



Swarm Control

Programme outline

The outline for the course is as follows:

	Day 1	Day 2
morning 09:30 – 12:30	Swarming behaviour Swarm departure The remaining colony	Detection, prevention, control Swarm control techniques in detail
afternoon 13:30 – 16:30	Swarm baits & lures Collecting swarms	Poor swarm controls Teaching good swarm control

Preparation

The course is aimed at those with 2-3 years of practical beekeeping behind them who wish to understand more about swarming and swarm control. We assume that students are familiar with the principles and basic-level practice of routine inspections and colony management through the season, and will have attempted some form of swarm control with their own bees.

We will compare and practice all of the main swarm control methods - Pagden, Demaree, vertical split, shook swarm, nuc making, etc. Any good beekeeping manual should provide a refresher for general techniques and management relating to swarming and swarm collection, including any of the following:

BBKA Guide to Beekeeping, Davis & Cullum-Kenyon
Guide to Bees and Honey, Hooper
Haynes Bee Manual, Waring & Waring

For further detailed reading on swarming behaviour within colonies, the following two titles are recommended:

Honeybee Democracy, Seeley
The Biology of the Honey Bee, Winston

What to bring

We will be discussing and practising various swarm control methods within a classroom environment, so you do not need to bring beekeeping clothes.

Copies of course slides, worksheets, and other handouts will be provided, but you are advised to bring writing materials so that you can take further notes if you wish.

Directions

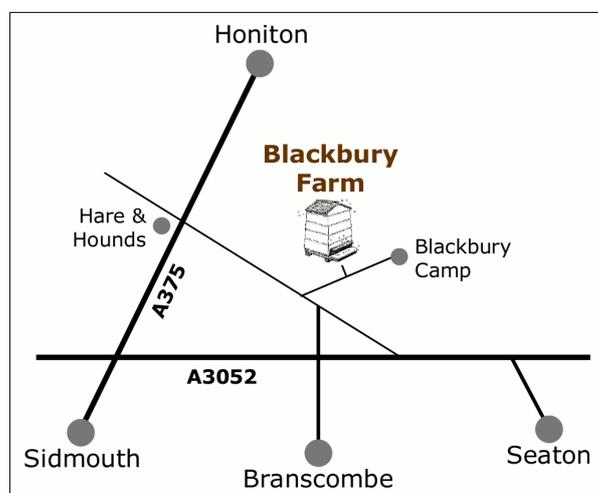
Our training centre is located at

Blackbury Honey Farm, Southleigh, Colyton, Devon, EX24 6JF

between the towns of Honiton, Sidmouth, and Seaton.

Blackbury Honey Farm is located about a mile from Southleigh village so please do **not** follow Southleigh signs – instead follow the brown **Blackbury Camp** and **Honey Farm** signs.

Satnav users – the postcode is inaccurate - when it tells you that you have arrived, follow the brown sign for Blackbury Camp.



By car

1. Honiton is reached by the A30, which connects with the M5 at Exeter and the A303 and A35 to the East.
2. Follow signs out of Honiton for Sidmouth on the A375.
3. At the crossroads with the Hare and Hounds pub, turn left and follow the brown tourist signs for Blackbury Camp.
4. Follow this road for about 2 miles – do **not** go to Southleigh village.
5. Turn left where indicated by the brown Honey Farm sign, and Blackbury Honey Farm is the first gateway on the left. There is ample parking.

By train

Honiton station is about five miles away and is served by the London Waterloo – Exeter service. Taxis from Honiton station can be booked on 01404 850800 – please ask to be taken to Blackbury Camp, Southleigh and you will pass our gate.

Accommodation

The following local B&Bs are popular with our students:

- The Old Bakehouse, Colyton, EX24 6ND, tel. 01297 552518
- Smallicombe Farm, Northleigh, EX24 6BU, tel. 01404 831310
- Baytree B&B Guesthouse, Seaton, EX12 2QS, tel. 01297 21966

Other options available locally include:

- Premier Inn, Honiton, EX14 1BQ, tel. 0871 527 9508
- Travelodge, Seaton, EX12 2NA, tel. 0871 622 0701
- YHA Hostel, Beer, EX12 3LL, tel. 0845 371 9502

Seaton Tourist Information Centre can advise regarding accommodation:

- www.seatontic.co.uk, 01297 300390, terry@seatonjustrassic.org

Contact

The training centre at Blackbury Honey Farm is coordinated by Daniel Basterfield, who can be contacted on 01404 871600 or at daniel@blackburyfarm.co.uk.