

**Washington State University  
Honey bee colony health data sheet**

**Beekeeper contact information** (all public disclosures of data will delete reference to individuals)

Name:

Address:

Phone and email:

Name of local beekeeping association and membership status:

Note: your sample labels should be numeric and include your initials and date

**Background information on beekeeping operation**

Number of colonies overwintered last year:

Estimated colony losses in the past 12 months. Were these replaced/rebuilt?

Predominant "strain" of bees used in the operation:

Origin of stocks if known (queen producer, Australia/NZ, etc.):

All chemicals/antibiotics used for disease/pest management in the last 12 months and frequency of use:

Have you seen symptoms in your operation that appear to be CCD?

Additional comments: use additional pages

**Sampling information**

Date samples were taken:

Number being submitted for analysis\*:

\*Recommended - 1-10 colonies = 1 sample, 11-25 colonies = 2 samples, 26-50 colonies = 3 samples, 51-100 colonies = 5 samples, 101 – 200 colonies = 7 samples, 201 – 500 colonies = 10 samples, > 501 colonies = call the Bee Lab

Reason for sampling (routine, obvious disease problem, other):

Do you have specific information to share regarding any individual sampled colonies? (refer to sample labels): use additional pages

## FIELD SAMPLING

1. Partially fill plastic bottles (see below) with rubbing alcohol (70% Isopropyl alcohol) - one per colony to be sampled. Note: bees need to be completely submerged in alcohol.
2. Write sample number and date of collection, **with pencil**, on a small piece of paper (approximately one square inch) and put inside bottle. Sample number should be your initials followed by numerals referring to the specific colony being sampled. Thus, WSBA president Jerry Tate would send in samples as JT1, JT2, etc.
3. Remove lid/inner hive cover and shake bees into any deep-walled pan. (see below)
4. Scoop up ½ cup of bees with a measuring cup (see below) and funnel into a plastic bottle containing alcohol. Close lid securely.

\*if there are not enough bees on the lid/inner hive cover to fill ½ cup, shake bees from outer frames. Note: returning foragers may also be sampled by temporarily closing colony and collecting foragers with insect net – make notation of sample source (i.e. foragers or in-house bees) in submitted paperwork.

5. Mail samples in a box or padded envelope to:

**Bee Diagnostic Service  
Department of Entomology  
Washington State University  
166 FSHN  
Pullman, WA 99164-6382**

MATERIALS	EXAMPLES
plastic bottle	urine sample bottle, Nalgene® bottle
deep-walled pan	rectangular plastic dishpan
½ cup measuring cup	½ cup measuring cup for cooking, any plastic cup pre-measured to hold ½ cup