

## **KEY FOR RECORD CARD**

**COLONY #:** a unique identifying number assigned to a colony. This is often a combination of an abbreviation for the apiary and a number. For example, colonies kept in the 'UPPER HOUGHTON' yard would be numbered UH1, UH2, UH3,....UHn, where n is the number of colonies in the yard.

**DATE:** the date that the colony was placed in its current location

**CURRENT YEAR:** the current year

**COMBS FROM:** disregard

**Mate#:** the number assigned to an inseminated queen. Not used for most purposes.

**QN TYPE:** the type of queen, such as SMR, RUSSIAN, Italian, Carniolan, etc.

**FROM:** the source where the queen was obtained. Such as Weaver, Wilbanks, etc.

**INTRO:** the date the queen was introduced to the colony

**ACCEPT:** the date the queen was found to be accepted in the colony

**MARK:** an abbreviation for the color used to mark the queen's thorax (Blue, Red, Yellow, etc.). If numbered tags are used, then this could be R45 or Y23.

**CLIPPED:** use L for left, R for right and U for unclipped. Queens are clipped L if produced in odd years and R if in even years.

**REMARKS:** anything of interest, including method of introduction

**DISPOSAL:** the final disposition of the queen (failed, drone layer, superseded, etc.)

## **BOTTOM PORTION OF CARD IS FOR INSPECTIONS**

DATE: the date of the inspection

QN: the Mark of the queen if seen, or U for unmarked, SS for supersedure, NS for not seen, NL for not looked

QUEEN CELLS: SLD: the number of sealed queen cells found

QUEEN CELLS: OPN: the number of open queen cells (cells with larvae, not queen cups)

BROOD: E: a check indicating that eggs were observed, a dash to indicate eggs not observed

BROOD: L: a check indicating that larvae were observed, a dash to indicate larvae not observed

BROOD: P: a check indicating that capped brood was observed, a dash to indicate capped brood was not observed

QLT: the quality of the brood. Various schemes can be used. We use E (excellent), G (good), F (fair) and P (poor). Excellent and good require no special attention. Fair should be re-examined to determine if further action is needed. P requires queen replacement.

QNT: an indication of the quantity of brood present. Various schemes can be used. The approximate number of combs of brood can be indicated (1, 2 ....10, etc.). Alternatively, one can use the E, G, F and P system above.

STR: an indication of the strength of the colony in terms of worker population. Various schemes can be used. The approximate number of combs of bees can be indicated (1, 2 ....10, etc.). Alternatively, one can use the E, G, F and P system above.

TMP: the number of stings received.

FRM: the number of frames present. We track the number of frames in brood nest and in the honey supers (BN/HS: 20/40, or 10/20, or 20/0, etc.).

DIS: an indication of any diseases found and the severity of each.

REMARKS: anything of interest, including anything that needs to be done for the colony (drone layer, requeen), any actions you took (added 2 deeps of supers, applied Apistan, pulled honey, etc.)

INT: initials of person inspecting the hive.