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## RE-USE OF PADS

**IF YOU PAYING TO YOURSELF OR TO YOUR LABOR \$ 10 OR MORE, IT IS LES EXPENSIVE TO BUY NEW KITS AND DISPOSE OF THE USED PADS AS DIRECTED.**

### **THE BEST & ONLY ECONOMICAL REUSE IS:**

**IN AUGUST:** As described in the instructions, put pads in late summer, preferably on honey frame with plastic foundation, so if bees chew around and use honey in the winter they do not chew through the comb.

**IN SPTING:** Remove pads from hives and bring to REFILLING STATION (see page 2-5) re-cut evaporation surfaces in yard in the spring. Acid sterilizes the pads so they can be put in another hive without transferring disease. Throw out pads before the honey flow in late spring. You will need Filling station as described In following pages, and the crew will bring you used pads for re-cutting and filling as they work hives in spring check or pollination preparation.

**Reuse by Storing** is not suited for commercial operator or anyone with 10 + hives.

**MiteGone®** was designed as a throw-away product, but for the penny-pincher, if pads are taken out of the hive, when they dry, they can be reused two or three times.

Pin wet pads to any sheltered wall to dry where animals and people cannot contact them. Clean and re-cut the evaporating surface for re-use. Store the pads in layers divided by wax paper. Dispose of pads properly when they become chewed-up, damaged, or when the pads become shorter than they are wide. Always remember to protect pads from sunlight.

# RE-USING AND RE-FILLING THE PADS IN THE FIELD

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## 1. DO NOT REMOVE THE PLASTIC WRAP FROM THE PADS.



2. Set up a pad re-fill station down wind in the yard.
3. Re cut pads along the 4 inch dimension and place them, with the cut-evaporating surface down, in the soaking basket.

**Put on safety equipment, gloves, and respirator.**

4. place the basket into the soaker pail.
5. Close the soaker pail and fill the pail full of acid through the hole in the lid until pads are fully submerged.
6. While the pads you just cut are soaking, remove respirator and gloves and prepare the whole yard for pad installation by removing the outermost comb and the comb next to it out of the top box and by cleaning the wall of the hive body.
7. When the yard is prepared, put respirator and gloves back on and move basket with pads into the dripping pail.



8. Re cut up more pads, place them in a second soaking basket, and then put them in the soaker pail filling the pail with acid through the hole in the lid.
9. Take the basket of filled pads out of the dripping pail to the prepared hives and install them by attaching the pads to the outside of the outmost comb with capped honey or the hive body with a nail, toothpick, paperclip, or staple in each corner of the pad.

10. Place the comb with the pad into the hive first, gently pressing the pad against the wall of the hive body using the comb, then insert the remaining comb into the space left.
11. Repeat this process until the yard is done.
12. Strain and pour unused acid back into the keg, replace the tap with the proper plug, wash all acid laced equipment before leaving for the next yard.
13. Incorporate the treatment into pollination preparation or spring / fall check.

## I



### **See Our Video on Our Website First**

**A. MiteGone pads:** Brought to you by helpers preparing hives in spring.

**B. 65% formic acid** in a transport approved keg with a tap. During transport, the tap should be removed and a proper plug be used on the keg.

**C. A knife:** A very sharp knife with spare blades.

**D. A cutting guide:** A small, sturdy, cardboard or wood box with a slot to guide the knife. To help Re-cut the pad evaporating surface, and Straight edge to hold on top.

**E. Two soaking baskets:** Any rectangular plastic container where pads will stand with the cut-evaporating surface down. Punch or drill holes into the bottom of this container so the acid can easily enter or exit the basket.

**F. A soaker pail with a lid:** It is important that this bucket be the correct size. The basket with the pads standing in it needs to fit into the pail. The lid must prevent the pads from floating so they soak up the acid fast. Cut a small hole in the lid so the acid can easily be tapped into the closed soaker pail.

**G. A dripper pail:** Pail with a plastic riser placed on the bottom so that when a basket full of pads is removed from the soaker pail, the remaining excess acid can drip out of the bottom of the basket. The excess acid can then be poured back into the soaker pail.

**H. First Aid / Water:** Two large buckets of clean water and a plastic pitcher to dilute the acid in case of a spill. The first pail should be open and the second one closed in case the first is spilt.

**I. Safety equipment:** While using acid it is very important to follow all safety procedures and wear a respirator, goggles, rubber gloves, rubber boots, and rubber pants worn under overalls. **Read the “Safety” section.**

**J. Support box:** with screwed lid and guides to hold round kegs.

## FILLING THE PADS IN THE FIELD

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# MiteGone<sup>™</sup> Pad Prep Station

**I. safety equipment:  
respirator, goggles  
and rubber pants**

**B. 65% formic acid  
in a transport  
approved keg**

**I. safety  
equipment:  
rubber gloves**

**I. drying  
rack for  
rubber  
gloves**

**A. box of  
MiteGone  
evaporator  
pads**

**D. cutting  
guide and  
C. knife**

**J. support  
box with  
screwed lid  
and guides to  
hold round  
kegs**



**H. pitcher  
of clean  
water to  
pour on in  
case of  
spill.**

**H. two pails  
of clean  
water in case  
of a spill**

**E. soaking / dripping  
basket**

**F. soaker  
pail**

**G. dripper pail (with a  
raised grid like riser)**

**DO NOT UNWRAP THE PADS** – See page 5 for station maintenance

Pad Prep Station: Should be set up down wind in the yard. Use a solid base such as a pallet to ensure an even level stable surface. To raise the materials from the ground, set them on top of boxes with securely fixed covers. Use a bee box or a stool to sit down when cutting and filling the MiteGone pads.

## Pad Prep Station – Safety and Maintenance

- Acid station is brought home at each transport, rechecked, rewashed, and refilled with clean water
- No acid or pre-filled pads to be transported in pails
- All acid must be back in the keg with proper lid without tap
- Pads soaked and unused are transported in plastic bags in metal box. Better: Count and soak only what you need so you do not have to transport pre-filled pads
- Always put gloves on glove drier
- Never open extra gloves without replacing them immediately after returning and ordering new ones
- Gloves that develop leaks are removed and marked with the hole at the rim if it is still usable for another task such as cleaning or painting.

### Materials

- Support box (inner box in it)
- Inner box to contain:
- Glove drier
- Spare gloves
- 2 pairs gloves being used
- Knife and blades
- Cutting board
- Philip's screw driver
- Oil filter wrench
- Rag for tightening lids
- Keg of acid
- 2 pails of water
- One clean closed
- One containing washed pails
- Soaking buckets
- Pitcher
- Funnel