# OTS QUEEN REARING

## A Survival Guide For Beekeepers Worldwide 2016 Expanded Edition

#### **Availability:**

The book is being printed now and will be available around the 3rd week of February, 2016

#### **Price and shipping:**

Domestic \$69.99 plus \$5.75 priority postage plus \$4.20 Michigan sales tax. International \$69.99 plus \$25.00 priority postage.

#### About the book:

The expanded edition of OTS Queen Rearing includes several new chapters that have been requested with explanations on how I do these procedures. The book is priced so that three mated queens or just one saved hive will more than pay for the book which makes it cost effective. If you are buying bees for \$100 or more then invest the price of the book to learn how I keep them alive. The book is based on the miticide-free beekeeping method that I have been using successfully to overcome mites for over 25 years.

Also included with the book is a pass for a hands-on demonstration in my bee yard every Saturday from 12:00 - 2:00p.m. from the first of May through August, 2016. I am offering this to help satisfy the many requests from beekeepers to see me perform the procedures in person in the apiary. Either bring the pass or the book so that I can give you a pass. It is a rustic site and you will be required to have a veil and jacket. It is on the Northeast corner of 20th St. and 135th Ave. in Hopkins Township, Allegan County, Michigan. First driveway north off of 135th Ave on 20 ST to the east. *Note: Only prepaid items may be picked up on-site, there will be no sales transacted. Also, no recording devices will be permitted on-site.* 

# OTS QUEEN REARING

A Survival Guide For Beekeepers Worldwide





Self-Sufficient Beekeeping Strategies For Novice and Expert Alike

- On-The-Spot Queens
- Generate Private Stock
- Notching Method Honey Production
  - Biological Mite Control Pollination



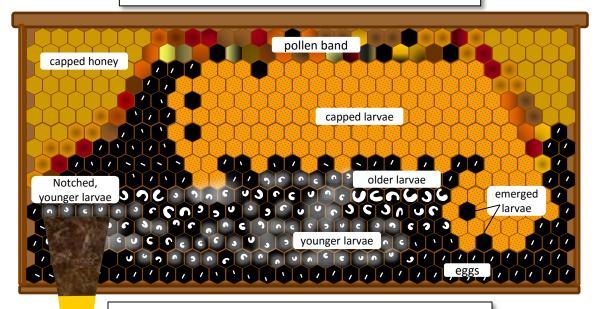
© 2016 Expanded Edition, The International Mating Nuc, Inc. All rights reserved

### OTS QUEEN REARING: A SURVIVAL GUIDE FOR BEEKEEPERS WORLDWIDE

### by Mel Disselkoen

Developed, edited, illustrated, and photos by Lynn Quinn Photos and photo editing by John O'Connell

About the cover: A honeybee colony brood frame



About this book: The sole purpose of this book is to help save our honeybees as well as the ancient art of beekeeping. It is completely self-published and self-financed.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Opening 5-28	The Colony 71-86
Dedication 7-8	Alpha Bees 73-80
Preface 9-10	Honeybee Husbandry and Genetics 81-84
Introduction 11-14	Laying Workers 85-86
G.M. Doolittle 15-22	Overwintering 87-100  Overwintering July Starts 89-94  Sugar Bricks 95-100
Dr. C.C. Miller 23-24	
The Case-Hopkins Connection 25-26	
The Discovery of OTS Queen Rearing 27-28	
The Queendom 29-58	Trouble in the Hive 101-124
OTS Queen Rearing Procedures for Making Starts 31-32	Varroa Mites 103-108
OTS Queen Rearing 33-38	Wounded Workers 109-110
OTS Queen Rearing by Doolittle's Queen-Right Plan 39-42	Intruder Excluders 111-112
OTS Queens 43-44	Bee Pasture at Risk 113-116
OTS Notching Larvae and Queen Cells 45-52	The Case of the Honeydew Honey 117-124
OTS Queen Brood Patterns 53-54	Closing 125-162
OTS Bee Yards 55-58	Conclusion 127-128
The Hive 59-70	Bios 129-130
Rev. L.L. Langstroth and Father Dr. Johann Dzierzon 61-62	Frequently Asked Questions 131-134 Illustrations 135 Glossary 136 Bibliography 137 I.M.N. System of Queen Rearing 138-160 Ode to the Beekeeper, Ode to the Bee 162
MDA Splitter 63-64	
Honeybee Math 65	
Anatomy of a Honeybee Start 66	
Drawn Comb 67-68	
MDA Splitter in Pictures 69-70	



"The art of beekeeping does not require full-strength hives at all times of the year, only during your surplus honey flows..." --Mel Disselkoen



Mel Disselkoen strives to identify the natural behaviors and seasonal reproductive cycles of the honeybee and then direct those behaviors toward a profitable objective. He has kept bees for over 40 years and is familiar with all facets of beekeeping. In 1988, he authored a booklet entitled "I.M.N. System of Queen Rearing" that documented his discovery which later came to be known as OTS, or On-The-Spot queen rearing. Today he utilizes OTS to rear queens for honeybee colony "Starts" to biologically break the Varroa mites' breeding cycle. He has kept miticide-free bees for over 25 years and is dedicated to sharing his findings in order to help beekeepers become successful and self-sufficient.

"Since honeybee behavior is naturally directed toward survival and increase, beekeepers can adapt their management and business models to the honeybee's natural instincts so that stress is minimized and performance is optimized. By working within this philosophy of cooperating with nature, I have found that the best bee is the bee that can overwinter in your area."

- Mel Disselkoen

