

O.A.C. Hive Top Feeder

Materials needed for each feeder: -

- 1) approximately 10' of 3/4" x 5 1/2" pine.
- 2) 16" x 20" of good one side 1/4 fir plywood.
- 3) galvanized nails, wood glue, caulking, paint.

Refer to drawing to visualize the following parts:

1) ENDS (x2)

- 16 5/8" long
- 5 1/2" wide
- 3/4" thick
- dado on each end
- 3/4" wide
- 5/16" deep
- partition dadoes (starting 7 1/4" in from each end)
- 3/4" wide
- 5/16" deep
- bottom groove (starting 5/16" from bottom edge)
- 5/16" wide
- 1/4" deep

2) SIDES (x2)

- 19 1/4" long
- 5 1/2" wide
- 3/4" thick
- bottom groove (starting 5/16" from bottom edge)
- 5/16" wide
- 1/4" deep

3) PARTITIONS (x2)

- 19 1/4" long
- 4 1/4" wide
- 3/4" thick

4) BOTTOMS (x2)

- 1/4" G.1.S. fir plywood
- 7 1/2" wide
- 19" long

Assembly

- 1) test fit all pieces together and plan assembly order.
- 2) glue and nail all joints together.
- 3) caulk inside seams of feeder.
- 4) paint exterior of feeder.
- 5) ideally seal wood on inside of feeder by dipping entire feeder in molten paraffin wax.

Use

To prevent bees from drowning in syrup, staple 8 mesh hardware cloth on the syrup side of each partition and put approximately 2" of clean straw in each side of feeder. Wooden rafts could also be used.

Drizzling a small amount of syrup between partitions when filling feeder seems to encourage the bees to get started working in the feeder.

End view of end board

