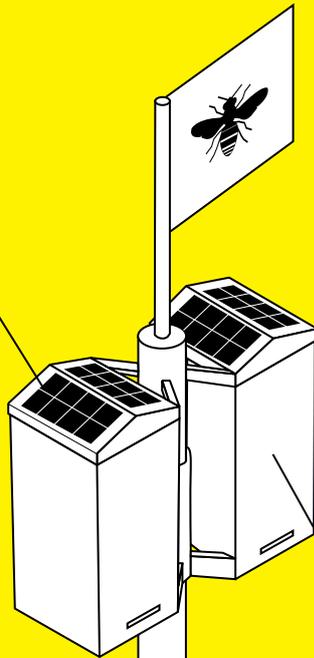


**LIFTING SYSTEM
RUNNING ON
SOLAR ENERGY**



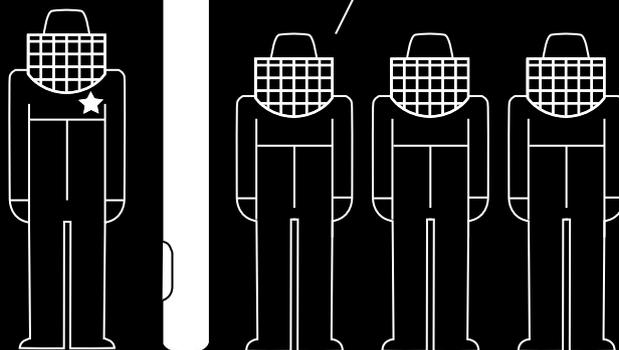
**KEEP BEES
PUBLIC, BUT
SAFE FROM
VANDALISM**

**BRING
COMMUNITIES
TOGETHER AND
CHALLENGE NEW
BEEKEEPERS**

SKY HIVE

**BEEKEEPING IN PUBLIC SPACES
BY BEE COLLECTIVE**

WWW.BEECOLLECTIVE.EU



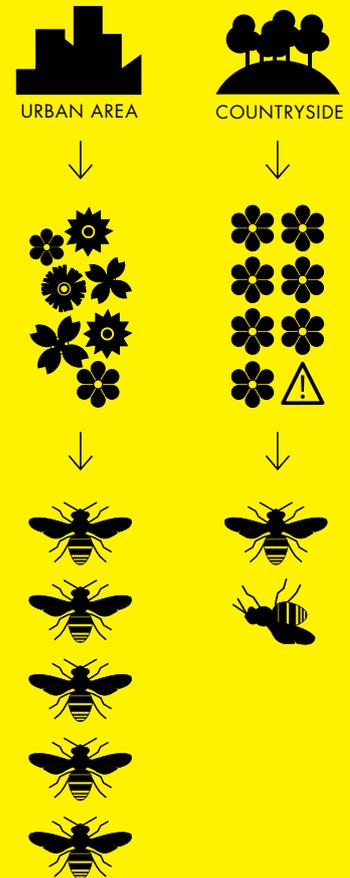
BEE COLLECTIVE

Bee collective is a cooperation of beekeepers and designers searching for new ways to stimulate and enable beekeeping in a contemporary living environment. The collective works for a broader understanding of the function and functioning of bees, brings together next generation beekeepers in a network and invites people to become a beekeeper.

Bees are vital to our existence. They pollinate about 60% of our fruit and vegetables. But honeybees are going through a very rough time. Worldwide entire colonies are disappearing and dying. The reasons are many and science has not been able to pinpoint the problem yet and only recently have universities worldwide started to focus on the bee problem.

One thing is sure: Bees seem to thrive better in an urban surrounding, than in an rural one. City's with their parks and gardens offer a variety of blooming plants, with little use of pesticides. On the countryside most land is in use for monoculture which requires heavy use of pesticides.

It is important that the bee is introduced back into our daily life. As most of us spend our lives today in densely populated areas, here is where we should introduce the bees. Bees are livestock and a valuable and necessary addition to urban farming.



URBAN FARMING

Urban farming, local food production and the slow food movement have all contributed to an increased awareness amongst policy makers, citizens and companies on the importance of nature in densely populated areas.

In addition, the focus on improving quality of life in city centers, necessary for creating an attractive environment for families, has led to innovative ways to improve urban development.

URBAN BEEKEEPING

Urban beekeeping is a logical and necessary step to help urban areas to improve quality of life for all involved.

SKY HIVE

As many people today are afraid of bees and not aware of their usefulness it is important to pass on knowledge of bees and beekeeping to the whole range of the population in urban areas. By making them visible and at the same time keeping them at a safe distance, people can get accustomed to them without the risk of being stung.

Our answer to keeping bees in urban areas is the Sky Hive. The Sky Hive is a pole with two beehives on it, which can be lifted up and down. When the hives are down, the beekeepers can take care of the bees. When the bees are back up on the pole, they are safe from vandalism and the public is protected from being stung. As the bees fly upwards when leaving the hives and collect pollen and nectar in a diameter of 3 km from their home, there is no bigger chance to be stung by a bee under the pole than elsewhere.

The bees are being taken care of next generation beekeepers from the surrounding community, working in groups and sharing the responsibility for the bees. An experienced beekeeper is assigned as a trouble shooter to guide the new beekeepers who take care of the bees 'learning by doing'. An internet platform helps to coordinate the activities among the new beekeepers.

By placing the Sky hive in a public place, beekeeping is made accessible to all. Everybody interested can attend the meetings, observe the work of the beekeepers or join in and take responsibility for the bees.



THE SKY HIVE..

integrates gardening and beekeeping in urban areas, which helps to valorise empty lots, thus increasing the value of the surrounding areas

is a social, binding activity suitable for all ages, sexes and religions resulting in increased feel of common identity, pride and quality of life within a neighbourhood

helps to focus and educate on the need for healthy living

makes sure beekeeping knowledge is passed down

is a valuable addition to urban farming, local food production and the slow food movement, all these relate to bees in public spaces

provides the opportunity to execute a Social Return strategy for companies to (re)connect with surrounding areas

provides a focal point for a diverse range of activities, thus stimulating social cohesion within the area as well as providing opportunities to attract tourism/events

increases the awareness of the importance of local sourcing of food

stimulates communities or employees, inspires teamwork

is a positive, innovative image for the city, company or empty lots

provides excellent PR possibilities to promote the ecological strategy of the city/company



The seven meter tall Sky Hive makes beekeeping possible and visible in public urban areas and aims to attract a new generation of beekeepers. It is adaptable to suit local regulations on bee keeping. The concept is that anybody should be able to attend to the bees at anytime without investing in and or dragging, equipment. The fact that the Sky Hive is powered by an electric motor, makes it possible for young and old, strong and fragile to lower the hives to working height and bring them back up. All necessary materials can be stored in the hives itself, allowing next generation beekeepers to drop by at any time and there is also no need for storage space at home. A platform, set up on internet, allows easy communication and structures the social process.

There are two types of Sky Hive available:

Sky Hive Solar¹

The hoist system is driven by electrical motor powered by solar energy. The solar panels are mounted on the roof of the hives. The advantage of this version is, that beekeepers do not have to bring any equipment with them when attending the bees.

Sky Hive²

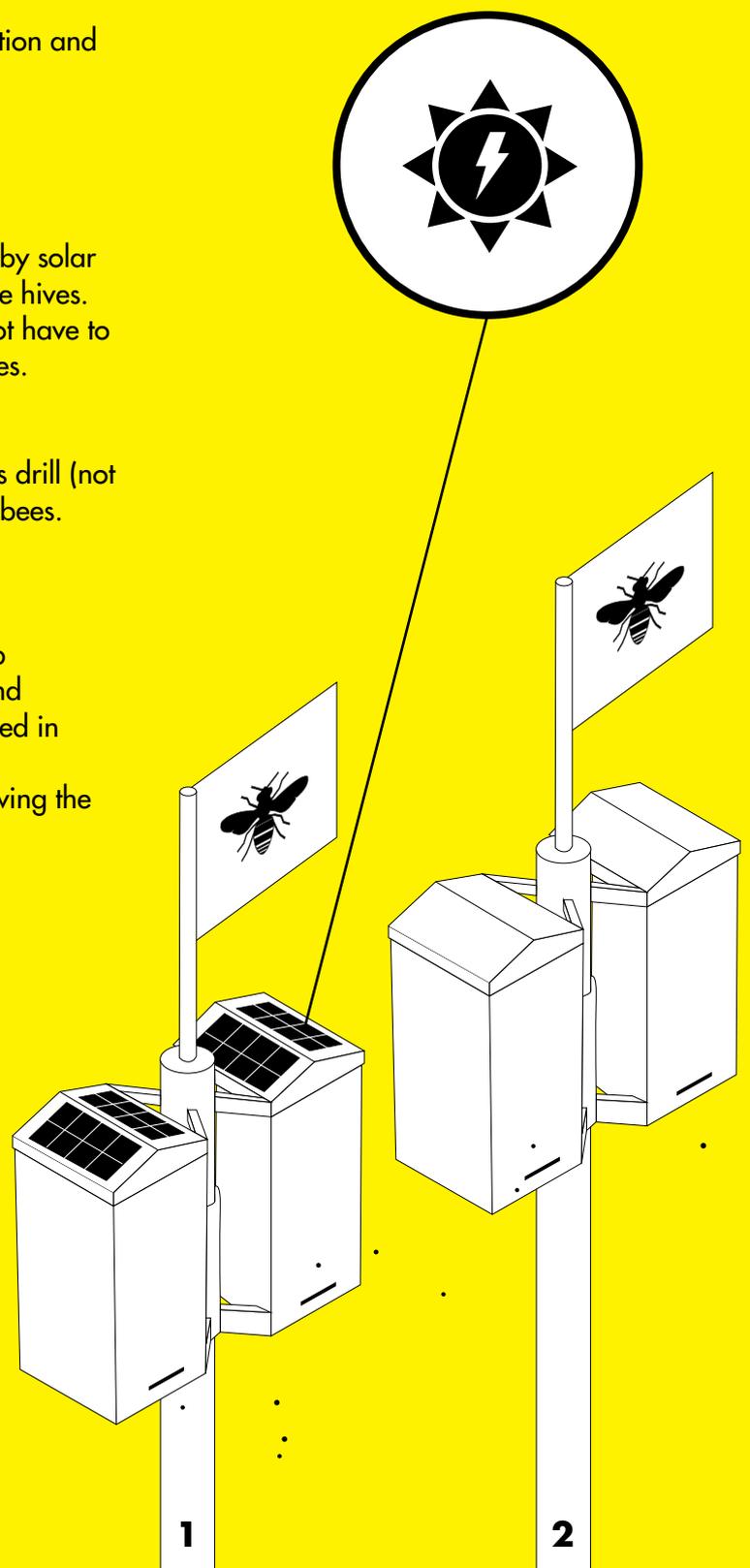
The hoist system in the Sky Hive is powered by cordless drill (not included) which has to be brought when attending the bees.

Both versions come with:

- two four stories high bee hives, wherein the top container can function as a storage for tools and material. The hives can be enlarged and reduced in size by moving a dividing panel.
- The hives are covered by a printable coat allowing the hives to be free of any toxic material.
- Bees are not included.

For prices and purchase information, contact become@becollective.eu

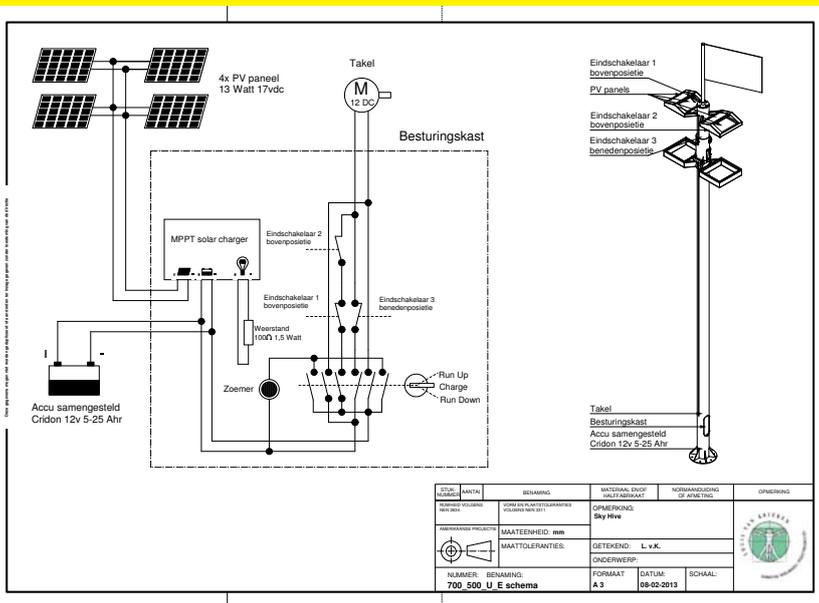
Delivery time 8 weeks



FACTS & FIGURES

Sky Hive Solar

8,2m tall steel construction
 2 Bee hives, four stories high, dividable made of Ecoplex
 4 solar panels 13 watt 17vdc
 battery combined Cridon 12v 5-25 Ahr
 certified tackle
 control box with lock
 sheet metal flag
 powder coated finish



Sky Hive

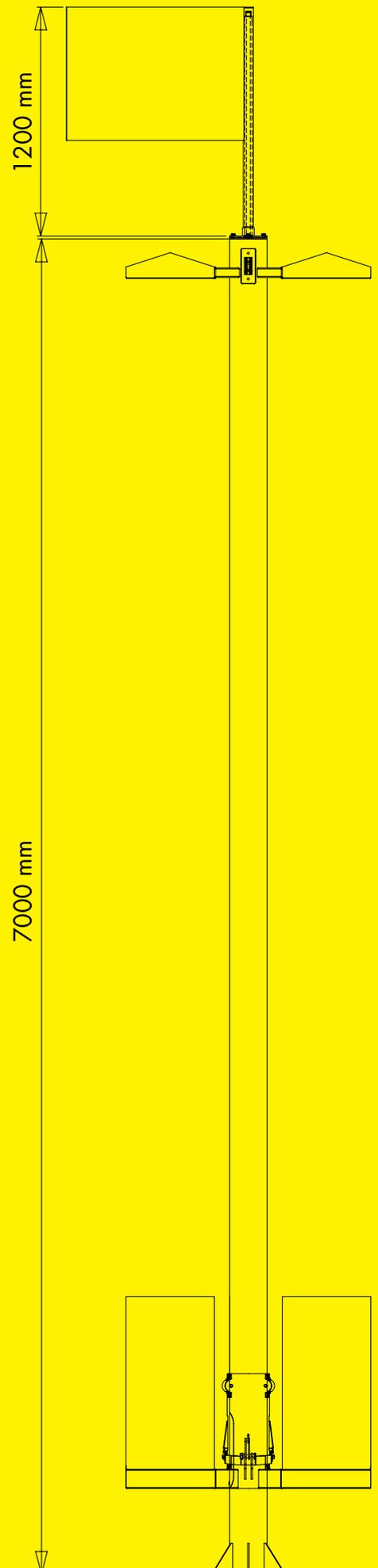
8,2m tall steel construction
 2 Bee hives, four stories high, dividable made of Ecoplex
 certified tackle
 control box with lock
 sheet metal flag
 powder coated finish

The development of the Sky Hive Solar was made possible by Syntens



Marres Projects and NAIM/Bureau Europa enabled us to place a prototype of the Sky Hive in the Sphinxpark in Maastricht (NL)

Engineering by Van Krieken design & engineering



PROJECTS BY BEE COLLECTIVE



BE A BEE PAVILLION

Pavilion of the Dutch Beekeepers Association at the world horticultural show in Venlo: Floriade 2012 reused at castle Vaeshartelt (NL)

The building is an abstract version of a beekeeper's protection hat. The audience can become a bee by picking up a barcode scanner at the reception desk and scan flowers in the garden to gather points. Inside the building people can discover people from all over the world keeping bees and next generation beekeepers.

Opening: April 4th 2012



BEE CASTLE HOENSBROEK

Bee Collective have designed a pavilion out of recycled building materials. An existing shed at the Gebrookerplein in Hoensbroek (NL) is disassembled and the steel profiles are used to build the Bee Castle in the nearby Aldenhofpark.

Opening: April 13th 2013



SKY HIVE PROTOTYPE SPHINXPARK MAASTRICHT

The first prototype of the Sky Hive was placed in the temporary Sphinxpark in Maastricht (NL). The bees were taken care of by a group of new beekeepers, under the supervision of the experienced beekeeper Pierre Vandewall. The first season went very well, the bees responded positive to the new way of keeping bees. The Colonies grew fast and produced a great amount of Sphinxpark Honey.

Opening: May 26th 2012

**BEE
COLLECTIVE
FOUNDATION**

Lenculenstraat 27
6211KP Maastricht
the Netherlands

003143 3270283
beecome@beecollective.eu
www.beecollective.eu