

To Feed or not to Feed?

I winter bees on 2 brood boxes which would normally get them through the winter.

However this year there was a quiet period before the ivy came into flower, so I wondered whether I should try feeding some fondant.

Even though my bees have been foraging furiously over the last few weeks, presumably mostly on the flowering ivy, I debated whether it was necessary to feed them

It's always said a picture paints a thousand words and this one shows the bees immediately covered the fondant after the first few seconds of being given this 2.5 kg pack.



Note: a good way to purchase fondant is to Google local bakers.

However if you do not have any friendly bakers nearby, you could easily make a super alternative if you have some spare honey available. Mix this with some T&L granulated white sugar into a smooth paste and put in a plastic bag and put slits as per the photo.

Alternatively spread it onto a sheet of newspaper over the queen excluder and put another sheet on top to prevent it drying out too quickly.

You will find the bees adore this honey/sugar mixture.

John Farrow October 2018.