

Polypropylene Winter Beehive Wraps.

2013

Winter wraps similar to our wraps have been used by Paul Kelly at the University of Guelph, Bee Research Lab for about fifteen years. In 2007, Jim Coneybeare and Diane Krout of the Wellington County Beekeepers organized the manufacture of these wraps and have made them available to Ontario Beekeepers each year since then.

These wraps are made of 4mm black polypropylene (corrugated plastic) with 5% U.V. protection. Polypropylene Copolymer is used for indoor and outdoor signs and packaging. We find it lightweight and are designed to fold and store flat. Polypropylene has been tested to have little water absorption in 24 hours - .02% compared with 75% for (presumably unwaxed) cardboard in 50% relative humidity. It will withstand temperature extremes from -17F to 230F. Folds have a living hinge of 21,000 cycles.

These wraps are available in five sizes for –

1 HIVE SINGLE WRAP - covers a single 9 5/8” high brood chamber.

Actual measurements – 21” X 17” X 11.5” high with four flaps.

1 HIVE DOUBLE WRAP - covers two 9 5/8” high brood chambers, one on top of the other.

Actual measurements - 21” X 17” X 21” high with four flaps.

The 2 hive wraps are designed to put 2 hives tightly together. They were made to use with hive covers with only 2 vertical sides, on the front and back and used when packing hives on trucks for pollination. Two traditional hive covers will not fit over the 2 hive wraps.

2 HIVE SINGLE WRAP – covers two 9 5/8” high brood chambers, set side by side.

Actual measurements - 34” X 21” X 11” high with four flaps.

2 HIVE 1 ½ STORY WRAPS – covers two deep brood chambers wet side by side, each with one 6 5/8” high super on top. Actual measurements – 34” X 21” X 17” high, with four flaps.

2 HIVE DOUBLE WRAP – covers 4 deep supers, 2 brood chambers set side by side on the bottom and two on top. Actual measurements – 34” X 21” X 21” high, with four flaps.

You will need to make a top entrance hole with a punch, hole saw or blade knife to exhaust moisture created by the bees. We have allowed room at the front of the hive for bees to crawl around before leaving the wrap. The fit of the upper lid over the wrap varies depending on the size of your upper lids. The wraps have room for 1 ½ inch of insulation on top of the inner cover. Wraps should be stored flat, horizontally, in a cool dark place when not on the hives.

We handle these wraps as volunteers adding a small profit per wrap which we donate to the Ontario Beekeepers Association’s Tech Transfer program.

Order forms will be available on the Ontario Beekeepers Association web site at -

www.ontariobee.com, on **August 1**.

Order forms and cheques, made out to Wellington County Beekeepers Association, are to be sent to Diane Krout at the address below by **September 10**. For orders over \$250 a postdated cheque can be made for September 10.

Pick up of wraps is on **October 19**, at Jim Coneybeare's Honeyhouse, on Saturdays from 11 to 4pm or by contacting Jim for another time. A pickup point is also available at Cornwall for eastern Ontario beekeepers.

Diane Krout, Phone 905-877-7722, Fax 905-877-2052 – kroutddd@hotmail.com
4933 Erin Ninth Line, Georgetown, ON L7G 4S8

Jim Coneybeare, Phone 519-546-2829 or 519-843-7328 – coneybearehoneyj@aol.com
6889 Highway 6, 6-7 km north of Fergus, on the east side at Sideroad 5.