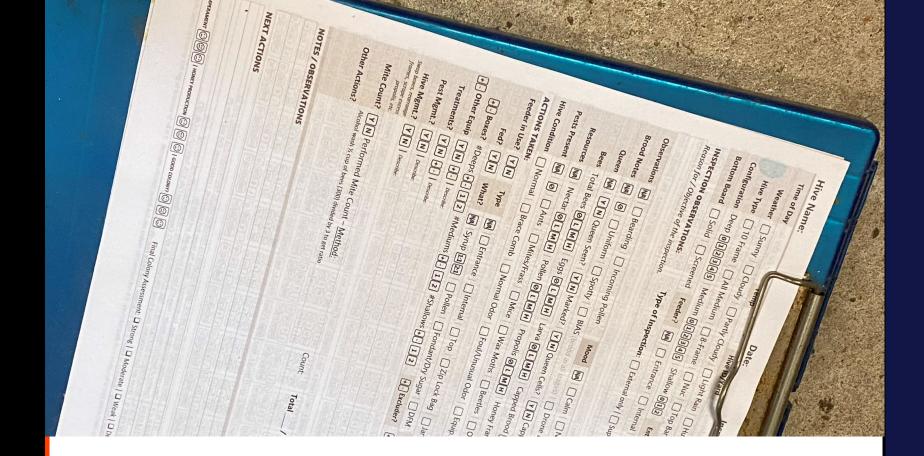


The Managed Mentoring Program on getting started in beekeeping.

Managed Mentoring



Managed Mentoring

Keeping Records of Your Hives

Lesson | Record Keeping



What is Covered in this Module

Have a System
Build a Body of Work
Choose a method to suit your style
Focus on the Biology Observations
Keep it Simple



Record Keeping

Keeping Records, and having a plan



Plan the Work....

□ The benefit of hive inspection records

- As a good beekeeper, a fundamental is plan the work and work the plan.
 - Keeping records, and tracking action items is one of the most important things to being a successful beekeeper
 - Knowing what you have done, and what you need to do by being organized and having a plan is one of the secrets to being a good beekeeper

When you fail to plan, You plan to fail...



Moments Lost in Time

□ At first...

- Record keeping in the beginning is just record keeping
 - It doesn't tell you much but it begins to build the story
 - When you have records to look back on you can track the progress of each colony
 - And given what you observe, you can track where its heading.
- Coming back to the moment
 - As you work with bees, you are in the moment. That moment in time, and especially the details, is lost to you in short order. Especially the specifics.



Details Matter

□ What did I do again?

- In time you will lose track of what was what without records to fall back on.
 - It is near impossible to keep it straight.
- The two-hive mix-up
 - This is especially true if you have more than one hive. It all blends together
 - □ You remember for example that you saw something in one hive and in your next 10-day cycle you have to go fix that when you inspect again. Now which hive was it 1 or 2?



First suggestion: Have a Plan

□ Guidance

- Many problems in the bee yard are due to an ad-hoc nature of working
 - Having a plan ensures objectives are addressed and also makes time efficient
 - It coincides with recordkeeping which is next.
- Haphazard is counter productive
 - Many beekeeping problems improve with a plan

Task Plan: July 30th, 2021 Work Plan	EQUIPMENT REQUIRED By location to be used			
Pad 3 - 10F poly	Treatment Materials Apivar Strips (x)			
Tasks:				
 □ Pull Honey Supers 	Feeders			
■ □ Add Apivar Strips	Mann lake Top Feeders - 10F (x) Brush Nuc Feeders - 5F (x)			
Pad 6 - Top Bar	6F Shims (x)			
Tasks:				
Pull honey	Equipment to Pull Honey			
 □ Add Apivar Strips 	Fume Board			
	Butyric Acid			
Pad 7 - Layens	Real-Estates Signs			
Tasks:	0-44			
□ Pull honey	Pad 1 Sheet of Newspaper for Combine			
■ Add Apivar Strips	☐ Full sized Mann-Lake Top Feeder			
Pad 8 - Russian Hive	Pad 2			
Tasks:	☐ 6F Shim			
■ □ Pull honey super	☐ 5F Feeder			
■ ☐ Add Apivar Strips				
	Pad 3			
Pad 12 – Route 202 Swarm	□ Apivar			
Tasks:	Pad 4			
Pull top honey deep	□ N/A			
■ Add Apivar Strips	1 N/A			
Pad 5 - All Medium hive	Pad 5			
Tasks:	☐ Layens Nuc with 5 frames with			
□ Prep a Nuc with 5-Frames of frames with Foundation.	Foundation			
Consider pulling any fully drawn honey frames for				
extraction. Swap with Foundation frames from Nuc.	Pad 6			
 	□ Apivar			
Ensure there is no queen.				
 Bring the medium down and combine. 	Pad 7			
 Move the deep to hive 1 for a combine. 	□ Apivar			
	Pad 9			

Keep Records

□ Document your experience

- Keeping notes about seasonal learnings helps continuity
 - Relying on memory works some of the time.
 - Notes, when done well do not fail
- Beekeeping is seasonal and why suffer relearning when you can use what you had experience.
- Taking the time to write things down helps with retention
 - The side effect of writing something is that you have to synthesize what you are documenting





1. What might you want to track?

Weather conditions

- Weather, good or bad, can impact how the bees behave and what happens to them when you are working them.
 - Was it cloudy, windy, raining, humid, storm coming in?

□ Hive Configuration

- When looking back, knowing what the hive stack was is a consideration for both your next inspection and retracing your path
 - □ Were the honey supers on? Is there an entrance reducer? What feeder is on the hive?



Understand Weather Influence











- So much of beekeeping is impacted by the weather
 - Its one thing to watch the weather, its another thing to have the intuition to know what impact it is having on a colony
- Think secondarily about internal hive atmosphere
 - What is going on inside the box.
 - What is happening when you take off the roof
 - What happens when you draw out a frame
 - What happens when you leave a box sit over to the side in the grass



2. What might you want to track?

□ Last Inspection – This Inspection

- What did you see?
 - Were there any outward signs of interest bearding, heavy flight, no flight, in coming pollen
 - Were the bees: calm, nervous, aggressive? Were you getting buzzed? Which hive? How did the bees look on the comb – calm, nervous and runny?
 - What did you discover?
 - □ See the queen? Brood in all stages (BIAS)? Lots of drones/No Drones?
 - □ What do the resources in the hive say to you? Was there a queen cell? Was it capped?



3. What might you want to track?

- What actions did you take?
 - Add boxes? Fill feeder? Mite Monitoring (capture results)
 - Did you do a Mite treatment when and what did you do?
- What are future action items?
 - Do you need to add boxes? Is it time to add an entrance reducer on the next inspection?
 - This and more lead to preparations needed to execute what comes next.
 - □ Like putting foundation in frames, so you can add the box on top....



You do You

□ Hive Inspection Form

- I designed a form that suits **me**
 - It captures important info
 - Looks complicated; but simple to use
- Filling it out
 - Fill in the boxes limited writing
 - Place to document notes
 - Place to set next actions

Hive Name:		Date:	Inspection Form#:	Pad#:					
Time of Day	Temp	o Hive ID/Yard	T	raffic at Entrance OLMH					
Weather	Sunny Cloudy	Partly Cloudy Lig	ht Rain Humid Dry	Light Breeze Windy					
Hive Type	10 Frame All Medium 8-Frame Nuc Top Bar Warre National Layens / Long								
Configuration	Deep 012345 M	ledium 012345 Sha	llow 012 Entrance Reducer	<↑> Slatted Rack					
Bottom Board	Solid Screened	Feeder? NA Entr	ance	Zip/Jar Other					
INSPECTION OBSERVATIONS: Type of Inspection: External only Superficial Extensive Reason for / Objective of the inspection.									
Observations		In anni an Dallan Mo							
Observations	NA Bearding		6 0 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -	Aggressive Buzzing					
Brood Notes			od in all stages) Drone Layer						
Queen	NA V N Queen See	n? Y N Marked? Y I	Queen Cells? YN Capped (Cells? Age ?123					
Bees	Total Bees OLMH	Eggs	OLMH Capped Brood O	LMH Drones OLMH					
Resources	NA Nectar OLM H	Pollen OLMH Pr	opolis OLMH Honey Frame	es 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8					
Pests Present	NA Ø _ Ants _	Mites/Frass Mice	Wax Moths Beetles Of	ther:					
Hive Condition	☐ Normal ☐ Brace C	Comb Normal Odor	Foul/Unusual Odor Equip	o. Damage Weight					
ACTIONS TAKE		10							
Feeder in Use			Top Zip Lock Bag						
Fedi		. , , 00 . 0	Fondant/Dry Sugar DFI						
		Mediums + 12 #Sha	llows +- 12 +- Excluder	r? +- Re-queen? Y N					
+- Other Equip									
Treatments:									
	YN Describe:								
Swap boxes, rearrange frames, scrape exces propolis, etc	s								
Mite Count			Count:	Total / 3 =Ratio					
Other Actions	Alcohol wash ½ cup of bees (3	300) divided by 3 to get ratio							
NOTES / OBSEI	RVATIONS								
NEXT ACTIONS	5								

Kevin Moment – Did you Notice?

Time of Day		Temp	Date: Hive ID/Yard	Inspection For	Traffic at Er	Pad#:	МН
		•		in Humid D			
	0 , 10	, , ,	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Top Bar Wai	,		
Bottom Board			2345 Shallow		000		CK _
Bottom Board	Solid Scre	eened Feeder ?	NA Entrance	Internal To	p U Zip/Jar	☐ Other	
	BSERVATIONS: jective of the inspec		Inspection: Exte	rnal only Superfic	ial Extensive		
neason joi 7 ob	jective of the inspec	uon.					
Observations	NA Bearding	-		NA Calm N			_
Brood Notes	NA Ø Uni	form Spotty	BIAS (brood in	all stages) Drone	Layer Man	y eggs in one	cell
Queen	NA YN Quee	n Seen? YN	Marked? YN Qu	een Cells? YN Ca	apped Cells?	Age ? 1	2 3
Bees	Total Bees ØL	MH Eggs Ø	LMH Larva Ø[MH Capped Bro	od ØLMH	Drones Ø L	MH
Resources	NA Nectar OL	MH Pollen	⊘LMH Propol	s ØLMH Hone	y Frames 0 1	2 3 4 5 6	7 8
Pests Present	NA Ø Ant	s Mites/Fras	s Mice Wa	x Moths Beetles	Other:		
Hive Condition	□ Normal □ B	race Comb	Normal Odor F	oul/Unusual Odor [Equip. Damage	Weight	
ACTIONS TAKE	EN:						
Feeder in Use	? Y N Type	N/A Entrar	ice Internal	Top Zip Lock Ba	ng Dar 0	Other	
Fed	? YN What?	NA Syrup 1:1	2:1 Pollen _	Fondant/Dry Sugar	DFM Amo	unt NA _ =	
		2 #Mediums (- 12 #Shallow	+-12 +-E	xcluder? +-	Re-queen?	YN
+- Other Equip	YN +- Des	cribe:					
Treatments	? YN +- Des	cribe:					
Pest Mgmt.	? YN Describe:						
Hive Mgmt. Swap boxes, rearrang frames, scrape exces propolis, etc.	e ess						
Mite Count	٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠	d Mite Count – N		Coun	t: Total	_ / 3 =F	Ratio
Other Actions		f bees (300) divided by	o to get ratio				
NOTES / OBSE	RVATIONS						
NEXT ACTIONS							





Choose a Compatible Method

Adobe Acrobat Document

Bkcorner Inspection Sheet

bkcorner.org and in the lesson links

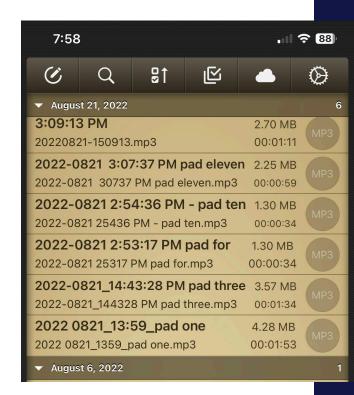
Hive Name:		D	ate:	Inspection	on Form#:		Pad#:	
Time of Day	Temp	Temp		1	raffic at Entr	ance 🛛	.][м][н	
Weather	Sunny Cloudy	Partly C	Cloudy Clight F	Rain 🔲 Humi	d Dry C	Light Breez	ze Win	dy
Hive Type	10 Frame All M	ledium 🔲	8-Frame Nuc	Top Bar	☐ Warre ☐] National	Layens /	Long
Configuration	Deep 012345 M	ledium 🛭	2345 Shallov	v 012 Em	trance Reducer		Slatted Ra	ck [
Bottom Board	Solid Screened	Feeder?	NA Entranc	e 🔲 Internal		Zip/Jar [Other	
	BSERVATIONS: lective of the inspection.	Type of I	Inspection: Ext	ternal only 🗌	Superficial] Extensive		
Observations	NA Bearding	Incoming P	ollen Mood	NA Caln	n Nervous	Aggre	ssive B	uzzing
Brood Notes	NA Ø Uniform	Spotty	BIAS (brood in	n all stages)	Drone Layer	Many	eggs in one	cell
Queen	NA YN Queen See	n? YN N	Marked? YN C	ueen Cells? (Y N Capped	Cells? A	\ge	2 3
Bees	Total Bees OLMH	Eggs 🔊 L	Larva	LМН Сар	ped Brood 🔊	LMH	rones 🔊 🗓	МН
Resources	NA Nectar OLM	Pollen @	LMH Propo	lis ØLM H	Honey Fram	es 0 1 2	3 4 5 6	78
Pests Present	NA Ø Ants	Mites/Frass	Mice W	ax Moths	Beetles C	ther:		
Hive Condition	☐ Normal ☐ Brace 0	Comb DN	Normal Odor	Foul/Unusual (Odor Equi	p. Damage	Weight	
ACTIONS TAKE	N:							
Feeder in Use	YN Type NA	Entrand	ce Internal [Top Zip	Lock Bag	Jar 🔲 Ot	her	
Fed	YN What? NA	Syrup 1:1	2:1 Pollen [Fondant/Dry	Sugar DF	M Amour	nt NA_	
+ Boxes	#Deeps + - 1 2 #	Mediums 🗐	. 12 #Shallov	vs +- 12	+ Exclude	r? +-	Re-queen?	YN
- Other Equip	YN +- Describe:							
Treatments	YN +- Describe:							
Pest Mgmt.	YN Describe:							
Hive Mgmt.: Swap baxes, rearrang frames, scrape exces propolis, etc	, (.)(.)							
Mite Count	- Liki i sinamica ime				Count:	Total	/ 3 =F	Ratio
Other Actions	Alcohol wash % cup of bees (300) divided by	3 to get ratio					



A Modified Evolution

Verbal Notes Option

- It does not have to be written, it could be recorded.
- Pros and Cons
 - You have to listen and transcribe
 - You learn to keep the notes short and concise
- Maybe a Mix of the Two?
 - Sometimes paper, sometimes audio





Learn Bee Biology

- □ Learn how to read frames
 - If you can see what is going on, you can make the right plans
- □ Understand what problems can occur
 - Think about the things that can go wrong
 - Become versed in discovering them (queen problems, EFB, Queenlessness, etc.)
 - Become versed in what to do about them.
 - One at a time build a solid understanding of these things
- □ Understand Basic Biological Patterns and Models



Basic Biological Patterns and Models

□ Hive Growth and Retraction

- Grasp the concepts for hive growth out of winter, summer dearth, winter development, winter dynamics
- Learn Swarm manifestation; swarm triggers and signs
- Learn Mite Biology
 - Know the dynamics of mite growth
 - Know how they impact bees and what Peak Growth, Peak Population, etc is.
 - □ Incredible resources is the Honey Bee Health Coalition





Book, form, other

- Some use a book, some use forms, some record and transcribe later.
 - The most important things is that you keep records
 - Whatever works for you, but it has to be reasonable
 - Start Simple: Do not complicate things, or you will not do it.
 - If it is not reasonable, you will not stick to it.
 - Recommendation
 - Before going in, record the details that you know
 - Go in and do your thing, and than, before doing anything else capture your observations.
 - If you wait, it will all run together, and you will not get it right
 - Consider a separate to-do list



Inspections Break it down

Build a plan

- If you are the type....
 - Before you go out, literally make a list of things to do.
 - Walk yourself through your objectives and make a list
 - This helps you be organized on what you are going to do
 - And more importantly what you will need
 - When you have the bees open, it is not the time to discover you are missing something
 - If you find yourself going back to the house during inspections, you are doing something wrong.



Closing Comments

Customary Close

- Where we stand, where we are going...
 - This module made the case for record keeping and provided some ideas to consider.
 - Our next lessons set the stage for monitoring and managing pests of the hive
 - Varroa Mite Management
 - Small Hive Beetles
 - Mite Monitoring
 - And Mite Treatment Options



Q&A

What Questions did we not anticipate?

- If you have feedback, you can leave a constructive comment; but be nice.
- You could also send an email to <u>comments@managedmentoring.com</u>
 - Please refer to this video in the subject so we know what the reference is.

