

CO² Dispensing System



Instruction Guide

The CO² dispensing system is designed to be used in tandem with the Varroa EasyCheck 3in1 monitoring container as an alternative to alcohol wash or sugar roll.

The dispensing system has been designed to attach to a standard soda stream CO² bottle (screw top only). The newer “quick connect” soda stream bottle does not fit.



Turn the silver core actuator anti clockwise and attach the bottle to the regulator (screw on hand tight). Turn the core actuator clockwise to open the flow valve to the bottle. Once open, adjust the flow with the black knob to 20psi/1.4bar.

The unit is now operational and can be used with the EasyCheck 3in1 for mite monitoring.

To turn off – turn the core actuator anti clockwise to release the flow valve to the bottle. To release the pressure either pull the green valve on the side of the regulator or press the injector. We recommend turning off between use (between apiaries).

How to use the CO² Dispensing System with the Varroa EasyCheck for mite monitoring.



Link for YouTube video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xxeNHFM74o>

1. Collect a sample of 200 (1/3 cup) or 300 (1/2 cup) bees with the white basket, preferably from a frame of capped brood (make sure the queen is not in the sample). The marks for 200 and 300 bees are indicated inside the basket, alternatively you can use a measuring cup. Put the basket back UPSIDE-DOWN into the transparent bowl and push it until it's correctly seated inside the bowl (it should stay firmly in place when you turn it over).
2. Place the yellow lid on the top. Create a small opening between the yellow lid and the transparent container and inject the CO² through the holes of the white basket for 5 to 6 seconds until the bees stop flying. Quickly screw the lid and let the Varroa EasyCheck sit for around 10 seconds until the bees are anesthetized.
3. Turn the Varroa EasyCheck upside-down and GENTLY roll the sample for 15 seconds so as not to damage the bees. Varroa mites will be dislodged from the bees and fall through the holes of the basket.
4. Open the yellow lid and count the mites inside. Calculate infestation rate per 100 bees, as for alcohol wash. Depending on if you took 200 or 300 bees divide the number of counted mites by 2 or 3 to get your infestation rate (%).
5. Put the bees back in the hive where they will recover. Dispose of the fallen varroa mites, as most will still be alive.

