

# Beezette

April 2021



Capped queen or swarm cells

April is swarm season and if you don't take action you may lose half your bees. If your bees are crowded they may swarm. They may swarm even if they are not crowded. If you inspect your hive and see cells like those above you need to take action. Here are your options. First, confirm the existing queen is still in the hive, then destroy the queen cells. Warning, this action may leave you with a queenless hive if they swarm even after you destroy the queen cells. Two, move the frame with the swarm cells into another hive or nuc or box. This approach often results in a new hive. The first queen to emerge will kill the other queens still in their cells. Three, cut out each queen cell, careful to keep it intact, and place it gently in a new hive between two frames of bees. Three cells may result in three new hives. This is when extra equipment comes in handy.

Next meeting is Sunday, SApril 11, at 1:30. It will be a Zoom meeting and the primary focus will be on Better Beekeeping using Bee biology. A separate Zoom invite will be sent soon.