

## Apiguard

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### Introduction

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Apiguard® is a natural product specifically designed for use in beehives. It is a sophisticated slow release gel matrix, ensuring correct dosage of the active ingredient thymol. Thymol is a naturally occurring substance derived from the plant thyme. It has a proven high efficacy against the varroa mite and is also active against both tracheal mite and chalkbrood.

Apiguard® is a specially designed and patented slow release gel containing thymol. Apiguard gel, presented in 50gm ready to use aluminium trays, regulates the liberation of thymol within the honeybee colony and provides a much more efficient control of hive pests than was possible before.

Apiguard® is also presented in 3kg and 1kg tubs for use by beekeepers with larger numbers of hives. Dosage tools are presented with each tub to ensure correct and easy dosing. A 25gm sachet presentation is also in development.

Apiguard® has no harmful effect on the honeybee colony, neither on brood nor on adults.

Apiguard® is extremely easy to use. It is simply a matter of placing the opened tray face upwards in the top of brood frames, preferably centred over the colony. After 10 days examine the tray and if depleted replace with a second tray. If there is product left in the tray after 10 days leave until day 14 and then replace. Leave a second tray in position for a further 2-4 weeks and treatment has been completed (duration of treatment therefore lasts 4-6 weeks).

Apiguard® is extremely well tolerated by bees and the EC maximum residue limit has been classified as Annex II, "No MRL necessary" due to the low toxicity and hive residue profile.

### Mode Of Action

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After administration of the product homogeneous distribution within the bee colony is assured by vapour release and also by the bees' social behaviour (feeding exchange and cleaning activities).



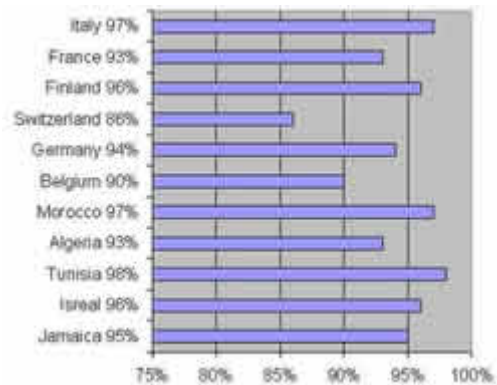
**Sublimation:** During the first few days, vapour plus solvent is slowly given off. Unlike some other formulations, or with raw crystals, this does not disturb the bees. The concentration of the thymol vapour from the gel gradually increases to a set level.

**Contact:** Worker bees climb into the APIGUARD tray and begin to remove the gel, as a hive cleaning behaviour. The gel adheres to the bees' body hairs and as the bees run through the hive they distribute the product to the colony. The gel that the worker is carrying is eventually thrown out through the hive entrance but the trail it leaves behind on its journey through the brood nest remains until it too is cleaned.

APIGUARD trials have been completed in more than 600 honeybee colonies in 10 countries across Europe, the Middle East and North America .

APIGUARD was shown to be an easy to use treatment (even easier than Apistan!) and, under normal conditions giving an average efficacy of 93%. Often the control levels are higher sometimes a little lower.

At low temperatures (shown by trials in Germany ) APIGUARD takes longer to evaporate and the lower activity of the bees means that gel is not distributed as efficiently. It is therefore essential to use APIGUARD when the colony is active and when temperatures are not too low (above 15°C/60°F) Apiguard will work at lower temperatures although the treatment period may need to be extended; the level of efficacy is generally better at higher temperatures but studies on cool period treatments are ongoing.



**Six reasons why you should look forward to Apiguard:**

1. Very easy to apply
2. High efficiency against three types of hive pest
3. Natural product
4. No withdrawal time
5. No risk to users
- 6 . Use against OP & pyrethroid resistant mites & in IPM programmes.

## How to use

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1. Open an Apiguard tray



2. Put the tray on top of the brood frames



3. Replace with a second tray after two weeks



4. The treatment lasts about 4-6 weeks

