

POLLINATION



BEELINE BEEHIVES

Flowers need to be pollinated to maximise fruit quality and yield. Most tomato crops, indoor strawberries and soft fruit crops are pollinated using bumblebees because of the significant impact on yield and fruit set.

Bumblebees require sugar for flight energy and feeding their colony. They require pollen as a protein source for reproduction. Since tomato flowers have little nectar, a supplement is required in the hive to maintain colony growth. The efficiency of a hive in a greenhouse depends on the successful growth of the bee colony. The ability of the bumblebee to collect and transfer pollen, and the pollen content of flowers, are affected by cultivation techniques.

The Beeline Beehives are produced according to various specifications, depending on the target crop and growing system. The design of the Beeline hives has been continuously improved based on field experience. With a self-feeding sugar system and a simple bee-lock for flight management, no maintenance is required. Supplementary freeze dried pollen is available for feeding in case of delayed flowering or low pollen availability. A pollen feeding tray is built into the hive design. All hives have broods in all life stages. Hives are produced to suit different crops and situations: for example Strawberries, Tomatoes, Soft Fruit, Aubergine, Courgette or Pepper.



Placement of hives in the greenhouse

- Remove hive box from shipping box.
- Leave the restraining straps in place.
- Keep the hives upright at all times and place them immediately in their final positions in the greenhouse.
- Ensure there is nothing in front of the flight hole, never let the sun shine directly into the hive.
- Place the hives low in the crop where there is enough shadow
- Do not place hive in a cold place. Do not place hive high above the crop in the sun.
- Wait at least 2 hours for the bees to settle down before opening the flight holes.
- During hot and sunny weather wait until the sun is low in the sky before opening the flight holes.
- Place new hives early in the morning or in the evening if possible.
- Avoid placing hives directly above a CO₂ hose outlet, or below a dripping gutter.

At the end of the useful life of the colony, but not later than 10 weeks after the introduction, set the bee lock door to collect the bees into the hive, as you would do prior to applying a crop protection product. Once all the bees are in the hive close the bee lock completely. Then dispose of in a certified manner.



BEELINE SOFT FRUIT HIVE

80 – 100 bees

code BEEH01

BEELINE TOTAL SYSTEM HIVE

40 – 60 bees

code BEEH03

Beeline Bumblebee hives are a complete hive which contains bee food and pollen to ensure consistent performance over an extended period.