

# Betterbee<sup>®</sup>

Beekeepers Serving Beekeepers

## Fume Board Instructions

Congratulations on the purchase of a fume board! This is a very efficient way of removing your honey supers from the hive for harvesting. We recommend removing supers on a sunny, warm day. Fume boards work best when placed on a hive in direct sunlight.

### You will need:

- Liquid Bee Repellent (Bee Go or Bee Quick)
- Fume Board
- Protective Clothing

### Preparation:

Prepare the items you will need to move the honey supers into your honey house. We recommend using a truck or a wheelbarrow. Remember full honey supers can be very heavy! Once you start to remove supers, place them in the transport vehicle and cover them with a sheet or light cloth. This will prevent the bees from robbing the supers while you are working on another hive.

### Instructions:

1. After preparing for the bee yard, place the fume board in the sun, metal side up, to warm it.
2. Smoke the hive entrance and spray bee-go or bee quick onto the cloth side of the fume board. Be sure to spray lightly and evenly over the entire surface of the cloth. Do not spray too much. If you notice a lot of bees exiting the hive, use less for the next super.
3. Remove the outer and inner cover and direct smoke down between the frames. Place the fume board on the top super. Make sure not to leave any large openings.
4. The bees will usually leave the super between **3-5 minutes**, depending on the external temperature. Make sure not to leave the fume boards on the hive too long or bees will start to exit the hive.
5. Repeat the process for each super you want to harvest. Only apply more bee-go or bee quick when the fumes subside. You should not need to reapply for each super. Using multiple fume boards can speed up the process, but make sure not to leave the fume boards on the hives too long.

**Note:** Nurse bees will stay with brood if it is in the honey super. Make sure to check your honey supers for brood before harvesting to reduce bee loss.

**Hint:** If you are using a garage or barn for honey harvesting, install a bee escape in one of the windows. This will allow any bees remaining in the super to exit the building without encouraging new bees to enter.