

HONEY DO LIST

Monthly Beekeeping Checklist



DECEMBER

Your bees are sleeping, kind-of. It's still good to check in on the kids by listening from the outside during the winter months. If you've followed instructions, your bees are tucked away in their cluster and are keeping the Queen warm. These bees are special as they live much longer than spring and summer bees. Keep checking for things like Bee Poo and use cool cameras to take infrared pictures. Make sure pests stay away and your hive is protected from the elements as much as possible.

CHECKLIST

- **Observation:** Look at the weather and be ready to move quickly based on upcoming weather to do external inspections only.
 1. It's ok to remove your rap and look in through the windows very, Very, VERY briefly.
 2. **DO NOT:** Cause the cluster to break inside the hive. It may spell out doom for your bees. If you ever see this, close up everything quickly, as you have disturbed them and now they are going to go on the defensive, causing cold to enter the hive.
- **Observation:** Look for Bee Poo. To read more about this [Click Here](#).
- **Action:** #SnowUsYourBees and take some pictures of your bees and share them. Winter is not a typical time that people think of beekeeping. But it is important to create an awareness around the challenges of beekeeping in the winter. It's one of the largest times for losses.
- **Observation:** If you are able, take some time to check on the internal temperature of the hive. It will let you know how the bees are doing. Use an infrared camera or a laser thermometer and point it at your entrance. It may give you some peace of mind.
- **Suggestion:** If you have not had a chance to input data into the Healthy Hive Management Software. Now is the time. Get caught up on your data management and look at interesting trends or time frames. Ask the Beepods Beekeepers some questions.
- **Action:** Read and learn. Your bees may be dormant, but it's a good time for you to get caught up on what's going on in beekeeping, new books, and new information on the Data-Backed Sustainable Beekeeping Philosophies and making sure you are ready for spring.

This checklist was created for beekeepers specifically in Midwest, USA. It may need to be adjusted for other beekeepers based on weather, location and other environmental factors. This list will be updated and variations will be created over time as needed. If you would like to help with the development of these checklists, please, contact us.

Always be sure to check Beepods.com for updated lists or information in the Members Resource Area.

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