



WNKLBA Sales Guidance – Coronavirus (Covid-19)

Being Prepared

Every year we promote being prepared for the season ahead but for many of us, the season creeps up too quickly! In the past few days we have seen several of the major beekeeping conventions cancelled in response to the Coronavirus. With this in mind, we must also consider that there is the possibility of beekeeping suppliers having to temporarily close through staff ill health, self-isolation or government directive in an effort to slow the spread of the virus. In light of this, it may be prudent to consider what supplies of wax, frames, hive parts, etc. you need for the forthcoming season and make an early order to ensure you have sufficient supplies to keep your colonies healthy and in good order. Due to the cancellation of the conventions, some of the suppliers such as Thornes are offering flash sales to shift their surplus convention stock – now is a great time to grab a bargain and be prepared!

Jars, Buckets, Feed and Treatment

During these challenging times, the sales team will endeavour to meet the demand for our extremely competitive and popular sales service.

The sales team have planned 4 fixed sales days over the season. These have been strategically placed to coincide with key points of the beekeeping year:

Start of the season (Sunday 5th April)

First Harvest (Sunday 10th May)

Second Harvest, Treatment and End of season preparation (Saturday 18th July)

Winter Treatment (Saturday 12th December)

Reminders and times will be sent out closer to each event via email and social media platforms and will be subject to the changing guidance of the Government.

In order to reduce the risk of transmission of the Coronavirus, steps have been devised to ensure minimal contact between members of the association. Sales will be conducted until the following conditions:

- All items must be pre-ordered – Due to limited storage capacity at Rougham, WNKLBA has a secondary storage warehouse. In order to ensure there is enough stock for everyone, items will need to be pre-ordered so we can make arrangements for sufficient stock to be at Rougham on the day. This will also help us determine when we need to process further orders with our supplier as we need to consider delays in us receiving stock due to logistic barriers.
- Order numbers – To ensure that your order has been received and will be available for collection, you will receive confirmation with an order number. Please ensure you make note of your order number as you will be asked to provide this at Rougham. Only pre-orders will be processed, anyone arriving at Rougham without an order number will be refused service and asked politely to leave.
- No cash payments – All payments will need to be made in advance of the day via BACS transfer or card payment over the telephone (Details of who to call will be provided closer to each sales day via email and social media).
- Self Service – All items will be placed outside of the container at Rougham and members will be asked to self-serve. This will be overseen by the sales team in order to ensure the correct items are collected.

- Social Distancing – On sales days, we ask that members park at Rougham and wait in their cars until instructed otherwise. This will ensure that we control the number of members at the sales area thus ensuring appropriate social distancing.

Important Note: Only stock ordered and paid for in advance will be taken to Rougham. There will be no additional stock available to buy on the day so for the safety of everyone, please do not turn up unannounced.

We understand that some of these steps may appear drastic or alarming but WNKLBA has many members that would be considered “high risk” for Coronavirus. The WNKLBA Committee take the welfare of our members extremely seriously and also acknowledge that our members have a commitment to care for their Honey bee colonies. Therefore, we wish to ensure we take reasonable precautionary steps to reduce the risk of virus transmission whilst also continuing to provide the sales service. These precautions may change over the course of the year following any further guidance from the Government.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the members for their continued support and understanding during these challenging times.