Trågkupa Hive – 0.0 (Initial, Rough Design)

This is the rough design for a Swedish “trough” hive called a trågkupa (formal plans to follow). The trågkupa is meant to provide extra space for insulation for overwintering. It is built like a cabinet and opens up: the lid tips back and the front tips down. Inside the “trough” holds 21 Langstroth frames. A divider board can be put in the middle to keep two colonies in one trågkupa. Standard Langstroth deeps and supers can be placed on top of the built-in “trough.” To overwinter, two hives can be kept with an extra deep on top of each half of the trough or one hive can be installed along the entire trough. These plans were created by the Low Technology Institute based on photos found here: http://dronaren.dinstudio.se/empty_18.html.


The hive is built from dimensional lumber and solid siding. The bottom is screened with a covering board for the winter.

Straw, wool, or other materials can be used to insulate the hives for the winter.

Inner covers not pictured.