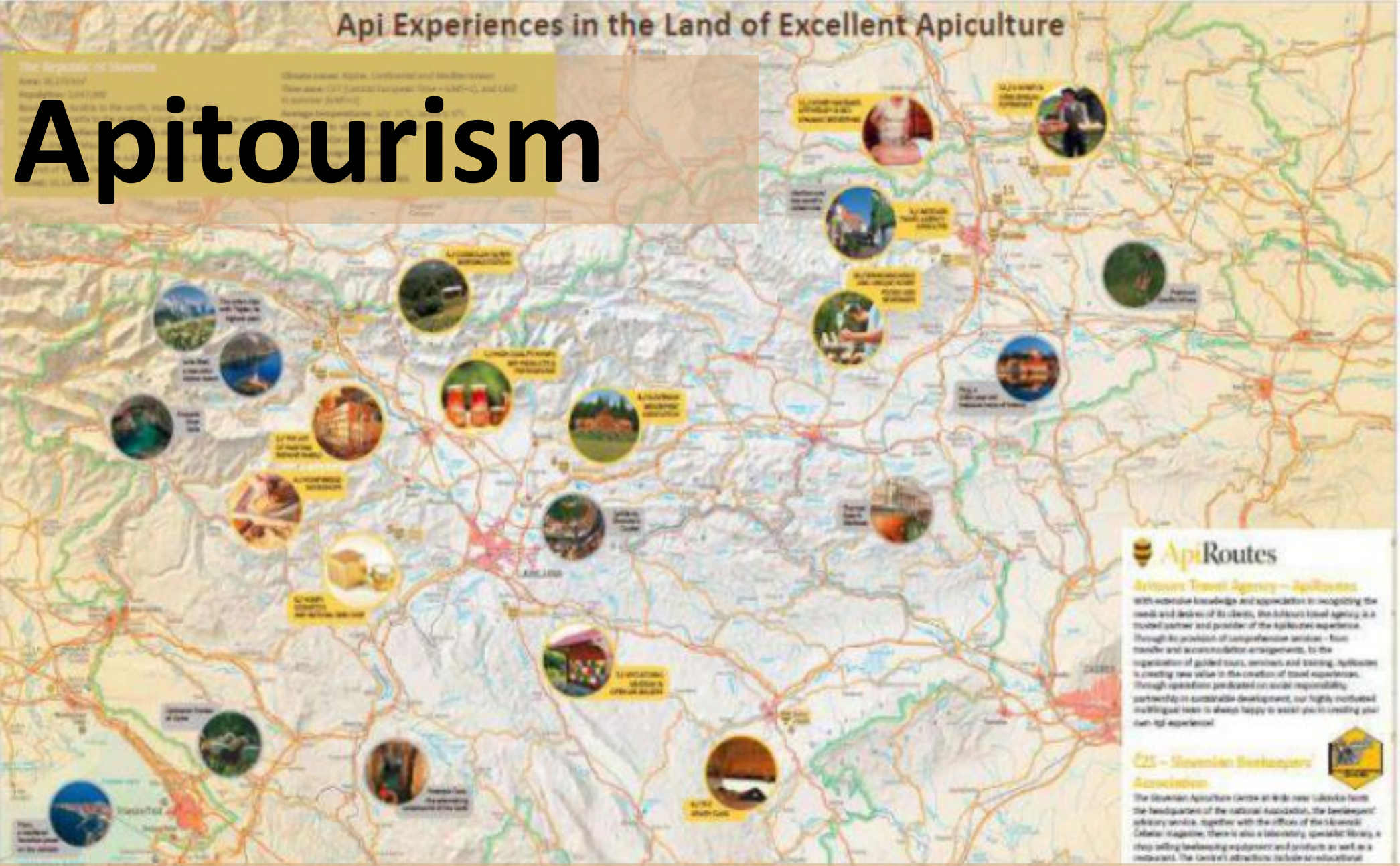
- Govt. support, regulation, treatments
- Carnolians only
- World Bee Day
- Plant only nectar producing flowers

Beekeeping In Slovenia

Slovenia -25 Beekeepers for every 5,000 people

USA - 1 beekeepers for every 5,000 people

Apitourism



- Honey, propolis, beeswax, pollen, venom harvested

Honey Massage

Sleep in the Bee House

MEAD MUSEUM

THE WEEK OF SLOVENIAN MEAD

October 10th-14th 2017

Hive-Air Treatment

Honeycomb Accomodations

Success in Slovenia

- NO colony collapse
- NO massive colony loses
- Government support helps

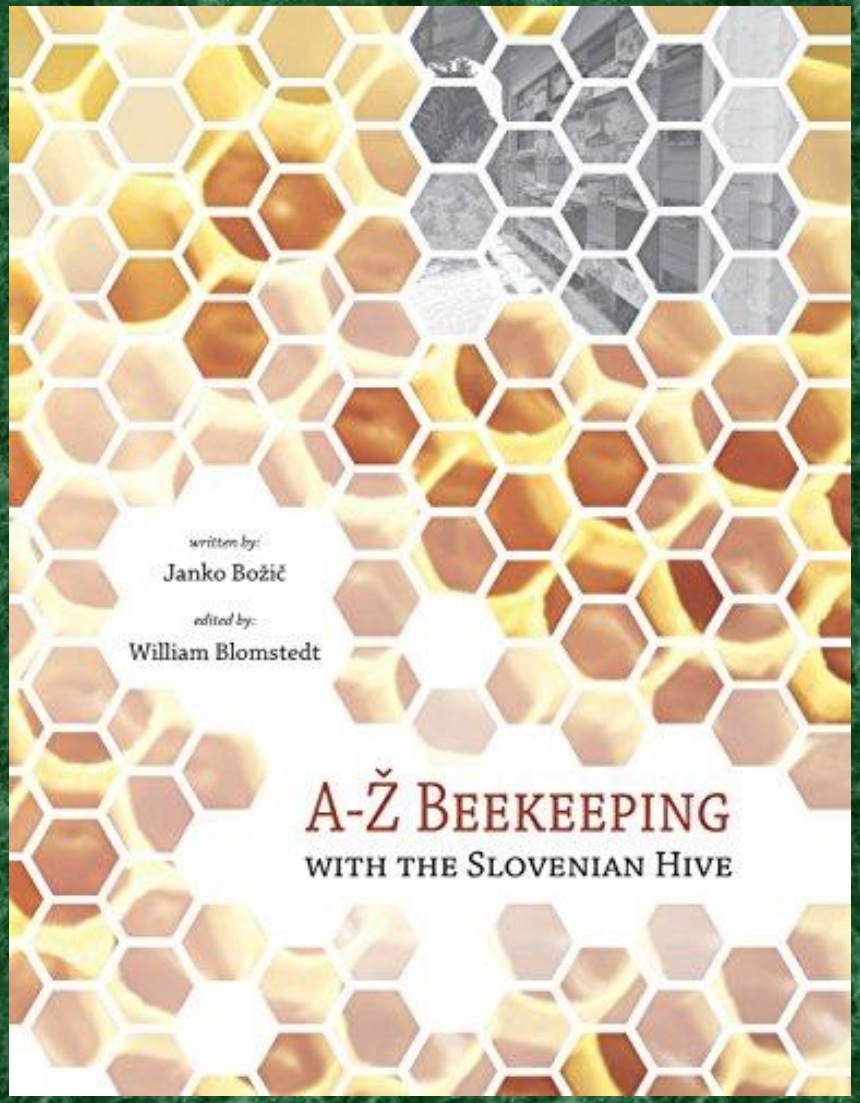
Success in Slovenia

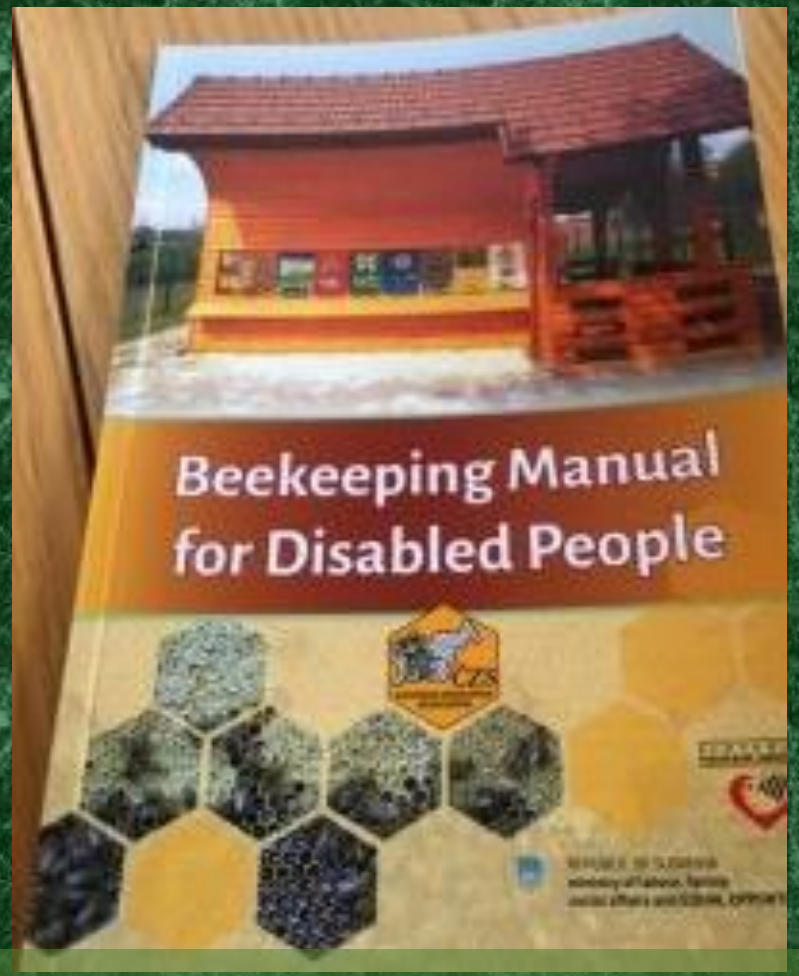
- Beekeeping taught - elementary schools

Resources

A – Z Beekeeping with the Slovenian Hive

by Janko Botzic





Beekeeping Manual for Disabled People https://azhivesnorthamerica.com/

Resources for AZ Hives

DrebbievilleHives. com

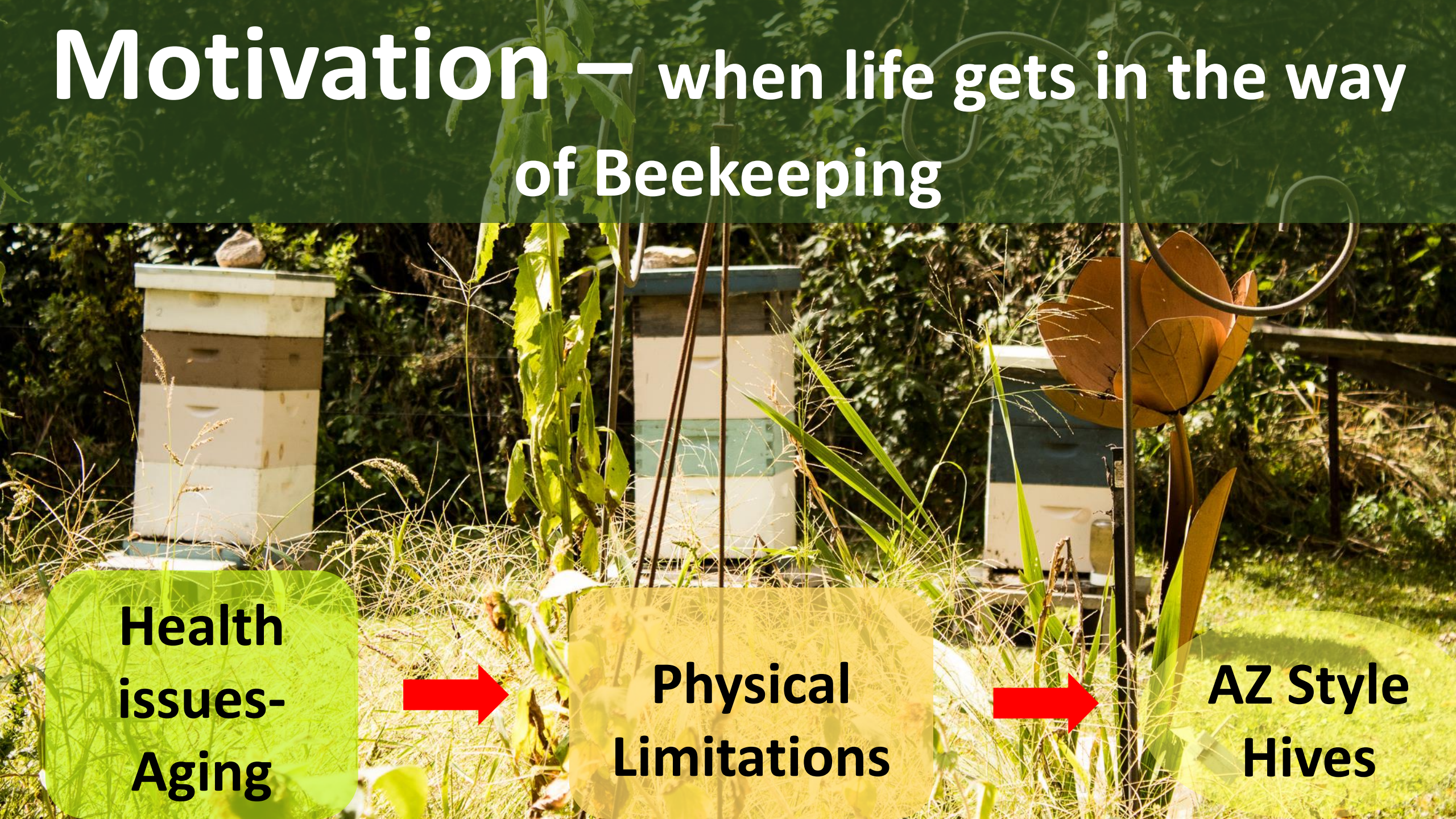
Resources for AZ Hives

http://bee.stevenpankratz.com/

or Steve4bees.us

33 frame
TexAZ Hive

Motivation – when life gets in the way of Beekeeping



U.S. made AZ hives?

TOO EXPENSIVE!

There's Gotta Be A Way!

Have tons of Langstroth Equipment

NORTH CENTRAL
SARE
Sustainable Agriculture
Research & Education

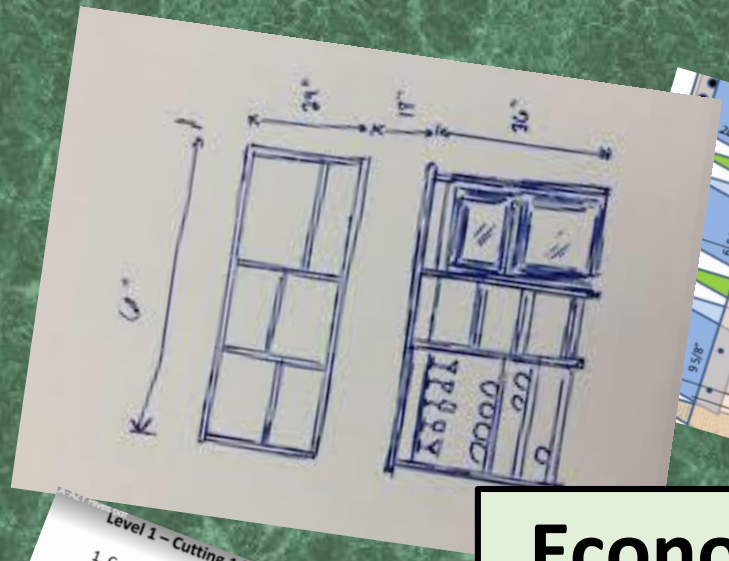
NCR-SARE Farmer Rancher Grant Program

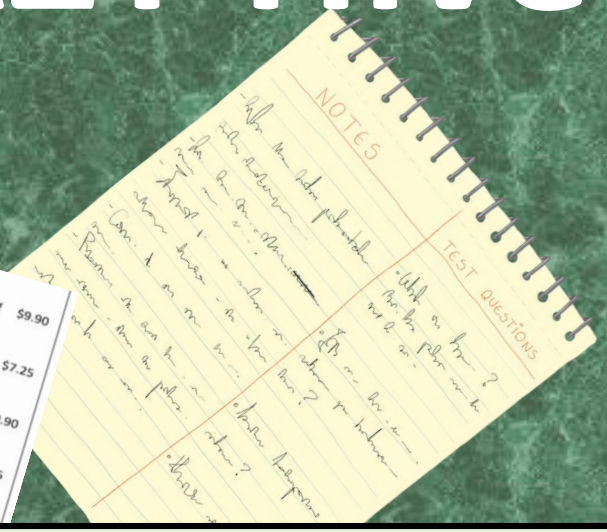
~2018 Call for Proposals~

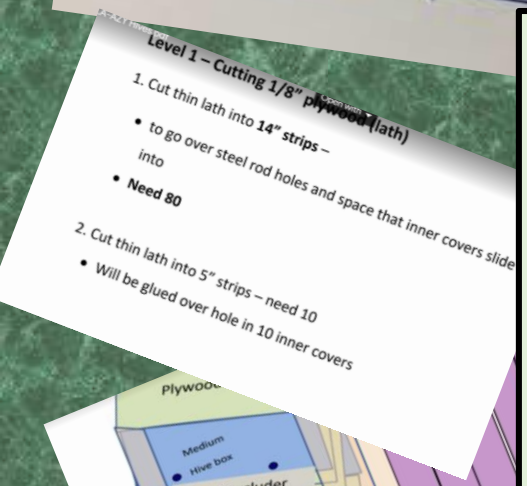
Farmer Rancher

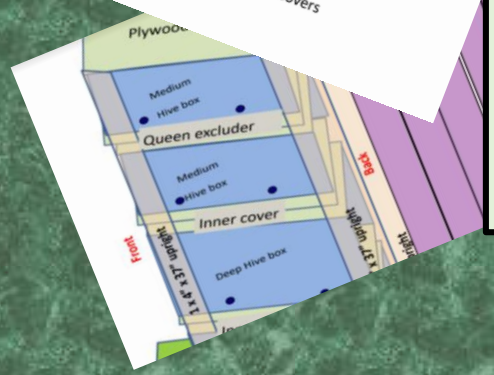
Sustainable Agriculture Grants

Birth of the LAAZY Hive







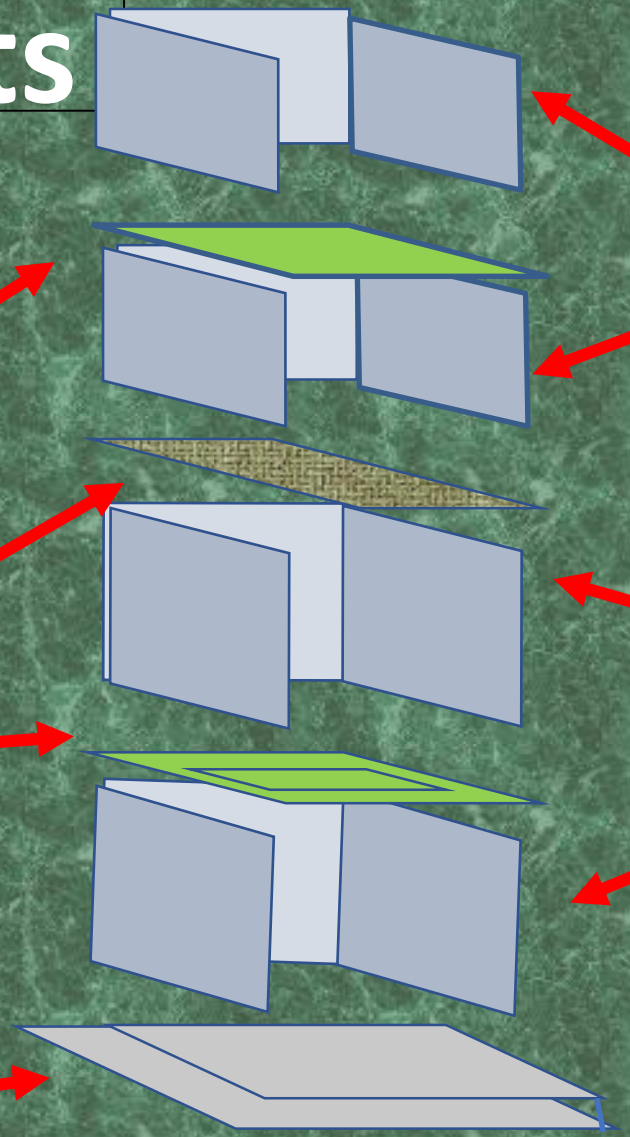


Economic Modification of Langstroth to AZ-Style Hives to Enable Aging or Physically Limited Beekeepers to Continue/Begin Beekeeping; Enhance Hive Care; and Improve Colony Health and Production

Funded by a grant from NC - SARE

Langstroth Adapted to AZ Hive for You

Langstroth Components



2 mediums

3 dividers –

1 solid inner cover

1 framed queen excluder

1 slotted inner cover

2 deeps

Screened bottom board

Additional Lumber ~ $43.00

1 x 4” – front verticals

1 x6” - back verticals

1 x 4’ – back door

½” plywood – top

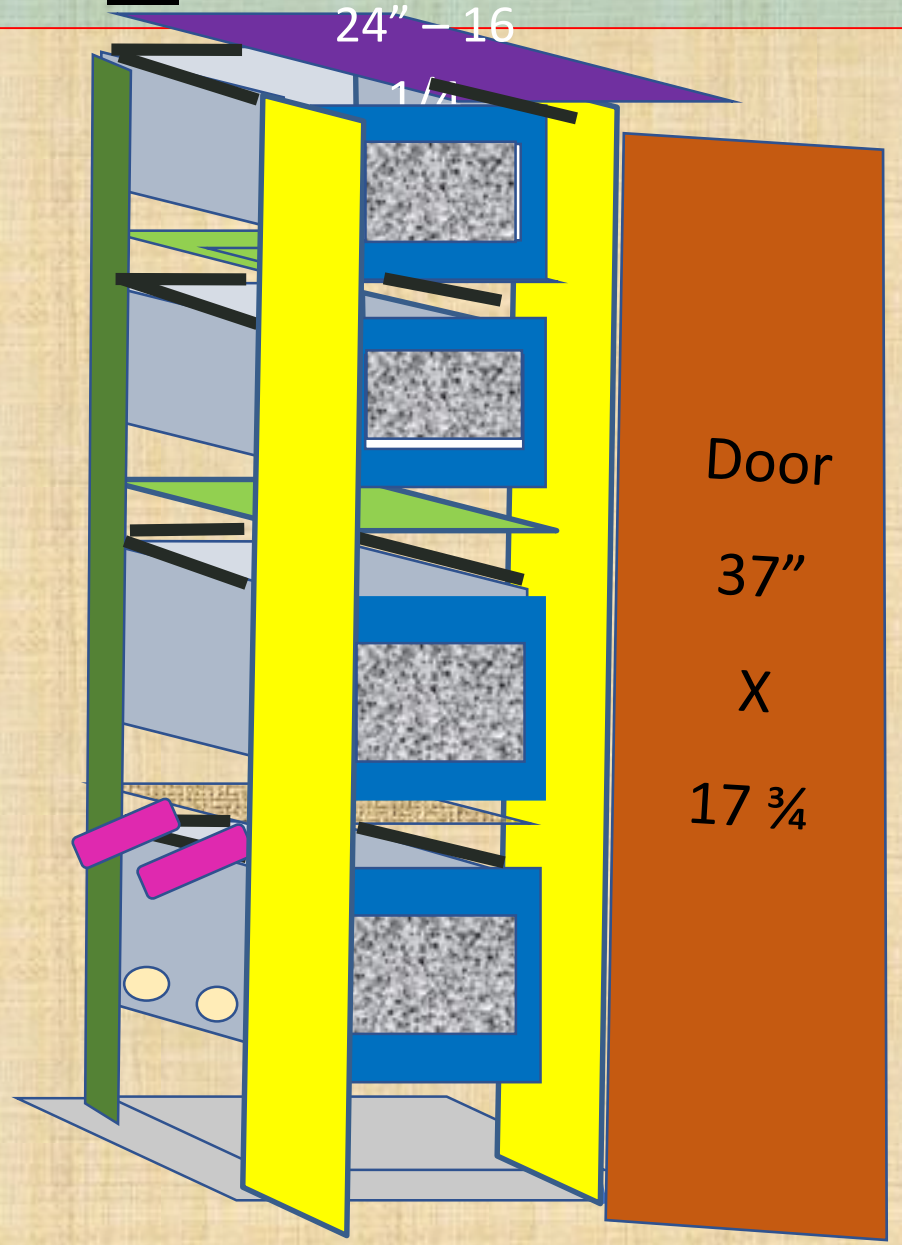
3/8” x 1” lath – upper box rims

Popsicle sticks – temp. spacers

1 x 2” – box doors

Metal Rods

Metal screen



Additional Supplies

Metal Frame spacers - 8

Door hinges - 2

Door hasp

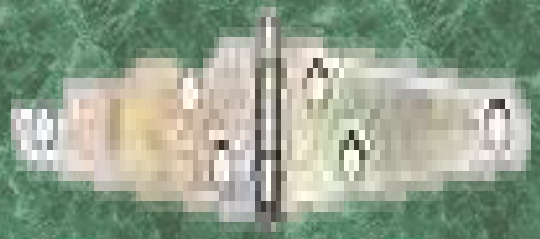
8 eye screws - pulls

8 Hanger Bolts – doors

8 Wing nuts

Screws, nails

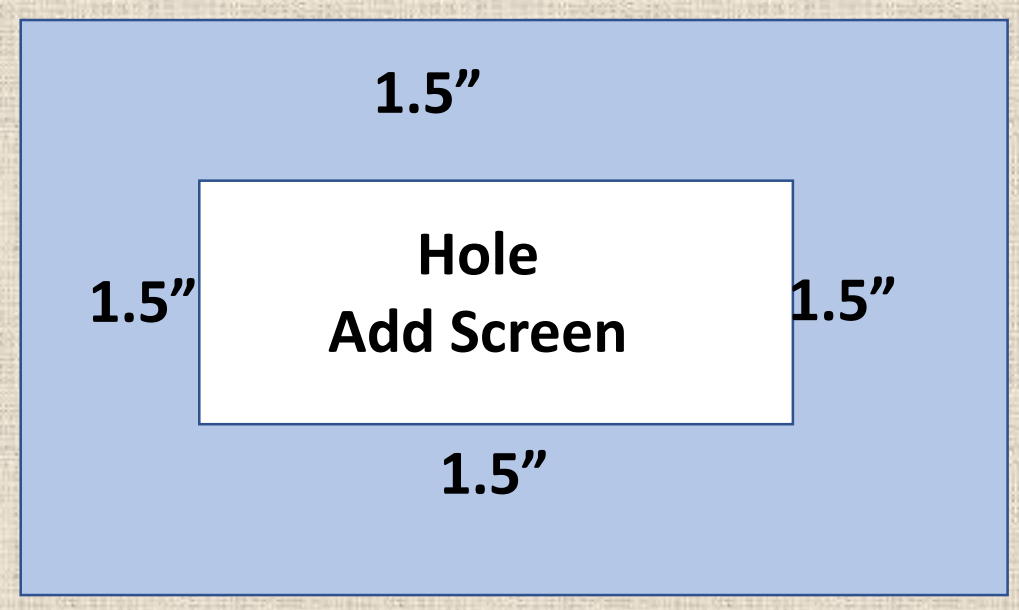
~ $36.00



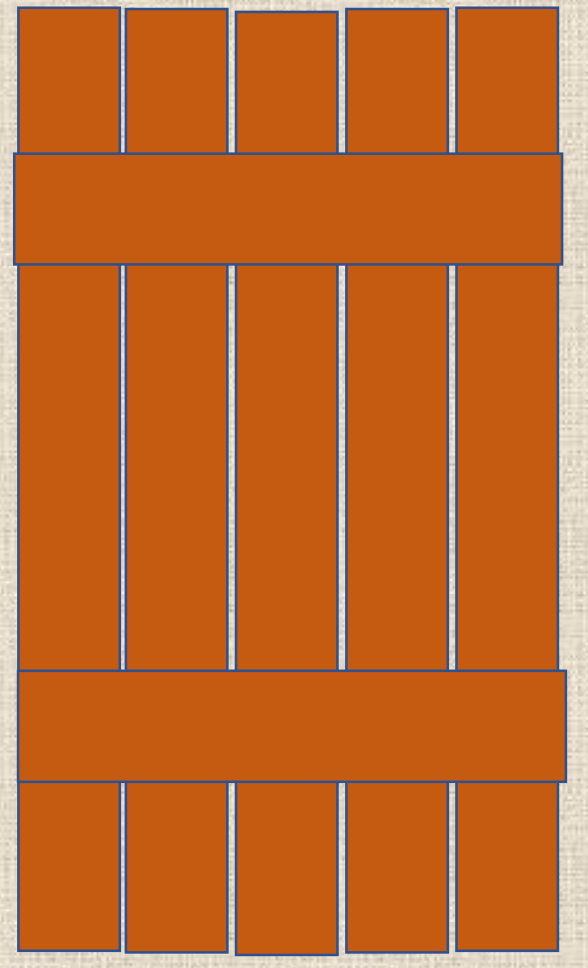
TOTAL ~ $80

Components

Doors for boxes



Back Door for Hive



Tools Needed

Need to have and be able to use:

- Hammer
- Drill –to drill and screw
- Circular saw or Miter saw
- Staple gun

Building the Prototype LAAZY Hive

Deep with back cut off & bottom board

Screwing on the uprights

Inner cover separators

Boxes screwed in place

Frame spacers on far front wall.

Stapling screen

Thin birch ply over cracks & rods

Inner screen doors on .

Swivel holders.

Add pieces on doors

Outer door on.

Build Day

Cutting 1x4”’s

Assembling frames

Readying boxes

Stapling screen

Attaching uprights to boxes

Stack complete

Routing door holes.

Putting stack together.

Old equipment into LAAZY Hives

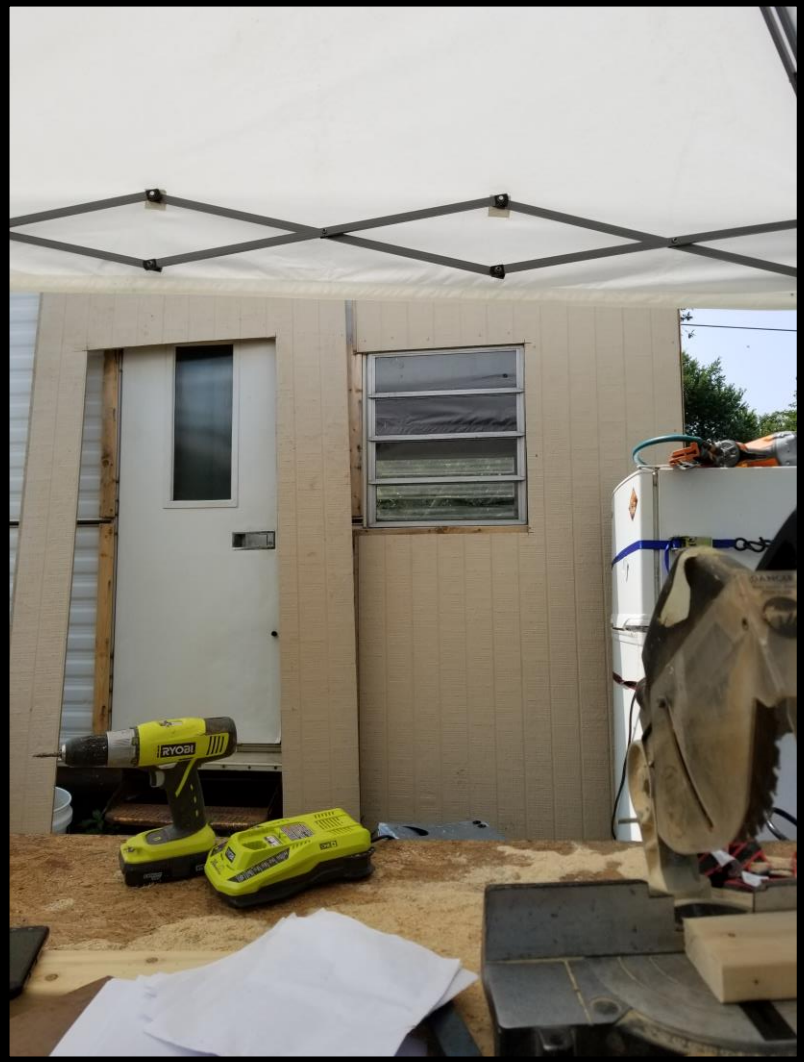
A Bee House – from an old trailer

Seeking a project camper…

Framing the outside.

The Tiny House Look

Adding siding.



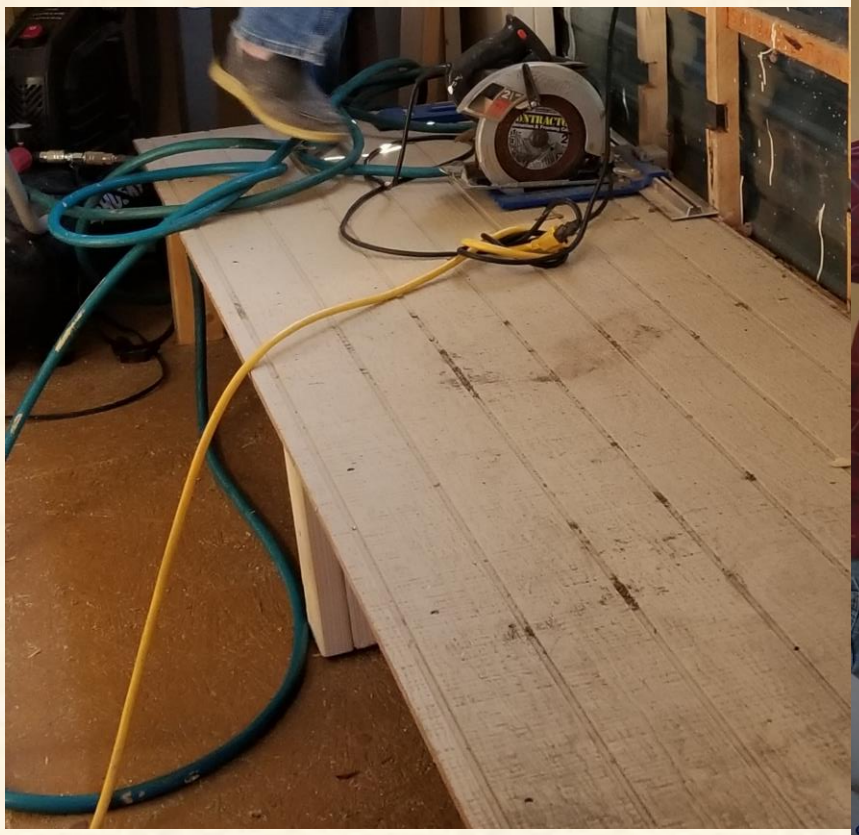
Roof and Trim

Painting

Painting the Inside

Cutting Opening for Hives

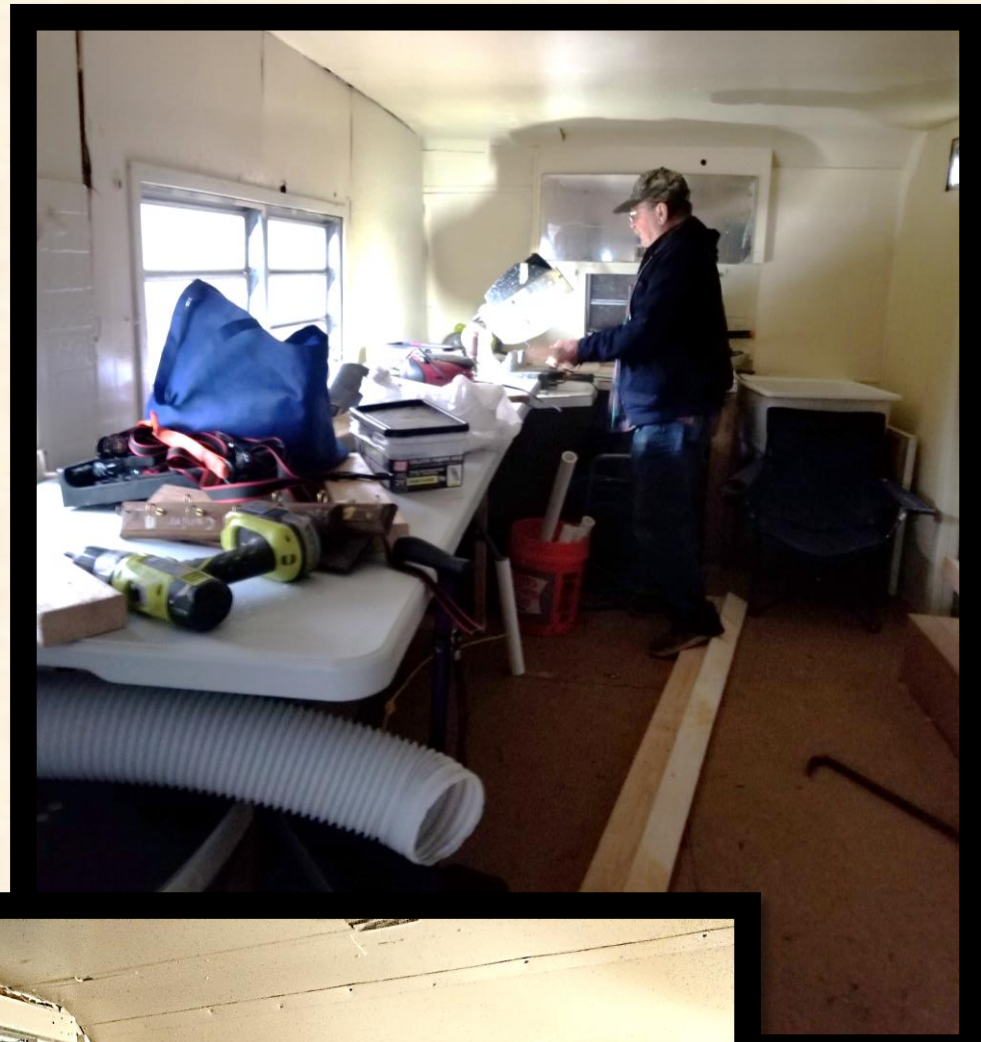
Benches for hives



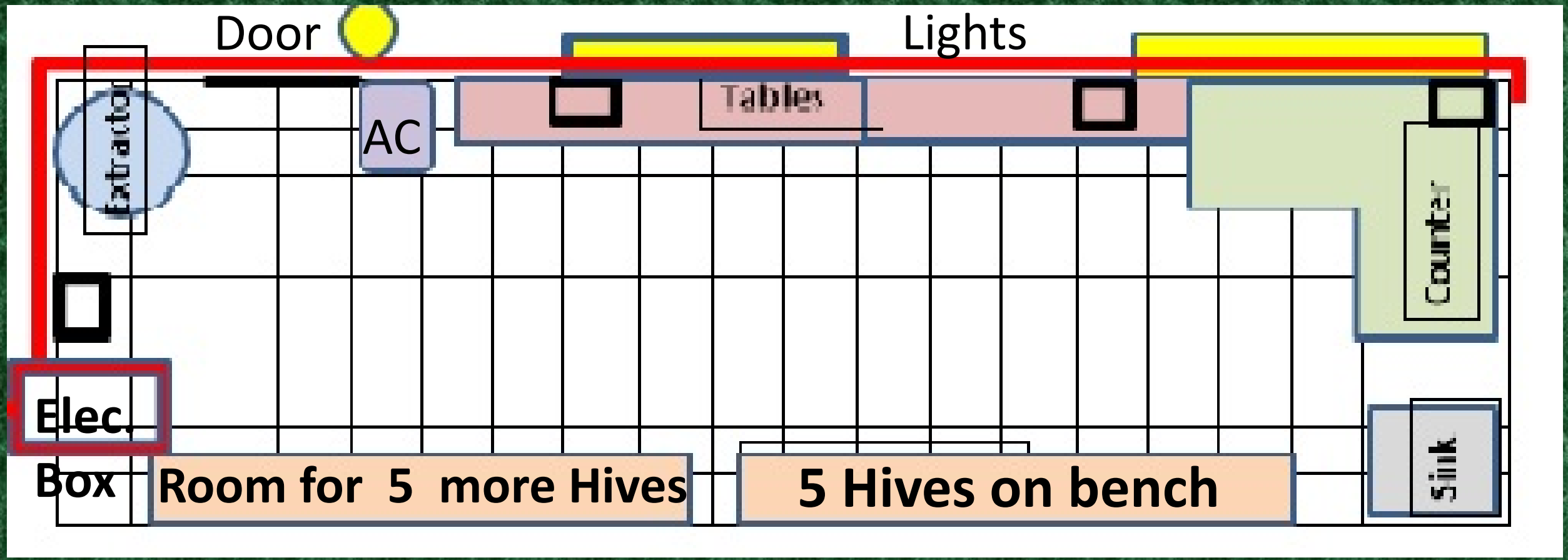
Cutting out the wall.

Putting Hives In

Inside View



Bee House Layout



Moving into Place

New Home for BEE House

Beekeeping in the Saum's Bee House

- Watchv videos before installing
- Smoker
- Inspection

Installing Bees

Through the Doors

- Machete
- Propolis
- Survived winter

Issues Encountered

Design Flaws

Not as easy as it looks, once bees are in

Inspections

Suit issues

Stings

Modifying Process

Taking everything apart

Adding Back Bee Space

½” x ¾” square trim pine screen molding

Different Frame Spacers

Mounted differently

Door Re-Design

Recut Doors

Overlap box edges

Door Attachment

Hanger Bolts

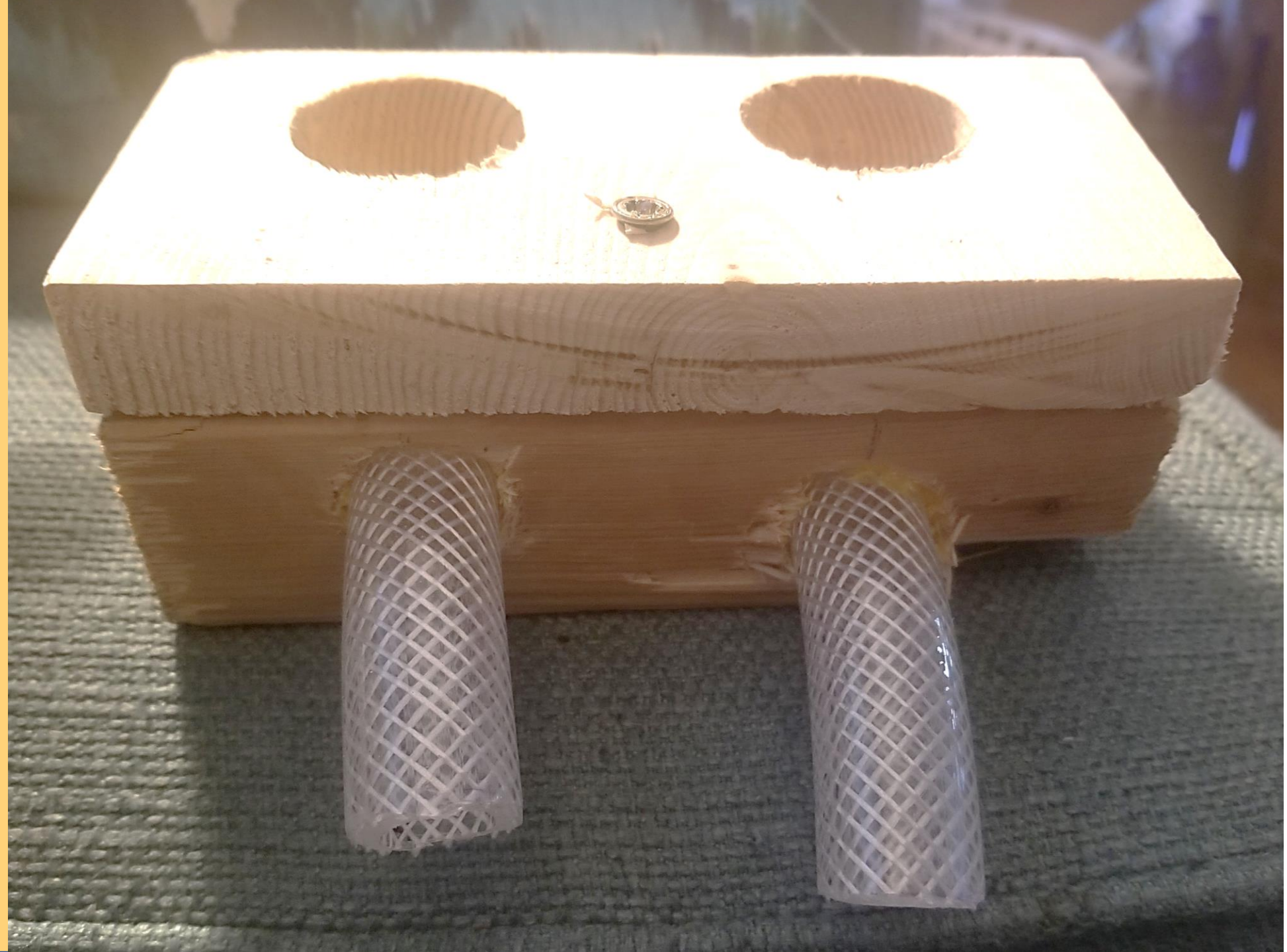
Wing Nuts

Holes

Feeder

Easy to do with hand power tools

Pop bottles



Inspection Tray

Keep the bees off your lap

BUILDING SEQUENCE

Box Preparation

- Back cut off
- Frame Spacers
- Trim on Rim
- Rods

Preparing Dividers

Inner covers

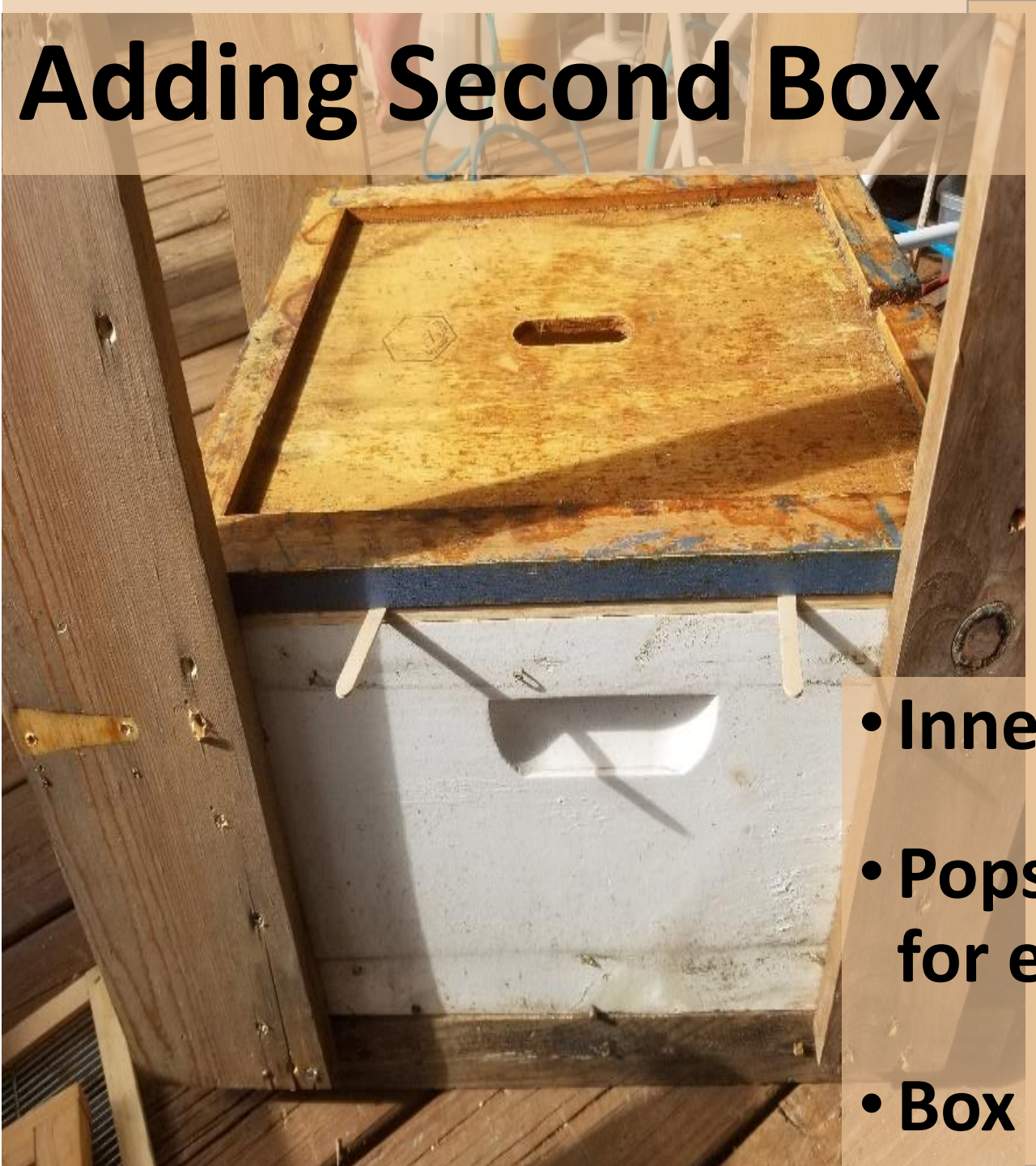
- One Solid

- Queen excluder
- 2 Slotted

Starting the Stack

- Uprights
  - 1 x 4”
  - 1 x 6”
- Box #1 - Deep
- Bottom Board

Adding Second Box



- Inner cover
- Popsicle sticks for ease
- Box 2 - deep

Adding Third Box

- Inner cover
- Popsicle sticks for ease
- Box 3 - medium

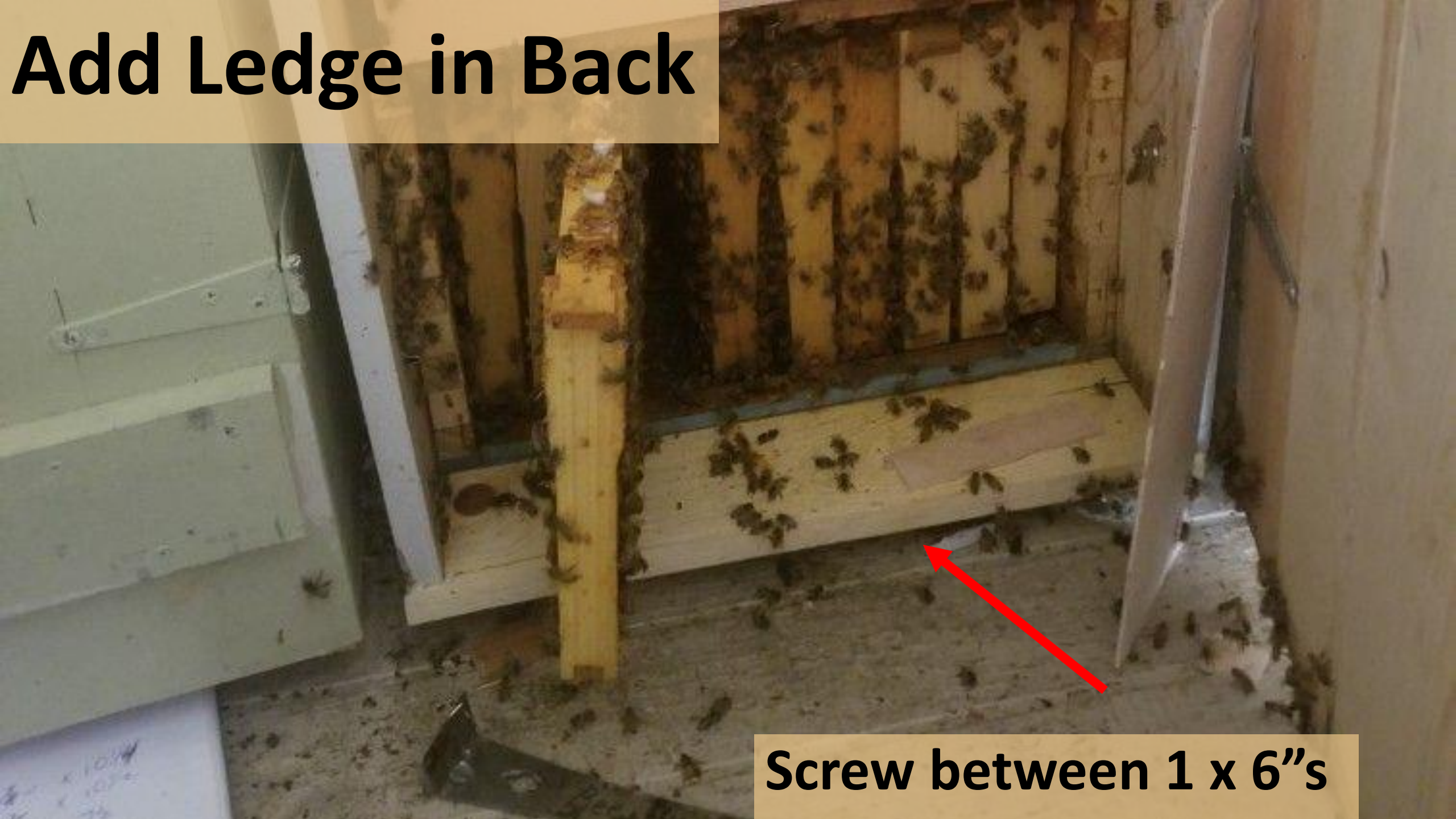
Adding Fourth Box – Covering Sides

- 1/8” plywood
- Covers cracks
- Rod holes

Divider Stops

- 3 Scraps of screen trim
- Keep dividers from sliding through

Add Ledge in Back

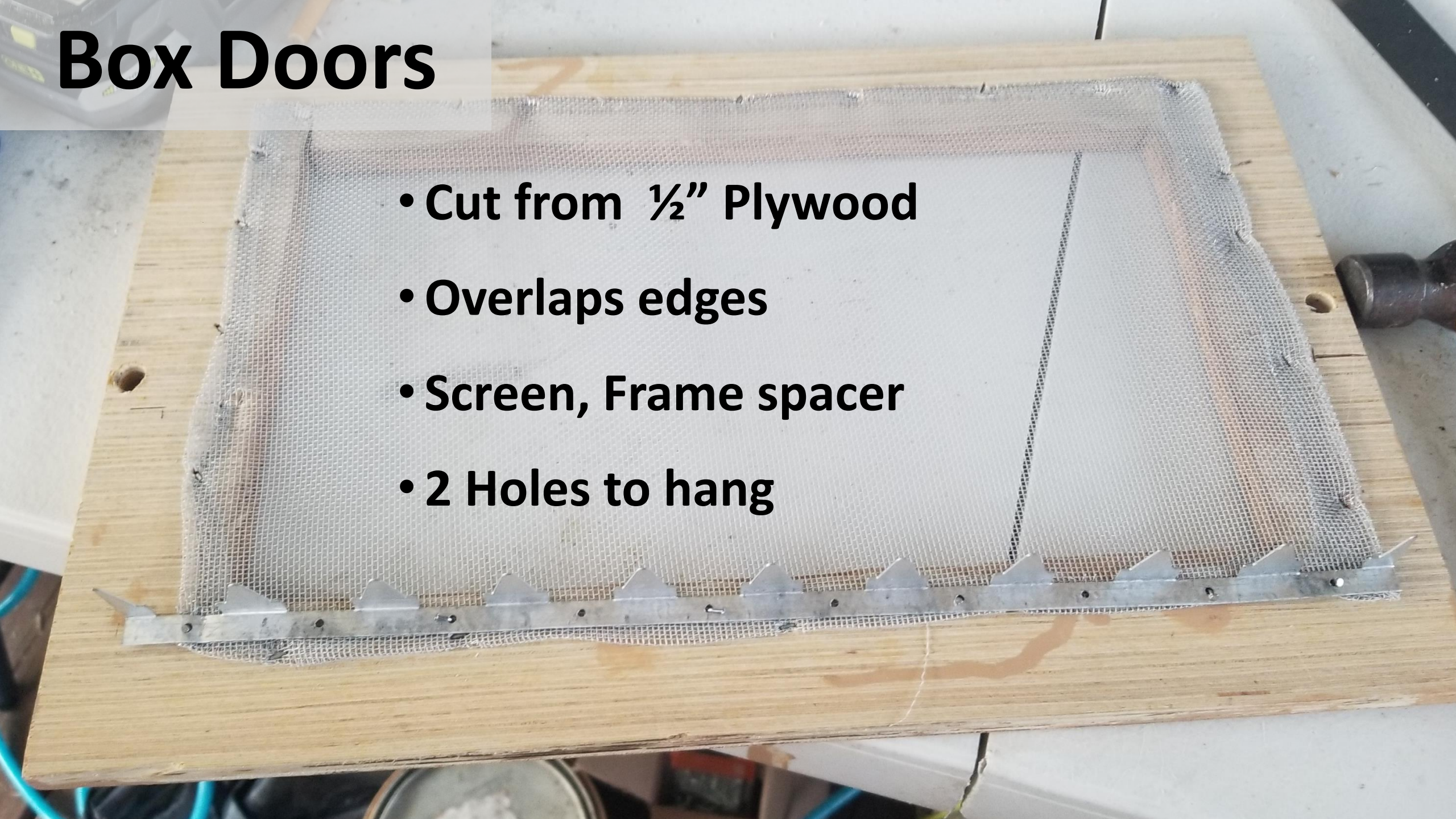


Screw between 1 x 6”s

Adding Top

- Plywood
- Not weather-proof

Box Doors



- Cut from ½” Plywood
- Overlaps edges
- Screen, Frame spacer
- 2 Holes to hang

Adding Hanger Bolts

Attaching Screen Doors

Adding Outer Door

- Level with top
- Strap Hinges
- Double hinged latch

Outdoor Shelter

- Front – bee entrance
- Shelter hives from weather

Outdoor Shelter Back

- Shade for beekeeper
- Sit or stand
- No AC!

Plans Published

FB – Fairfield County Beekeepers > Files

THE LAAZY HIVE

LANGSTROTH ADAPTED TO AZ-STYLE HIVE FOR YOU

Directions for converting your Langstroth components into an AZ-style hive

Funded by a grant from NC-SARE

Part 1 - Background, Hive Drawings and Materials Lists

Saum's Micro Farm and Apiary, 5477 Hayes Rd., Groveport, OH 43125
Dotson Farm, 1815 Marietta Rd., Lancaster, OH 43130
Jeannie Saum - Grant Author and Manager

LANGSTROTH ADAPTED TO AZ-STYLE HIVE FOR YOU

Part 2 Assembly Directions

Funded by a grant from NC-SARE by Jeannie Saum

*Note: if you are using hand held power tools, like we did, you may need to do minor adjustments and trimming, to make everything fit tightly. Measure, fit and adjust as you cut and build.

FB– The LAAZY Hive Beehive – photos, process

Beekeeping for the Differently-Abled

Thanks to the NC-SARE Grant