

## **Beekeeping Equipment required when starting out**

### **Based on using brood and a half system**

**Primary hive** – the majority of people use national hives in Dumfries and Galloway. You have the choice of using wooden or poly hives.

- Floor
- Brood box
- Two or three supers (one to use as top brood box and others as honey supers)
- Crown board
- Lid
- Queen excluder
- Frames – we recommend using Hoffman frames as these are self-spacing and don't require any plastic spacers.
  - Brood box frames – DN4/5 Hoffman frames (10-11 per deep box)
  - Super frames – SN4/5 Hoffman frames (10-11 per shallow box)
- Foundation
  - Deep wired worker foundation
  - Shallow wired foundation (for extracted honey) or unwired shallow foundation (for cut comb)

**Swarm control equipment** – for every hive you have you will require enough equipment for swarm control. To carry out an artificial swarm you will require the following:

- Floor
- Brood box
- Crown board
- Frames
  - Brood box frames – DN4/5 Hofman frames (10-12 per deep box)
- Foundation
  - Deep wired worker foundation
- Lid

Or if you wish to make increase then you can use the nuc box method. Note: you will need additional full hives for these once they have a laying queen and filled their nuc boxes.

- Two nucs boxes
- Frames
  - Brood box frames – DN4/5 Hofman frames (5/6 per nuc)
  - Foundation - Deep wired worker foundation

### **Other equipment**

Hive tool

Smoker

Beesuit

Bee gloves

Bee brush

Tub for soda crystals

Tub for wax scrapings

## **Recommended suppliers**

E H Thornes (Beekeeping) Ltd - [www.thorne.co.uk](http://www.thorne.co.uk)

Good all round beekeeping supplies but often on the slightly expensive side. Would recommend waiting until the Winter sale (1<sup>st</sup> Jan) to buy seconds frames.

C Wynne Jones - [www.cwynnejones.com](http://www.cwynnejones.com)

- Swienty Poly national hive – full hive ~ £100 - [www.cwynnejones.com/national-polystyrene-hives-parts/256-poly-hive-national.html](http://www.cwynnejones.com/national-polystyrene-hives-parts/256-poly-hive-national.html)

Paynes - [www.paynesbeefarm.co.uk](http://www.paynesbeefarm.co.uk)

- Paynes 6 frame ply nuc boxes
- Paynes Poly nucs

Maisemore Apiaries - [www.bees-online.co.uk](http://www.bees-online.co.uk)

- Poly nucs and hives

Swienty – [www.swienty.com](http://www.swienty.com) (German company)

- Poly national hives and high quality extracting equipment

BBWear – [www.bbwear.co.uk](http://www.bbwear.co.uk)

- Beekeeping clothing (SSBKA members get a 10% discount)

**BJ Sherriff** - [www.bjsherriff.co.uk](http://www.bjsherriff.co.uk)

- Beekeeping clothing

Bee Equipment – [www.bee-equipment.co.uk](http://www.bee-equipment.co.uk)

National Bee Supplies - [www.beekeeping.co.uk](http://www.beekeeping.co.uk)

Simon the Beekeeper - [www.simonthebeekeeper.co.uk](http://www.simonthebeekeeper.co.uk)

Abelo - [www.abelo.co.uk](http://www.abelo.co.uk)

Becky's Bees - [www.beckysbeesonlineshop.co.uk](http://www.beckysbeesonlineshop.co.uk)

Highland Bee Suppliers - [www.highlandbeesupplies.co.uk](http://www.highlandbeesupplies.co.uk)