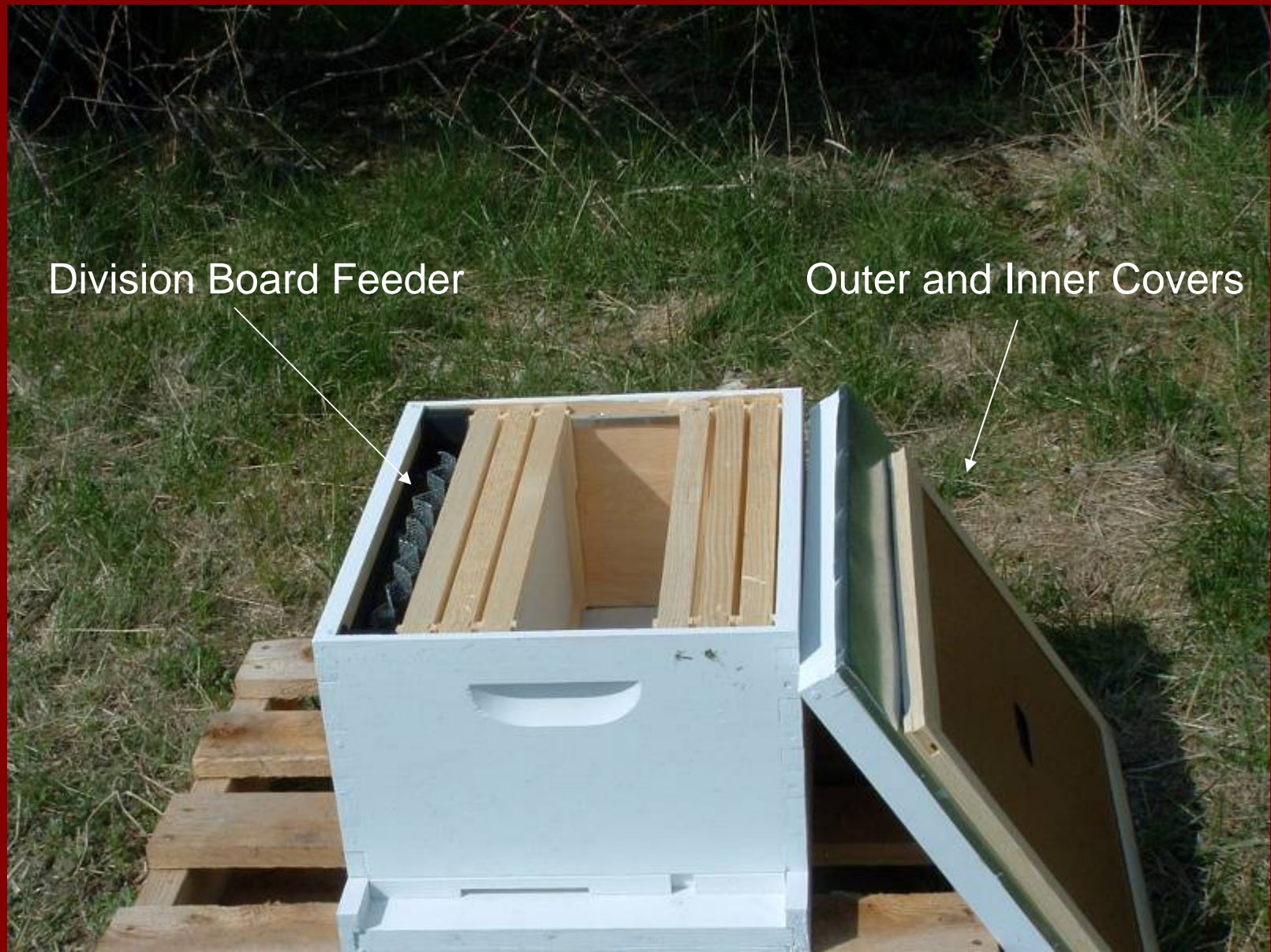


Installing Packaged Bees



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Division Board Feeder

Outer and Inner Covers

Hive body with division board feeder (left) and three frames removed



(2) 3 Pound Packages of Honeybees – via the USPS



Apiary Site – South facing, near water, and shelter on north side



Feed Can

Separating the two packages using hive tools



Removing the feed can



Queen Cage



Crystallized honey to
plug hole in queen
cage

Keep the queen warm and out of the wind and direct sunlight



Pouring the bees into the hive body



Screened bottom board



Entrance Reducer





Sprayer with
sugar syrup

Replacing the frames



Placing the queen cage between the two center frames



Antibiotic mixed with powdered sugar for foulbrood prevention

Feeding Bees

■ Sugar Syrup

- 2 parts cane or beet sugar : 1 part water if starting with foundation. May use to 1 part sugar : 1 water if you have drawn comb. Do not burn sugar solution, carmelization can be harmful to bees.
- Fumagillin (Fumidil-B) is added to suppress Nosema disease in newly established packages.

Feed bees as long as they continue to take syrup.
Stop fumagillin treatments at least 4 weeks before the onset of the honey flow.



Finished! Come back in a day or two and remove empty queen cage



Hive top feeder (1/2 gallon jar with perforated lid) placed on inner cover



Empty hive body covers feed jar

Inner cover

Hive Management – The Beekeeper's Year





Smoking the hive prior to inspection



Hive tool

Removing a frame for inspection



Larvae

Capped cells contain pupae

Pollen

Honey





Drone

Queen

Worker

When to Super the Hive

- Add a second hive body when 6 or 7 of the 10 frames have been filled. Approximately one to one and half months after installing the package.
- Add a honey super when the second hive body has 6-7 of the 10 frames filled.
- Rule of Thumb:
 - Oversuper in spring; undersuper in fall

Pulling Honey Supers

- Bee brush
- Bee escapes
- Chemical repellants with fume board





Capped honey ready for extraction



Hot knife to cut
wax caps from
comb

Uncapping tank



Extractor and bucket with filter and honey gate



Baskets pivot to extract honey out of both sides of the frames



Honey gate valve



Bottling

Late Summer – Early Fall Management

- Monitor for mites and treat if needed
- Feed bees if hive has less than 100 pounds of honey
- Treat for Nosema with Fumidil-B
- Combine weak colonies
- Install entrance reducers and mouse guards when night temperatures drop to freezing



Insulated 'super'

2006-7 Over wintering strategy with straw bale wind break

Sunny, calm and 42 F air temperature



Top entrance is critical during winter for access and ventilation