



HEALTHY COLONY CHECKLIST

This checklist is useful for quick assessments anytime, but particularly end of winter, between more detailed assessments, and as a summary of detailed assessments. The completed checklist should reflect current colony health status and be a planning aid for management needed immediately, or in the near term.

Date:

Apiary ID:

Observer:

Hive ID:

Recorder:

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

Condition Met? (✓/X/?)*	Condition to Assess	Specific Notes and Management Needed
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 - All stages of brood and instars present (eggs 1-3, larvae 1-6, pupae 1-11)?	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 - Sufficient adult bees and age structure to care for brood and perform all tasks of the colony?*	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 - A young (<1 yr old), productive, laying queen present?	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	4 - Sufficient nutritious forage and food stores available (inside and/or outside the hive)?	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	5 - No (apparent) stressors present that would lead to reduced colony survival and growth potential?***	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	6 - Suitable space (not too much or too little) for current & near-term expected colony size that is sanitary, defensible, and room for egg laying?	<input type="text"/>

* ✓ = condition present/ok, X = condition needs to be managed. Use "?" only if unsure and follow up as needed.

** Including: feeding brood, caring for queen, thermoregulation, foraging, house cleaning, undertaking, guarding.

*** If unsure, follow up with more detailed assessment as soon as possible.

General Notes and Observations