

## **HOPGUARD® II FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **General Product Information:**

#### **1. What is HopGuard® II?**

HopGuard® II is a liquid miticide used to control varroa mites in honeybee colonies. It is derived from hop compounds and delivered in ready-to-use wet insert strips.

#### **2. What do I expect to find when opening a HopGuard® II package?**

HopGuard® II kit contains 24 insert strips ready-to-use. The strips are made of corrugated cardboard and are impregnated with HopGuard® II liquid. Use the strips as they come out from the bag, do not remove the liquid.

#### **3. How do I store HopGuard® II?**

Unopened HopGuard® II kits should be stored in a dark and cool place. Opened kits should be tightly sealed, stored in the refrigerator and ideally used within 2-3 months after opening.

### **How to Use HopGuard® II (Please refer to label for full instructions):**

#### **1. How many insert strips per colony?**

Strips are applied at a rate of two insert strips per ten frames of bees (the same rate can be used in eight-frame colonies) or one strip per five frames of bees.

#### **2. Where in the hive do I place the strip inserts?**

HopGuard® II strip inserts are placed in the brood chamber in the center frames. The strips are hung over the frames. It is recommended that the strips be placed diagonally on the adjacent frame. Before inserting the strips smoke the top bars to alert the queen to move away as you insert the strips to avoid rolling her down.

#### **3. Can I lay the insert strips flat on the top bars?**

No. The strips have to be inserted over the frames in the brood chamber for maximum efficacy.

#### **4. Can I use the strips in medium size frames?**

Yes. Since the medium size frames are shorter than deep Langstroth frames the strips will need to be hung over two frames.

#### **5. Can I use HopGuard® II in Top Bar Hives?**

Yes. Since the top bar hive frames are shorter than deep Langstroth frames the strips will need to be hung over two frames.

#### **6. Can HopGuard® II be used in colony splits?**

Yes. In the spring time when mother colonies are split HopGuard® II is very effective at targeting phoretic mites during the unsealed brood window.

#### **7. Can HopGuard® II be used in bee packages?**

Yes. HopGuard® II can be safe and very effective when used in bee packages as studies have shown a 95% efficacy.

**8. Is HopGuard® II temperature sensitive?**

Yes. HopGuard® II works best when temperatures are between 52°F (11°C) and 92°F (33°C).

**9. Can HopGuard® II be applied under high temperature and humidity?**

Yes, it can but colonies should be fitted properly to help the bees regulate hive temperature and humidity during treatment. Hive entrance should be open to its full width, inner covers (if present) removed and screened bottom boards fully opened to allow air circulation inside the colony. A rim or spacer can also be installed to enhance airflow.

**10. When is the best time of the year to apply HopGuard® II?**

HopGuard® II can be applied any time during the year but its efficacy increases when there is less brood present in the colonies. An early spring treatment or fall treatment after the honey harvest showed to be very efficacious.

**11. Can HopGuard® II be applied at any time of day?**

Yes. HopGuard® II can be applied any time of the day if the outside temperature is above 50°F (10°C).

**12. When is HopGuard® II most effective?**

HopGuard® II is most effective in early spring and late fall when there is less brood present in the colonies. Depending on mite levels; in the fall when levels are high multiple-consecutive (1-2 weeks apart) are recommended.

**13. Can HopGuard® II be applied during honeyflow?**

Yes. Studies have shown that HopGuard® II is safe to use during honeyflow without any risk of disrupting nectar foraging or tainting the honey.

**14. Can I use HopGuard® II in the winter?**

Yes, as long as the outside temperature is above 50°F (10°C). **Do not** insert the treatment later in the day to avoid chilling the brood.

**15. How often can I use HopGuard® II?**

HopGuard® II is registered in the USA, to be applied up to three times during the year. Depending on mite levels, it can be applied in consecutive treatments (1-2 weeks apart) for maximum efficacy.

**Purchasing HopGuard® II:**

**1. Can I purchase HopGuard® II in the USA?**

Yes. It can be purchased from our distributor Mann Lake @ [www.mannlakeltd.com](http://www.mannlakeltd.com)

**2. Can I purchase HopGuard® II outside of the USA?**

No. We are in process of getting regulatory approval in Canada.

If your question has not been answered please contact us at [www.betatec.com](http://www.betatec.com)