# Welcome from Trish the Beekeeper!

- Started in 2015 with a swarm
- Expanded over time to have ~20 hives
- Use 12.75" tall frames, single brood box
- Around 80% survival
- Honey vendor at Geauga Farmers Market
- 4<sup>th</sup> year teaching bee classes
- Chickabuzz.com



### 1. About Trish

# 2. Is Beekeeping for You?

- 3. Bee Lingo
- 4. Beekeeping Gear
- 5. Beekeeping Options
- 6. Studying up!

# Expensive.

\$130-\$170 Bees – but u should get 2....

\$300 Beginners Kit (Blue Sky)

\$100 Feeding/Honey Supers

\$50-\$125 Mite Management

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# Stressful Activity.

- -Stressful and High Pressure Learning
- Bee stings!
- -There Is Often Lifting. And it's Hot.
- -Neighbor Relations....Is everything yellow now "your bees?"

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# Bees = Big Footprint.



From betterbee.com

# -No foot traffic within 20 feet of front of hives

 Can turn hives facing away from foot traffic

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# **Hive Placement Concerns**

- What's good for bees
  - Sun on hive for at least a few hours
  - Facing south or east, and wind shelter
  - Not on ground, in swampy or flood area, under dead tree

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# **Hive Placement Concerns**

- What's good for beekeeper
  - Mowing
  - Flyway and Orientation Flight
  - Access to wagon/cart
  - Shade after 2 or 3 pm
  - Room to move, and for a spare box

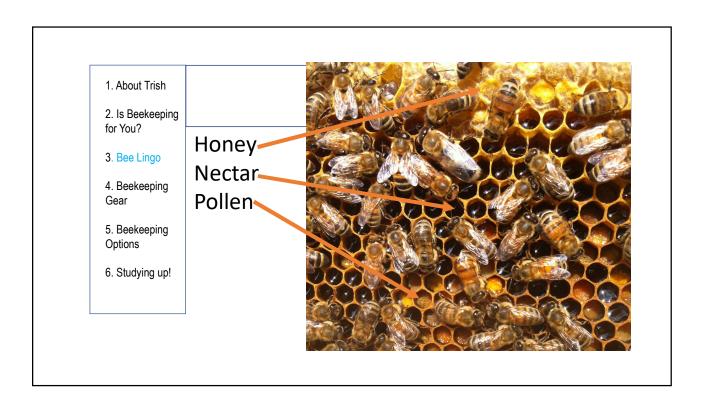
# 2. Is Beekeeping for You?

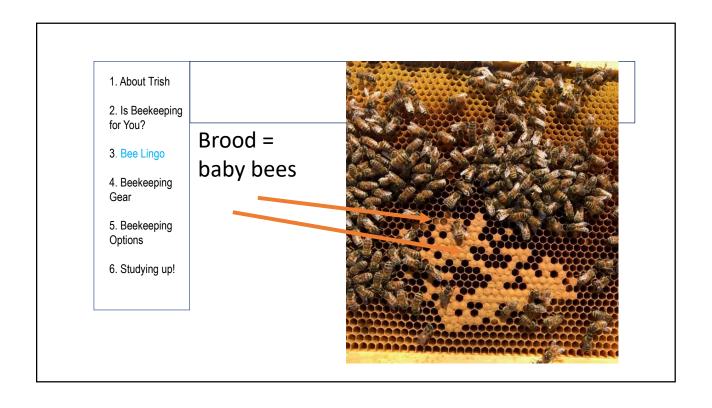
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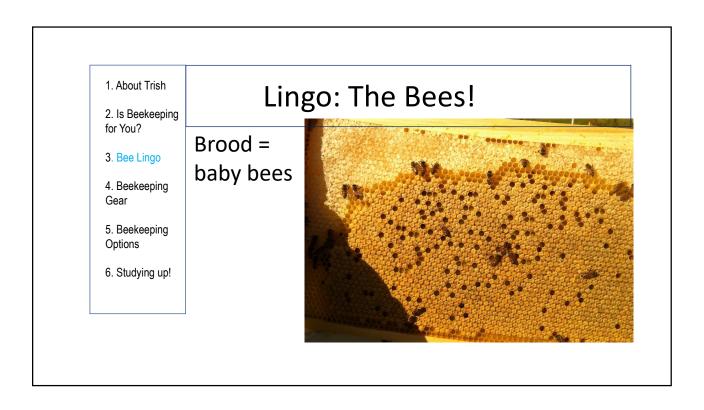
# **Hive Placement Concerns**

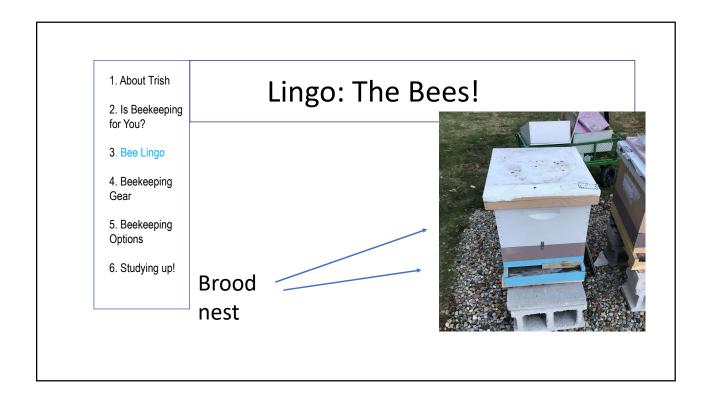
- What's good for the Bees
- What's good for the Beekeeper
- What's good for the Neighbors
- Cuz it's hard to move a hive!!!!
- 2 feet or 2 miles, because the foragers imprint on their hive location, and will return there even if hive is moved.

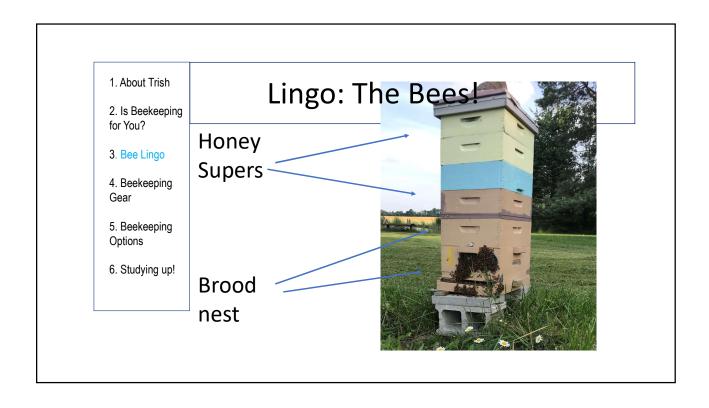
# 1. About Trish 2. Is Beekeeping for You? 3. Bee Lingo 4. Beekeeping Gear 5. Beekeeping Options 6. Studying up!

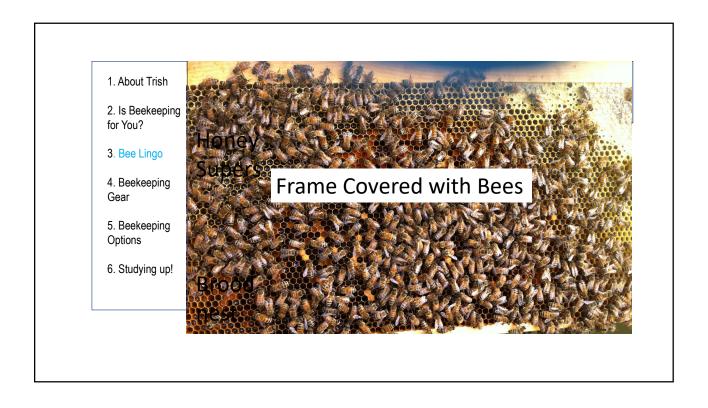




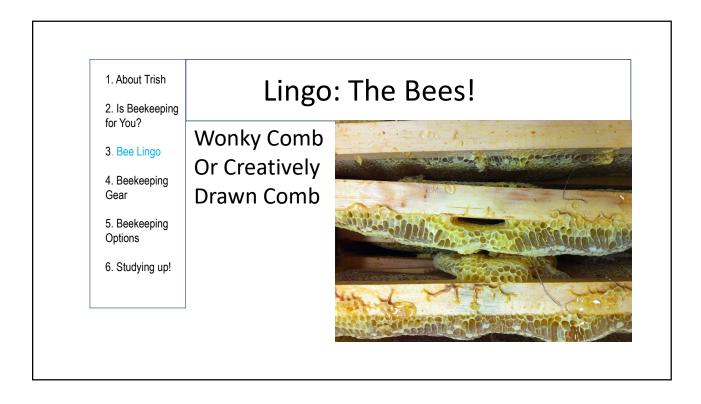


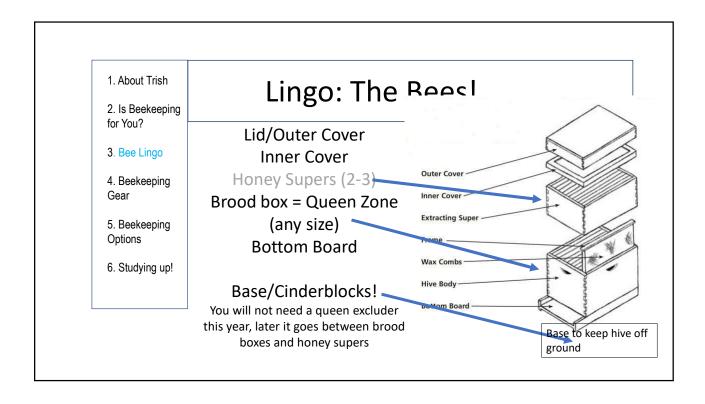












1. About Trish Beekeeping Gear: Pro 2. Is Beekeeping for You? Safety Equipment (examples) 3. Bee Lingo Veil 4. Beekeeping Gloves (nitrile, 4 mil is ideal) Gear If using goatskin gloves, use frame 5. Beekeeping Options grabber. 6. Studying up! Frame grabber! **Smoker** 2 different kinds of hive tools

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# **Beekeeping Options**

Size of Brood Nest (Summer)

- 1 deep boxes, 10 or 8 frames
- 2 medium boxes (8 frame)
- 1 deep and 1 medium boxes, 10 frame only

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# **Beekeeping Options**

Size of Brood Nest (Winter)

- 2 deep boxes, 10 or 8 frames
- 3 medium boxes (8 frame)
- 1 deep and 2 medium boxes, 10 frame only

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# **Beekeeping Options**

# Double Deep advantage:

Lots of support

Lots of room for winter honey

Lots of room for spring bees

Can swap frames between boxes

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# **Beekeeping Options**

# Double Deep **Dis**advantage:

Really heavy top box.

Second box is too much space for brood.

So, options:

Double Deep: 8 frame

Deep and Medium (10 frame)

3 Mediums (8 frame)

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# **Buying Bees**

# Package - 3 lbs of Bees & Queen

- Installation: Immediate and dramatic
- Guesstimate of arrival
- Pickup is inflexible (and so is install)
- No Plan B for the hive if queen fails (higher chance of failure has been documented)

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# **Buying Bees**

### Nucs

- Queen, 5 frames bees, 3 of brood
- Pickup is flexible
- Install is flexible
- Can save themselves
- Can come with more than bees

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# **Buying Bees**

# **Nucs (Southern or Local):**

- Southern:
  - Transported from south
  - Seller is a distributor
  - Choice of queen race

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# **Buying Bees**

# **Nucs (Southern or Local):**

- Local:
  - Queen from bees who survived
  - Direct sale, but less advertising
  - Later delivery to your apiary, but flexible

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# **Buying Bees**

Recap:

Package Southern Nuc
Early May Early May
Floaty date Floaty date
May fail Brood comb
Install now Flex install

Local Nuc
Early June
Survivors!
Brood comb
Scheduled
install

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# **Buying Bees**

Buyer Beware. You're buying from a beekeeper, who wants your success. But...

- Package, a thin layer dead bees, queen should be alive. What if...
- Nuc, ideally see the brood, queen should stay strong through season.
   What if...

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# **Buying Bees**

# Where to buy bees?

- -Check Geauga County Beekeeper's website
- -Facebook
- -Go to club meetings and ask around

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# **Bee Races**

# Italian color



# Carniolan color



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# **Bee Races**

Italian race

-Gentle

-Good Honey

Carniolan race

-Gentle

-Good Honey

# **Traits in Common due to Breeding**

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# **Bee Races**

Italian race

- -Early spring buildup
- -Likely to rob
- -Needs more food
- -Hygenic

Carniolan race

- Explosive pop growth
- -Likely to swarm
- -Needs less food

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# **Bee Races**

Italian race

Carniolan race

But what does it mean for you?

Does not matter IF queen was damaged in shipping, or poorly mated/raised.

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# **Bee Traits**

Success with hive depends on:

- 1. Good mite control
- 2. Good stores
- 3. Good queen any kind

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# Studying up!

- Classes
  - Here we are... but also see
     A Web-Based Introductory Beekeeping
     Training Program

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# Studying up!

- Classes (and your local club)
- Books
  - For Dummies
  - Wicwas Press series
  - Backyard Beekeeper by Kim Flottum

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# Studying up!

- Classes (and your local club)
- Books
- Podcasts
  - Beekeeper's Corner
  - Five Apple Farm

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# Studying up!

- Classes (and your local club)
- Books
- Podcasts
- Websites
  - Honey Bee Suite
  - Canada's Ag and Food Museum Page
  - Beekeeping for Dummies
  - Keeping Backyard Bees

1. About Trish Studying up! 2. Is Beekeeping for You? Classes (and your local club) 3. Bee Lingo **Books** 4. Beekeeping **Podcasts** Gear Websites 5. Beekeeping Options Youtube – but beware the location 6. Studying up! since southern locations don't have winter