

TCBA Equipment Checkout Agreement

I agree that I am responsible for the borrowed equipment, including the items listed below. My dues are currently paid. Dues are annual, not based on your join date. Membership runs November 1-October 31st.

I further agree to return the equipment clean and in good repair. If any equipment is stolen, broken by me, or damaged beyond repair, I agree to pay to have the equipment repaired or replaced. I agree to indemnify the TCBA and TCBA Board Members should anyone be injured by the equipment.

I understand that I will be charged a \$10 administrative fee and the balance of my \$100 deposit will be refunded if I return the equipment in good working order. I also agree that the TCBA may bill my card or reduce my refund for any damage, late fees, or cleaning fees.

Equipment is for the use of members only for a period of SEVEN days. ***You may not loan the equipment to anyone.***

Take only the equipment you need. Check off equipment taken:

Extraction gear

- _____ 9-frame SAF Natura extractor
- _____ 8-frame HillCo E8 electric extractor
- _____ Electric uncapping knife
- _____ Manual cappings scratcher
- _____ Double sieve stainless steel strainer
- _____ Honey buckets with gates
- _____ Uncapping bin
- _____ Honey refractometer

Educational tools (for presentations to school groups etc.)

- _____ Observation hive (no bees) that holds 3 medium or 2 deep frames
- _____ Observation hive (no bees) that holds 1 shallow and 1 deep frame
- _____ Education hive with large color photos
- _____ Other Educational _____

Questions? Ask at pickup, or call one of the club officers for clarification.

I acknowledge that I have received and read the Equipment Use and Cleaning Instructions on page 2 and agree to follow the instructions for the specific extractor I borrow.

Signature _____

Date _____

Print Name _____

TCBA Extractor Use and Cleaning Instructions

All equipment borrowed from the club must be returned clean, dry, and in good working order. The SAF Natura and HillCo E8 have different cleaning procedures; follow the directions for the extractor you borrow.

Extractor Use

1. Our extractors are radial. Load frames like the spokes of a wheel, with the top bars toward the outside edge of the tank.
2. Uncap both sides of the frames and spread the frames evenly around the basket to balance the load.
3. Place a strainer and bucket under the honey gate and **OPEN the gate while extracting**. This keeps honey from accumulating in the bottom of the extractor.
4. Start the extractor very slowly and increase speed gradually. An unbalanced load can cause the extractor to wobble.

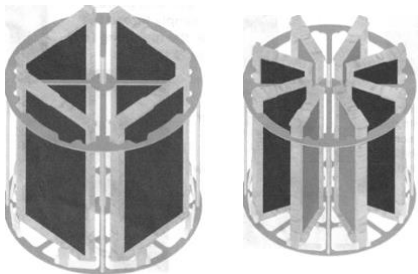
HillCo E8 – Purchased July 2026

1. Plug the extractor into a wall outlet. The controller should light up, and you'll see a small dot flashing on the left side of the screen. Hit the ON/OFF button. You'll hear a fan turn on and then turn back off. The fan will come on and off automatically during use to keep the chipset cool.
2. Turn the knob clockwise gradually to increase speed, being careful not to ramp up too fast when the machine is loaded, or it may wobble from the imbalanced load. To slow down, turn counterclockwise.
3. If you wish to reverse the direction of the reel, turn the knob counterclockwise to bring the machine to a **stop**, then hit the FWD/REV button. Turn the knob clockwise again and bring it back up to speed.

The rest of the buttons on the motor controller are simply for programming motor specs, etc, and are not used by the beekeeper.

SAF Natura 9-Frame Extractor - Cleaning

1. Open the honey gate and drain the tank completely. Tilt the extractor as needed to allow honey to flow out; draining may take several hours or overnight.
2. Close the gate and fill the tank about 3/4 full with **COLD water**, leaving the basket in place. Slosh the water around and let it sit for several hours or overnight to dissolve honey residue. Skim or flush out wax and propolis particles.
3. Empty the cold water and rinse with additional cold water. **Do not invert the SAF Natura completely**. A small loose ball bearing rests at the bottom of the basket/tank and can be dislodged. **DO NOT LOSE THE BALL BEARING**.
4. Follow the cold-water rinse with warm water, about 120 degrees F. **NO SOAP OR HARSH CHEMICALS**. Do not use abrasive cleaners on the stainless-steel surfaces.
5. Wipe with lint-free towels or allow to air dry completely. Do not leave the extractor outside for bees to clean, as this can create a robbing frenzy. When dry, cover it with a large clean plastic bag for return to TCBA.



HillCo E8 Electric Extractor - Cleaning

1. **Unplug the extractor before cleaning**. Cover the controller with a heavy-duty plastic bag or fitted plastic shower cap, and keep water off the controller and motor area.
2. Flush with **COLD water first**. Spray the inside with high-pressure cold water before using warm/hot water; starting with hot water can smear softened wax.
3. Then use warm/hot water, mild dish soap, and a soft-bristle brush as needed. Rinse completely. If the extractor is turned over for cleaning or draining, continue to protect the controller and motor from water.
4. Dry thoroughly with a clean, lint-free cloth and leave the lid open until the extractor is completely dry before storage.
5. **Top bearing maintenance**: grease the top bearing every 10 hours of use or once per year, whichever comes first, with food-grade multipurpose grease. Apply about a marble-sized amount to the top of the reel shaft, mount the top bar, and wipe away excess grease.
6. When completely dry, cover the extractor with a large clean plastic bag for return to TCBA.

Other Stainless-Steel Equipment

Use the same cold-water-first approach for the stainless-steel sieves and uncapping knife/scratcher. Rinse thoroughly and dry completely before return