



Hummingbird Nectar Recipe

The following comes from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Hummingbird Roundup website:
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/nature/birding/hummingbird_roundup/

Ingredients:

1 part sugar
4 parts water

Bring water to boil, stir in sugar, and boil for 2 – 3 minutes to help delay fermentation. Let cool. Store remainder in refrigerator. Do not substitute with honey, brown sugar, turbinado sugar, or other sweeteners. White sugar is the preferred ingredient. Avoid pre-made mixtures containing preservatives.

DO NOT USE FOOD COLORING! It is poisonous to hummingbirds.

The unused mixture may be refrigerated for 3 – 7 days. Regardless of mixture's age, discard it immediately if you see cloudiness or you see mold growing. Clean the feeder every 2-3 days, especially in warm weather due to growth of fungus. Be sure to clean the feeder with soap and water and rinse thoroughly each time. Hummingbird feeders may be kept up year-round.

Whenever possible, plant plants that attract hummingbirds, too. Variety is the spice of life! Check out our handout on *Hummingbird and Butterfly Plants* and/or the beautiful book, *Hummingbirds of Texas*.

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