

Hive Inspection and Assessment

Date _____

Time _____

Today's Inspection Purpose _____

Temperature _____

Wind _____

Nectar Flow (What is blooming now?) _____

European Honey Bee Development Times				
	Egg	Larva	Pupa	Total Development Time
Queen	3 days	5.5 days	8 days	~16 days
Worker	3 days	6 days	12 days	21 days
Drone	3 days	6.5 days	14.5 days	24 days

OBSERVATIONS: Is the queen present, laying and productive, and is the hive healthy?

					2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Moved since last assessment				y/n							
Hive Weight				lbs if known							
	Healthy	Symptom	Possible Cause	Legend							
Queen Presence	Yes	No	Dead or just can't find	y/n, if yes: condition							
Queen Cells (Emergency, Swarm, Supersedure)	No	Yes	Ready to swarm/supersede	# queen/swarm cells							
Brood Pattern <i>Brood and eggs in all stages should occupy at least half the total comb area with no brood cycle break</i>	Compact	Random/spotty or Mixed age cells	Disease, poor nutrition, failing queen	p=poor a=acceptable vg=very good							
Eggs (3 days since queen laid)	Yes	No	Queen issue	y/n							
# eggs in each cel	1	2	Laying worker	1 or 2							
Larvae (5.5-6.5 days since queen laid)	White shrimp shape	Tan/brown	American Foulbrood	h=healthy n=not healthy							
Larvae covered in brood food	Yes	No	Lack food	y/n							
# frames with brood	Plentiful		Queen issue	y/n							
% Capped brood (Summer: 55% capped, 45% open)	%	No		%							
Capped Brood Shape	Convex	Concave or Chewed	American Foulbrood	h=healthy n=not healthy							
Pupa (8-14.5 days since queen laid)	White bees	Dead or Discoloured		h=healthy n=not healthy							
Wings	Healthy	Deformed/K shaped	Varroa Mites	h=healthy d=deformed							
Odour	Wax & Honey	Fish or Nasty	Foulbrood	h=healthy n=not healthy							
Colony Strength				p=poor f=fair s=strong c=crowded							
Bees coverage on Inner lid	High	Low		p=poor a=acceptable vg=very good							
Top Bars Covered With	Bees & Propolis	Brown streaks	Noosema	p=pass f=fail							
% frames covered with workers	40-80%	<40% or >80%	Issue or Swarm potential	#							
Comb Building				p=poor a=acceptable vg=very good							
Aggressiveness (jumping, stinging)	Nice/Docile	Nasty/Bad Asses		l=low a=average h=high							
Activity/Behaviour	normal	Not flying, lethargic, disoriented, crawling, running about		n=normal a=abnormal							
Winterability (health, food stores, treatments)				l=low a=average h=high							
# Dead Bees on Bottom Boards	Wax, Few Dead Bees	Excessive, Mummies	Chalkbrood	n=none f=few s=several e=excessive							
Mite levels	<1% spring 2% fall	>1% spring 2% fall		l=low a=average h=high							
Drone Cells	<20%	>20%	Future mite problem	n=none f=few s=several e=excessive							
Food stores				p=poor a=acceptable vg=very good							
# frames with honey	Yes	No or Issue	Lack food	#							
Pollen circle	Yes	No or Issue	Lack food	y/n							

HONEY HARVEST: Are the bees producing well and is the trend going up or down?

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
# honey supers currently on							
# honey supers added							
# honey taken (# frames, #supers)							
Honey production trend							
Comments							

Actions				2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Frames If weak, check for disease/pests, combine, shake out, replace queen If strong, have frames that can be shared where needed If too strong, split, remove brood frames										
# brood frames with nurse bees				a=added r=removed e=exchanged, with #						
# old brood comb removed	Comb <4 years old	Comb >4 years old		r=removed n=needs action						
# drawn comb added			Keep the brood nest intact - never place drawn comb or new foundation between brood frames	a=added r=removed e=exchanged, with #						
# foundation added		Do not put a full super of foundation		a=added r=removed e=exchanged, with #						
Queen				h=healthy w=watch k=killed i=introduced						
Remove queen cells				#						
Split										
Nuc making										
Feed										
Sugar/Syrup (litres)				quantity						
Pollen patties				quantity						
Other										
Tests and Treatments										
Mite Test Results (Treat if spring >1%, fall >2%)				%						
Mite Treatment: Apivar, Apistan, MAQS				dosage applied						
If treatment strips applied, target removal date:				date						
Formic Acid				dosage applied						
Oxalic Acid										
Oxytetracycline				dosage applied						
Fumagillan				dosage applied						
If applicable, target re-treatment date				date						
Other										
Reverse brood boxes				y/n						
Flip Insulated Cover				y/n						
Queen Excluder				a=added r=removed						
Entrance Reducer				a=added r=removed						
Mouse Guard				a=added r=removed						
Insulated Wrap				a=added r=removed						
Snow Cover				a=added r=removed						
Other										