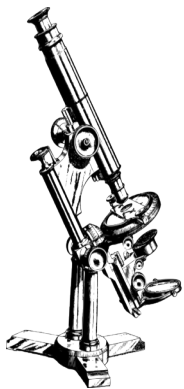


## Making a pollen slide from a pollen load of bees.

You can attempt to discover where your bees have been foraging by sampling the pollen they bring home.

1. Place a pollen pellet on a watch glass
2. Add a drop or two of water to the watch glass and stir it to make a slurry. This will help separate the grains of pollen.
3. Warm the watch glass on a warming plate until all the water has evaporated.
4. Add a few drops of propanol with a plastic pipette to 'degrease' the pollen. This dissolves unwanted oils.
5. Swirl the watch glass around again and this will cause any debris to move to the outside where it can be removed. Wick excess liquid from the watch glass using a piece of kitchen roll as a wick.
6. Dip a clean glass rod into the pollen rich liquid and drip one drop onto a warm slide. Don't touch the slide with the rod or you will create a ring of pollen with no grains in the centre.
7. Put the slide onto the warming plate to dry the slide.
8. Dip a clean glass rod into the molten stained glycerine jelly and then drip one drop onto the centre of the slide. Don't touch the slide with the glass rod.
9. Place one edge of the warm coverslip on the slide and lower it slowly onto the drop of stained glycerine jelly. Replace it on the warming plate for a few minutes.
10. Temporary label for the slide or you will forget what it is!
11. After 24 hours seal the slide with nail polish or other sealant. Unsealed glycerine jelly slides can and will most probably deteriorate.
12. Make a permanent label for the slide.
13. Store your slides flat if you can.



Leeds  
Microscopical  
Society  
Founded 1991

---

L  
M  
S