

Hive & Colony Record – Explanation of Codes and Headings

Hive & Colony Record – Explanation of Codes

A hive record is a convenient way of showing the state of the colony each time it is inspected or manipulated. A simple marking system will give sufficient information to make decisions on what needs to be done next time the colony is inspected. It is important that records are kept.

Year	The calendar year e.g. 2022, 2023
Stand No.	The ID of the stand in the apiary, e.g. Stand No. 1
Hive Type	National, WBC, Langstroth etc.
Hive Size	Brood (B), Queen Excluder (/), Super (S), Super (S) = B/SS
Queen Year/Introduced	Year that the Queen was introduced to the colony, e.g. 2022
Marked	Is the Queen marked with a colour (Yes/No)
Colour	Colour that the Queen is marked with. Years ending in 0/5 = blue, 1/6 white, 27 = yellow, 3/8 = red, 4/9 = green
Date	Date of inspection e.g. 01/01/2022
Seams of Bees	Number of seams of bees in the brood nest, e.g. 7 = 7 seams of bees in total
Frames of Brood	Number of frames of brood in total e.g. 6 = 6 frames of brood in total
Brood (e/u/s)	State of the brood, e = eggs seen, u = unsealed brood seen, s = sealed brood seen, x = no brood seen
Amount of Stores	Quantity of stores available, e.g. 1 = 1 frame of store
Queen Seen	✓ = Queen seen x = Queen not seen
Queen Cells	x = No Queen Cells, No.X = Number of Queen Cells seen and removed e.g. 10X, No.L = Number of Queen Cells seen and left e.g. 2L.
Feed	Has the colony been given any feed, e.g. 2 litres of 2:1 Syrup in rapid feeder
Supers	How many supers have been added or removed, e.g. +1 = 1 super added, -1= 1 super removed
Temp 1-5 (Temperament)	The docility of the colony. 5 = Nice, calm bees, 4 = Bees agitated, 3 = Bees stinging, 2 = Bees that follow too much, etc.
Health	The state of the brood and adult bees. ✓ = All ok. CB = Possible Chalk Brood, etc. If you are not sure whether a disease is present, it is advised that you contact the Regional Bee Inspector.
Notes	Anything of interest to add, e.g. damage to hive.