

# ***SIMPSON'S BEE SUPPLY***

15642 Tiger Valley Rd. Danville, Ohio 43014 740-599-7914 or 740-393-2111

## **Packaged Bee Installation Instructions**

Several days before your bees arrive; select a location where the Sun will shine on the hive entrance as it comes over the horizon the year around. Make sure people, pets and other animals won't cross the beeline. Be sure to place the hive on a stand 16" to 20" off the ground to avoid skunk damage. Don't forget to make sure the location is above the flood plain; keep 100-year floods in mind, they happen.

Be prepared to feed the bees, a top feeder is best (1:1 ratio of sugar to water) for drawing comb, corn syrup is better when they have drawn comb. Have your feeder and syrup ready ahead of time, mix **4 teaspoons** of Honey Bee Healthy® per quart of syrup for the first 1 – 2 quarts, **1 teaspoon** thereafter, this includes over wintered bee hives. Mixing Honey-B-Healthy with the syrup increases the chances of queen acceptance and the bees draw comb more uniformly. Treat all new foundation with HBH treated syrup, and the bees will draw comb more uniformly.

Package bees should be checked to make sure nothing has happened in shipment. A few dead bees in the bottom of the box is expected, and the remainder of the group should be "chaining" or hanging from the top of the box or clinging to the sides. The queen will be enclosed in a queen cage and suspended from the top of the box to one side of the can containing corn syrup. When packages arrive, place in a cool dark room; ideal temperature is 65 to 70 degrees F.

Install bees, late afternoon is a good time. Being light enough to work and dark enough to discourage flying is the idea. It is **you're responsibility** to promptly **install** the **bees** in your hive **within 24 hours** of pickup time and notify us of any problem, such as a dead queen. Never hesitate to **promptly call** us with any **question** concerning the well being of your **bees, you are not bothering us. It is our service to you.**

Remove 4 frames from the super. Remove the lid (if it has one) give the package a sharp downward bump to knock the bees loose from the feeding can onto the bottom of the cage and remove the feeding can from the shipping box. Then remove the queen cage, leave the cork in the cage, check to make sure the queen is alive and place the queen cage vertically between two frames toward the center of the super away from the hole in the inner cover. Be sure the bees can get to the screen in the queen cage and feed the queen. Pour the bees from the cage into the super. Carefully replace the 4 frames back into the super. Be sure to feed the bees so that they can immediately go to work producing wax and drawing foundation to make space for the queen to lay eggs. Place the inner cover and lid on the hive. Reduce the hive entrance with an entrance reducer or lightly stuff green grass in the entrance to a 1" opening.

Check back in 5 days to remove the cork from the candy end, allowing the bees to release the queen. \*\*\* **WARNING**\*\*\* (If the queen cage doesn't have candy in the end, insert a small marshmallow in the hole where the cork was removed, **be sure the queen doesn't walk out of the hole and fly away in the process.**) Return 2 days later making sure the queen has been released from the queen cage. Remove the empty queen cage. Press the frames together and center the frames between the sides of the super.

The feeder should be checked in about five days and refilled if empty. (It is very important to provide sufficient food for the bees.) In about a week, inspect the colony for eggs and larvae. Continue to feed the bees until they are drawing the 2 outside frames, then you are ready for your queen excluder and surplus honey super.

**Recycle the package cage by returning it to us on your next visit to our business.**