

Feeding Sugar to Honey Bees

Amount of Table Sugar	Amount of Water	White Vinegar or Lemon Juice	Type of Syrup or Candy	Primary Use
4 pounds	1 gallon		Thin syrup (33% sugar)	Stimulative feeding; building comb; queen cell construction; stimulate brood rearing and foraging
8 pounds	1 gallon		Medium syrup (50% sugar)	Spring or summer feeding to help with stores for summer dearth or other short falls
16-17 pounds	1 gallon		Thick syrup (67% sugar)	Autumn feeding to make up shortfall in winter stores
10 pounds	4 cups	1 table spoon	Fondant or soft candy	Non-stimulative feeding in autumn or winter
10-15 pounds	3 cups	1 table spoon	Hard candy	Non-stimulative feeding in autumn or winter

- 1. Never use anything but white cane or beet sugar (sucrose) as a sugar feed.**
- 2. Heating syrups is dangerous to bees. May caramelize and create toxins.**
- 3. Never feed brown sugars or darkening syrups to honey bees.**
- 4. High fructose corn syrups can contain toxins that are harmful to bees.**