



ONTARIO POLYPROPYLENE WINTER HIVE WRAP

In 2007, Jim Coneybeare and Diane Krout of the Wellington Beekeepers Association organized the manufacture of these wraps and have them available to beekeepers in Canada and the U.S. each year since then. These wraps are made of 4mm black polypropylene (corrugated plastic) with 5% U.V. protection. We find it lightweight and are designed to fold and store flat. Polypropylene has been tested to have little water absorption in 24 hours - .02% compared with 75% for (presumably unwaxed) cardboard in 50% relative humidity. It will withstand temperature extremes from -17F to 230F. Folds have a living hinge of 21,000 cycles. They have one heat welded seam. Winter wraps similar to our wraps have been used by Paul Kelly at the University of Guelph, Honey Bee Research Lab for about 25 years without replacement.

You will need to make a $\frac{3}{4}$ -1 inch wide **top entrance hole** with a punch, hole saw, or blade knife to exhaust moisture created by the bees. Put this hole in the front of the wrap, just below the upper lid. We have allowed room at the front of the hive for bees to crawl around before leaving the wrap. The fit of the upper lid over the wrap varies depending on the size of your upper lids. Some manufacturers have made the lids very small, so put the lid over the wrap and put a large stone on top. If necessary leave the lid high at the front so the snow can melt and run off the back of the hive. The wraps have room for about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of insulation on top of the inner cover. We leave the wraps on the hive until late April. As the sun heats up the hive through the black wrap the queen will start laying earlier. Wraps should be stored flat, horizontally, in a cool dark place when not on the hives.

Order forms are available in Ontario on the OBA website, ontariobee.com, in August of each year. We take orders till a date in September and the wraps are ready towards the end of October. We wrap hives in Ontario in early November. We do not carry these in stock but fill orders yearly.

We also offer 4 frame and 5 frame polypropylene Nuc boxes each year.

The proceeds from the sale of these wraps are given to the Ontario Beekeepers Association's Tech-Transfer Program for honey bee research and training.

See Dimensions below.

WRAP SIZES, DIMENSIONS, AND SKID DIMENSIONS

1 SINGLE HIVE WRAP – covers one 9 5/8" high brood chamber.

Actual measurements – 17.25 wide x 21.25 long x 11.75" high, with four 10.5" flaps.

Skid dimensions: 39 wide x 46 long x 58" high, holds 300 wraps, 39 wide x 46 long x 28" high holds 100 wraps.



1 SINGLE 1 ½ STORY WRAP – covers one 9 5/8" deep super and one 6 5/8" medium super.

Actual measurements – 17" wide x 21 long, x 19" high, with four 10.5" flaps.

Skid dimensions: 39 wide x 40 long x 60" high holds 150 wraps, 39 wide, 40 long x 53" high holds 122 wraps, 39 wide x 40 long x 47" holds 110 wraps.



1 HIVE DOUBLE WRAP – Covers two 9 5/8" brood chambers, one on top of the other.

Actual measurements – 17.25 wide x 21.25 long x 21" high, with four 10.5" flaps

Skid dimensions – 39 wide x 40 long x 60" high holds 150 wraps, 39 x 40 x 53 high holds 122 wraps, 39 x 40 x 47" holds 110 wraps.



The 2 hive and 4 hive wraps are designed to put 2 hives tightly together. They were made to use with hive covers with only 2 vertical sides, on the front and back and used when packing hives on trucks for pollination. Two traditional hive covers will not fit over the 2&4 hive wraps.

2 HIVE SINGLE WRAP – covers two 9 5/8" high boxes, set side by side.

Actual measurements - 34" X 21" X 11" high with four flaps

Skid dimensions: 39 X 56 X 58" high holds 130 wraps, 39 x 56 x 14 holds 21 wraps.



2 HIVE 1 ½ STORY WRAPS – covers two 9 5/8" boxes set side by side, with two 6 5/8" high boxes on top.

Actual measurements – 34 X 21 X 17" high, with four flaps.

Skid dimensions: 39 x 56 x 58" high holds 130 wraps, 39 x 56 x 14" high holds 21 wraps.



2 HIVE DOUBLE wraps – covers two 9 5/8" x 2 brood chambers, set side by side

Actual measurements are 34 x 21 x 17" high, with four 10" flaps.

Skid dimensions: – 39 x 56 x 58" - 130 wraps, 39 x 56 x 14" - 21 wraps.



4 HIVE DOUBLES WRAPS – made to cover two 9 5/8 hives facing one direction and two 9 5/8" supers facing the other direction.

Actual measurements are 34 x 42.25 x 23" high, with 4 flaps.

Skid dimensions – 39 x 56 x 58" high hold 130 wraps, 39 x 56 x 14" high hold 21 wraps

I can get firm trucking costs for you which you can approve. The skids are stackable on the truck.

Diane Krout, Phone

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