



Making Comb Honey with Hogg Halfcomb

A letter from the owner of the Hogg Halfcomb system:

Producing comb honey of any kind is challenging, but it's rewarding when you succeed. Here are a few things I do to produce great Hogg Halfcombs.

- *Whenever I catch a swarm, I house it in one hive body, preferably on drawn comb and then put a Hogg Halfcomb super on top of it, without any queen excluder. Most of the time they produce me one nice super of Hogg Halfcomb. The swarm oftentimes profits me \$400.*
- *Another thing that often works for me is to put a regular super on a hive and when it is nearly full, I put a Hogg Halfcomb super underneath it. The extracting super must be nearly full when doing this.*
- *The method I use to produce a lot of Hogg Halfcomb is the "Simplified Juniper Hill Split," also known as the Danenhower Split. I have posted this on YouTube so that it will help you, and any other beekeeper who wants to learn about managing hives for comb honey. The link is as follows: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rNaob_gdtsM. Also, this video is on my website www.hermans-honeycomb.com/beekeepers along with other helpful videos.*

Best of luck,

Herman Danenhower
Danenhower Apiaries

Making good comb honey requires three things: the right equipment, the right weather and forage, and the right beekeeping.

Equipment: The Hogg Halfcomb Complete Super, the Hogg Halfcomb Frame, or even cut-comb honey frames or the Ross Rounds system will all help you make good comb honey, but none of them will produce a good result if you just throw a super onto any old colony at any random time and hope for the best.

Weather and Forage: Producing quality comb honey requires either one very long nectar flow, or a series of strong nectar flows very close together. For most regions this is most common in spring, when the combined early nectar flows from many flowers allow the bees to eagerly build comb and then fill and cap it.

Beekeeping: To make good comb honey, you need strong colonies with plenty of young bees that are ready to make new comb, plus plenty of foragers that are ready to fill that comb with nectar. Reducing the space in a colony by removing a box of frames can pack wax-producing bees onto the comb foundation, encouraging them to quickly produce and fill new combs. Be careful while making comb honey, since a large colony in a small space also promotes swarming!



Scan this QR code to view our comb honey products on our website.



Scan this QR code to view the Hogg Halfcomb website and comb honey resources.

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