

What's the Buzz?

with Deez L'Town Beez



Hello friends and fellow keepers!

Nucs or Packages?

Ring in the new year means beekeepers are planning for Spring. So which one should I choose? Nucs or Packages? Well, that depends on your goals for the season.

Do you want to make a good amount of honey and capitalize on the nectar flow? You might want to start with nucs. Nucs will already have drawn wax, a laying queen, brood in all stages, and food resources in the house. They will have an extra leg up if they are locally raised, they will be familiar with the climate and resources, plus have a place to store food and make a family. If the weather cooperates, you can often get them early enough to capitalize on the nectar flow.

OR

Do you want to make new colonies and increase your apiary? Package bees are a great way to build your apiary for a little less cash up front. If you can afford sugar, it takes about 8lbs. of nectar for the bees to make a single pound of wax. Package bees won't have any drawn comb or frames of brood and will need to build all that wax scaffolding for food storage and to lay and raise baby bees. Spend on NUC OR spend on sugar, so the cost is comparable

We want to raise healthy happy bees of course and you can get both with either of these options. Please reach out if you need help deciding which is right for you.

Package and nuc costs continue to rise due to the rising cost of sugar and the overall cost to keep bees alive through the winter. Add on cost of mite treatments, specialty feeders or gear and insulation wraps, all of these raise the costs.

Check with local (MD raised) suppliers first for nucs, they will have already acclimated to the weather and resources here. From coast to coast, commercial companies ship packages. You will likely have to go pick up your nucs as they can overheat in transport boxes and will need special handling that the USPS or UPS simply cannot offer.

Either way, make a plan for bees early as many of us suppliers sell out early. Our nucs went on sale January 2nd. Check out our website for more info. Just click on the link.

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STUFF YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO KNOW ABOUT



ASMB Meeting, January 26th, Mechanicsville VFD, 4 - 8pm



Beginner Beekeeping Course, February 8, 15, & 22nd, CSM, LaPlata Campus

Link To Order Your Nucs

Happy Keeping & a Blessed New year!