

Oxleas Wood APIARY

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Here are some Do's and Don'ts when working in the Woodlands Apiary:

Please:

- Until you are absolutely confident with your bees, do not work in the Apiary unaccompanied – on arrival at the Farm sign the daily attendance register kept in the Volunteer's mess
- Open up only those hives that you have an interest in – do not open up the small nucleus hives because these are still in the final phases of the Woodlands Queen rearing programme
- When visiting the 1st field apiary site, only use a vehicle if you have a heavy load to move – the soil underfoot is clay and will tear up easily, especially during and after a bout of rain
- Do not introduce any chemicals or substances whatsoever to the Apiary sites – any bottles/sprays must have the contents clearly labeled – do not leave any unmarked containers/substances on the Apiary sites
- For storing materials, hives, etc., use the bays allocated in the weaning shed – keys marked 'BEES' are in the volunteer's mess – prior to storage, decontaminate wooden hive parts (1:6 bleach/water or by flame) and frames/foundation (48 hours in the chest freezer) – stack hives in the storage bay using steel wired Queen excluders top and bottom to deter rodents
- Do not introduce any new bees and/or used hive equipment into the Apiary without first agreeing this with the Woodlands Beekeeper