

Beekeeper Equipment:  
Tools of the Trade  
- or -  
“Making it Easier for You”

Todd Garrett, Beekeeper

# Beekeeper Equipment: Tools of the Trade

- Clothing & Protective Gear
- Hand Tools of the Beekeeper
- Equipment Handling Tools – or – *“Protecting Yourself from Yourself”*
- Things to Know – or – *“Down the Road on Your Beekeeping Journey”*
  - Honey Extraction Preparation & Equipment
  - Hygiene & Safety
  - Wax & Stuff
  - Winter Tools

# Beekeeper Equipment: Clothing & Protective Gear

## *“Know Thyself”*

- Clothing
- Be prepared for the conditions
- Hydration, snacks & meds
- Keep cool, be calm & have fun!



# Beekeeper Equipment: Clothing & Protective Gear



# Beekeeper Equipment: Clothing & Protective Gear

Protective Gear

“...To Veil, or Not to Veil...”

- *B. Shakespeare*



# Beekeeper Equipment: Clothing & Protective Gear

- Bee Veil



- Bee Suit



# Beekeeper Equipment: Clothing & Protective Gear

- Gloves



- Boots & Leg Straps



# Beekeeper Equipment: Clothing & Protective Gear

You will need to be  
comfortable – AND -  
responsible for your choice(s)



# Beekeeper Equipment: Clothing & Protective Gear

Odds of dying due to injury, United States, 2017 (a)			
Type of accident or manner of injury	Deaths	One-year odds	Lifetime odds
Ignition or melting of other clothing and apparel, X06	91	3,579,332	45,539
Contact with heat and hot substances, X10-X19	90	3,619,102	46,045
<b>Contact with hornets, wasps and bees, X23</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>3,659,766</b>	<b>46,562</b>
Animal rider or occupant of animal-drawn vehicle, V80	82	3,972,185	51,537
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# Beekeeper Equipment: Clothing & Protective Gear



# Beekeeper Equipment: Clothing & Protective Gear

- You will need to be comfortable with your choices...



In Case You Forgot...

# **BEE OR WASP?**

**HOW TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE:**



## **BEE**

1. Pollinates Flowers
2. Makes Honey
3. Improves The Environment
4. Reluctant To Sting



## **WASP**

1. Just An Asshole

# Beekeeper Equipment: Hand Tools of the Beekeeper

- Hive Tool



- Bee Brush



- Smoker



# Beekeeper Equipment: Hand Tools of the Beekeeper

- Fuel



- Flame Thrower



# Beekeeper Equipment: Equipment Handling Tools



# Beekeeper Equipment: Equipment Handling Tools

## A matter of depth



Deep or Hive  
Body  
9 1/8 deep

100 lb when  
filled with  
honey



Medium or  
Illinois Super  
6 5/8 deep

60 lb when  
filled with  
honey



Shallow Super  
5 11/16 deep

35 lb when  
filled with  
honey

# Beekeeper Equipment: Equipment Handling Tools

*“Protecting Yourself from Yourself”*

- Know your limits
- Ask for assistance
- Protect your spine

# Beekeeper Equipment: Equipment Handling Tools

- *“Hello, Dolly...”*



- Ratchet straps



- Good body mechanics



Things to Know – or – *“Down the Road on Your  
Beekeeping Journey”*