

Equipment needs to start beekeeping and the approximate costs.

(costs shown are meant to be representative and may be higher or lower depending on where you buy them.)

February 2018

General needs:

Smoker	34.00
*Bee suit	40.00
Veil	15.50
Helmet	15.00
Hive tool	5.00
*Gloves	13.00
*Bee brush	6.00
*Leg straps	5.00

Total General \$133.50

Per colony needs:

	first year	second year
Hive stand	7.00	7.00
Starter with bottom board, entrance reducer, deep hive body, 10 frames & foundation, telescoping & inner cover	89.00	89.00
Deep hive bodies, 10 frames & foundation	(2) 88.00	(1) 44.00
Moisture board	7.00	
Winter cover pack	10.00	
Feeder pail	5.00	
* super (for feeder)	12.50	
*Queen excluder	7.50	7.50
3 medium super (for honey)** with frames & foundation**	123.50	123.50
2# Package of bees	120.00	
Total per colony	\$462.50	\$264.00

**number needed depends on the honey crop

Health care needs.

Sugar Syrup	variable
Pollen Substitute (5# 2-5 colonies)	10.50

There may be medications for diseases, insecticides for pests or other nutritional supplements but this should be an exception and not expected.

If you get a honey crop from your bees you will need to have honey extracting equipment. You may be able to rent this equipment, or work with another beekeeper to use theirs, or hire someone to extract for you. If you buy new equipment, you can get a small plastic manual extracting setup for as little as \$210.00.

We do not recommend purchasing used equipment for your colonies if you are a new beekeeper and can not judge if there are disease concerns. Extracting equipment can be purchased used without concern for disease.

If you wish to keep bees, it is recommended that you take a course on beekeeping offered at the University of Minnesota, Department of Entomology WWW.BeeLab.umn.edu. Further, you should read books and periodicals on beekeeping and join a beekeeping group.

* indicates suggested but optional equipment