Frame Storage

James & Chari Elam
BluebonnetBeekeeping.com
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What is the cost of drawn comb?

It takes
Roughly 1.6 lbs. of honey/syrup to produce 1 frame of drawn comb

Randy Oliver – Study 2016

6 – 8 pounds of honey consumed by a Honey Bee to produce 1 pound of wax
During the peak of a nectar flow it takes a colony 7 days to draw 2 deep frames of comb...

Worth taking care of?
What are we “protecting” them from?

Wax Moths
Basically 2 Methods

• Open air ventilation

• Sealed using Para Moth
Regardless of the method you choose

These 2 Steps will begin your method

1. Let the bees clean out the honey/nectar so that the frame is DRY so it won’t mold or attract Hive Beetles

2. Freeze the frame to kill any larvae
If you have very much pollen in your stored comb it \textit{will} attract Hive Beetles!
Open Air Storage

These are hanging from rafters in a barn – Not recommended for humid environments unless you can utilize a fan for the duration of the storage.

Screen a bottom base/board with window screen wire. Stack boxes 4-5 high - top with a screened top. The light and cross ventilation is the formula here.
“Para-Moth” crystals (paradichlorobenzene) or (P-dichlorobenzene) ONLY

Moth Balls containing “Naphthalene” is harmful to bees.
1. Place Telescopic lid upside down
2. Stack 2 boxes w/frames in it
3. Lay an piece of paper (8x11) in the center of the second box
4. Pour 2-3 Teaspoons Para-Moth on it
5. Add 2 more boxes
6. Repeat steps 3 & 4
7. Continue until you reach 6 boxes
8. Adding your final paper/Para-Moth
9. Top with a piece of cardboard cut to the size of the box
10. Tape each joint very well (except the bottom where the box and lid join)
11. Re-apply Para-Moth as needed
Para-Moth in bags

1. Place Para-Moth on paper “on top” of 2 boxes with frames
2. Wrap in “clear” plastic bags.
3. Tape securely

Idea of clear:
You are able to visually see any infestation if it were to occur
• When using Para-Moth to store frames – you MUST “air out” the boxes and frames for a week or two prior to installing on your hives in the spring.

• Older brood comb is more “attractive” to Wax Moths than newer white comb.
Easiest storage method...

• Storing your drawn comb frames in a freezer when not in use

• Take them out 24 hours ahead of reinstalling them on the colony
Regardless of the method you choose...

Protect your investment!

It can make the difference in how successful you are in beekeeping!

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