




THE BOTANICAL

A Beekeeper's Garden Record

Speared Apiaries



Bloom. Tend. Harvest. Record.

BEEKEEPER'S LOG

Speared Apiaries · All Seasons Record



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Hive Inspection Record

Speared Apiaries



Date	Hive ID	Inspector	Weather
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Colony at a Glance

Population Strength

Temperament

Brood Pattern

Food Stores

Queen Status

Eggs visible Young larvae Queen spotted

Queen cells present Supersedure signs

Health Observations

Varroa mites visible Chalkbrood present Foulbrood odor

Wax moth damage Small hive beetles Deformed wing bees

Activity Report

Foragers returning Pollen coming in

Washboarding Robbing behavior

Actions Taken

• _____

• _____

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Notes from the Garden

Next visit: _____





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Honey Harvest Log

Speared Apiaries



Harvest Date	Hive / Source	Harvest #	Season
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Frames Extracted

Frame #	Hive	Capped %	Raw Wt (lb)	Extracted (lb)	Grade

Processing Steps

- Frames uncapped
- Spun in extractor
- Drained through strainer
- Settled in tank
- Bottled
- Labeled & dated

Sensory Notes

Color	Aroma	Viscosity	Floral Source
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Totals & Quality

Total extracted (lb)	Moisture reading %	Bottled jars
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Notes / Special observations:





Honey Harvest Log

Speared Apiaries



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Queen Assessment



Speared Apiaries

Date	Hive ID	Queen Age	Marking Color	ID#
------	---------	-----------	---------------	-----

Physical Condition

- Body condition** Excellent Good Fair Poor
- Movement** Vigorous Normal Sluggish
- Abdomen fullness** Plump & full Moderate Slender

Laying Performance

- Pattern quality** Solid & even Mostly solid Spotty Very sparse
- Eggs present?** Yes — fresh 1–3 days No
- All brood stages?** Yes Older only No brood

Supersedure Watch

- Queen cells visible Workers biting queen
- Multiple queens Laying worker signs

Overall Assessment

Queen Productivity Rating (1–5) ●●●●●

Queen Temperament Rating (1–5) ●●●●●

- Recommended action:**
- No action — queen performing well
- Monitor next inspection
- Plan requeening within 4 weeks
- Emergency requeen immediately

Notes:





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Varroa Monitoring Sheet



Monitor monthly · Treat at threshold

Date	Hive	Method	Sampler	Sample #
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Count & Calculation

Bees in sample	Mites counted	Infestation %	$= (\text{mites} \div \text{bees}) \times 100$
----------------	---------------	---------------	--

Infestation Level

< 1%	1–2%	2–4%	> 4%
Safe — no action	Monitor closely	Treat soon	Treat immediately

Sampling Method Notes

- **Alcohol Wash:** Most accurate. 300 bee sample. Use 70% isopropyl.
- **Sugar Roll:** Bee-safe alternative. Return bees after count.
- **Sticky Board:** Passive, 24h count. Divide result by 10 for daily drop.

Treatment Log

Date	Treatment Used	Dose	Duration	Re-test Date

Notes:





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Feeding & Treatment Protocol

Speared Apiaries

Date	Hive ID	Season	Beekeeper	Temp °F
------	---------	--------	-----------	---------

Feeding Log

Date	Feed Type	Ratio	Amount	Feeder	Consumed?

Treatment Record

Date	Product	Purpose	Dose	Application Method	Outcome

Observations & colony response:

Feeding & Treatment Protocol

Speared Apiaries

Date	Hive ID	Season	Beekeeper	Temp °F
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Swarm Incident Log



Speared Apiaries

Date Noticed	Time	Hive of Origin	Swarm Size	Captured?
--------------	------	----------------	------------	-----------

What Happened — Narrative

Describe where the swarm clustered and what you observed:

Likely Cause

- Overcrowding / congestion
- Insufficient ventilation
- Old queen impulse
- New queen hatched
- Seasonal swarm impulse
- Unknown / other

Response & Resolution

- Swarm captured into new hive
- Swarm escaped/lost
- Swarm given away
- Merged with existing colony
- Left to establish on its own

New hive location / ID: _____

Prevention Plan

What will you do differently to prevent future swarms?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Next inspection date: _____





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- _____
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Next inspection date: _____





Field Observation Notes



Speared Apiaries

Date _____ _____	Location _____ _____	Time _____ _____	Weather _____ _____
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Apiary at a Glance

- Forager traffic** Very active Active Slow None
- Pollen loads visible?** Abundant Some None
- Guard bee response** Calm Alert Defensive
- Unusual sounds?** Quiet Buzzing elevated Fanning
- Bearding outside?** Yes — heavy Minor No

Flowering Plants in Bloom

Record what's blooming nearby — this helps correlate honey flavor and forager activity:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Freeform Field Notes

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Follow-up actions required:

- _____
- _____





Annual Seasonal Review



Speared Apiaries · Year in Bloom

Year	Apiary Name	Hive Count (start)	Hive Count (end)	Lead Keeper
------	-------------	--------------------	------------------	-------------

Seasonal Summary

Metric	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Hive health (1-5)				
Honey yield (lb)				
Swarm events				
Varroa avg %				
Key action taken				

Year Highlights

Best performing hive: _____

Biggest challenge faced: _____

Most rewarding moment: _____

Surprise discovery: _____

Goals for Next Year

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____

Notes from the Year





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- 1 _____
- 2 _____
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Notes from the Year





Reference & Resources



Speared Apiaries

Bee Biology at a Glance

Worker egg to adult	21 days	Drone egg to adult	24 days
Queen egg to adult	16 days	Worker lifespan (summer)	6 weeks
Worker lifespan (winter)	4–6 months	Queen lifespan	3–5 years
Egg incubation	3 days	Larval stage	5–6 days
Pupal stage (worker)	12 days	Daily egg laying (queen)	1,500–2,000 eggs

Seasonal Beekeeper Calendar

Spring (Mar–May)

- Reverse brood boxes
- Begin feeding if stores low
- Watch for swarm cells
- Add supers as needed
- First Varroa count

Summer (Jun–Aug)

- Ensure ventilation
- Check stores weekly
- Harvest excess honey
- Keep water nearby
- Mid-season Varroa check

Fall (Sep–Nov)

- Treat Varroa if needed
- Feed to reach 60+ lb stores
- Reduce entrances
- Remove empty supers
- Final inspection before cold

Winter (Dec–Feb)

- Avoid opening hive
- Heft to check weight
- Ensure ventilation
- Prepare for spring
- Order new equipment

Honey Quality Quick Reference

Safe moisture content	≤ 18.5%	Fermentation risk above	18.6%
Normal honey pH	3.2 – 4.5	Granulation: natural	All varieties
Reliquify: gentle heat	95–104°F	Settling time before bottle	24–48 hrs



Speared Apiaries — Growing great beekeepers, one hive at a time.

speared-apiaries.com





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« A record is a garden of memory. »

« Each hive tells its own story. »

« Tend your bees. Tend your notes. »

« The attentive beekeeper never forgets. »

Speared Apiaries

Raw Honey & Beekeeping Supplies

speared-apiaries.com

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