Honey/wax separation process

Optimising your process for Humma Honey/Beeswax separation

Combs preferably prewarmed in hotroom 25-35 deg prior to uncapping or pricking.

Tangential Extractor for difficult to extract honey types.

All honey and cappings wax to slurry tank with a slow speed mixer positioned above outlet.

Use thermometer to monitor slurry inlet
Temp. 28-34 deg C

Combs preferably prewarmed in hotroom 25-35 deg prior to uncapping or pricking.

To drum off tank

Humma Honey Separator

Heat Exchanger

Wax captured in bin beneath front of humma

Variable speed Slurry/Macerator Pump

Clean Honey Tank

Clean Honey Pump

Humma Honey Separator

Tipping cleaned honey back through slurry tank at the end of the day can also help with pumping through remaining wax when emptying slurry tank.

Key - Start Temperature
Combs prewarmed in a hot room will extract much more cleanly and effectively, and shorten extractor cycle times.

An effective hotroom can eliminate need for a heat exchanger. Underfloor heating is most effective.

Hotroom requires powerful fans to effectively stir the air and warm supers closer to floor level, especially if not using underfloor heating.

Key - Honey / wax ratio
The slurry tank should ideally have at least 150kg capacity.

Slurry tank requires a mixer positioned above the tank outlet so macerator pump can deliver a consistent ratio of honey / wax to Humma.

Avoid large chunks of wax and burrcomb which can cause blockages and a loss of friability of Humma's waxcore.

Key - Flow Rate
Pump slurry at a consistent flowrate. Avoid stoppages and sudden changes to flowrate. This helps ensure a consistent friable wax core forms inside the humma.

Ensure slurry tank outlet pipe is at least 2.5” diam, and then tapered to match pump inlet diameter. This helps avoid blockages and inconsistent flowrates.

Use a variable speed pump to match flowrate to processing speed. Do not use a floatswitch for flow control!

Key - Slurry Temperature
It is vital to monitor slurry temperature, which must be kept reasonably consistent. When processing a lot of virgin (soft) wax, keep processing temperatures lower which helps keeps the wax core forming inside the Humma friable and porous.

Slurry with older / darker wax should be processed at a higher temperatures to maintain ideal wax core friability 33-34deg.

Optional procedures
In situations where high beeswax to honey ratios are processed, humma performance may be optimised by recirculating some cleaned honey back through the slurry tank.

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