

Collecting a Swarm for the 1st Time.



If your bees swarm and you have never collected a swarm before it's a lot easier than you may imagine.



Prepare the ground underneath with a large thin cloth or net curtain, weighted down if it's windy. This will stop the bees that miss the skep from getting tangled up in the grass



If it's just out of reach, use whatever comes to hand, like a broom, to shake the branch. With luck the majority of the bees should fall into your skep which should ensure you have the queen.



Place the skep in the middle of the sheet on a stone or small flower pot to create an entrance for the remaining flying bees. The Queen pheromone will undoubtedly still be on the branch so a few bees will remain there for some time. It's therefore best to leave the skep till dusk when they should all finished huddled up around the queen on the ground. Then wrap them up for transportation.

That's all there is to it!!

John Farrow 30th June 2021