

HOW MITEGONE™ WORKS

How MiteGone™ Works:

There are many different ways of dispensing acid. They require multiple applications, or several adjustments to openings or cutting slots. They work on the principle of absorbency and evaporation by regulating the wrap openings. Generally, these dispensers are placed on the top of the cluster or on the bottom board. They may or may not work equally on colonies of different sizes. They also may require additional space and equipment, and cause queen and brood losses and drone sterility: all signs of overdose.

MiteGone™ solves these problems as it works on the **principle of the capillary tube and the law of gravity**. It releases acid in a **low dose continuous release method**.

Another key to the success of MiteGone™ is its **location inside of the hive**. MiteGone™ pads are 3/8 of an inch (9.5 mm) thick 4 inches (116 mm) wide and 10 inches (254 mm) long. These pads are hung vertically in the available bee space between the last comb and the wall of the hive body.

In this location, 95% of hives will leave it alone and maintain favorable temperature and humidity. Strong hives will keep the temperature in this space between 22-26 degrees C (70-80 degrees F) and a humidity of 55%.

At the same time in March to May, outside temperatures ranges between minus 5 degrees and 28 degrees C (20-83 degrees F) and the humidity varies between 20 to 90%.

MiteGone™ pads are manufactured with zillions of cells connected and functioning as capillary tubes in the direction of the length of the pad. When the pad is cut in half, or at the end, the tubes and evaporating surface are exposed. When soaked with acid, a four-gram half-pad will absorb 120 grams of acid and a full pad will absorb 240 grams of acid.



Hung vertically, the capillaries will keep the liquid in the pad without dripping and gravity will pull down the acid to replace acid evaporated at the bottom. Under bees' controlled average conditions of 24 degrees C and 55% humidity, a four inch wide pad will emit a total of six grams of acid in continuous flow per day.

This miniscule amount is sufficient to maintain a pool of heavily concentrated acid on the bottom board and a light concentration within brood. This light concentration is sufficient enough to knock the mites off bees. They then fall down into the heavy pool where they die.

The half-pad short treatment will last a minimum of 21 to 30 days. A whole pad will last 40 to 60 days, such killing the mites hiding for seven days and emerging from cells.

The use of 65% acid and the light concentration of fumes in the brood area eliminates problems of killing the queen's brood or causing sterility in drones. We evaporated 18 grams (three pads) in a single box and 30 grams (six pads) in two high colonies without any bad effects.

It is very difficult to cause overdose and damage when using MiteGone properly. DO NOT UNWRAP THE PADS.

How to Make the Most of Your Treatment:

Some Words of Wisdom: You are not the only beekeeper in the world. Unless you persuade your neighbors and surrounding hobbyists to treat for disease the same way you do, your operation will always be in jeopardy. Everyone needs to treat at more or less at the same time, using the same treatments. I provide my neighbors with material at a reasonable cost to make it easy for them to treat the same way I do. If you do not, you will have to fight reinfestation, often by resistant Varroa.