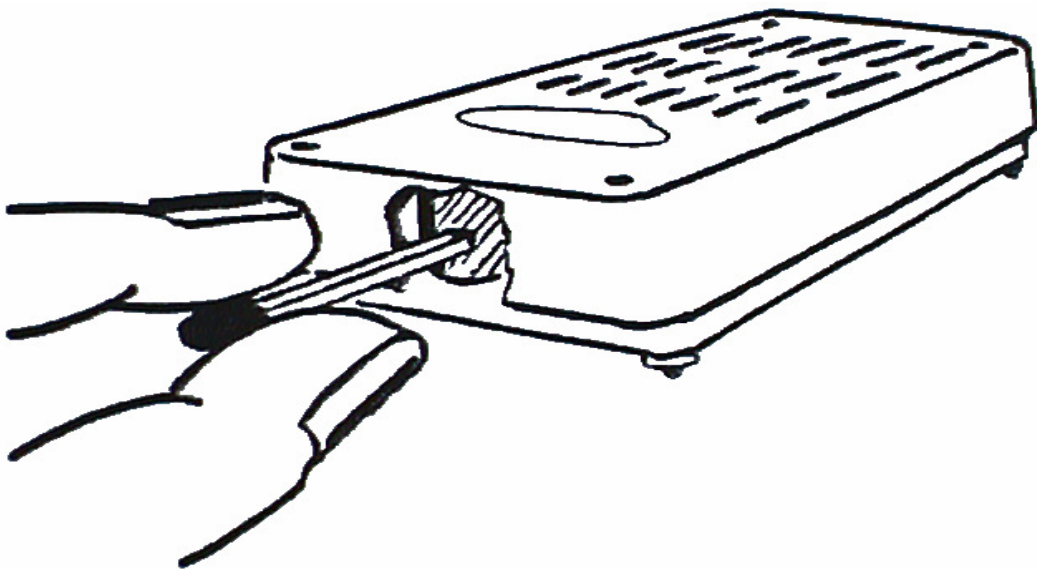


How to Introduce Your Queen

1. Examine the cage and queen and escorts and make sure the queen is alive and active. If the queen is dead, return the cage, unopened, immediately.
2. If you are not quite ready to use your queen immediately, store her somewhere that is cool, dark, quiet, safe from ants, and safe from insecticides. Under these conditions you can hold her, if necessary, for a few days. In the hotter months, it is a good idea to give the bees a drink of water once or twice a day. Do this by dipping a clean finger into clean water and smearing your wet finger over the gauze of the cage, leaving a film of water for the bees to drink. Don't add a couple of drops of water into the cage, as you risk drowning your bees.
3. Examine the hive into which the queen is to be introduced and make sure it is queenless and destroy any queen cells within the hive. If the old queen is still in the hive, then kill her and leave the body on the bottom of the hive for about 4 hours. This gives the bees time to realise they are queenless, but not enough time to do anything about it.



4. The queen cage has a piece of candy at the end of the cage that has the escape hole. Push a match right through the candy (as per illustration) and pull the match out, leaving a small neat hole. This is to allow the bees in the cage and the bees in the hive to smell and communicate, as they eat away the candy, and approach each other.
5. Insert the mailing cage into the hive between the centremost frames in the bottom super in such a way that the bees in the hive can touch the queen inside through the gauze of the queen cage, and also so that the candy hole is slightly above the level of the rest of the cage. This makes sure that if one of the escorts dies before the queen is released, the body will not block up the escape hole.
6. The hive should not be disturbed for at least seven days otherwise the bees may ball the new queen and kill her.



JOHN L. GUILFOYLE PTY. LTD.

www.johnlguilfoyle.com.au

38 Begonia Street

Inala

Brisbane

Qld 4077

Ph: (07) 3279 9750

Fax: (07) 3279 9753

PO Box 18

Richlands Qld 4077

email:john@johnlguilfoyle.com.au

Shop 6

82 Victoria Street

Werrington

NSW 2747

Ph: (02) 9623 5585

Fax: (02) 9673 3009

PO Box 4011

Werrington NSW 2747

ABN: 57 548 699 481

299 Prospect Road

Blair Athol

Adelaide

SA 5084

Ph: (08) 8344 8307

Fax: (08) 8344 2269

PO Box 128

Kilburn SA 5084