

Pa Queen Project Nuc & Queen cell Field Day

May-June Hold a nuc workshop in an apiary to show the following nuc parts:
2-3 frames of sealed brood and bees (no eggs, some older open larvae is ok)
2 frames with honey and pollen (can be mixed)
Extra shakes of young bees from open brood. DO NOT SHAKE QUEEN
This nuc is to be QUEENLESS

Field Day minus 14 days. Graft Mark bars.

Field Day minus 13 days, Graft extras. Mark bars
Periodic checks of queen cell progress

Field Day minus 2 days, Graft for 48hr cells (Optional)

Field Day minus 2 days, each participant builds a queenless nuc from their own hives. Nuc may be transported to Field Day location to prevent field bees from returning in the 'home' yard

Field Day - Queen cells are 2 days from hatching
Members bring nucs to Field Day location – space to prevent drift
Final check of nucs to be sure of no queen cells or accidental queen.
Transfer queen cells to nucs. Use a cell protector for safe handling
ripe cells and introduction.

Field Day - transfer all extra ripe cells into nucs or banks.

Field Day + 4 days Check for virgin queens. Add caged virgin to anything queenless, from extras

Field Day + 12-16 days. Check for eggs and mark queens

Field Day +16 days Pickup Day - Members may pick up nucs with new queen

Note: Feeding enhances the success and strength during this queen introduction

Follow-up - Member to check hives for laying queen three consecutive weeks min.
Collect mite samples