Swing cage extractor

Designed for spinning difficult to extract honey e.g. a heather blend, in conjunction with a hand held heather loosener (supplied in the red kit bag). Larger frames of other runny honey, such as deep frames can be spun in the swing cage extractor, as can ordinary runny honey in super frames

Pure heather or frames with very high heather content is best scraped out from the comb and pressed using the separate heather press

Equally, new combs with heather in, will not withstand extraction using any extractor, these combs are best used for Spring honey for a couple of seasons, until toughened, or the heather / heather blend should be scraped back from new combs and pressed

The following items belong with the swing cage extractor and should be stored in the kit bag when transported.

-3 extractor legs (screws for these should be attached / screwed onto the extractor when not is use)

-3 detachable rubber feet for the base of the legs, to protect your kitchen / utility floor

-Motor and 2 bolts which fit onto the central mechanism to turn the swing cages. The bolts requires a spanner (not supplied) when assembling.

N.B. Ensure the motor is attached the right way round on the lid so the lid section with the button handle, can be lifted clear of the motor when loading combs.

-Red Cover for the extractor, for use when the extractor is being stored

-Heather loosener (long steel gadget with plastic pins)
Remove cappings on one side of the comb, insert the loosener into the comb, press down gently, until the loosener pins touch the wired midrib of the comb.
Repeat on the other side (best to place the comb on a board during the loosening)

To operate the Swing cage once assembled:

-The motor has a simple on / off switch and a dial to control the speed desired. If spinning heather blend it is recommended to spin slowly and for longer than normal 'runny' honey. Spin both sides of the combs by manually turning the cages around and possibly repeat, depending on the heather content

-The swing cages are turned manually by swinging the cages round individually, once one of the two sides of comb is spun. For heather blend, spin slowly and you may need to spin each side partly then turn and then repeat, after loosening.

Cleaning

The extractor is best cleaned with cold water and rinsed thoroughly ensuring all honey and wax is removed, using a jet wash or hosepipe. Whilst the cages and central spindle can be removed, the cages are best left in position, to ensure the ball bearing / metal bush on the spindle isn't lost or damaged. Water can be tipped out through the valve hole and the drum either air dried or dried with a clean towel between and around the cages. Please ensure the valve is cleaned thoroughly ready for the next Member to use.

Please check all items are packed in the bag before returning for the next HBKA Member to use

Heather press in separate box, which contains the following equipment:

- Red coloured metal heather press with steel drum, including screw down handle and weight

- Bags for filling with heather comb prior to pressing. N.B. A simple lightweight old clean pillow case can be used if the bags are due for replacement

-Smith cutter, for cutting and scraping heather comb back to the foundation midrib

Please check all items are packed in the bag before returning for the next HBKA Member to use.

Super warmer trolley

-This is useful when extracting honey in an unheated or cool / cold extracting room). The Super warmer trolley is supplied in its own box with an instruction manual, advising how to change the thermostat to reach the temperature the beekeeper would like to set it at. Warm honey is quicker to filter than cold honey

-It is recommended an empty super is used at the bottom of the super stack, to prevent the bottom super from over heating; the stack should be no more than 4 supers high.

-The bottom super will heat at a quicker rate than the top, so you may wish to rearrange after a period of warming

The trolley can be cleaned by removing the drip tray and mesh grill