

Factsheet #004

REGISTERED DRUGS AND CHEMICALS IN BEEKEEPING

Drugs and control products registered in Canada for use in live honeybee colonies and equipment:

<b>Material</b>	<b>Trade Name</b>	<b>Formulation</b>	<b>Disease</b>
Acetic Acid	n.a.	liquid	equipment sterilizer
Coumaphos	CheckMite+	plastic strip	Varroa
Fumagillin	Fumagilin-B	powder	Nosema
Fluvalinate	Apistan	plastic strip	Varroa
Formic acid	n.a.	liquid	Varroa & Tracheal
Menthol	n.a.	crystals	Tracheal
Mineral oil (food grade)	n.a.	liquid/spray	Varroa
Oxalic Acid	n.a.	crystals-fumigant liquid	Varroa
Oxytetracycline hydrochloride	Terramycin Oxytet	powder	AFB, EFB
Vegetable oil	various	liquid	Tracheal & Varroa
Vegetable shortening	Crisco	paste	Tracheal & Varroa

Most of these products can be purchased at Beekeeping Supply outlets. Veterinarians, farm supply stores and pharmacies have dispensing licenses for antibiotics and often have medication in stock.

**Please Note:**

- **Antibiotic medication should NOT be used as a preventative measure. Use only when disease has been detected or confirmed nearby.**
- Due to the development of antibiotic-resistant American Foulbrood (r-AFB), antibiotic drug use should be minimized.
- Apply antibiotic according to label instructions and do not use when the expiry date has passed.
- Apistan and CheckMite+ strips: store in a cool dry place away from light.
- Varroa mites have developed resistance to Apistan and CheckMite+ in some parts of B.C. To minimize the risk and effects of resistance, alternate between different mite control products.

- **Test colonies for mite levels first, BEFORE applying mite control chemicals. DO NOT use mite controls as a preventative measure. Check for mite drop AFTER treatment to confirm that mite controls have been effective.**
- **ALWAYS CHECK LABEL INSTRUCTIONS** for storage, safe handling, application and disposal.
- DO NOT use non-registered pesticides, formulations and drugs in colonies because of the danger of honey and wax contamination. Non-registered products may also be hazardous to you and others.

For additional information about drugs and chemicals, contact the Apiculture office or visit Ministry of Agriculture and Lands website [www.al.gov.bc.ca/apiculture](http://www.al.gov.bc.ca/apiculture).

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