BTHENET Bee Stronger Together

Kit for Beekeepers

BIOSECURITY MEASURES IN BEEKEEPING | VARROOSIS

Using Low-Impact Compounds Properly

Use of oxalic acid | Trickling

Oxalic acid trickling is the backbone of modern sustainable varroa treatments. As soon as the infestation level reaches the local threshold, all colonies in an apiary must be treated. Follow your national legislation and the product label. The temperature and brood quantity must also be taken into account.

step 1

Treatment is most effective when there is no brood. In Northern Europe, this typically occurs from November to December or during artificially created broodless periods. Use a syringe to trickle the treatment evenly on the bees in the bee space, following local recommendations. The handling time should be less than 30 seconds.

step 2

Prepare the oxalic acid solution according to the instructions for your preferred product. Here, we demonstrate how to produce the base solution using oxalic acid dihydrate. You will need 75 grams of oxalic acid, 1 kg of sugar, and 1 litre of clean water. Mix carefully.

step 3

For later use, store the solution in a safe, cool, and dark place, and clearly label it as OXALIC ACID.

step 4

Open the bee colony in a situation where there is no or as little brood in the colony as possible. Good to do, if the bees are in a cluster and it is cold. Do not worry – you open for short time. For Northern Europe this is from November to December. Now, trickle the solution into each space occupied by bees. Practice before with water in a sink. Distribute evenly. Handling time less than 30 sec.

step 5

Use an insert under your colony to measure natural mite fall. Check the efficacy after about 7 days.

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