



Development of a special honeycombs frames packaging

Rodolfo Montañez - rmontan@latu.org.uy, Javier Silveira - jsilve@latu.org.uy
 Packaging Management Department
 LATU - Technological Laboratory of Uruguay



LONG DISTANCE (400 - 600 KM)
 MIDDLE DISTANCE (200 - 300 KM)
 SHORT DISTANCE (50 KM)

Honeycombs frames had to be moved from hives, along great distances (up to 600 km), to LATU's laboratory, in order to check several properties of honey. These frames had to be protected from contamination and from mechanical damage. Honey should be tested as it is in the hives, according to the working plan of LATU / DINAPYME / MELIKA S.A. or CALAS projects."

A special new package has been developed in order to accomplish this task. This package was designed by two technician of the Management Packaging Department of LATU. This development is protected by patent.

The package had to be transported erected but empty from LATU to the apiary without any damage of the boxes, and had to return filled, without any damage of the honeycombs.

This package proved to be completely satisfactory. It was used by more than 40 apiarys without any damage and has the following characteristics:

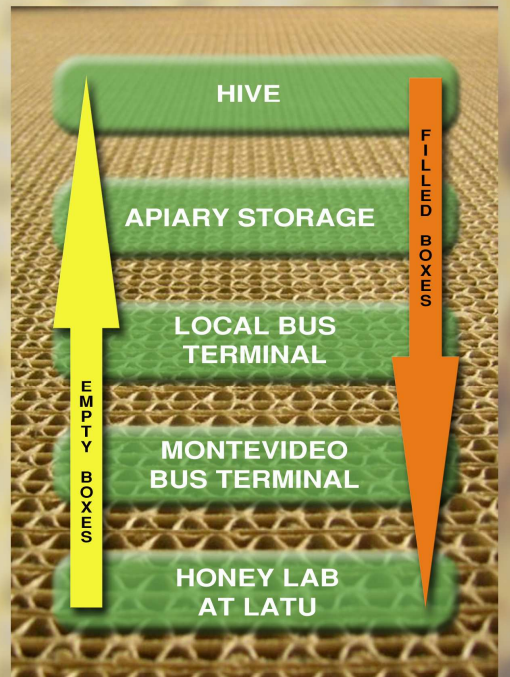
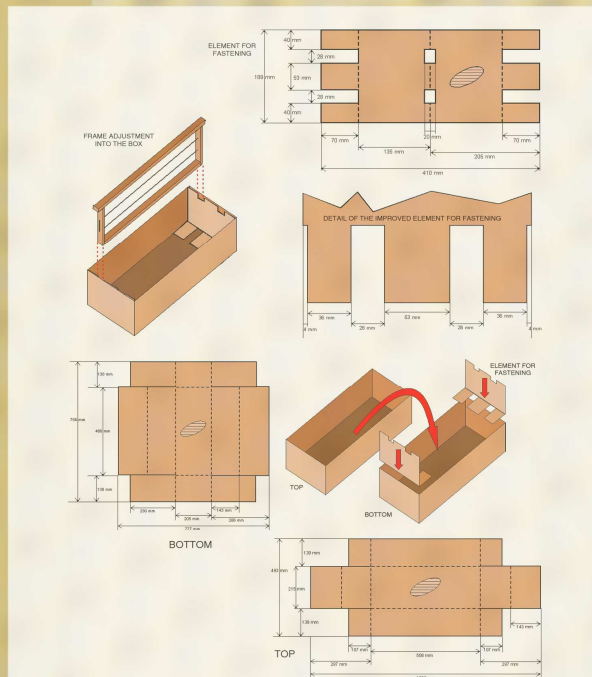
- 1 cheap and easy to make,
- 2 eco-friendly (no stitches, no glue, no adhesive tape),
- 3 easy to fill and close,
- 4 hard to open accidentally,
- 5 able to withstand rough handling and transportation,
- 6 easy to erect, and
- 7 doesn't contaminate honey.

Physical distribution cycle of the boxes.

These boxes are able to successfully withstand truck and bus journeys. They received the usual handling given to any package.

The packages features:

- a) a top/bottom telescopic single wall corrugated board box
- b) two special corrugated board elements, in order to securely fasten two frames inside each box
- c) a plastic bag



Acknowledgments: Andrés Olivera (LATU - poster design), Eloisa García (MELIKA S.A. - honey cristalization project), Estela Santos (CALAS - honey conductivity project), Yanina Mancebo (LATU - honey projects) and Carlos González (LATU - honey projects).