



## Sentinel Apiary Program – Determining Queen Status

Queen status can be confirmed sighting the queen or eggs that appear normal (i.e. not multiple eggs per cell or eggs on the side of a cell, indicating laying workers). While a visual of the queen before sampling is ideal, it is not necessary as it will slow sampling down considerably. Check your frame to be sampled until you are confident the queen is not on it, shaking off some bees if necessary. If there are too many bees on the frame you risk missing the queen.

Abbreviation	Queen Status	Description
QS	Queen Seen	Queen seen while sampling
QR	Queen Right	Queen was not seen, but eggs are seen
QNS	Queen Not Seen	Queen and eggs not seen, but looks queen right
VQ	Virgin Queen	Queen seen, but appears new, may not be laying yet
DL	Drone Layer	Lots of drone brood interspersed with worker brood
QL	Queen Less	Queen and young brood not found
LW	Laying Worker	Queen dead; Multiple eggs per cell, often on the side walls