

SUGAR CANDY RECIPE (BEE FEED)

MATERIALS NEEDED:

1. Feed Tray (16 ¼ x 20 x 1 ½ inch rails). Cut 2 x 4 inch hole in bottom.
2. Pot, large enough to hold sugar and water. Mixture will expand while boiling. This Recipe will make one candy tray.
3. Large mixing spoon.
4. Candy Thermometer.
5. 15 pounds of granulated sugar (Clean or dirty, bee do not care).
6. 1 to 1 ¼ quarts of water (32 -48 Fluid Ounces)

DIRECTIONS:

1. Mix sugar and water thoroughly.
2. Heat mixture to 240 degrees. Do NOT stir after boiling occurs.
3. Make sure you cover holes in candy tray. I use wax paper. If you forget you will have a huge mess
4. Let mixture cool to 190 to 195 degrees.
5. Optional – add 1 cup of dark or old honey
6. Stir mixture until it becomes cloudy like boiled starch.
7. Pour immediately into candy tray.
8. Let cool over night.
9. This tray replaces your inner cover. Scratch paper with hive tool. Bees will eat candy in a perfect circle from the center.

ADVANTAGES:

- Cold weather feeding. Can put candy tray on a hive anytime.
- Eliminates robbing.
- Can add pollen substitute before stirring. I do not add pollen substitute.
- Candy trays can serve as your inner cover year round.
- Stores well, can make in advance and take to the bee yard as needed.
- It is a “slower” feed so it will not promote swarming as much if used in the late spring

DISADVANTAGE:

- Equipment needed for making candy and candy tray.

Candy trays have several other usages. Inner cover, reverse tray while re-queening and use to cover Para Moth while storing supers.