

### **Nosema inspection service.**

There is a charge of £2 per sample. A sample must consist of 25 to 30 DEAD bees for a statistically viable result.

You can contact me by e-mail or mobile(text) to make arrangements.

Photographs of each slide sample will be taken. I'll provide you with a copy in electronic format for your records if you wish. By taking photographs it saves on preserving and maintaining stores of microscope slide samples.

### **Some rules and instructions.**

No live Bees. 25 to 30 Bees per sample, no more.

Bees are to be recently dead. Within 72 hours. Preferable method is by freezing.

Do not freeze for a prolonged period, i.e. over 24 hours, this causes desiccation and cell rupture leading to poor samples.

Alcohol can be used to kill the Bees but don't leave them in the liquid too long or they go mushy. Just long enough to kill them. Contact me before taking any Bees. No point in killing them only to find I've gone on holiday or have work commitments.

Put the Bees in a small container. Bees, your contact details and payment can be posted to me, popped in the letter box or left in one of the wheelie bins at the side of the house. If you deposit them in a wheelie bin make sure you leave a note in the letter box. I don't have x-ray vision and I gave up telepathy years ago.

### **Suggestions.**

If you've got more than eight hives and want all testing please contact me prior to taking samples. It will be best to stagger the sampling.

For those of you with a lot of hives in an apiary I suggest taking a representative number of samples. e.g. For 10 hives in an apiary take samples from four hives. Be selective too e.g. hives not developing as expected, sudden supersedure, low honey yield, defecation inside hive, on exterior walls, dead/dying Bees in hive vicinity etc.

Please remember Nosema is NOT endemic. But it is serious and sufficiently common to be mindful of it.

Do you or do you not have the Bees tested? That's up to you. Read up on Nosema, especially the conditions that can promote, propagate it and how best to arrest and avoid it.

If you have any questions do contact me.

Contact details.

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