

# Hive Records for Improvement



# NIHBS Queen Rearing Groups Scheme 2020

## Hive Records for Improvement



# Successful beekeeping depends on notes

- READ your hive
- RECORD notes for every visit
- REVIEW before next visit



## Successful beekeeping depends on notes

- REVIEW at the end of the season
- REACT to the results
- REVISE your measurements
- REPEAT next season



# How will you record your notes ?

notebook

Online app

Duck tape

Loose leaf binder

Record card under roof

Coloured thumb tacks

Record cards in plastic pockets



# How will you record your notes ?

notebook

Online app

Record card under roof

Colour

**It doesn't really matter – so long as it is not just in your head**

back tape

tacks

Loose leaf binder

Record cards in plastic pockets



## What should you record ?

### Notes for Management

- **R** - Room
- **E** - Eggs
- **D** - Development
- **D** - Disease
- **S** - Stores

Adequate Space	Queen Present & Laying as expected	Developing as Expected / Queen Cells Present	Disease - Abnormality	Sufficient Stores Until Next Inspection
Q. 1	Q. 2	Q. 3	Q. 4	Q. 5



## What should you record ?

### Notes for Management

- **R** - Room
- **E** - Eggs
- **D** - Development
- **D** - Disease
- **S** - Stores

Adequate Space	Queen Present & Laying as expected	Developing as Expected / Queen Cells Present	Disease - Abnormality	Sufficient Stores Until Next Inspection
Q. 1	Q. 2	Q. 3	Q. 4	Q. 5
✓	6	✓	✓	✓
✓	7	✓	✓	✓
✓	9	✓	✓	✓
✓	11	✓	✓	✓





## What should you record ?

### Notes for Improvement & Selection

- **Docility**
- **Steadiness**
- **Brood Pattern**
- **Pollen Storage**
- **Comb Building**

Handling (Docility)	Steadiness on comb	Brood Pattern	Pollen Storage	Comb Building	
Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	



## What should you record ?

### Notes for Improvement & Selection

- **Docility**
- **Steadiness**
- **Brood Pattern**
- **Pollen Storage**
- **Comb Building**

Handling (Doffing)	Steadiness (noisy)	Brood Pattern	Pollen Storage	Comb Building
Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5
3	3	4	4	
4	3	4	3	
4	4	4	3	3
4	4	4	3	
4	4	4	4	4



## What should you record ?

### Notes for Improvement & Selection

- **Docility**
- **Steadiness**
- **Brood Pattern**
- **Pollen Storage**
- **Comb Building**

Handling (Doffing)	Steadiness (muzzling)	Brood Pattern	Pollen Storage	Comb Building
Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5
3	3	4	4	
4	3	4	3	
4	4	4	3	3
4	4	4	3	
4	4	4	4	4



# NIHBS Queen Rearing Groups Scheme 2020

## Reviewing Records

HIVE RECORD CARD		Hive #: 107	Hive Type: COMMERCIAL			Location: LADYTOWN					
Queen Detail:	2013 C & M RED - Native amm - QM=Q67 N'bridge -Mated @Naas										
Date	Notes	Adequate space	Queen Laying as expected	Development of Emerging Queen Cells Present	Disease - Abnormally	Build/loss of Brood Nest (temporarily)	Handling (Quality)	Speed/size of comb	Brood Pattern	Pollen storage	Comb Building
		Q. 1	Q. 2	Q. 3	Q. 4	Q. 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5
11/04/14	E, YB, building up, 3 x stores left	✓	6	✓	✓	✓	3	3	4	4	
18/04/14	E, YB, building up, Wet Nat Deep on - no Q Excluder	✓	7	✓	✓	✓	4	3	4	3	
25/04/14	E, YB, no Q cells, working in Nat Deep - replace 4 old Comm deep next visit	✓	9	✓	✓	✓	4	4	4	3	3
02/05/14	E, YB, No Q cells, 4xComm Deep on & 4 off, 4 Brood up, 7 down	✓	11	✓	✓	✓	4	4	4	3	
09/05/14	E, YB, No Q cells Q Excl on + National Shallow	✓	13	✓	✓	✓	4	4	4	4	4
16/05/14	E, YB, no Q cells, some bees in super	✓	14	✓	✓	✓	4	4	4	4	4
23/05/14	No Q cells, E, YB, some work in super	✓	14	✓	✓	✓	4	4	4	4	4
30/05/14	No Q cells E, YB, super ½ full, 2nd Nat Shallow on	✓	16	✓	✓	✓	3	3	4	4	4
06/06/14	E, YB, no QC, - some capped in 1st super, plenty space	✓	17	✓	✓	✓	4	4	4	4	4
13/06/14	E, YB, NO Q, 1st super ½ capped, 2nd super started	✓	18	✓	✓	✓	4	4	4	4	4



# NIHBS Queen Rearing Groups Scheme 2020

## Reviewing Records

HIVE RECORD CARD		Hive #: 107	Hive Type: COMMERCIAL			Location: LADYTOWN									
Queen Detail:	2013 C & M RED - Native amm - QM=Q67 N'bridge -Mated @Naas					Available Space	Queen Laying as expected	Developmental Expiry Own Cells Present	Disuse - Abnormally	Surficial Store Used Next Inspection	Harvesting (Density)	Broodless stretch	Brood Pattern	Pattern Change	Comb Building
Date	Notes	Q. 1	Q. 2	Q. 3	Q. 4	Q. 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5	Score 0 - 5				
11/04/14	E, YB, building up, 3 x stores left	✓	6	✓	✓	✓	3	3	4	4					
18/04/14	E, YB, building up, Wet Nat Deep on - no Q Excluder	✓	7	✓	✓	✓	4	3	4	3					
25/04/14	E, YB, no Q cells, working in Nat Deep - replace 4 old Comm deep next visit	✓	9	✓	✓	✓	4	4	4	3	3				
02/05/14	E, YB, No Q cells, 4xComm Deep on & 4 off, 4 Brood up, 7 down	✓	11	✓	✓	✓	4	4	4	3					
09/05/14	E, YB, No Q cells Q Excl on + National Shallow	✓	13	✓	✓	✓	4	4	4	4	4				
16/05/14	E, YB, no Q cells, some bees in super	✓	14	✓	✓	✓	4	4	4	4	4				
23/05/14	No Q cells, E, YB, some work in super	✓	14	✓	✓	✓	4	4	4	4	4				
30/05/14	No Q cells E, YB, super ½ full, 2nd Nat Shallow on	✓	16	✓	✓	✓	3	3	4	4	4				
06/06/14	E, YB, no QC, - some capped in 1st super, plenty space	✓	17	✓	✓	✓	4	4	4	4	4				
13/06/14	E, YB, NO Q, 1st super ½ capped, 2nd super started	✓	18	✓	✓	✓	4	4	4	4	4				
							Total	38	37	40	37	27			
							Average	3.8	3.7	4	3.7	3.86			



# Selecting for Improvement

- Measure against your requirements
- Cull the worst
- Rear from the best ( Queens & Drones )
- Measurable improvement follows with every generation



# NIHBS Queen Rearing Groups Scheme 2020

Thank you for your attention



Native Irish Honey Bee Society



[www.nihbs.org](http://www.nihbs.org)



@nihbs