

European Honey Bee - Queen Development Stages

R Burns Handout 7/11/2006

	Day	Stage		
Egg is laid	1	egg		Kingdom: Animalia
	2	egg		Phylum: Arthropoda
The best queens reared from 1-2 day-old larvae	3	egg	hatching	Class: Insecta
	4	1st larval	1st instar (moult)	Order: Hymenoptera
	5	2nd larval	2nd instar (moult)	Family: Apidae
	6	3rd larval	3rd instar (moult)	Genus: Apis
	7	4th larval	4th instar (no moult)	Species: Apis mellifera
Cell is sealed	8	larva	gorging	Sealing begins
	9	larva / pre-pupa		Sealed; gorging on remaining food in cell
	10	pre-pupa	5th moult	Cacoon spinning begins
Red eye	11	pupa		Pupal form develops
	12	pupa		Color develops in the eye
	13	pupa		Color begins to develop in the thorax
	14	pupa		Color begins to develop in the abdomen
Yellowing of thorax	15	pupa	6th moult	The wings, legs, and mouth parts are freed; the pupa becomes an adult and is able to chew thru the cell.
Yellowing of abdomen	16	adult		The queen emerges
Pupa moult	18-23	adult		Adult takes orientation flights 3-5 days later.
Emergence	24-31*	adult		Adult takes mating flights
Orientation Flights	2-5 days	adult		Mated adult begins to lay after mating
Mating				
Egg laying				

Kingdom: Animalia	Order: Hymenoptera	Species: Apis mellifera (common western honey bee)	
Phylum: Arthropoda	Family: Apidae	Apis mellifera carnica	Apis mellifera scutellata
Class: Insecta	Genus: Apis	Apis mellifera ligustica	Apis mellifera adansonii