


Bizzy Bee Feeder / Installation

If at any time you have questions comments or feedback, **please contact me**. I am always interested in what my customers have to say.
beEmail me at: bizzybeeapiary@gmail.com

Bee Happy, Bee Healthy, Bee Safe

	Topic	Description	
1.	Quick Installation	Installing the Bizzy Bee Feeder is simple. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure the small plastic barrier is removed, the large plastic barrier is installed, and the dry feed chamber vented cover is in place. 2. Remove your outer cover. 3. Remove your inner cover. 4. Place the feeder on top of your hive. 5. Replace ONLY the outer cover. (Do NOT install the inner cover) 	
2.	Queen Introduction	Introducing a new queen into your hive is simple. A recessed section on the underside of the B.B.Feeder is specifically designed to allow you to introduce a new queen. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Simply remove the cork on the candy end of the queen cage as you normally would. 2. Place the queen cage across the middle frames approximately 3 inches in from the front of the hive. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The queen cage screen can either face upwards or towards the rear of the hive. 3. Position the B.B.Feeder over the queen cage and onto the hive body. 4. Install the yellow bee escape plug closing off the front entrance hole. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. This reduces any drafts that may come through the bee entrance when introducing a queen in cooler temperatures. 5. Install the plastic fluid barrier and the observation screen. 6. Add approximately ½ gallon of sugar syrup to the fluid chamber. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Do not fill completely because less fluid will make it easier to check the status of the queen in 3-4 days if there is less fluid in the chamber. 7. Check the status of the queen after 3-4 days. 8. After the queen has been introduced, remove the empty queen cage. You may now remove the bee entrance plug to allow access and provide additional ventilation.	 <p data-bbox="1541 1122 1885 1187">Recessed Queen cage area (View from underneath)</p>

3. How Strong is the Feeder?

I wanted to make the feeder capable of supporting approximately 50 + pounds of downward pressure. (just in case someone used a couple of cinder blocks on top of the hive)

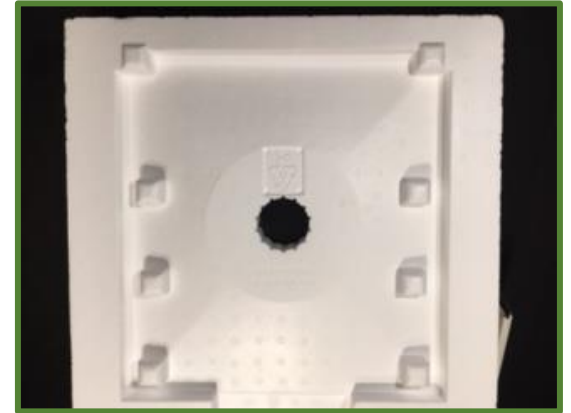
- Overkill? – Perhaps, but I would rather over engineer than not.
- The feeder is a single molded unit made of hi-density polystyrene.

There are 4 perimeter feet which serve 2 purposes.

1. When removing the feeder, there will inevitably be several bees on the underside. The feet allow you to place the feeder on a flat surface (like the top of your outer cover).
2. The feet also help keep the feeder from accidentally sliding off when moving things around.

So, what about the other feet?

- On an 8-frame hive, the other feet serve no purpose because the downward pressure of your outer cover is equally supported on all four sides. You can either leave them as they are or cut them off with a knife if you want additional room for pollen patties.
- On a 10-frame hive, they provide additional support created from the downward pressure from the sides. The feeder accomplishes this additional support by spreading some of the downward pressure onto the frames. This does not damage the frames in anyway, it simply helps distribute the load. The "feet" are spaced to allow them to rest on 10-frame, 9-frame or 8-frame configurations.



4. Why is there tape around the perimeter?
Why is there a plastic gasket adhered to the top?
Why is there vent tape on the front and back?

The answer to all 3 questions is:
ants, ants, ants!

The ventilation slots in the feeder are small enough to keep bees out, but not those darn ants.
The tape, the plastic gasket and the ventilation tape had to be installed to help reduce the number of ants that can get into your sugar syrup.

- This was by far the biggest challenge to overcome. Although I had not planned to do this, (not to mention how time consuming it is), it is what I implemented simply to help reduce the ant problems I encountered.

NOTE:

- If the underside of your outer cover does not set flat on the feeder, then I suggest you use a strap, or rock on top of your cover to try and flatten it to overcome any distortion.



- If the underside of your outer cover has some imperfections in the wood which causes a gap that ants could potentially use to enter your feeder, then I suggest you fill the gaps with caulking or duct tape. I have had to use both in some cases. -OR- obtain a thin piece of plywood that has no imperfections and attach it to the underside of your outer cover.

5. Internal Temperature and Humidity Monitoring

Monitoring the internal temperature and humidity of your hives is a great way to get a feel of what is going on inside. This is especially helpful during the winter and early spring but knowing the temperature inside your hive is useful anytime.

- A recessed section on the underside of the B.B.Feeder is specifically designed to install various style temperature and humidity sensors that are available on the market today.
- Depending on the number of hives you have, how far away your hives are from your home and the technology used, will help determine which sensors are worth considering for your apiary.
- There are sensors on the market specifically designed for hive monitoring, and other sensors which also work just as well in a hive. (in my opinion)

ACCURITE:

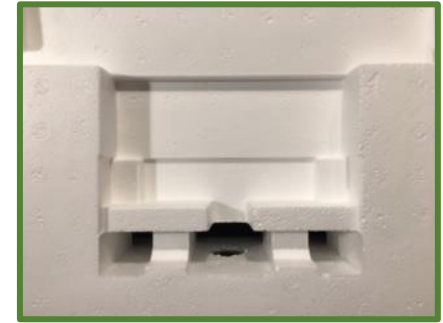
- ACCURITE makes sensors with 3 different channels (you can monitor 1-3 hives)
- If you really like to monitor the weather, you can go for a full weather station and have up to 5 sensors from ACCURITE.
- If your hives are in remote locations, or you have more than a few hives, then you may want to consider something that utilizes Bluetooth (like SensorPush or BroodMinder).

BroodMinder:

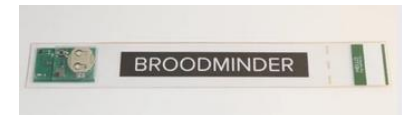
- The BroodMinder units are very good and do not require the special cutout. The feeder design ensures the BroodMinder sensor does not block the liquid feed access chamber.

Sensor Push:

- Sensor Push is a small Bluetooth device.
- Sensor Push offers a WiFi-hub. If the WiFi hub is within range of your hives, then the data is available via the app remotely. If not, then you need to be near your hives to download the data via bluetooth to the app.



ACCURITE



BroodMinder



SensorPush