



Queen Raising

Programme outline

The outline for the course is as follows:

	Day 1	Day 2
morning 09:30 – 12:30	Queen rearing overview; Cell raising systems; Queen raising colony set-up in apiary	Preparation of mini-nucs; Queen introduction; Mini-nuc set-up in apiary
afternoon 13:30 – 16:30	Grafting theory & practice; Grafting in apiary; Mating mini-nuc management	Review grafting success; Nucleus stocking in apiary; Records & stock selection

Tea and coffee will be served on both mornings from 9am. Lunches and refreshments are included in the course fee.

Preparation

Whilst we will discuss and compare many approaches, during the practical activities we will be following a method of queen-right queen raising described in an article published by the National Bee Unit, a copy of which is enclosed with these joining instructions. Please make time to read this and familiarise yourself with the chosen method as this will greatly improve your experience of the practical activities.

David Woodward's *Queen Bee: Biology, Rearing and Breeding* is recommended as a primer and reference text.

What to bring

- Clean beekeeping clothes, veil, boots, etc.
- Umbrella
- Reading glasses or other magnifying devices as required for grafting
- Preferred grafting tool (if you have one)
- Any preferred reference books

Smokers and hive tools will be provided.

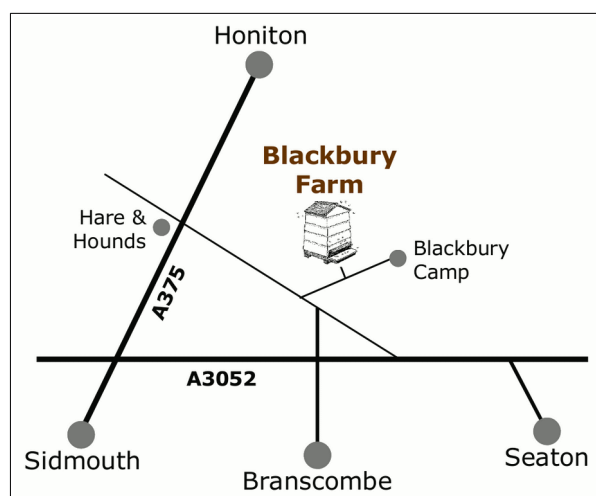
Directions

Our training centre is located between the towns of Honiton, Sidmouth, and Seaton at

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

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 signs for Honey Farm and 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:

- Records Place, Southleigh, EX24 6JA, tel. 01297 680649
- Smallicombe Farm, Northleigh, EX24 6BU, tel. 01404 831310
- The Old Bakehouse, Colyton, EX24 6ND, tel. 01297 552518

Other options available locally include:

- Woodlands Hotel, Sidmouth, EX10 8HG, tel. 01395 513120
- 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 local accommodation options:

- seaton.gov.uk/tourist-information, 01297 21388, admin@seaton.gov.uk

Contact

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