**BAYER** Science For A Better Life

# HEALTHY COLONY CHECKLIST

This checklist is useful for quick assessments anytime a hive is opened, and as a summary of more detailed assessments. The results should answer the questions 1) Is the colony healthy?, 2) If not, why?, and 3) What needs to be done before the next weekly assesment to correct the problem?

| | |
|---|---|
| **Date:** | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Apiary ID:** | | **Hive ID:** | | **Number of frames in brood box 2 (upper):** |
| **Observer:** | | **Recorder:** | | **Number of frames in brood box 1 (lower):** |

For a colony to be considered "healthy", it must satisfy **ALL** of the following conditions, as seasonally appropriate.

| Condition Met? * | Condition to Assess | Notes, Problems Observed & Management Needed |
|---|---|---|
| | **1 - All stages of brood** and instars present in seasonally appropriate amounts (Eggs 1-3, Larvae 1-6, Pupae 1-11)? | |
| | **2 - Sufficient adult bees** and age structure to care for brood and perform all tasks of the colony?** | |
| | **3 -** A young (<1 yr old), productive, laying **queen present**? *(Color Code Guide: Blue(0/5), White(1/6), Yellow(2/7), Red(3/8), Green(4/9))* | |
| | **4 -** Sufficient nutritious **water, forage, and food stores** available (inside and/or outside the hive), and young brood being fed? | |
| | **5 - No (apparent) stressors present** that might develop and lead to reduced colony survival and/or growth potential?*** | |
| | **6 - Suitable space** (not too much or too little) for current & near-term expected colony size that is sanitary, defendable, and room for egg laying? | |

&ast; √ = Yes; X = No; na = Not Assessed; Use "?" only if unsure and follow up as needed.

&ast;&ast; Including: feeding brood, caring for queen, thermoregulation, foraging, house cleaning, undertaking, guarding.

&ast;&ast;&ast; If unsure, follow up with more detailed assessment as soon as possible.

## General Notes and Observations

PrevPostWght (lb/kg):_____; CurrentPreWght (lb/kg): ____; CurrentPostWght (lb/kg): ____; NetEventChg:____; NetChgFrmPrevEvent:_____

Form comments and questions to dick.rogers@bayer.com