

SMOKER INSTRUCTIONS

Whether you are a new beekeeper or a seasoned veteran, you have just purchased the highest quality Bee Smoker available. With proper care it will give you years of trouble free service.

If you are a new beekeeper, your new Bee Smoker will be a pleasure to use. But, it may take some practice and experimentation on fuel selection and lighting to get the most efficiency out of it.

Smoking honeybees should be a gentle procedure for both the bees and the beekeeper. The object is not to burn or drive the bees out of the hive with massive amounts of heat or smoke, but to use as little smoke as possible to gently calm the bees.

The smoke produced from your smoker interferes with the bees detection of the alarm pheromone (isopentyl acetate) that the bees produce when an intruder comes to their hive.

The bees respond to the smoke by eating as much honey as possible and become very calm. When the smoke leaves the hive, the bees shortly revert to normal activities.

The following items may be used in your smoker:

- corn cobs, burlap (washed to remove pesticides),
- baler twine (natural, not plastic), pine needles,
- fine wood chips, small twigs,
- dry rotten wood, dry tree leaves,
- untreated straw, uncolored paper (rolled),
- corrugated cardboard (rolled), and sumac bobs.

Open the hinged top of your smoker. Look inside and check that the smoker grate (round piece with the holes) is securely seated on the bottom of the smoker. This grate supports the smoker fuel to provide good burning and is removable for easy smoker cleaning. If in shipping, this piece has loosened and is not in its proper position, simply push it back in place with your hand. Now add the smoker fuel you have chosen and fill to about half of your smokers volume and light it. Pump the bellows gently to help the fuel start burning briskly. Add enough green leaves or green grass to fill smoker. Pack down, using your hive tool. This mixture will produce a cool, dense, moist smoke. Close the smoker lid securely. Pump the bellows occasionally when you are not actively using the smoker to ensure the proper consistent burning of the smoke fuel.

Please note and follow the additional cautions listed on this leaflet for successful and enjoyable use.

Caution- Treat your Bee Smoker with respect. It can cause fires, destruction of property, burns, and injury. Do not let children play with a Bee Smoker-lighted or unlighted. Never puff a Bee Smoker in anyone's face. There is always danger of sparks, dust, etc. in the eyes and setting a bee veil on fire. Handle a Bee Smoker by the bellows only. Do not allow loose embers or sparks to blow or fall into grass, leaves, pine needles, etc. If flames appear, stop puffing the bellows. Keep away from and never place a hot or burning Bee Smoker near flammable or combustible materials, such as gasoline, paint, benzaldehyde, gloves, veils, etc. When you dump a Bee Smoker make sure that the burning or smoldering fuel is completely extinguished. When transporting in a truck or car, make sure the fire is out or nozzle is plugged to stop draft from igniting smoker fuel or something else in the vehicle and make sure smoker is in a metal container that can not tip over. Be sure to extinguish a Bee Smoker before storing in any building or vehicle. Use good judgment and common sense.

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