WHERE TO BUY BEES 2020
(As of February 28)

Compiled using resources from the Beekeepers of the Bitterroot and Lewis & Clark County Extension.

Things to know: All bees coming into Montana from out of state must have a certificate of health issued from the state of origin. This is to prevent the spread of disease. Most sellers require full or partial pre-payment and these deposits and purchases are generally non-refundable. This is at the discretion of the seller. When receiving your packages, queens, and nucs, it is your responsibility to inspect them carefully before leaving the sellers yard. A few sellers offer guarantees and some allow you to cancel or change your order. Know your terms before you buy and inspect your bees before leaving the bee yard.

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Country Boys Honey/Rod Smith: (406) 788-2880 call or text in evenings/weekends
5 frame nucs with laying queen and brood in all stages, $165.
Carniolian cross bees out of Augusta
Will replace Queen if you run into any problems
Pick up in Great Falls, MT in late April/early May
(will deliver to Helena with a big enough order, call to ask)

Outdoor Bee Company: (509) 270-5803
http://www.outdoorbee.com/nucs/
5 frame nucs containing a laying queen and brood in all stages, $150.
Now taking orders online.
Free delivery to Missoula, Butte, and Bozeman scheduled for early May.

Hamilton Honey Co./Eric Hamilton: (406) 266-3096
Are not currently selling packages to the public but are selling them through the Montana Honey Bee Company.
Townsend, MT

Montana Honey Bee Company: (406) 624-6446
http://montanahoneybeecompany.com/
3lb. packages and 5-frame nucs.
All the bees will have their first round of chemical free mite treatment, and also a treatment of organic probiotics for good bee gut health
Packages are $175, Nucs are $195
Package ready mid-April, Nucs ready mid-May
Western Bee Supplies: (406) 883-2918
Email: wbee@westernbee.com
Website: http://westernbee.com/
3 lb. packages with a marked Carniolan queen, $155, $20 non-refundable deposit per package. Now taking orders until 600 are sold out. Pick up will be at Western Bee on Friday, 4/24/20.

Sunshine Apiary: (406) 322-5423
5 frame nucs with laying queen and brood in all stages, ~$150 (call to confirm)
Start Selling 3rd of February until sold out
Montana bees shipped to-from almond trees in California
Pick up in Columbus, MT in mid-May

Sunrise Honey Company: (509) 936-1088
http://sunrisehoney.com/five-frame-nucs.html
5 frame nucs with mated queen, $150.
Extra queens (depending on availability) $35.
Will start taking orders January 18, 2020 until sold out
Delivery date is usually a Saturday in mid-April.
Pick up bees in Clayton, WA (North of Spokane).
Check their website for more details.

Tractor Supply, Lolo, MT
https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/search/bees
Is offering on-line ordering for 3 pound packages of Italian or Carniolan bees with queen for direct shipment to your home via UPS. Price is $199.99 including shipping. The bees are sourced from Harvest Lane Honey.

Of course you can always search for bees on Google and find other sources too. If you find a good one let me know at kara.tangedal@montana.edu