Beekeeping Year Workload Planner

A printable worksheet for estimating your own time. Local climate, colony condition, travel, experience and number of hives all change the workload. Use local advice for task timing, then replace estimates with actual records after your first season.

1. Estimate the tasks

Task	Minutes each time	Times in your local year	Annual minutes
Travel and setup	_____	_____	_____
Hive observations / inspections	_____	_____	_____
Notes and follow-up	_____	_____	_____
Health monitoring / advice	_____	_____	_____
Equipment maintenance	_____	_____	_____
Seasonal preparation	_____	_____	_____
Training and mentor visits	_____	_____	_____
Unexpected work / repairs	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL			_____

Annual hours: total annual minutes _____ divided by 60 = _____ hours. This is a planning estimate, not a standard or a guarantee.

Count the work around an inspection too: preparing protective clothing and tools, moving equipment, cleaning up, recording observations and contacting a mentor.

2. Map work by local cue

Use a locally meaningful event or condition, rather than assuming the same months apply everywhere.

Local cue or period	Task to prepare for	Help or supplies needed	Follow-up

3. Ask a local mentor

[ ] Which local periods usually need the most attention, and what triggers the work?

Notes: _____

[ ] What tasks can I do independently, and when should I ask for help?

Notes: _____

[ ] Who can cover the apiary if I am unavailable during a busy period?

Notes: _____

[ ] Which health checks or supplies should I plan for in this region?

Notes: _____

Review after each season: Which estimates were too low? What took longer than expected? What can be prepared earlier next year?