

Bee Harmony



WWW:BEEHARMONY.ORG

Twelve Tips for Beekeeping

By Ed Erwin, Master Beekeeper.
BeeHarmony.org

Soy Lecithin

A food ingredient supplement used with essential oils and sugar syrups. See mixing guidelines below.



Trim Paint Roller

For painting the top and bottom of beehive supers. Also, use wood filler on all cracks to avoid introducing moisture and preventing rot.



Propane Torch

With electric starter trigger to start your smoker. Fill the smoker half way, light the fuel and after you have a nice flame, fill the remainder of the smoker with fuel. There are lots of uses besides just lighting the smoker.



Frame Jig & Brad Nailer

Build a wooden jig frame to hold beehive frames in place while you use a brad nailer to construct the frames.



Four-wheel garden cart

When moving beehives, use a four-wheeled garden cart (big tires are recommended).



Ratchet Strap

Wrap the strap around the entire beehive before transferring to the garden cart.



Plastic Sheet Rock Corner

Cut to the appropriate length, the L shaped plastic part can be inserted to block hive entrance.



Red filtered light

When working at dusk or dark, use a red filtered light since bees can't see red.



N, N-diethyl-meta-toluamide (DEET)

When working to catch a swarm, after you have removed the bees from a spot, spray repellent with DEET on the area and the bees will not return to that area.



Swarm Jug

Remove the bottom from a five gallon clear water jug and attach a lengthy piece of PVC pipe to the narrow end to reach a swarm high in a tree. The PVC can be attached to a vacuum, if desired.



Ventilated Beekeeper Jacket or Suit

There are several brand names on the market. These provide great ventilation for the hot weather of Texas.



Plastic Signs

Similar to the political advertising signs. The sign can be cut to fit multiple uses, such as a bottom board.



Sugar Syrup + Essential Oils

In a blender, emulsify 30 drops each of lemongrass oil and spearmint oil with 1/8 tsp of lecithin granules in one cup of cool tap water

Make sugar syrup with 6 cups of sugar and 4 cups boiling water (microwave 8 minutes in a 2 qt. measuring cup).

Combine when the sugar syrup has cooled.

Yields 8 cups (1/2 gallon), add about 1/4 cup of essentials oils mixture to each gallon of syrup.

Good to Know: One cup of granulated sugar weighs 7.0 ounces

One cup of water weighs .3 ounces

Copyright © 2020. Ed Erwin, Beeharmony.org. All rights reserved