

## WRAPPING BEEHIVES FOR WINTER

Felt paper is readily available from most building supply stores and it comes in long rolls that are 36" wide.

To wrap a 10 frame hive with felt paper it takes a length of **about 7 ft. ( 84")** of material.

A deep super is 9 ½ ", high, therefore a two deep stack will stand about 19" high.

Proceed as follows:

1. Cut a length of material from the roll that is 7 ft. long.
2. Cut a strip 20" wide from the 7 ft. length
3. Attach the 7' strip of felt paper to the hive with some overlap in the front. Be sure to cut out an opening for the entrance. If you are using an insulation board, the 7 ft. length will still work but you will have a bit less overlap in the front.

The 16" strip remaining from the 36" roll can be used with other 16" strips to do other hives. The upper strip should overlap the lower strip.

If an **insulation board** is used, it can be attached to the hive with drywall screws that are ¼ "longer than the thickness of the insulation material that you are going to use. It is advisable to use small washers to prevent the screws from pulling through the insulation board.

The hive wrap will cover the insulation board and can be attached to the hive body with staples above the insulation board.

With a little practice this operation can be done rather quickly. If you are doing multiple hives it may be convenient to cut the felt paper in advance.

Wrapping an 8 frame hive is done the same way but there will be more overlap in the front.

Brooke Binder