



All Things Comb!

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Lane Co Beekeepers
Association

Topics

- 01 What is Comb?
- 02 Comb Building
- 03 Drawing Foundation
- 04 Drone Comb
- 05 Other Types of Comb
- 06 Comb Management
- 07 Repurposing Old Comb
- 08 Questions



What is Comb?

- Home
- Where it all happens
- Used to:
 - Store Honey
 - Store Bee Bread
 - Raise Brood
 - Communicate
 - Cool the Hive
 - And More!





Comb building

- Wax secreted through glands
- Located beneath abdomen
- Produced as wax scales
- Used to build comb



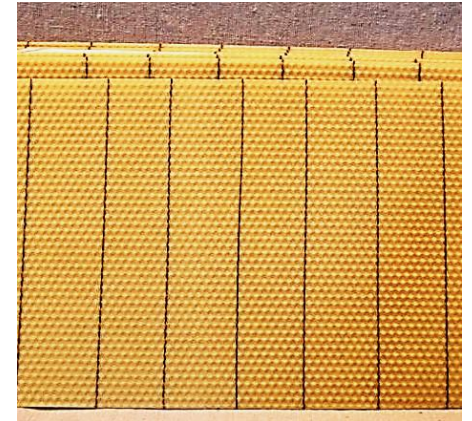


Drawing Foundation

- Drawn comb valuable resource
- Building comb comes at a cost
- Comb building occurs during nectar flow
- Simulate a flow with 1:1 sugar water

Drawing Foundation

- Foundation type?
- Beeswax vs Plastic



Drawing Foundation

– No existing comb

- Simulate a nectar flow
- Monitor syrup availability
- Can switch up frames once bees start to draw foundation
- Comb building with Paul Kelly – University of Guelph
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q8j5UExrg2o>



Drawing Foundation with existing comb

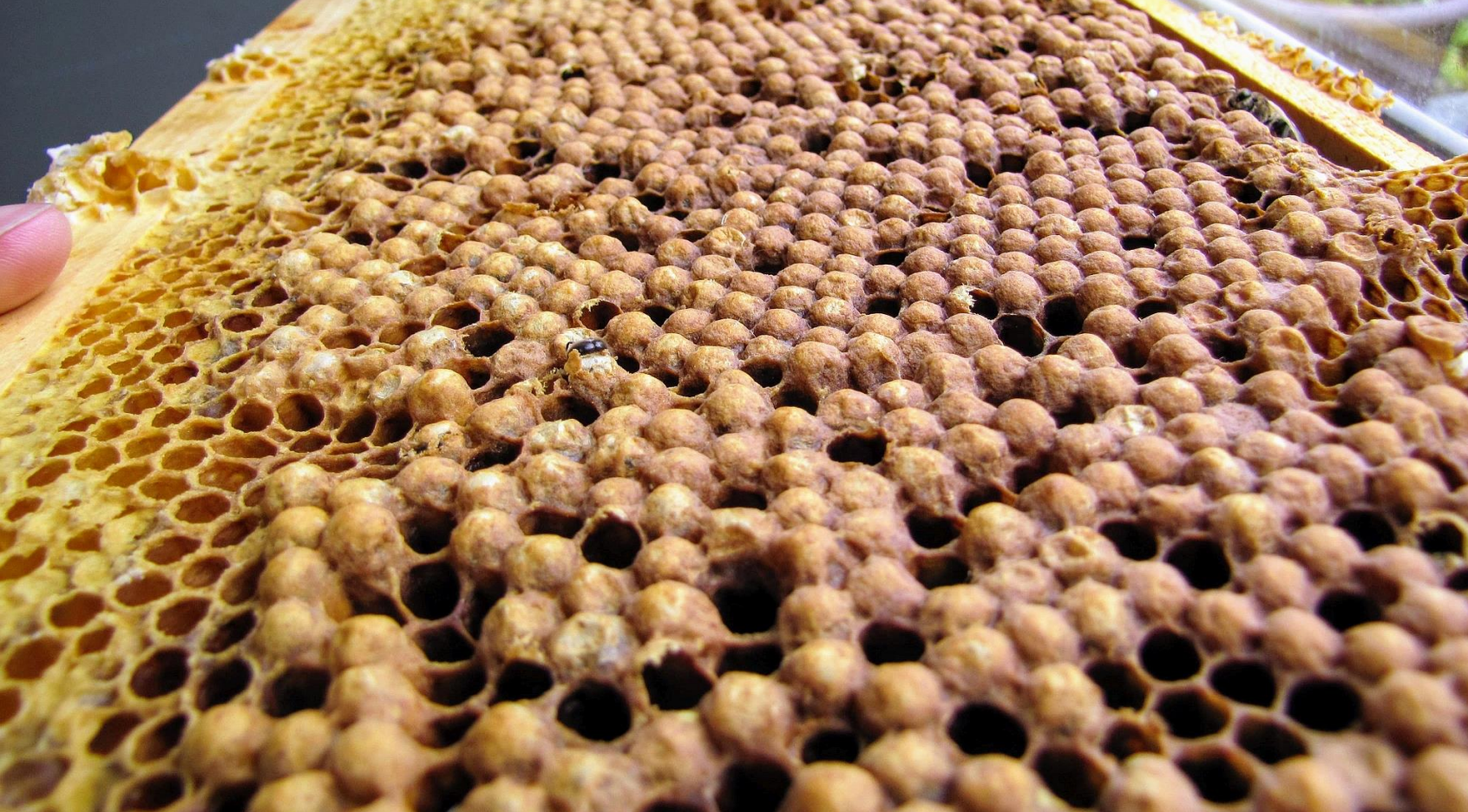
- Checkerboarding
(most useful for supers)
- Variations thereof
- Move a frame of Larva
up
- Sugar water spray
- Remove Queen
Excluders!



A close-up photograph of a massive swarm of bees, likely honeybees, clustered together on a tree branch. The bees are densely packed, covering the branch and surrounding area. The background is filled with green leaves, some of which show signs of being eaten, with small holes visible. The lighting is natural, suggesting an outdoor setting during the day.

Drawing Foundation

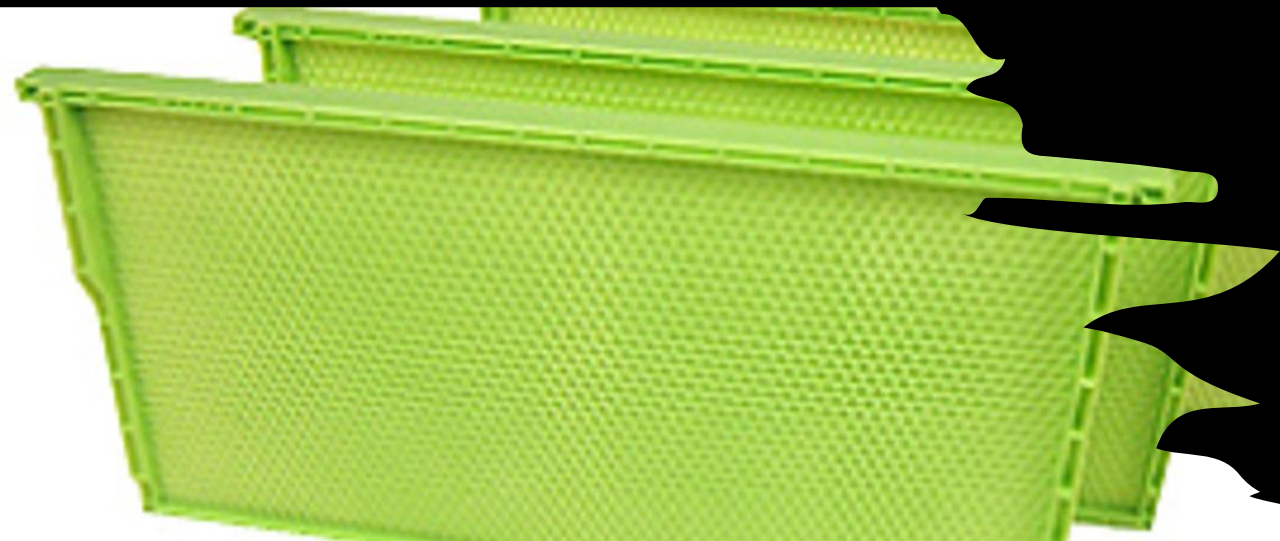
One of the best ways to draw out
foundation!



Drone Comb

- Easily Identifiable
- Larger than regular brood cells





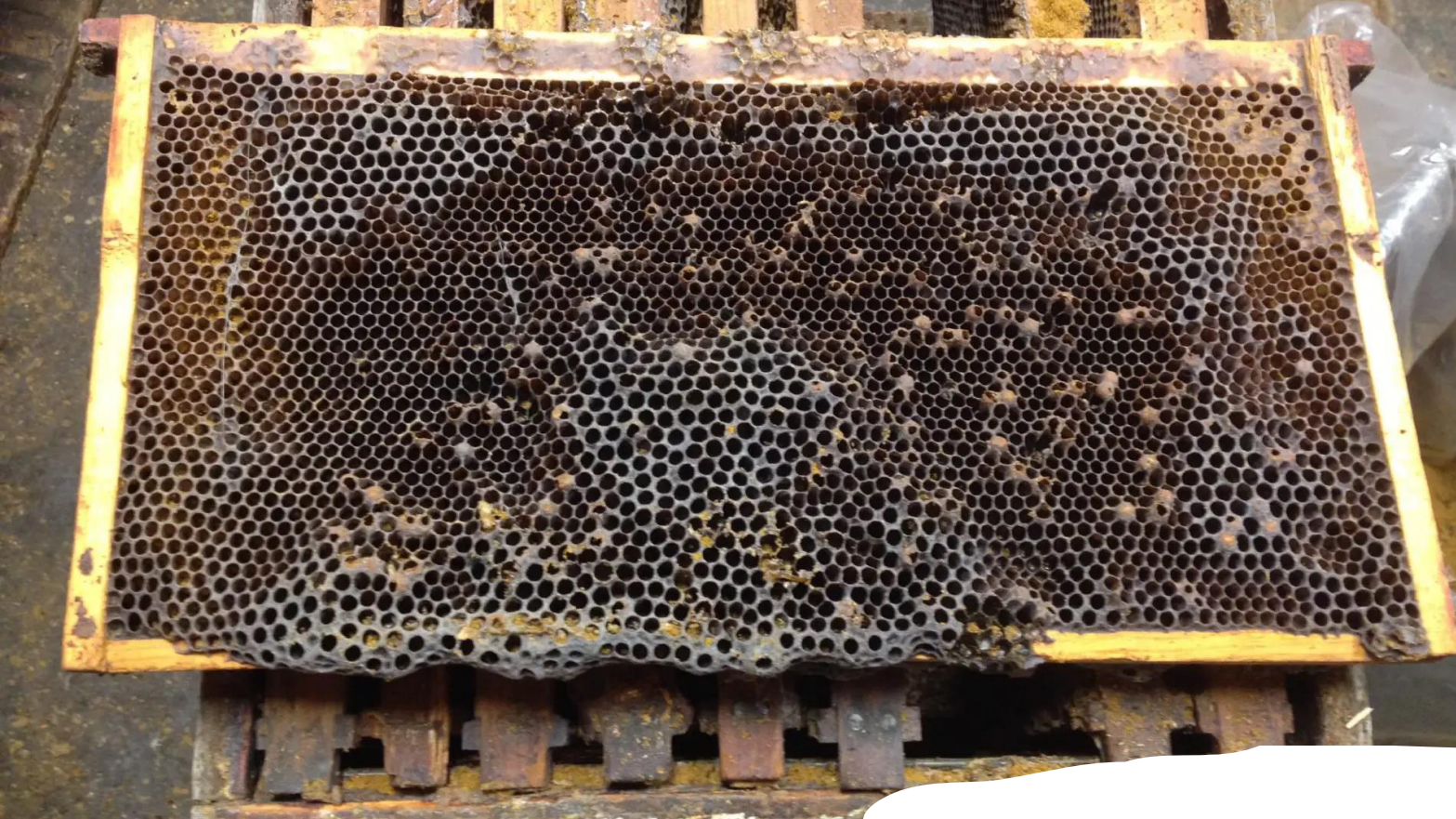
Drone Comb and
Varroa
Management?



But Wait! What
about Queens!

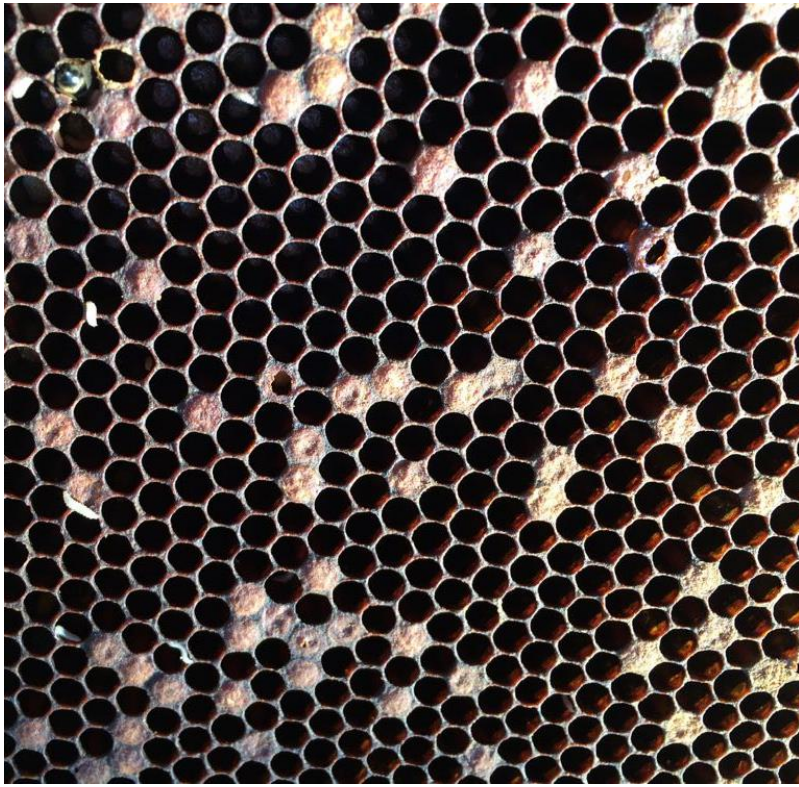


Other types of comb



Comb Management

Why does comb get dark?



Comb Management

Why replace comb?

Comb Management

When to replace comb?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3-ZPakOYY0&t=487s>



Comb Management

- Strategies to Replace Comb



Repurposing Old Comb

- Bait hives/swarm traps
- Candles?



Questions?

