To help improve both the quality of queens produced and the success rates achieved, here are some PRACTICAL TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL QUEEN REARING:

**Basic Requirements**
- Young larvae from the Breeder Queen
- Cell bars and grafting tools
- Queenless starter – emergency response
- Queenright finisher – supercedure response
- Abundant nurse bees – 5 to 15 days old
- Good food supply
The Breeder Queen

Breeder Box

Inside Breeder Box

Cell Bars and Frames
The Grafting Room

Swarm Box / Starters

Swarm Box and 4 rows Starter Boxes on Racks
Finishers

Well started Cells & good Jelly visible

Mature Cells, 3 Bars, 30 Cells Finished

Golden Rules

• Never shake your frame of grafting larvae or your cells being transferred or harvested. Always brush the bees off.

• There is usually at least one week lead time in preparing the cell-building hives and breeder before you graft.

• Keep feeding every evening unless there has been a strong flow on that day.

• Prior to starting the graft, write the intended harvest date on the top bar of each frame.

• Beware of rogue queen cells. In the finishing colonies every frame above the queen excluder must be checked for rogue cells on a weekly basis.
Results

Nice Cell

"Torpedoed"

Harvesting

Candling a Ripe Cell

Cell Protectors
Conclusion

You may have the right breeder, the best equipment and the right technique but your results rely heavily on nutrition and nurse bees.

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