



OVERWINTERING Bees in
Southern Arizona

Unpredictable Winters

Flight above 45 degrees F

Full Forage 55-65F

Finding what sources?

Dearth

No Hive Wraps

Remove any Shade Covers





Feral Hives Usurpation Suicide Swarms



Drones Get Out!



Robbing:

- Don't break honeycomb
- Don't spill Syrup
- Keep tools clean
- Reduce Entrances
- Remove Screened Bottom Boards
- Seal any cracks.
- What you see...fighting at entrance, dead worker bees.
- Starving bees (heads stuck in cells, cold, lifeless, clustered in small ball)
- Wax cappings littering bottom board
- Try draping wet sheet, drape to ground, rewet, remove in 24-48 hours....however when it starts very difficult to stop.
- USE ROBBING SCREENS



Queens Reduce or Stop Laying



WAX MOTHS

Reduce Space

Follower Board

Store Drawn Comb to prevent
damage

Do not kill a hive, opportunists



Decrease Inspections

01

Open heat of day

02

Get in, get out

03

Don't leave anything exposed

04

Don't leave burr comb outside near hives.

05

Don't open feed syrup.



Demographics for Spring

Stimulate 6 weeks prior to Spring Flowers

Increase or resume Protein Patty internal supplement

Free Feeding Protein Powder - or will forage coffee grounds, sawdust, bird/chicken/animal feed dusts, etc. Not just your bees.

Garden plants (pollen): Gazania, Lobelia, Calendula, Snapdragons, blanket flower, brassicas, etc.

Sugar Syrup

1:1 Pure Cane White Sugar to water
by weight

OR

1 water to 2 Sugar if not enough
honey stores

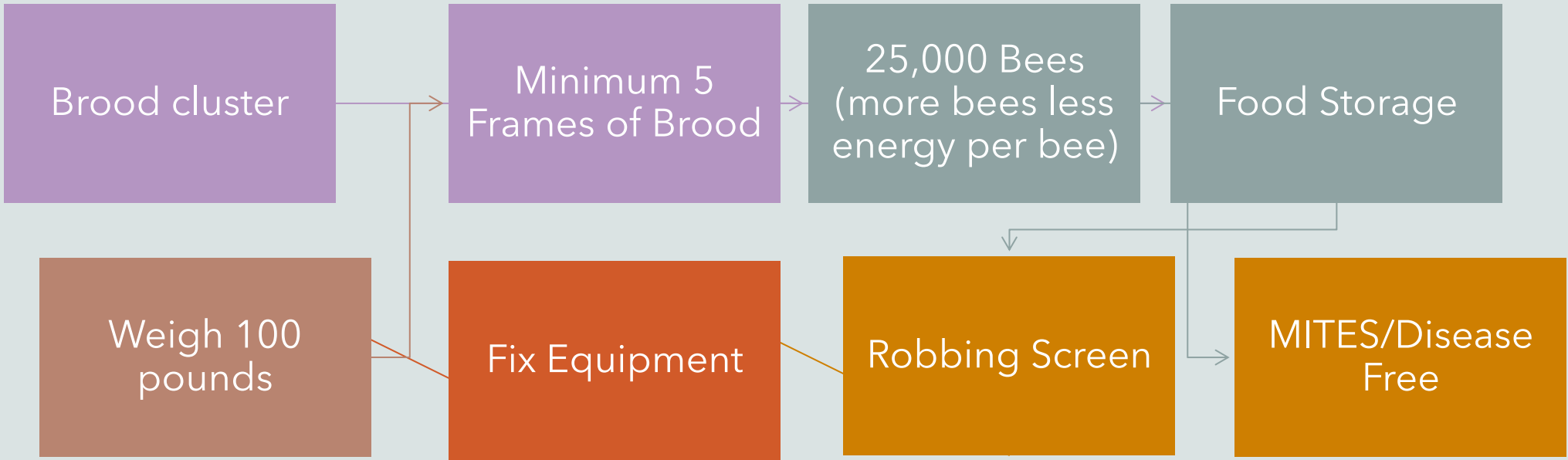
Candy/Fondant/Sugar Board

NO CORN SYRUP

- Syrup feeders: Frame, entrance, top or free feed if over 100 yards away.

HEALTHY!

Get Ready NOW!



Winter

Some hives will not shut down – Mites

Laying Workers – Don't borrow resources to fix failing hives

Queens? – Possible source year round

Good time to clean, sort, and order/build equipment for Spring. Place orders for nucs. Beginners read, youtube, take hands-on classes – LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION



Thank you
