

## **IRISH STANDARD SPECIFICATION**

# **BEEHIVES**

**I.S. 151 : 1982**

*Price Code G*

**INSTITUTE FOR INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH AND STANDARDS**

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# **DECLARATION**

OF

**SPECIFICATION**

ENTITLED

**BEEHIVES**

AS

**THE IRISH STANDARD SPECIFICATION FOR**

**BEEHIVES**

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The Institute for Industrial Research and Standards in exercise of the power conferred by section 20 of the Industrial Research and Standards Act, 1961 (No. 20 of 1961), and with the consent of the Minister for Industry and Energy hereby declares as follows:

1. This instrument may be cited as the Standard Specification (Beehives) Declaration, 1982.
2. (1) The Specification set forth in the Schedule to this declaration is hereby declared to be the standard specification for Beehives.  
(2) The said standard specification may be cited as Irish Standard 151:1982 or as I.S. 151:1982.
3. (1) The Standard Specification (Beehives), Declaration, 1967 is hereby revoked.  
(2) Reference in any other standard specification to the Instrument hereby revoked and to Irish Standard 151:1967 thereby prescribed shall be construed, respectively, as references to this Instrument and to Irish Standard 151:1982.

## SCHEDULE

# Beehives

### 1. SCOPE

**1.1** This specification covers two patterns of beehive viz:

the NATIONAL HIVE (Fig. 1) and  
the MODIFIED COMMERCIAL HIVE (Fig. 2).

Both are single-walled hives having the bee-space below the frames in each chamber.

**1.2** This specification prescribes the dimensions essential to secure interchangeability of parts of beehives and of frames for use therewith. The dimensions of sheets of wax foundation are also prescribed.

### 2. DESIGN FEATURES

**2.1 National Hive.** The National Hive is designed for use with a deep or shallow frame having a 432 mm top bar with long lugs.

**2.2 Modified Commercial Hive.** The Modified Commercial Hive takes a larger (deep or shallow) frame having a 438 mm top bar with short lugs. It is designed to meet the needs of those beekeepers who prefer a larger capacity brood chamber than that given by the National Hive, while retaining a floor and roof interchangeable with the latter. National Hive deep and shallow chambers can be used as honey supers over a Modified Commercial brood chamber.

The short lugs of the Modified Commercial frames permit the use of brood chambers and shallow supers of a simple design consisting of four pieces of wood only, with a rebate in each of two opposite walls on which the frames rest.

### 3. DESIGNATION

Any hive purporting to comply with this specification shall be designated by the letters I.S. 151 followed by the name "National" or "Modified Commercial". Any frame purporting to comply with this specification shall be designated by the letters I.S. 151 followed by the type number of the frame i.e.

DN/4 or DN/5 for deep frame of National Hive,  
SN/4, SN/5 or SN/7 for shallow frame of National Hive,  
DM/2 for deep frame of Modified Commercial Hive,  
SM/3 for shallow frame of Modified Commercial Hive.

### 4. DIMENSIONS

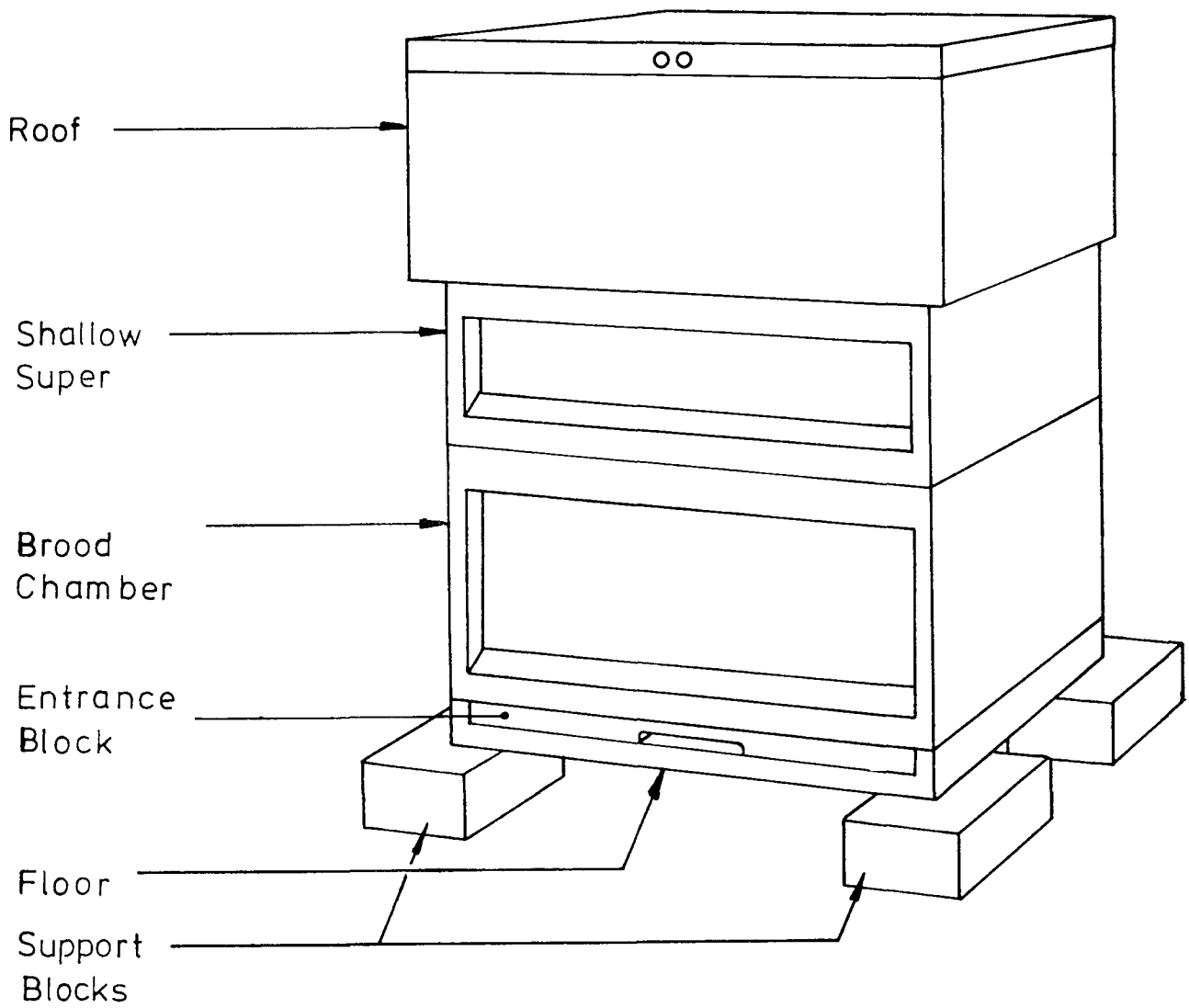
**4.1 Finished dimensions.** All dimensions stated in this specification relate to wood at a moisture content of 20 per cent and are the finished dimensions, i.e. where wood is prescribed as 19 mm thick, this dimension applies to the thickness after the wood has been planed on both sides.

**4.2 Tolerances.** The prescribed dimensions of hive parts are subject to the following tolerances:

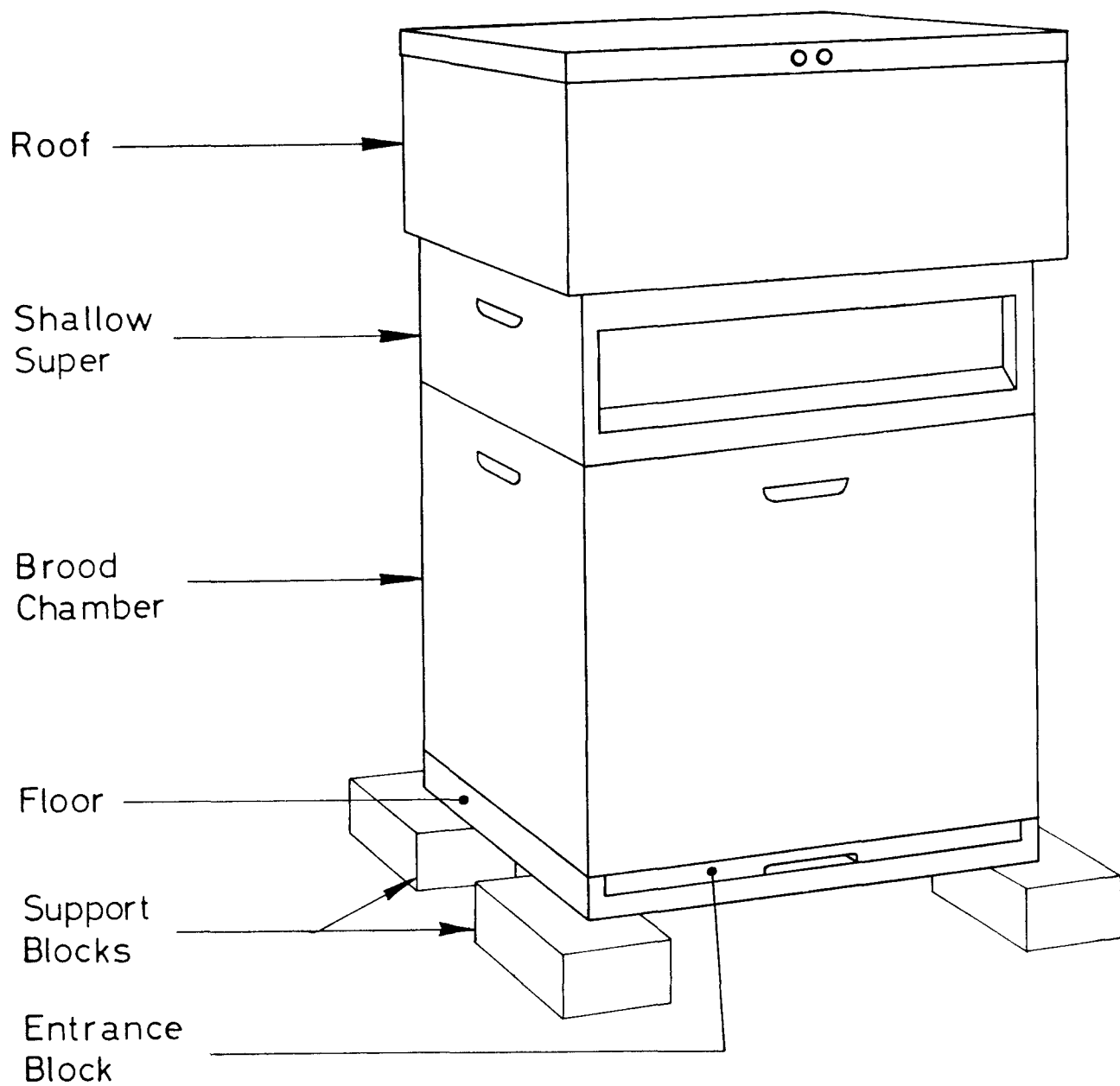
Length  $\pm$  0.8 mm  
Width  $\pm$  1.6 mm

If, however, a dimension is stated as a maximum or a minimum value, the tolerance shall be respectively negative or positive only.

It should be noted that the tolerance on width (or depth) of hive parts makes allowance for the variation in moisture content. The proper allowance for shrinkage when the wood is machined depends upon the nature of the wood and its moisture content at the time it is cut. The makers should, as far as possible, dimension the walls so that after the wood is further seasoned under working conditions the bee-space below the frames shall not exceed 10 mm or fall below 6 mm.



**Figure 1. National Hive**



**Figure 2. Modified Commercial Hive**

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