



## **ADDING A SUPER**

**When the brood box is full, all the frames are being used and there are sufficient bees filling the box and sitting on top of the frames, it may be time to add a super (top box)**

**The following points should be considered:**

### **1. Sufficient Flow**

- ❑ Time of year
- ❑ What type trees/shrubs are flowering
- ❑ Nutritional value of plants currently flowering
- ❑ Pollen vs nectar flow

### **2. Viability of colony**

- ❑ Amount of brood present
- ❑ Age of Queen
- ❑ Time of year
- ❑ Number of adult bees present

**To add a super box to the brood box, the following steps should be taken**

1. Remove hive lid
2. Check for readiness for super to be added (see points 1 and 2 above)
3. Remove any burr comb present
4. Add Queen excluder
5. Position new box (super) on top of existing box
6. Place 10 foundation frames or stickies in super
7. Add beetle trap and/or inner lid as required
8. Replace lid.
9. Strap the hive.

**Adding a super before the colony requires is not recommended because:**

- The bees have double the space to keep free of pests
- If the frames are not required for honey storage (which acts as an insulator) the bees will have a harder time maintaining ambient temperature.
- There will be more condensation in the hive.