

MITEGONE™ TREATMENT SELECTION

In the moderate climates of the world TREAT AND TEST TWICE A YEAR:

IN THE LATE SUMMER before the mite can cause damage to winter bees, when the queen reduces laying, and when the ambient temperatures drop below 86°F / 30°C, usually the end of August and first week of September (any treatments in October are too late, the damage is already done). In August hives are stronger. For 15 frames of bees, use 3 pads delivering a total of 18 grams of acid per 24-hour period. 75-90% efficacy was obtained in tests in New Jersey (see Research Results on our website, www.mitegone.com).

YOU CAN LEAVE THE PADS IN UNTIL SPRING AND REUSE 50-60% OF PADS BY RE-SOAKING.

IN THE SPRING, before the main brooding period, use Mother Nature's calendar, ie: the cherry or dandelion bloom. In the Okanagan and anywhere else where apricot trees are blooming is treatment time.

BEST RESULTS WITH 2 PADS IN THE SPRING ARE obtained when treating hives of at least 8-10 frames of bees, 4 frames of brood, as they are usually in:

- AFTER WINTER CHECK when reversing colonies, having bees in lower box and having second box on for expansion.
- IN LATE SPRING when making or putting on second boxes on strong splits 8-10 frames of bees.

THE TREATMENT IS NOT WEATHER DEPENDANT, SUCH COLONIES KEEP HUMIDITY AND TEMPERATURE CONSTANT.

IT IS HARD TO TREAT SMALL OR TOO STRONG COLONIES; IT IS BETTER TO EQUALIZE, BUT IF YOU CANNOT, USE RULES OF THUMB:

- USE ONE PAD (**Half or full depending on infestation**) FOR EVERY FIVE FRAMES OF BEES
- USE A HALF LENGTH OF THE PAD FOR LOW AND MEDIUM INFESTATIONS: (**less than 15 mites 24 hr prorated Natural Drop of 3-5 days collection**).
- FOR HIGHER INFESTATIONS, ADD EXTRA HALF PAD OR USE THE FULL LENGTH OF THE PAD OR RE-SOAK HALVES AFTER 20 DAYS.
- USE A MINIMUM OF THREE PADS FOR THE LATE SUMMER TREATMENT OF 2 HIGH COLONIES.
- IF YOU CANNOT COUNT MITES, BROOD OR BEES ALWAYS USE 3 FULL PADS.

PREPARE HIVE – REDUCE ENTRANCES to form a tray creating a pool of heavy acid fumes on the solid bottom board or in the tray of the screened bottom. Open screened bottom boards must be sealed. See “Screened Bottom Boards” for details. Close and plug other openings. Bees must ventilate through the bottom entrance and pool of acid.

- At temperatures below 86°F / 30°C, leave an opening in the middle of the entrance equivalent in width to 1.5 inches or 4 cm for every 5 frames of bees in the treated hive.
- At temperatures above 86°F / 30°C a larger entrance must be provided to ensure proper ventilation.

EFFECTIVE, NON-WEATHER DEPENDANT MITEGONE FORMIC

ACID TREATMENT: Requires the delivery of 6 grams of acid per day for every 5 frames of bees in a standard deep Langstroth hive. One pad’s evaporation surface will achieve this rate at 75°F / 24°C and 55% humidity (the same temperature and humidity that the bees maintain inside the hive at pad location between the frame and the wall in moderate climates). What happens if during your treatment, your hives cluster and stop maintaining the temperature and humidity in the hive? Or, what happens if the outside temperature is over 86° F/30° C, and outside humidity is 90%? The bees do not have a way of reducing humidity, so what happens when the humidity inside the hive reaches 90%? The answer to both of these questions is that nothing happens. The acid does not evaporate nor do mites get killed. Your treatment is simply on hold. **When conditions improve, acid will evaporate at a constant rate and mites will drop down into pool of heavy acid concentration and die.** In reality a half pad treatment can last a month or longer and a full pad treatment can last 60 or more days.

PLACING PADS:

ALWAYS PLACE PADS VERTICALLY WITH THE CUT EVAPORATING SURFACE DOWN BETWEEN THE LAST COMB AND WALL OF THE TOP BOX.

DO NOT TAKE OUT PADS UNTIL THEY ARE DRY.

TAKE THE PADS OUT WHEN IT IS CONVENIENT SUCH AS YOUR NEXT VISIT TO THE HIVES.

DO NOT LEAVE THE PADS IN THROUGH THE HONEY FLOW THE COMB MAY GET CHEWED UP.

