

Anatomy of a Varroa EasyCheck®



Why and how to monitor my hives?



Main objective: Avoid a critical level of varroa mite infestation

TIME OF MONITORING	OBJECTIVE
Early spring	Early detection makes it possible to plan effectively and assess the need for an early springtime treatment without honey supers.
During a honey flow*	Detect a massive varroa build-up and plan possible intermittent treatment between honey flows.
Late July – August	Choose the best-suited late-season treatment depending on the level of infestation. <i>This check is really important, as it will help you to compare the infestation rate before/after treatment, and thus the efficacy of your mite treatment.</i>
September – October - December	Ensure effectiveness of autumn treatment and assess the need for additional treatment in winter (when brood is absent) or early next spring.

*Particularly in areas where there are large number of hives belonging to different beekeepers.

TIME OF THE YEAR	INFESTATION LEVEL
Early spring	≥ 0.5 %
Between two honey flows	2 %
End of season: July - August (before treatment)	3 %
Fall (after treatment)	≥ 1 %

Treatment required!

DID YOU KNOW? A 3% infestation can cut honey yield by up to 13 kilos/year (28 pounds).¹ Varroa infestation does not only impact the health, but also the hive productivity.

¹ Maisonnasse, et al, 2014. A study conducted by INRA found that a 3% Varroa infestation cuts honey production by 5 kilos (11 lbs) of lavender honey per flow, or as much as 13 kilos (28 lbs) per year.



ESY-01-EX-N05-06/26

VARROA MONITORING 3 monitoring methods reunited in the same tool!



Alcohol wash



Sugar roll



CO2 injection



Non contractual photo - The expendables (alcohol, sugar, CO2 injector and cartridges) are to be purchased separately
US PATENT n° US10,959,410, B2..

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Want to become a varroa mite expert? Download our Integrated Varroa Mite Guide, scan this QR code.



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ALCOHOL WASH

Alcohol wash consists of immersing a sample of bees into alcohol and then gently shaking the EasyCheck to detach the phoretic mites so they can be counted.



- Fast, easy and inexpensive.
The liquid can be re-used for up to 10 counts.
- The most consistent in terms of delivering accurate results. Recognized as the most accurate, reliable, and economical option for beekeepers.¹⁻²

1 - Honey Bee Health Coalition - Tools for Varroa Management 7th edition, Page 7
2 - Efficiency of Varroa monitoring methods, the benefits of standardized monitoring devices.
Ludovic de Feraudy, Dr. Ulrike Marsky & Ph.D. Jiri Danihlik. - Apimondia 2019 proceeding.



POWDERED SUGAR ROLL

With this method, the bees are rolled with powdered sugar, causing the mites to separate from the bees. The EasyCheck is then gently shaken, causing the sugar and the mites to pass through the white basket's holes.



- Inexpensive.
- Keeps the sample of bees alive.



The monitoring result may vary depending on the experience of use and air humidity (agglomeration of sugar).



CO₂ INJECTION

In the CO₂ method, bees and mites are rendered unconscious by exposure to carbon dioxide gas. The sample of anesthetized bees is then gently shaken in the EasyCheck, causing the mites to fall from the bees.



- Fast.
- Keeps the sample of bees alive.
- Research conducted in Europe indicates results similar in accuracy to alcohol wash.¹



Requires the purchase of the Varroa EasyCheck Injector + CO₂ cartridges refills.

Standard 16g non-threaded cartridges from the brands Liss and SKS were tested as examples of compatible products.

1 - Efficiency of Varroa monitoring methods, the benefits of standardized monitoring devices.
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