

SPEARED APIARIES

THE MODERN APIARIST

Professional Beekeeping Logbook

BEEKEEPER NAME

APIARY LOCATION

HIVE IDENTIFIER

SEASON / YEAR

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The Modern Apiarist — Speared Apiaries

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| DATE | HIVE ID | INSPECTOR | TEMP °F | WEATHER |
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| TIME IN | TIME OUT | DURATION (min) | HIVE WEIGHT (lbs) | BOOK PAGE REF |
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HIVE HEALTH

Queen spotted? Yes No Uncertain Queen cells? None Swarm Supersedure Eggs visible? Yes No

Brood pattern Solid Spotty Very spotty Larvae present? Yes No Capped brood? Yes No

COLONY STRENGTH & STORES

Population: Weak Fair Strong Very Strong Temperament: Calm Mild Defensive Aggressive

Honey stores: Low OK Good Excellent Pollen stores: Low OK Good

VARROA CHECK

Mites/100 bees: _____ Method: Alcohol Sugar

Treatment: _____

HIVE BODY

Supers: Sticky Board Honey frames: _____ Brood frames: _____

Equipment issues: _____

OBSERVATIONS & NOTES

NEXT ACTIONS

OVERALL RATING: Poor Fair Good Excellent Outstanding

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HARVEST DATE

HIVE(S)

EXTRACTOR

OPERATOR

SUPER YIELD TABLE

| Super | Frames | Capped % | Wt Before | Wt After | Net (lbs) | Type | Notes |
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YIELD SUMMARY

NET YIELD (lbs): _____ GROSS WEIGHT (lbs): _____ NET YIELD (lbs): _____ AVG/FRAME (lbs): _____ MOISTURE %: _____
HONEY COLOR: Water White Extra White White Extra Lt Amber Lt Amber Amber Dark Amber

PROCESSING & TASTING NOTES

FILTERING METHOD: _____
 STORAGE CONTAINERS: _____
 BOTTLING DATE: _____
 BATCH #: _____
 AROMA: _____
 FLAVOR PROFILE: _____
 FLORAL SOURCE(S): _____

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DATE HIVE ID QUEEN TAG/ID YEAR MARKED

QUEEN STATUS

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Laying pattern: Solid Good Spotty Very spotty None

Queen age (yrs):

QUEEN CELLS

Cells present? None Swarm cells Supersedure Emergency

of cells:

Cell stage: Eggs Larvae Capped Emerged

Action taken: Left Removed Split Raise queens

REQUEENING

Old queen removed? Yes No

New queen source: In-hive raised Purchased Split Swarm

Method: Candy cage Direct Push-in Newspaper

Introduction date:

GENETIC TRAIT RATINGS (circle 1–5)

Honey Production

1 2 3 4 5

Gentleness

1 2 3 4 5

Swarm Resistance

1 2 3 4 5

Disease Resistance

1 2 3 4 5

Overwintering

1 2 3 4 5

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NOTES

TREATMENT THRESHOLD: ≥ 2 mites/100 bees (spring–summer) | ≥ 1 mite/100 bees (fall, pre-winter)
 Recommended methods: Oxalic Acid (OA) vaporization, Apivar strip, Apiguard thymol — rotate annually to prevent resistance.

MITE COUNT LOG

| DATE | HIVE | METHOD | SAMPLE | MITES | RATE/100 | ACTION? | THRESHOLD | NOTES |
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TREATMENT LOG

| DATE | HIVE | TREATMENT | DOSE | DURATION | TEMP °F | EFFICACY | FOLLOW-UP |
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NOTES

FEEDING RECORD

| DATE | HIVE | FEED TYPE | RATIO | AMOUNT | FEEDER | CONSUMED? | NOTES |
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SUPPLEMENT LOG

| DATE | HIVE | SUPPLEMENT | PURPOSE | AMOUNT | RESPONSE |
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| DATE | HIVE | FEED TYPE | RATIO | AMOUNT | FEEDER | CONSUMED? | NOTES |
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ENTRY 1

DATE: _____ SOURCE HIVE: _____ TYPE: Prime swarm Cast swarm Planned split Cutout

SIZE: Small Medium Large Very Large CAPTURED: Yes No

PLACED IN: _____ INSTALLED: _____ QUEEN STATUS: _____

PREVENTION STEPS: Space added Cells removed Boxes reversed Split None taken

NOTES:

ENTRY 2

DATE: _____ SOURCE HIVE: _____ TYPE: Prime swarm Cast swarm Planned split Cutout

SIZE: Small Medium Large Very Large CAPTURED: Yes No

PLACED IN: _____ INSTALLED: _____ QUEEN STATUS: _____

PREVENTION STEPS: Space added Cells removed Boxes reversed Split None taken

NOTES:

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GENERAL NOTES

DATE: _____ TOPIC: _____

A series of horizontal lines for writing, each line containing a row of small dots for alignment.

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DATE: _____ TOPIC: _____

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ANNUAL APIARY SUMMARY

YEAR: _____ APIARY: _____ START HIVES: _____ END HIVES: _____

PRODUCTION TOTALS

HONEY (lbs): _____ WAX (lbs): _____ PROPOLIS (oz): _____ SPLITS MADE: _____
SWARMS CAUGHT: _____ QUEENS RAISED: _____

MONTHLY HONEY YIELD (lbs) — Record Here

| Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
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SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

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SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

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SPRING (Mar–May)

- Feed 1:1 syrup if stores are low — stimulates brood rearing
- Add supers when 80% of frames are occupied
- Check for swarm cells every 7–10 days
- First mite count of the season — treat if above threshold
- Dandelion / fruit tree bloom — prime foraging begins

SUMMER (Jun–Aug)

- Peak nectar flow — add supers proactively, harvest when 80%+ capped
- Monthly mite counts — threshold: 2/100 bees
- Watch for queenlessness and laying workers during midsummer dearth
- Late summer dearth: reduce entrances, watch for robbing behavior
- Prepare equipment for fall harvest

FALL (Sep–Nov)

- Critical varroa treatment window — protects winter bees
- Feed 2:1 syrup to build stores: 60–80 lbs for winter
- Combine weak colonies with strong ones
- Install mouse guards; reduce entrances for robbing protection
- Remove queen excluders before sustained cold sets in

WINTER (Dec–Feb)

- Heft hive monthly to gauge stores — emergency feed if light
- Ventilate to prevent condensation (top ventilation holes or quilt box)
- Emergency: fondant or candy board placed directly on cluster
- Order new equipment, queens, and nucs for spring
- Review and analyze previous year's logs

Varroa Mite *External parasite; vectors viruses like DWV.*

Signs: Deformed wings, crawling bees, visible mites on adults

Treat: OA vaporization, Apivar, Apiguard, HopGuard (rotate!)

Always confirm diagnosis. Consult local extension service or state apiarist.

American Foulbrood *Bacterial — NOTIFIABLE. Highly contagious spores.*

Signs: Sunken cappings, brown ropy larvae, putrid smell

Treat: NO TREATMENT — burn equipment. Contact state apiarist.

Always confirm diagnosis. Consult local extension service or state apiarist.

European Foulbrood *Bacterial — less severe, stress-related.*

Signs: Twisted/melted larvae, sour smell, yellow-brown color

Treat: Oxytetracycline, requeening, improve nutrition

Always confirm diagnosis. Consult local extension service or state apiarist.

Chalkbrood *Fungal — stress/moisture related.*

Signs: Chalk-white mummified larvae, often at hive entrance

Treat: Improve ventilation, reduce damp, requeen if persistent

Always confirm diagnosis. Consult local extension service or state apiarist.

Nosema *Microsporidian gut parasite.*

Signs: Dysentery, weak spring buildup, feces on landing board

Treat: Fumagilin (limited availability), good nutrition, ventilation

Always confirm diagnosis. Consult local extension service or state apiarist.

Small Hive Beetle *Tropical pest; worse in warm humid climates.*

Signs: Slimy fermented honey, adult beetles fleeing, larvae in comb

Treat: Beetle traps, strong colony management, dry sunny location

Always confirm diagnosis. Consult local extension service or state apiarist.

Wax Moths *Opportunistic pest of weak hives/stored comb.*

Signs: Webbing/tunnels in comb, larvae present, damaged frames

Treat: Strong colonies; freeze stored frames 48hrs; para-moth crystals

Always confirm diagnosis. Consult local extension service or state apiarist.

SUGAR SYRUP QUICK REFERENCE

| TYPE | RATIO | PURPOSE | BEST USE |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| 1:1 Spring Syrup | 1 lb sugar : 1 pt water | Thin, mimics nectar; stimulates brood & comb building | Spring/swarms/packages |
| 2:1 Winter Syrup | 2 lbs sugar : 1 pt water | Dense; bees reduce quickly; max caloric storage | Fall winter prep |
| Candy Board | Sugar + water + cream of tartar | Emergency winter feed placed over cluster | Midwinter only |

SUPPLEMENTS & ADDITIVES

Pollen Sub Patty

Protein. AP23, MegaBee, Global Pollen.

Use: Early spring; nutritional gaps; colony recovery

Honey B Healthy

Essential oils (lemongrass/spearmint). Feed stimulant.

Use: Add to any syrup — deters mold, encourages feeding

Amino-B Booster

Amino acids for nutritional support.

Use: Spring buildup; post-stress recovery

OA in Syrup

Oxalic acid varroa treatment via syrup.

Use: Broodless periods only — fall/winter preferred

Propolis Tincture

Antimicrobial hive health booster.

Use: General health; fungal/bacterial support

WARNING: Never feed honey from unknown sources. Risk of spreading American Foulbrood spores.

Always provide fresh water source within 100ft of hives. Avoid HFCS as primary long-term diet.

- **Apiary** Collection of beehives in one location
- **Apiculture** Science and practice of beekeeping
- **Brood** Eggs, larvae, and pupae collectively
- **Capped brood** Sealed pupal cells
- **Colony** Complete bee community: queen, workers, drones
- **Drone** Male bee — mates with virgin queens
- **Festooning** Workers hanging in chains during comb building
- **Fondant** Sugar paste for winter emergency feeding
- **Forage** Plants from which bees collect nectar/pollen
- **Frame** Removable structure holding honeycomb
- **Hygienic behavior** Workers removing diseased/infested brood
- **Langstroth** Standard removable-frame hive
- **Laying worker** Queenless worker laying unfertilized drone eggs
- **Nectar flow** Period of abundant nectar
- **Nuc** 5-frame starter colony with queen
- **Operculum** Wax cap on honey or brood cell
- **Pheromone** Chemical bee communication signal
- **Propolis** Plant resin used as hive sealant
- **Queen excluder** Grid preventing queen entering supers
- **Robbing** Theft of honey stores between colonies
- **Scout bee** Worker that locates food or nest sites
- **Split** Deliberately dividing a colony
- **Super** Box for surplus honey storage
- **Supersedure** Colony-initiated queen replacement
- **Swarm** Natural reproduction — half colony departs
- **Uncapping** Removing wax caps before extraction
- **Varroa** Parasitic mite — primary global bee pest
- **Virgin queen** Unmated newly emerged queen
- **Wax moth** Pest damaging comb in weak hives
- **Winter cluster** Tight heat-generating bee ball

SPEARED APIARIES

The Modern Apiarist

SA

Precision. Record. Improve.

spearedapiaries.com