

Economics of Beekeeping

or

"If you will listen to me, the world
will be a better place"

What is the most
logical way to spend
my beekeeping
dollars.....

Overall Cost to Start Beekeeping

- Veil 15.00
- Smoker 25.00
- Hive Tool 5.00
- Brush 5.00
- Hive 150.00 You should get two
- **Total \$200.00 \$350.00**
- **But this is only the beginning.....**

Acquiring Bees Package Bees w/ Queen

- 3 lb. package... \$60 - \$70
- Hive body, Bottom board, Top.. \$28-\$35
- 10 frames w/ foundation... \$16 - \$21
- Shipping and/or Sales Tax... \$10 - \$20

- Approximate Total... \$114 - \$146

Acquiring Bees Purchasing a Nuc

- Purchase a Nuc.... \$75 - \$90
- Hive body, Bottom board, Top.. \$28-\$35
- 10 frames w/ foundation... \$16 - \$21
- Shipping and/or Sales Tax... \$10 - \$20

- Approximate Total.... \$129 - \$166

Acquiring Bees Purchasing a Complete Hive

- A complete hive will sell for approximately \$140 - \$165...
- This is based on this years pricing...

Acquiring Bees

- Package Bees.... \$115- \$145
 - Results take the longest and require the most attention.
- Purchasing a Nuc.... \$130 - \$165
 - Faster results.. You have 4 or 5 frames of foundation the bees can build on..
- Purchase a Hive... \$140 - \$165
 - You are now a beekeeper.... Downside is that complete hives are sometimes hard to locate.

What about a Honey Flow

- When you purchase Supers, go in w/ a friend to save money..... Frames and Foundation are always cheaper for 50 or 100 or more.
- Never purchase just one Super... You will always need two, three or four.. Hives grow and apiaries expand rapidly....
- Whenever a Honey Flow begins, I always add at least two supers.

Extracting / Bottling

- Used Extractor vs. a New Extractor
 - Manual vs. Mechanical
- Un-capping tray... \$55 - \$425
 - Make one from Rubbermaid box and valve
- Bottling Bucket..
 - Store bought \$25 vs. Homemade \$12
- Capping Knife, Pick, etc.....
 - Garage Sales – Thrift Stores

Storage

- Closet vs. Shed vs. Barn vs. Warehouse
- Build the largest storage area you can afford or can get away with....
- Consider Mortgaging your house and buying the lot next door.....
- Interest rates are down and most of your friends think your crazy anyway....
- You neeedeed the space....