

CLEANING HIVE EQUIPMENT

Cleaning woodenware and Bee Suits

A series of several parallel white lines of varying lengths and positions, all slanted diagonally from the bottom-left towards the top-right, located in the right half of the image.

Clean your equipment.

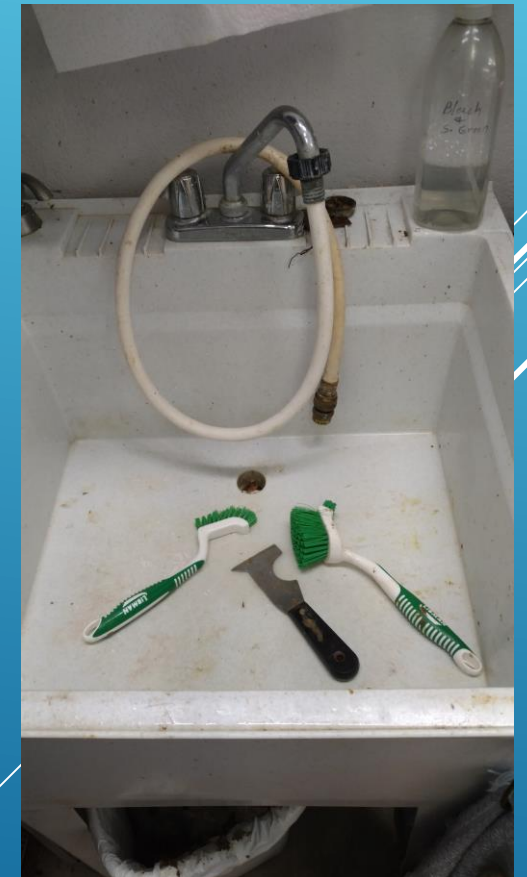
Cleaning hive equipment can help prevent disease and pest transmission. Think about having a spare set of equipment so you can swap out boxes and covers for repair and cleaning.



I pulled off my solid inner covers and put on screened covers for the hot weather. Time to clean them before storing.

One of my best decisions when I built my house was to put in a utility sink in the garage. I use it constantly!

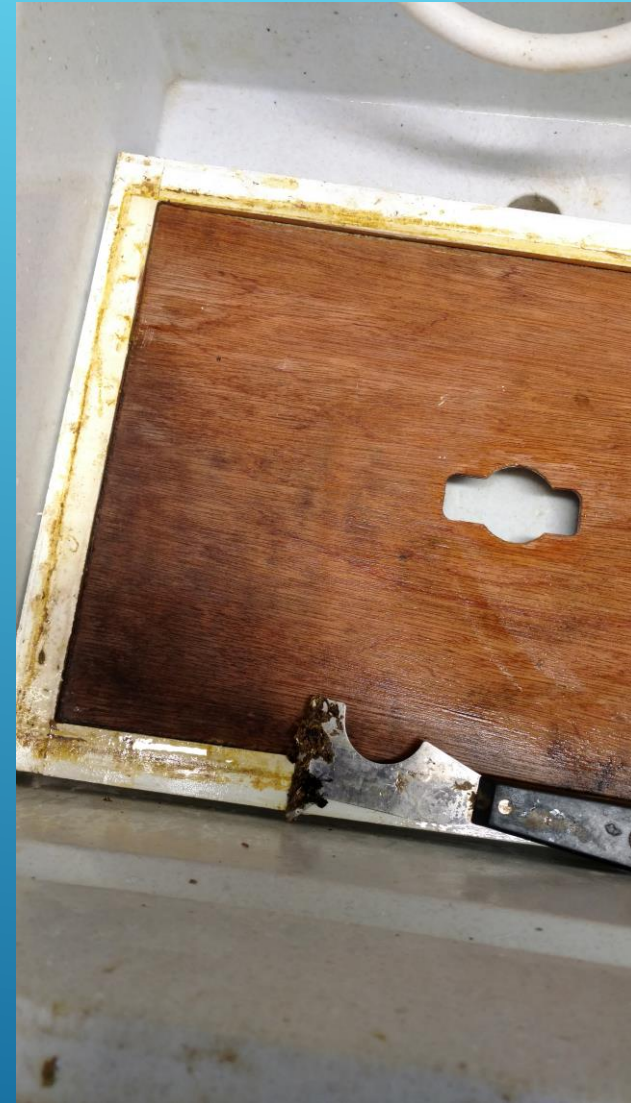
Tools needed: a scraper, putty knife or hive tool to remove propolis and wax, good stiff brushes, and spray bottle.





Hot water helps soften propolis and burr comb making it easier to scrape off.

Put the debris in the trash can, avoid sending it down the drain. Bee glue and hardened wax can clog your pipes!



I use a mixture of water, bleach (about a ½ cup), and a little simple green cleaner (2-3 TBS), in the spray bottle. Scrub with brushes.



Be sure to rinse well! It isn't spotless but lots of yellow from propolis, black mold, and dirt was washed down the drain.



Be sure to let it dry before storing! A few hours in 90+ degrees and the UV rays helps kill mold, viruses, and bacteria.
Good time to make repairs and touch up paint, if needed!



Handy Tip:

Did you know you can wash your bee suit?

You have to remove the attached veil, they zip off.

Machine wash the suit using hot or warm water, unscented laundry soap, bleach and stain removers. Avoid perfumed products! Bees don't like some scents. I also avoid using fabric softeners. They contain oils that stay in the fabric. You can use the dryer or hang to dry.

Hand wash the veil. Another thing that large utility sink works great for... Hang to dry.

Handy Tip:

Did you know you can drink water through your veil?

I do suggest you wash your veil first!

A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted diagonally from the bottom right towards the top right, set against a blue gradient background.