

QUEEN INTRODUCTION



OLIVAREZ HONEY BEES

3-Hole Cage

Before you introduce the queen you want to remove the attendants, having the attendants in the cage creates a small colony of one odor. The bees that belong to the queen will tend to fight the other colony. The problem with releasing the attendants is that it's often easy to lose the queen. One way to do it is to pull the cork out and very carefully covering the hole immediately. And then putting a second 3-hole cage sliding it in place, making sure you don't shear the head off the queen. Face the cage towards the sunlight and slightly irritate the bees by blowing on them. The attendants should start going into the other three hole cage and you just shake it out. Slide the cage back into the same position and remove the attendants one by one and eventually you're going to have the queen in one of the cages.

Now you take a frame with some young brood and you place the queen cage with the candy in place.

Just force the queen cage into the frame exposing the screen so that the bees have access to it. Place the frame back into the hive and clear out a spot so you don't crush any bees and squeeze the cage in. Then close the hive.

JZBZ Cage

This cage has a plastic cap covering the candy end, this cap needs to be removed. Leave this on for the first 24 hours, inspect it, and then remove the cap. This cage is narrower than the other cage so it fits in nicely.

The principle is the same with all of the cages. You remove the attendants so that the queen is alone.