



# **API LIFE VAR for Suppression of Varroa mite**

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE & CONSUMER PROTECTION  
APIARY PROGRAM

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has approved the use of API LIFE VAR for suppression of Varroa mites in honey bee hives in Wisconsin. This is in response to resistance that varroa mites have developed to fluvalinate (Apistan®) and coumaphos (CheckMite+). If you would like more information about resistant mites, please contact the Apiary Program at (608) 224-4572.

To control Varroa mites and to protect your bees and honey, it is vital that you follow these instructions. Read the label directions before applying this product.

## **USING API LIFE VAR Tablets**

### **(Treatment of Two-story hive)**

(Bees covering 8-20 full-size  
Langstroth frames or similar)

## **HANDLING API LIFE VAR Tablets**

## **DISPOSING OF API LIFE VAR Tablets**

- ✓ Use only in brood chambers.
- ✓ Use in spring or in late summer/fall when bees are not producing surplus honey. Remove API LIFE VAR tablets from hive at least one month (30 days) prior to harvesting the honey to prevent contamination of the honey.
- ✓ Best control when average daily temperatures are between 68°F and 86°F.
- ✓ Break one tablet into 4 equal pieces. Place the pieces of API LIFE VAR on the four corners of the brood nest.
- ✓ Don't place pieces directly above the middle of the brood nest.
- ✓ Close open screen bottom board for fumigant to be effective.
- ✓ After 7-10 days, replace with a fresh tablet broken into pieces as above. Repeat procedure again, 7-10 days later. Leave last tablet for 12 days, remove residuals from colony. Three applications total.
- ✓ Use of API LIFE VAR is most effective when less sealed brood is present.
- ✓ Use of API LIFE VAR at average daily temperatures between 68°F and 86°F. Below 54°F may result in less control of varroa mite.
- ✓ Using above 90°F may increase potential for brood and bee kill.
- ✓ Wear water-proof gloves when handling the tablets. See label for more instructions on protective wear.
- ✓ Store in original containers in a cool, dry, isolated well-ventilated area away from heat, sparks, and open flame. API LIFE VAR is not affected by freezing, so it may be stored in unheated areas.
- ✓ Do not eat, drink, or smoke in areas of use or storage.
- ✓ Do not store in houses or other areas where vapors could accumulate.
- ✓ Do not reuse empty pouches or tablets.
- ✓ Wrap left-over tablets and packaging in several layers of newspaper and dispose with your trash.

**Protect your bees and the beekeeping industry! Always follow label directions carefully. The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection will closely monitor use of API LIFE VAR and enforce regulations governing their use.**