

Other uses for Swarm Catch

- . To lure and trap bees which are a nuisance, such as in processing plants or any place where bees are attracted by sweets.
- . To lure bees to clean water source in or near an apiary, thus keeping bees from swimming pools and ornamental ponds.
- . To lure and stabilize bees when they are first placed in a greenhouse for pollination. Bees initially become disoriented, lost and may die. Swarm Catch will help them return to the hive and stabilize the unit.
- . To lure a newly issued swarm to an empty hive box or likely clustering spot such as a low hanging branch or a fence post. This would make it easy to collect the swarm before it moves to a permanent site.

Use Swarm Catch and Bee Boost Together

- . *BEE BOOST*, another Phero Tech product, contains the queen mandibular pheromone (QMP).
- . Once attracted using Swarm Catch, *BEE BOOST* with QMP will hold swarming bees to a hive box.
- . Used together, Swarm Catch and *BEE BOOST* enhance cluster formation and swarm stabilization.



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Come to us for:

- . *Bee Boost with QMP*™
- . Varroa Mite Sticky Board Traps - to monitor the presence of Varroa mites.
- . *FRUIT BOOST with QMP*™ - a pollination enhancement product.

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Swarm Catch

With Nasonov
For Bee Management



- To capture stray swarms from area hives.

- To capture swarms from your hives.

- To capture Africanized bee swarms.

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Introduction

Swarming is one of the beekeeper's major problems. There isn't always enough time to carry out the necessary prevention and control measures. Swarm Catch can capture many swarms from your own hives thus reducing loss of bees and honey due to swarming. See "Preparing and Setting Trap Boxes" next page.

Stray swarms from other hives in the area, if captured, will add to your hive count and honey yield and may well prevent calls to "come get a swarm of bees". (Stray swarms may have Tracheal or Varroa mites so be careful).

Swarm Catch can be used to capture and destroy swarms of Africanized bees (this should be conducted by trained professionals).



Background



Nasonov pheromone is released by workers to orient returning forager bees back to the colony. To broadcast this scent, bees raise their abdomens which contain the Nasonov glands and fan their wings vigorously. This is called "scent fanning". Bees may do this at the hive entrance. Also, when an airborne swarm begins to cluster, early arriving bees will scent fan to attract others.

Synthetically produced Nasonov will attract swarms to unoccupied hive equipment or a swarm-catching box. Research shows that, on average, swarms from the area will occupy 50-80% of catch boxes containing Nasonov (provided there is a reasonable amount of swarming in the area).

Swarm Catch lures are small tubes that contain synthetic Nasonov pheromone. **DO NOT OPEN TUBES.** The pheromone readily diffuses through the plastic.

Preparing and Setting Trap Boxes

To attract swarms, use Swarm Catch in a box (super) of frames (empty combs). Boxes should face south and have a bottom entrance. Boxes should be off the ground about one meter (3 ft.). Boxes set at the edge of an apiary will capture swarms from other areas. To capture swarms from your apiary, place boxes as far away as possible (at least 250 meters (yards)). This distance is important because scout bees naturally select nest sites some distance away from the parent hive.



Do not put combs of honey in box as they attract robbing bees and ants. Light colored combs are recommended since there is less chance of brood disease being present and they are not so likely to be attractive to wax moths.

Using and Storing Lures

- * STORE IN FREEZER until used.
- * When using, LEAVE THE CAP ON and place the tube on the side bar of a frame near the hive entrance. There is a very small "loop" at the top of the tube through which a pin or tack can be inserted when attaching it to the frame (see picture).
- * DO NOT PIERCE TUBE, the pheromone will diffuse through the plastic.
- * It is best to use rubber gloves when handling lures.
- * Lures will last for a season.
- * Lures can be re-used. For longer lure life, re-freeze between uses.