

# Cut down Split. Adapted from Michael Bush

[www.bushfarms/beesplits.htm](http://www.bushfarms/beesplits.htm)

bees

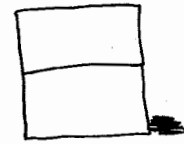


- Big, fat healthy hive, productive but older queen (possibly swarm-prone)
- Ideally, "ten days before a flow" per BUSH

SPLIT (A)

(B) SPLIT

original spot



new spot in same apiary

- all capped frames
- open drawn comb in supers, plenty
- ONE FRAME WITH eggs, MARKED.
- very little stores; some pollen (keep eye on weather)

- THE "OLD" queen
- all open brood frames with clinging bees
- MOST all the stores & pollen frames, with bees
- some drawn comb or foundation

foragers stay with original spot

(A)

What's happening

(B)

- making a few queen cells, very well fed.
- all the foragers, with no brood to feed, collect & store honey
- capped frames → nurse bees to unload foragers; forage <sup>early</sup>

= honey producer

- caring for brood nest with stores & pollen (or feed) you gave them for a <sup>few</sup> ~~couple~~ weeks. (no foragers)
- queen moderates lay for population.
- nearly no capped brood - so no more breeding (a break)
- may produce honey later in season
- "old" queen in reserve, just in case.

• WON'T SWARM •

- no queen, yet
- no brood nest
- no stores



= ↓ mites



= ↓ mites

• WON'T SWARM •

- no foragers
- nearly no flying bees @ all for couple of weeks.

VARIATION →

• one, or few frames of eggs, to be removed except for one once queen cells capped... for mating nucs...