



DUNFERMLINE AND WEST FIFE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Colony Assessment.

General Assessment - Apply to every colony.

1. Is queen Present and Laying?
2. Has colony enough Room till next inspection?
3. Has colony enough Stores till next inspection?
4. Is the colony Developing as well as others?
5. Any signs of Disease or abnormality?
6. Any queen cells?

Selection for Breeding.

In addition to above consider the following **behavioural traits**:

A = Docility. (Non-stinging, non-following, non-jumping.)

B = Steadiness on the comb. (Absence of running.)

C = Brood Pattern. (Compactness of brood; absence of empty cells.)

D = Pollen storage. (Pollen packed over, around and under the brood nest.)

E = Comb Building. (Speed in occupying supers, drawing foundation, honey storage and quality of comb capping.)

Our **Colony Assessment Card** covers all eleven criteria.