



Brushy Mountain Bee Farm

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For more than 30 years

8-FRAME IMIRIE SHIM

PLEASE NOTE: THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS FOR THE 10-FRAME HIVE. HOWEVER THEY ARE THE SAME FOR THE 8-FRAME. THE END PIECES FOR THE 8-FRAME MEASURE 13 ¾”.

This clever gadget is the invention of George Imirie, Master Beekeeper. George uses the shim to provide upper entrances for his bees during the honey flow. He places a shim above the queen excluder and between the other extracting supers of drawn frames that he puts on for the honey flow. He only uses 2 to 3 per colony and no more. When the bees start capping the first super (which will be the one next to the hive body) he removes the lower Shim. **When the flow is over he removes all the shims.**

The way to produce maximum amounts of extracted honey is to put at least 3 or more supers of **DRAWN** Frames on top of the Hive right before the flow starts. When you do this:

- The smell of the beeswax tells the bees that their stores are empty and they need to start working. This smell is actually a pheromone, which affects the bees.
- The bees are able to reduce the moisture much faster and produce a large crop.
- The tedious job of comb building is not necessary and again the bees can store more honey.

Bees swarm mainly as a result of congestion and age of the queen. **Imirie Shim** tremendously reduces congestion by giving the bees upper entrances. They do not have to enter and leave by wading through the brood nest.

You can also use the **Imirie Shim** to provide an upper entrance for each of your hives over the winter by putting one below the Inner Cover under the Telescoping Top. You then push the top all the way forward which uncovers the dado in the Shim. Now the bees and moisture can leave through the hole.

When you requeen you can put an **Imirie Shim** directly on top of the Hive Body and simply lay the queen cage on top of the top bars. You will never have another problem squeezing the queen cage in between the frames. When you do this you must close up the hole with duct tape or something else.

Beehives are designed with the 3/8” *Bee Space* in mind. This means that there is 3/8” space between each frame and as a result the bees will not put Burr Comb in, unless they become honey bound. Then you use the **Imirie Shim** during the honey flow the bees will not put in Burr Comb because they prefer the Drawn Comb. When the flow is over you must remove the Shim or the bees will add Burr Comb. *You must also remove the shim when the queen leaves the queen cage.*

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Your **Imirie Shim** is four pieces of wood which are ¾” square. Two pieces are 16 ¼” long. One is solid and the other has a 1 ¼” long dado in it. The other two are 19 1/8” long. When you assemble please glue each joint before nailing. Fit one long side to one short side and nail with one of the 1 1/4” nails into the end of the long piece down into the end of the short side. Add the other short piece and again nail into the end of the long side into the short side. Add the remaining long side and nail each end of the long side to the short sides. Your Shim is now assembled with 4 nails but you are not through nailing. You must nail each end of the short side to the long sides with two nails. Please nail 3/8” from the end of each end of the short sides down into the long sides. Each corner will now have three nails in them, one through the end of the long side and two through the ends of the short sides.