

Varroa Rotation Chart – The Basin Backyard

Varroa Rotation Chart

The Basin Backyard - Melbourne Varroa Management

Annual Treatment Rotation (Melbourne Climate)

A structured, season-based rotation to minimise resistance and maintain low mite loads.

WINTER - Oxalic Acid (Broodless Window)

- Treatment: Oxalic Acid (dribble or vaporisation)
 - Mode: Contact kill, best when brood is minimal
 - Notes: Single winter reset; re-test after 14 days
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SPRING - Thymol (Apiguard)

- Treatment: Thymol (Apiguard trays)
 - Mode: Vapour kill
 - Notes: 6-week course; ideal temps 15-30°C; supers off
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HONEY FLOW - Formic Pro

- Treatment: Formic Pro
 - Mode: Penetrates capped brood; kills mites under cappings
 - Notes: 7-day treatment; supers can stay on; temp sensitive
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AUTUMN - Synthetic Strips (Rotate Yearly)

- Treatment Options: Apivar (amitraz), Bayvarol (flumethrin), Apistan (tau-fluvalinate)
 - Mode: Long-duration chemical strips
 - Notes: Rotate yearly to prevent resistance; supers off
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3-Year Resistance Rotation Plan

Year	Autumn Treatment	Next Rotation
Year 1	Apivar (amitraz)	Bayvarol
Year 2	Bayvarol (flumethrin)	Apistan
Year 3	Apistan (tau-fluvalinate)	Apivar

Monitoring Schedule

- Alcohol wash every 30 days
 - Treatment threshold: $\geq 2\%$ mites (6 mites per 300 bees)
 - Re-test 14 days after any treatment
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Quick Visual Summary

WINTER → Oxalic Acid
SPRING → Thymol
HONEY FLOW → Formic Pro
AUTUMN → Synthetic Strips (rotate yearly)

The Basin Backyard - Varroa Management Framework

Designed for Melbourne’s seasonal pattern and aligned with current Australian treatment guidance.