



## Hot Box

### I. Pre-Checks

1. Check and treat for pest including but not limited to Varroa mites, Tracheal mites, Nosema, Foulbrood, and Hive Beetles.
2. Ensure Entrance Reducer is in place.
3. Ensure mouse guard is in place.

### II. Wintering Hive

1. Paint Hot Box (preferable black) and let dry.
2. Remove outer cover.
3. Remove inner cover.
  - Check and ensure there is adequate honey stores for over wintering honey bees (100 lbs. for northern climates).
4. Place Hot Box on top of upper most box with bee escape facing towards the front.
  - Bees naturally maintain the necessary temperature within the cluster of bees inside the hive.
  - As heat rises in the hive the insulation within the Hot Box separates the warm air from within from the cold outside air reducing condensation within the hive. Any condensation that is generated is wicked away by the moisture board that is placed between the Hot Box and outer cover.
  - Moisture heat within the hive will travel though the insulation to be captured within the moisture board to be **evaporated** away.
5. Triangle spacers on top of Hot Box will allow cross flow ventilation between the Hot Box and moisture board.
  - This will help draw moisture into moisture board and away from the bees.
6. Place extra entrance reducers or  $\frac{3}{4}$ " X  $\frac{3}{4}$ " blocks on top of moisture board between the moisture board and outer cover.
  - This will assist with drawing moisture from outer cover.
7. Replace outer cover.

### III. Optional

1. Wrap hive with tar paper or the Bee Cozy.

