

## **Acetic acid**

Acetic acid sterilises healthy wax comb in order to prevent disease whilst in storage. This product is used primarily for brood comb, as it is more likely to harbour pests and diseases than super comb. Acetic acid fumigation will kill wax moth eggs, larvae and adults, bacteria that cause EFB, Nosema, Amoeba and Chalk Brood.

Directions for use:

1. Boxes, complete with frames, but free from bees, should be stacked outdoors on an earth or timber floor. (Avoid concrete as acetic acid will corrode it).
2. Lay 2 or 3 Thorne absorbent fume pads saturated with 1/4 pint of Thorne 80% acetic acid onto the floor.
3. Place a brood box full of good, healthy frames on top. Lay another soaked pad onto the top bars of the frames before placing a further brood box on top.
4. Repeat this for as many boxes as need to be fumigated.
5. Seal the joints between the boxes by wrapping with gaffer tape. As an easier alternative, it is possible to stack the boxes inside a 'wheely bin' liner which provides a good airtight seal.
6. Acetic acid fumes will corrode metal, so remove any metal ends and coat metal frame runners with a thin film of Vaseline.
7. Place a lid on the stack and leave for 1 week.
8. Air the boxes and frames for a week before putting into use.

Note: acetic acid will not destroy wax moth pupa – a more appropriate remedy for this is *Certan*, which can be found in the *Health and Feeding* section.

### **SAFETY WARNING**

Acetic acid is highly corrosive and will easily corrode concrete and burn skin. Great care must be taken therefore to avoid contact with the eyes and fumes being inhaled into the lungs. Always wear overalls, protective gloves and goggles when using this acid.

COLLECTION ONLY