

October Apiary Checklist

Start the winter preparations

October is officially the start of Autumn, the temperature is dropping and the leaves are changing colour and getting ready to fall. Winds may be getting stronger and colder, hives need protecting and possibly insulating

So, if you haven't already started now's the time to prepare for the coming winter weather in order to make sure your bees are as safe as they can possibly be in order to survive the rigours of the cold months.

Below is a list of tasks to keep you busy,

Points to Ponder

- Winter feed should be completed or nearly completed
- Hives stands should be checked for stability
- Hives strapped down or suitably made stable
- Hives and stands can be ratcheted together for extra stability
- Mouse guards fitted
- Hive insulation if necessary
- Winter varroa treatment should be completed or almost completed
- For hives with 2 supers on-consider making one good full super from them