

## WAX DIPPING MCBA

Hot wax dipping for woodenware

Hot wax dipping using microcrystalline wax and paraffin wax provides long term woodenware protection from the effects of weather, fungi and other causes of decay without the cost and labor associated with painting. The process has no adverse effect on bees.

Sessions are typically held on Weekends.

**Dipping facility is located at: 1115 Camp Hill Avenue Dresher PA**

Participants should arrive with an itemized list of all woodenware desired to be dipped.

There is a printable page that can be used that includes the suggested donation prices for each piece of woodenware.

Include your name, a phone number and email address.

All components must be marked for identification. If boxes have been branded, the brand will show through the penetrated wax. Otherwise, include a marking which is usually placed in the hand hold area of boxes.

**Payment is by cash or check made out to M.C.B.A. We also can accept credit cards.**

## WHAT CAN BE DIPPED

### Used equipment

- Equipment even remotely suspected to have American Foulbrood are not permitted at the dipping facility. Take advantage of MCBA's irradiation program first and be sure. See <http://www.montcopabees.org/services-resources/irradiation/>
- No plywood or Masonite (Inner, Outer Covers are OK).
- Must be free of any beeswax propolis or any other residue.
- There can be no remaining paint subject to peeling or flaking so best to sand down painted surfaces. Previously painted surfaces will not allow penetration of the wax, but joints and insides of non-painted surfaces will benefit.
- Woodenware must be dry so if power washing was used the pieces must first be thoroughly dried. Moisture content must be very low.
- No plastic parts permitted. Plastic bottom board slides can usually successfully be removed and replaced.
- No frames accepted.

- Metal in screened bottom boards and top covers OK.

### New woodenware

- No plywood or Masonite (Inner and Outer Covers OK).
- No plastic parts permitted.
- Metal in screened bottom boards and top covers OK.
- No frames accepted.

### Other information

Some who dip hive components choose to paint as well as soon as possible after it has been removed from the vat and while it is quite hot. The paint is sucked or drawn into the hot wood as it cools. It is thought that the paint adds extra protection by preventing or reducing the leaching of wax over time.

Dipped items that have cooled cannot be painted successfully.

Most apiarists prefer to apply oil based paints. They use one of the following:

- Two coats of gloss enamel applied to the dipped item while it was still very hot. Because the first coat is quickly drawn into the wood, a second coat can be applied almost immediately.
- Undercoat applied to the dipped item while it was still very hot; a coat of gloss enamel applied later when the item had cooled and the undercoat had dried.

If you plan to paint, bring your own materials, table, etc.

### Suggested Donation

• 8 or 10 frame deep supers	4.25
• 8 or 10 frame medium supers	3.00
• 8 or 10 frame solid or screened bottom board	2.25
• 8 or 10 frame inner cover	2.00
• 8 or 10 frame outer cover	2.00
• Deep NUC Body	2.50
• Medium NUC Body	2.00
• Any type NUC Bottom Board	1.75
• Inner cover	1.50
• Outer cover	1.50

If you have any additional questions or if you would like to volunteer to help out at the session for a few hours, please contact Don George, [wilddad84@msn.com](mailto:wilddad84@msn.com) and in the subject write **WAX DIPPING.**

Members will be notified by email of dipping dates and a signup will be available on the club website to reserve a time slot.