



Reason bee inspection services were started
Highly contagious
We take it very seriously



Key to AFB - Spore Forming Bacteria

- Name has nothing to do with origin
- Affects only Apis Mellifera
- Brood disease
- Kills pupa not larvae
- Highly contagious
- Cell cleaners distribute spores
- Larvae raised in contaminated cells (old equipment)
- Larvae are fed contaminated honey
- Young larvae are more susceptible than older larvae (first 48 hrs. critical)
- Honey can store AFB spores for years where colonies exhibit no signs
- Anti biotic resistant strains have emerged
- Healthy hives can manage a low spore load

Signs of AFB:

- Dead or weak colony – few flights – low honey production
- Sunken brood caps
- Spotty brood pattern
- Perforated capped cells
- Shrivelled putrid pre pupa in bottom of cell - Pupal tongue
- Scales in cells
- Ropey cell contents
- Won't take fall feed
- Important - learn to recognize the symptoms of AFB and other brood diseases.

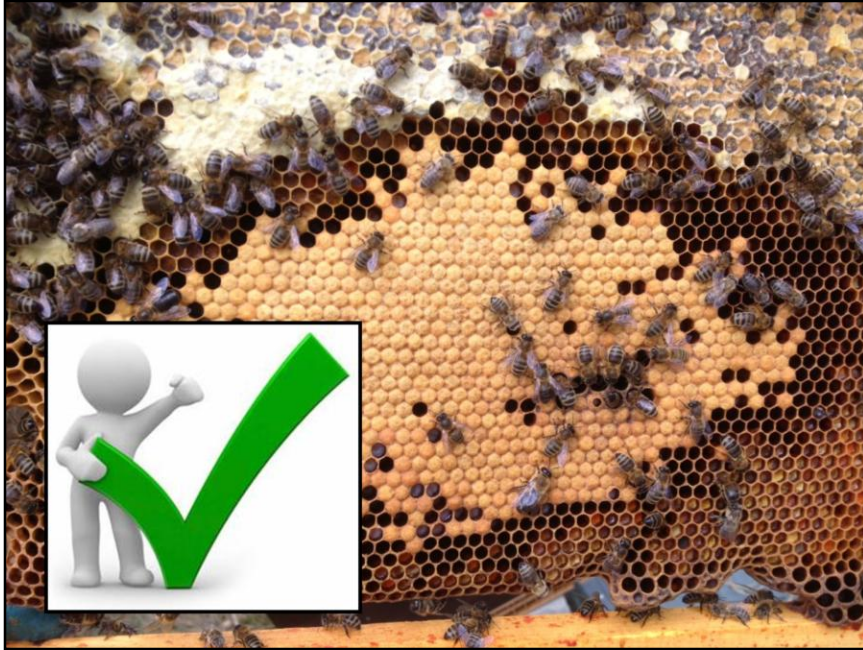




Scale—formed from the dead pupae –contains millions of spores
-one scale is enough to create widespread afb in the colony

1. Report to Apiary inspection branch.
2. Remove diseased brood and frames and burn or dispose where it will be buried. Don't irradiate, destroy.
3. Send sample to Apiculture office for analysis.
4. Follow a 20% frame rotation.
5. Use caution when moving/swapping bees and equipment.
6. Never leave used equipment around for foraging bees to access.
7. Use hygienic practices. E.g. visit suspect hives last.
8. Prevent robbing.
9. Shake out (during flow only).
10. Oxytetracycline . Note: only kills vegetative state. Can "hide" disease.
11. Use caution with swarms.
12. Number one prevention tool is resistant stock.





Ropiness is definitive

Early detection

Robbing and poor beekeeping practices

Antibiotics do not kill spores but are useful for reducing the vegetative state .

No longer used prophylactically

lotron!