

Costs of Keeping Bees.

Over the first two years the following equipment is recommended:

Item	No. recommended year 1	No. recommended year 2	Cost each	Costs year 1	Costs year 2	Total
Floor	1	1	£17.30	£17.30	£17.30	£34.60
Brood Box	1	2	£23.50	£23.50	£47.00	£23.50
Super	1	3	£16.75	£16.75	£50.25	£16.75
QX	1	1	£3.10	£3.10	£3.10	£3.10
Crown board	1	1	£11.00	£11.00	£11.00	£11.00
roof	1	1	£23.50	£23.50	£23.50	£23.50
Frames (sets of 10)	3	5	£6.90	£20.70	£34.50	£20.70
Frame nails	1		£1.10	£1.10	£0.00	£1.10
Deep Foundation (packs of 10)	2	2	£8.20	£16.40	£16.40	£16.40
Shallow Foundation (pack of 10)	1	3	£5.10	£5.10	£15.30	£5.10
Spacers (packs of 20)	3	5	£1.20	£3.60	£6.00	£3.60
Smoker	1		£17.50	£17.50	£0.00	£17.50
Hive tool	2		£9.50	£19.00	£0.00	£19.00
Bee Suit	1		£50.00	£50.00	£0.00	£50.00
Gloves(pair)	1		£8.50	£8.50	£0.00	£8.50
Feeder	1	1	£5.15	£5.15	£5.15	£5.15
Book	1		£15.00	£15.00	£0.00	£15.00
			TOTAL	£257.20	£229.50	£486.70

The bee suit included is a budget suit; a better suit will cost an additional £43.00 or more in the first year. Suitable footwear such as wellington boots will also be required if not already owned. Additional costs will be incurred for bee medicines (£5 per year per hive), and for honey jars and storage buckets should any honey be obtained.

The costs for years 1 and 2 are based on the assumption that the beekeeper will have 2 complete hives, which is the minimum recommended for overwintering, and to ensure that sufficient kit is available for swarm control from year 2 onwards.

In subsequent years other costs will be incurred for additional hives, should you wish to have more colonies, or to give adequate cover for swarm control. and for replacement frames and foundation.