

Doing a disease inspection

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Why is it important?



To check our bees health

So we can deal with any problems

So we can prevent the spread of disease

Preparation

- Prepare a solution of soda crystals, washing up liquid and water
- Have a metal scrubber to clean tools
- Clean and sterilised suits and tools
- Disinfect boots with a solution of Virkon
- Wear two pairs of gloves. Have a pair of disposable gloves on top
- Always do any bad tempered or suspected hive last



- Lightly smoke the front of the hive
- Carefully remove any supers
- Remove the queen excluder

(if not in use all boxes will need checked)

- Check for the queen
- Pull out the dummy board or first frame
- Always check for the queen, dark side first
- Shake off the bees with a sudden stop





- Place the frame/ dummy board at the front of the hive
- Always checking for the queen shake all the bees off the frames
- •Inspect all frames and all brood cells of the frame (a frame of food can be put back)
- Check any perforated cells

- Check for healthy brood or other brood diseases such as chalk brood or sac brood
- Use smoke if needed
- •If you see the symptoms of EFB or AFB take a picture if you can, and email the bees mailbox



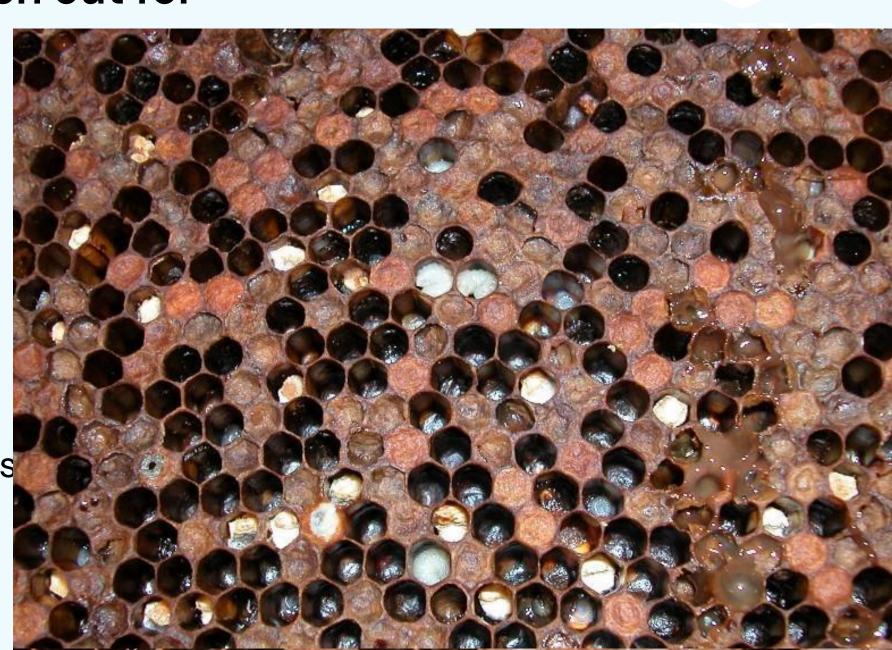
Diseases to watch out for

Notifiable disease Foulbroods

- EFB
- AFB

Others

- Nosema
- Chronic bee paralys
- Sac brood
- Chalkbrood



Bee disease recognition/ Apiary guides







Inspections and notifiable diseases

Bees_mailbox@gov.scot

- You are our best surveillance!
- Learn how to do a full brood inspection
- Learn how to identify brood diseases
- Differentiate between common and notifiable
- At least two full brood inspections a year
- Report suspicion of disease
- Learn which ones are the notifiable pests and how to identify them





Prevention

Prevention/ Hygiene

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Disease is caused by pathogens and stress!!

- Clean bee suits and other clothing
- Clean gloves
- Clean hive tools etc.
- Clean Hive equipment
- Replace brood comb regularly







Greatest risks of introduction of Pathogens



- Transferring combs of brood
- Transferring combs of honey
- Leaving combs out to be cleaned
- Feeding honey
- Second Hand Equipment
- Buying Bees!
- Swarms of unknown origin
- Do it at your peril!



Prevent Transmission



Good apiary practice

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- Keep apiary clean
- Regularly clean equipment
- Hive open for minimal time
- Don't squash bees
- Quarantine swarms and bought colonies
- Sterilise drawn comb







Particularly if you use shared extraction equipment

Double clean the extractor using a bleach solution first, then with washing liquid, then rinsing thoroughly

Good Practice to reduce the impact of Pathogens

- If pathogens escalate it could cause a huge **impact** with lost honey production, pollination and beekeeper numbers
- Improved husbandry decreases the risk of a pathogen taking hold, honey production and pollination increasing significantly

Better Bees – More Honey – Better Beekeeper – Sustainable Pollination



Chemical sterilisation with disinfectants

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- Brood boxes, supers and other beekeeping equipment can be effectively sterilised using disinfectants containing hypochlorite
- Sodium hypochlorite is present at a concentration of about 3% in household bleach.
- Research has shown that immersion for twenty minutes in a solution of 0.5% sodium hypochlorite kills AFB spores and other bacteria.





Swarms

SWARM CONTROL:

Public Nuisance

Disease spread

- Feral colonies
- Responsible to collect
- Public Nuisance
- Isolate for 6 weeks
- Fresh foundation
- Inspect & treat





Further information can be obtained from

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Tel-07795101861

BeeBase www.nationalbeeunit.com

You tube playlists

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRaE5UJIcBEXPZFpYACjErg/playlists

Podcast https://player.captivate.fm/episode/b031e430-eb19-45d5-a439-57bb9a04792d

https://player.captivate.fm/episode/31f89a0a-7262-46dd-bff3-3a572d9dc843

Feedback

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=mC1UyEzmbkS41QyY_-VIJp1I9LJf5atBjEazVFFwtU9UNkhQUEIENO1MRDJBTUQ5OTg5VE83RUpXSCQIQCNOPWcu

Reporting notifiable disease Bees_mailbox@gov.scot





Further information can be obtained from



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