

	Symptoms	Diagnosis	notes
1	Adult/brood sparse; Dead brood cluster sometimes many dead bees on bottom board; No honey reserves or no reserves close by	Starvation	Look for evidence of robbing Bees abandon brood or small brood area Bees head in under dead cluster
2	Small adult remains often as cluster outside brood area near honey; honey present or robbed; new brood area	Freezing	Colony established late? Poor mite control? Check for robbing: Poor insulation at top; upper entrance
3	2 different adult remains -smallish cluster on 2-3 frames Bee cluster off brood near honey but no stored honey in immediate area	Freezing Split cluster	Bees apparently OK until cold snap; Little honey to insulate brood
4	Adults wet, heavy mold	Too much moisture	Evidence of moisture on top covers. Dead, moldy bees on bottom board.
5	Evidence once larger colony; honey present; Brood evidence shows stress – left over non-emerged adults (mold/decay); DWV; mite frass; brood scales	BEE PMS 	Major factor in loss ; evidence of large brood area but few adult bodies. If mite sample >5% mites in fall; snot (cruddy) brood
6	Mouse nest; shrew evidence 	Small mammal predation	Shrews (uncommon) eat bees; mice a colony disturbance – weak colonies
7	Physical evidence of damage to outside of hive 	Larger mammal predation	Skunks, raccoon, larger animals (tipping colonies) bear damage evident.
8	Comb slime; brood comb ragged. 	SHB	weak colony evidence of slime; larvae of beetles; adult beetles noted
9	Surviving colony weak; few isolated honey stores; colony with extra space Webbing extensive	scavengers	Yellow jacket; wax moth damage 
10	No adults; honey robbed	Absconding + Pesticide kill Queenless accidents	Rare

Deadout summary sheet

Dewey M. Caron 2023