

BLUE ORCHARD MASON BEE COCOONS

*****PURCHASER FORM*****

ORDER # _____

PICK UP YOUR COCOONS AT THE REGISTRATION TABLE.

NOTE: Because cocoons need to be kept cold, the cocoons will be picked up at the registration table at the end of the day or when you leave.

Instructions for cocoon care until it is time to put the cocoons outside.

*Please keep the cocoons cool on your way home. Do not put the cocoons by the heater vent in your car. They will hatch in a warm car, so put them in a cooler or refrigerator as soon as possible.

*We recommend that you take the cocoons out of the vial. Poke holes in the top of a container. Put a smaller container with a damp paper towel (adds humidity) in the larger container. Put cocoons on a dry paper towel.

Keep the container in the refrigerator veggie bin for the next 2-6 weeks.



It is too soon to put your blue orchard bee cocoons outside!

How do I decide when to put my cocoons out? Over the next 2-6 weeks you will be watching the weather and looking at what is blooming in your yard. The bees need pollen & nectar as well as the right weather to survive.

- Do you have plants blooming within 100 yards of your bee house?
- The Blue Orchard Bee needs temperatures between 50-55 degrees for at least three days in a row before it will hatch out the cocoon. Watch 10 day forecast.
- The earliest you can put the cocoons out is mid March if the conditions are right. Wait if heavy rain is forecast. They will tolerate light rain.
- Put 1/2 to 1/3 of your cocoons in an emergence tube. Do not fill more than about half way - 2 to 3 layers of cocoons. Put out a minimum of 20 cocoons.
- Wait for 7-10 days before putting out another batch of cocoons.
- All cocoons should be out no later than April 15th (tax day).

(The emergence tube can be any container with a 5/16- 1/2" hole in the end.)

Contacts for supplies or questions.

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Sweet Home

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Sign up for "Bee Notes" at: www.LinnMasterGardeners.com

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