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## Hummingbird Feeder Facts

### Feeder Placement, etc.

- Feeders should be placed outside for arriving hummingbirds in mid-late April; and should be left up through September.
- Place feeders within 10-15 feet of cover plants (trees, shrubs, and vines).
- Place near nectar producing plants to help hummingbirds find your feeders; you can move them later if needed.
- Placing feeders in shade helps to keep your solution from spoiling rapidly.
- You can use ready to mix solutions or you can make your own (see recipe below).
- Clean your feeder(s) every 3 days in hot weather, 6-7 days during cooler weather. Leaving your solution for any longer can give a cloudy appearance (a closer inspection would show harmful mold/bacteria beginning to form on the inside of your feeder.)  
*\*This harmful bacteria & mold present health risks to hummingbirds & could kill them\**
- Use bee guards to keep unwanted pests from your feeders. Do Not Use Pesticides to control unwanted pests! The hummingbirds and small insects they need for food could be adversely affected.

### Preparing A Syrup Solution:

If you wish to make your own hummingbird solution, use the recipe below (taken from the Ortho Book, How to Attract Hummingbirds & Butterflies) - Do not substitute any ingredients.

- Mix 1 part white sugar to 4 parts water. (Stir sugar into the water.)
- Bring the solution to a boil over low heat - two minutes is long enough! (Boiling is important as it kills mold spores and bacteria and, through evaporation, reduces any chlorine or fluorine that may be in the water. *Prolonged boiling is unnecessary-over boiling will remove too much water, making the solution stronger than a 1:4 ratio.*)
- After the solution has been allowed to cool, it is ready to be placed in the feeders.
- Refrigerate if any excess solution for future use.