

Queen production, different ways to go.



Different directions.

- **Production for self supply.**

Priority: Simplicity and 'low tech.'

- **Production for planned sale.**

Priority: Rational over the full season.

- **Production for 'on demand' (day to day sale) sale.**

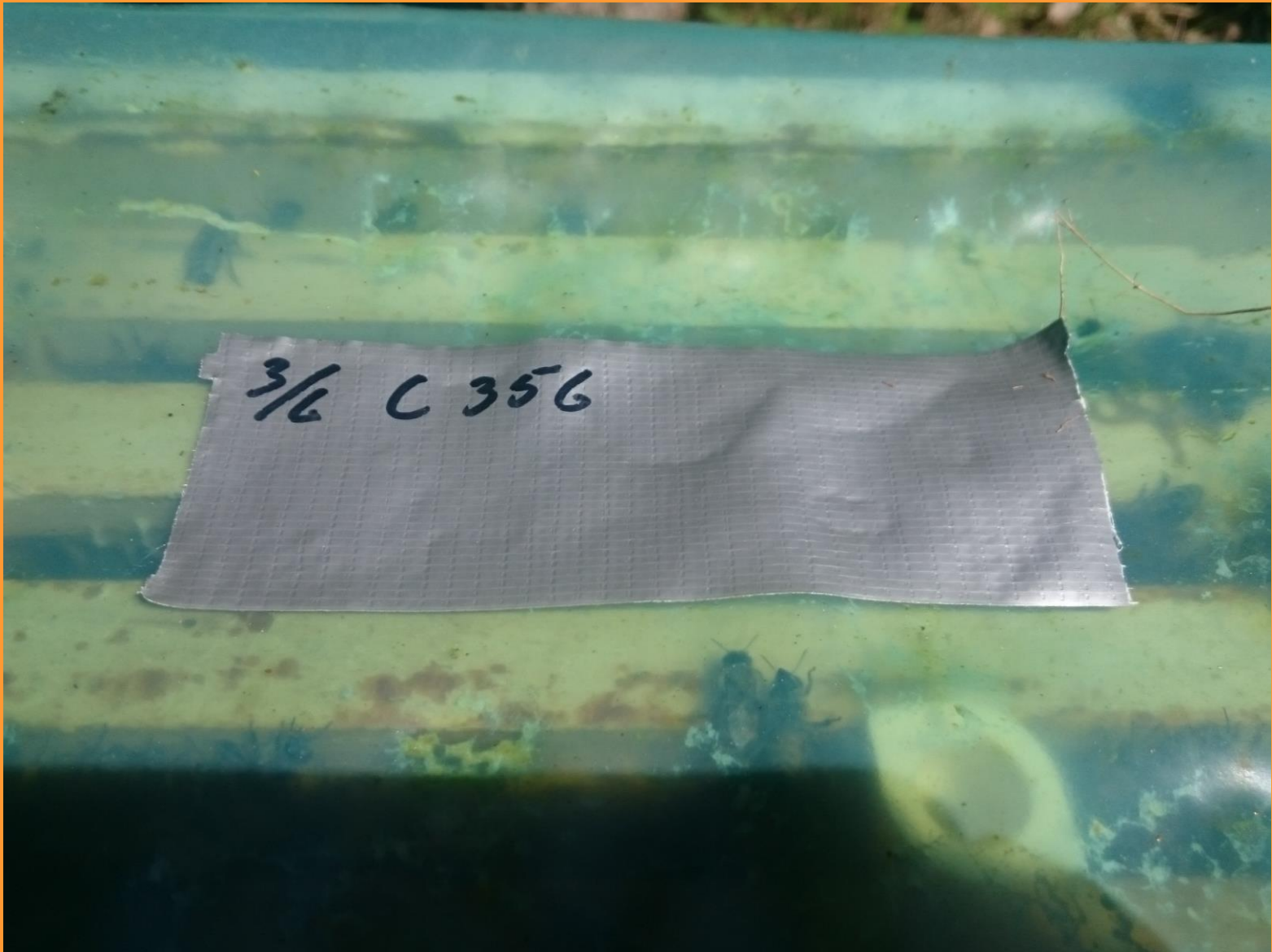
Priority: High effectiveness and high reliability.

Regular nuc - simple and straight





Easy start with a ripe queen cell.



Keep track on what happens - and when.

Shallow nucs –
easy to establish and close down



Flexible and easy to handle.



Pro's & Con's.

- + Easy start and close down.
- + Boxes fits on ordinary hives.
- Time consuming if mating fails.
 - Who can find the virgin?
- Honey flow can turn into a problem.



Mating nucs.

- Intensive production, but needs skilled staff.
- Time saving in the peak season, but complex to start and close down.
- Only relevant when production is based on high numbers of queens for sale.
- Don't choose the smallest sizes!



Package bees for mating nucs.

- Must be produced in an effective way. (Double queen colonies)
- Needs experience to be managed successful.
- Only young bees gives good results.





Marked virgins directly from the incubator.



3,5 dl. of wet and queenless bees.

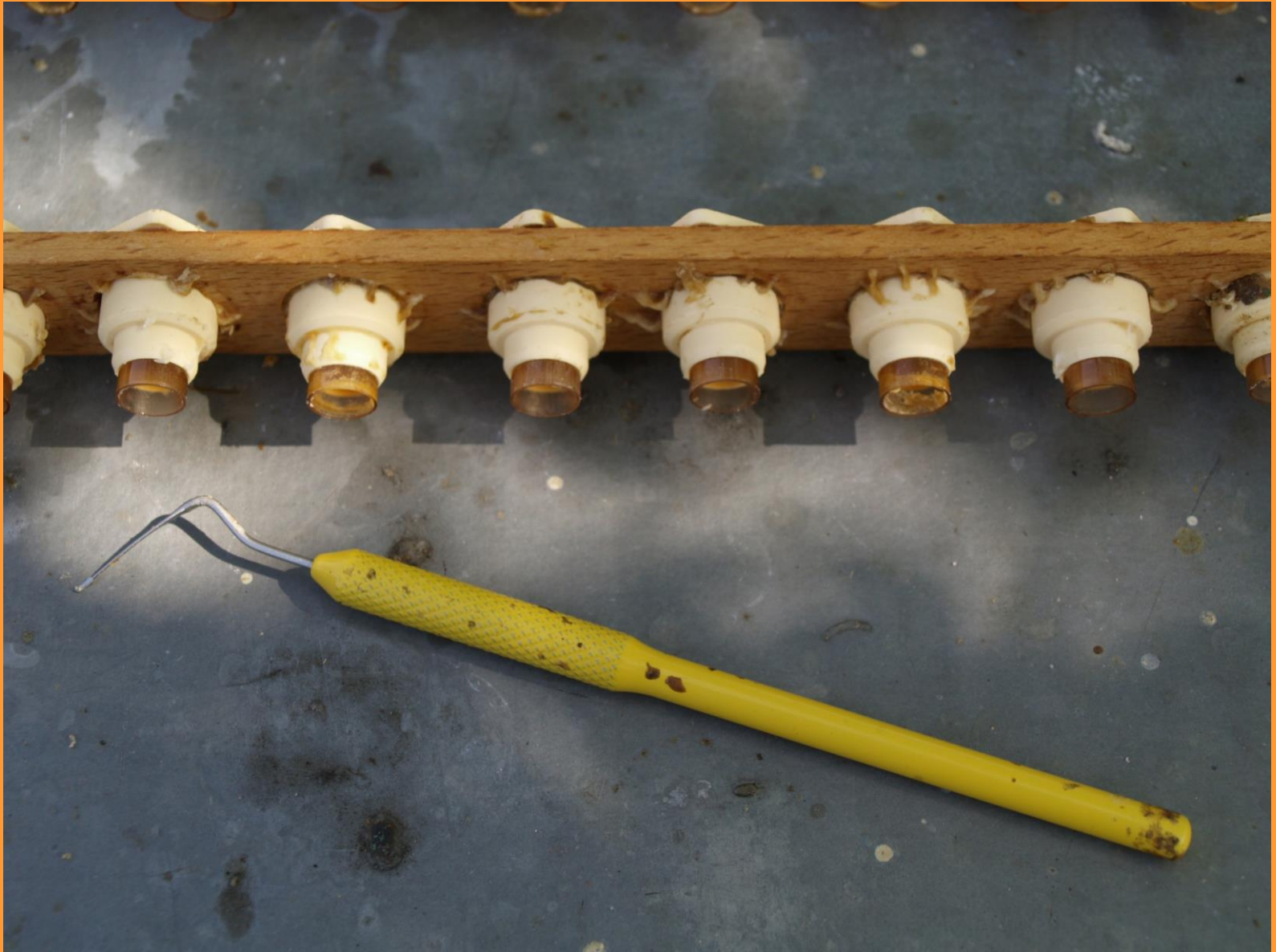
Settling is important for mating success

- Store at 15-20 degrees for at least 2 days.
- Stability of the colonies improves a lot – prevents absconding and robbery.
- Leave alone for 3 weeks after placing in the mating apiary.





Spacesaving – when running big scale



Successful grafting needs a lot of routine.



‘Wet grafting’ – easier and protects the larvae from drying.



**Strong queensless cell builder is a crucial thing,
whatever size the production has.**



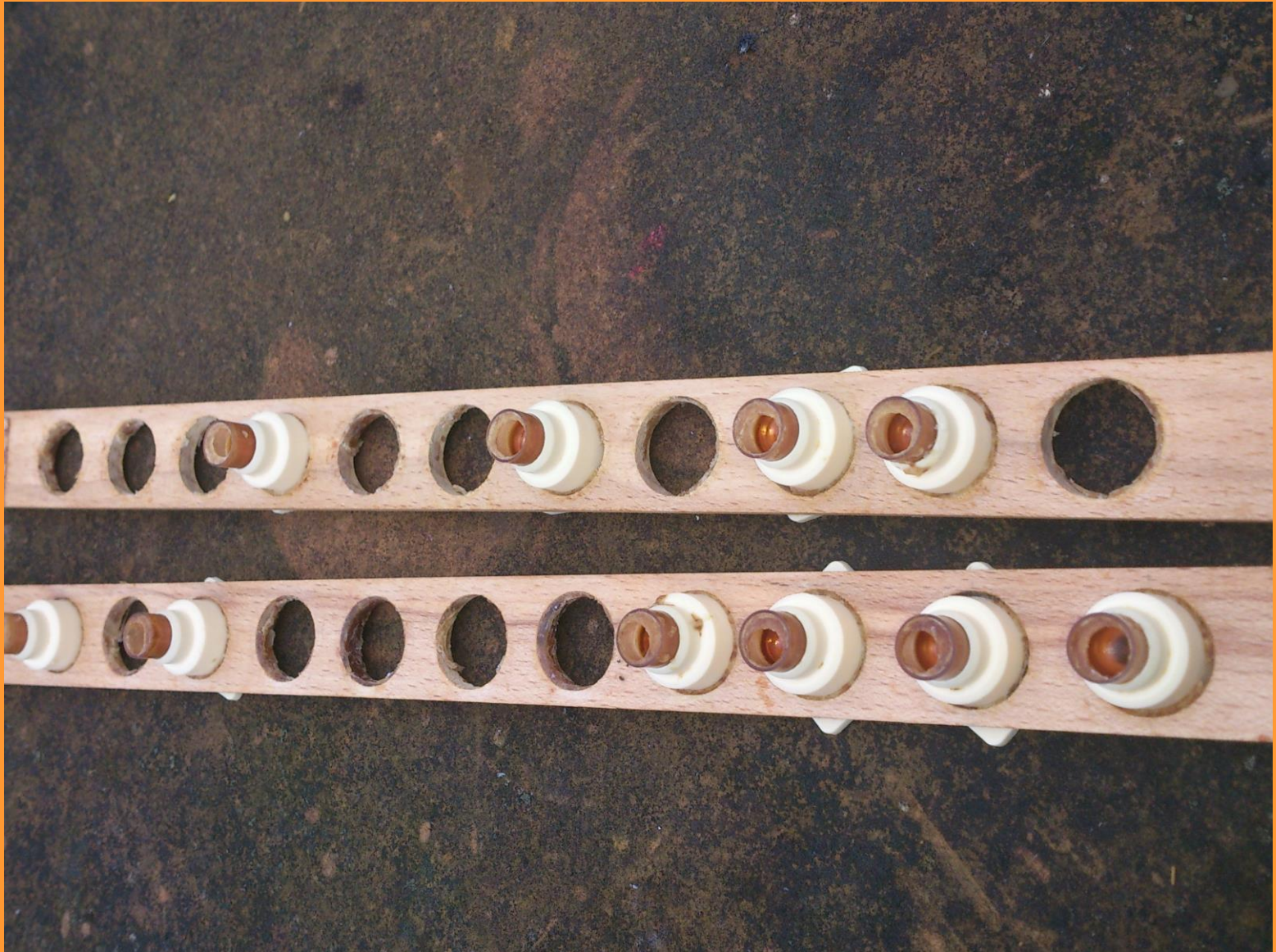
Successful start due to queenlessness and lots of young bees.



Queenright finisher will cull out any inferior larvae.



Bad attended finishers will give bad results.



Free ranging virgin above the excluder...



Newly capped cells for the incubator.



Full laying, and mature, queen.