

Varroa Mite Treatment Comparison

By Mike Doseck
April 2018 GGLBA Meeting



HopGuard® II

Apivar®



Oxalic Acid

	Hopguard II	Mite Away	Apivar	Oxalic Acid
Active Ingredient	Natural Hop Compounds Organic	Formic Acid Biodegradable Organic	Amitraz	Oxalic Acid Naturally Occuring Acid
Temperature Range	Above 50°	50° - 85°	Not temperature dependent	Not temperature dependent
Time of Year	Most effective before sealed brood or in broodless colonies.	When temperature is in preferred range	1 spring treatment and 1 fall treatment	Spring / Fall when less brood is present Effective on phoretic mites.
Rate	Up to 3X per year	2 strips for 7 days	1 strip per 5 frames of brood for 42 days	No caution on frequency, but continued usage could result in mite resistance.
Bee Mortality	OK for Queen breeders	Excessive mortality above 92°	6 weeks of treatment treats many mite generations	Can experience some mortality, especially using "dribble method"
Cost Per Treatment	~\$5.00	~\$7.00	~\$4.00	~\$.02 \$\$ Equipment
With Supers	Yes	Yes	Yes, but preferred usage without supers	Yes
Notes	Good for broodless colonies, newly hived swarms, packages. Use as a quick knockdown when honey is present.	Work up wind. Ventilation seems to help against setbacks. Better knockdown when honey is present. Kills undercap mites.	Do not undertreat. (This could result in mite resistance.)	Must wear protective clothing Only treats phoretic mites.