

New Westminster Beekeeper's Association
19 Things to Know about Beekeeping
Module 18 – Lip Balms, Healing Salves, and Ointments

This module was prepared for members of the New Westminster Beekeeper's Association and is intended to be augmented by hands-on experience in a classroom.

Beeswax and Oil Mixtures

To heal a wound or to treat or protect damaged skin, a carrier like palm oil is used to evenly spread and hold propolis or other healing products. Since oils are too runny and messy to use by itself, beeswax is used to change the consistency into a cream or ointment. The more beeswax used, the more the product stiffens up.

Beeswax turns liquid at about 65 degrees Celsius, but propolis, vitamin E, and other healing and aromatic compounds are often damaged by that heat. To avoid damage, use this process:

1. Pre-measure all ingredients
2. Melt wax in a double boiler to 70C
3. Add oil and stir until completely mixed
4. Remove from heat and cool to 40C (you can touch it, but it is uncomfortably hot)
5. Immediately stir in all additives and stir until it starts to stiffen
6. Pour into small containers where the stiffening procedure finishes





Adjustments for Next Batch

Too runny – add more beeswax

Too firm – add less beeswax

Too gritty – grind propolis into powder, or buy propolis powder (10% carob)

Too smelly – add aromatic compounds

Recipes

Lip Balm – www.beeswaxco.com

- 1 oz beeswax
- 2 oz coconut oil
- 1 tsp almond oil
- $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp vitamin E oil
- 15 drops peppermint essential oil

Healing Salve – www.tfrecipes.com (insect bites, cuts, small wounds, eczema, burns)

- 20 drops propolis extract
- 4.5 grams beeswax
- 8 tsp any oil (vegetable, palm, sunflower, tamanu, etc)
- 10 drops lavender oil
- 10 drops tea tree oil

Ointment – (dry skin, cracked skin, scrapes)

- 10 grams palm oil
- 10 grams beeswax
- 30 drops propolis tincture
- 5 drops vitamin E oil

Resources – Ingredients and Containers

Voyageur Soap and Candles, 19475 Fraser Highway, Surrey

Wicks & Wax, 2565 Eastbrood Parkway, Burnaby

Glorybee Foods, Oregon www.glorybee.com

List of Essential Oils

Attached

End.