

Feeding Bees with things you already have around.



Ziploc Baggie feeding Mix syrup and cool. Place an empty super on top of the inner cover. Be sure any entrances cut in inner cover are closed up. Lay filled baggie on inner cover. With a sharp knife or razor blade cut a slit in the top side of the bag. Do not cut close to the sides and the syrup will not run out. The bees can walk on the bag and remove the syrup through the slit. ½ to 1 gal bags work great, just do not over fill them. Try one at home with water first to get the idea.



Plastic bottle or butter type tub

A plastic bottle with a screw lid or a plastic tub with a snap on lid can be made into a feeder. Drill a hole as shown. Drill the holes so the lid will cover them when it is screwed or snapped on. Fill the bottle or tub with syrup and invert on the inner cover. Be sure hive or bottles are level so syrup does not come out of the lid. The bees will line up around the jar and drink the syrup from the space between the jar and the lid. Much like a water bottle for small chickens, which could also be used, you just have to put something in, stones or marbles, to keep the bees from drowning.



Feeding Bees with things you already have around.



Filling drawn comb with syrup is a good way to get a lot of syrup into a hive quickly. If your hive is strong and in need of syrup you can fill a whole super and put it on a hive. Once in the comb and drained it stays there rather well.

Use a bottle that can be squeezed with a metal or plastic lid (if you use plastic you will have to drill holes). Punch or drill the holes in the lid. The pattern above seems to work well but does not really matter. Hold the bottle 8 to 10 inches above the comb and squeeze moving the stream of syrup back and forth over the frame. As the stream hits the comb most of the syrup goes into the empty holes.

This can be done at home in a bin that will catch the extra syrup or you can do it right on top of the hive. Pull out a frame, fill the areas that are open (if some gets on the bees they will quickly clean it up). Put the frame back and pull another. You can get about 3 pounds or so in a medium frame with this method. The bees will move it and process it as needed.

If you do not have a squeeze bottle a can with holes punched in the bottom or the side near the bottom also works well but makes more of a mess.

Fondant can also be used. It is just sugar and corn syrup, no other flavoring. It is more expensive than sugar but is useful for late fall or winter feeding when you don't want to be introducing a lot of



excess moisture. You can get it from most bakeries or bakery suppliers. C.O. Nolt, inc, 2316 Norman Road, Lancaster phone 717-397-0751 is one supplier. Last year a 50lb block was almost \$50.

Fed on top of the inner cover as the other feeders or some remove the inner cover and put it on a queen excluder (just to hold it up a bit) or even right on the frames.