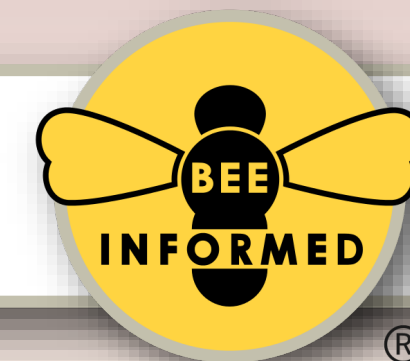


# Case scenarios

What would you suspect if confronted with the following scenarios  
What would you do (if anything)?

# Scenario 1



A fellow beekeeper calls you to get advice on what's happening with one of their colonies.

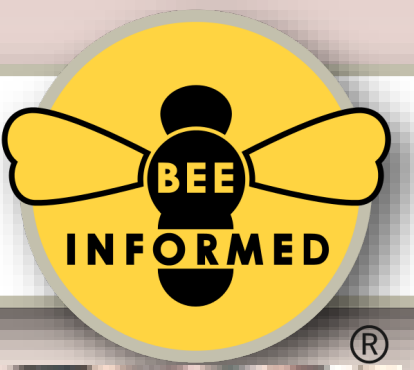
It is early spring, the bees have barely started to pick up the pace.

They went to have a first look at their colonies after the winter, and noticed a lot of debris at the entrance of their colony, among which a fair amount of dead bees.

Should they be worried?



# Scenario 2



A fellow beekeeper calls you to get advice on what's happened with one of their colonies. We're in early spring in DC. They just peaked in to see which of their colonies made it past the winter.

That one colony was very strong last summer and still looked big into the fall. They made sure it had enough food too.

Unfortunately, it didn't make it. A tiny cluster of dead bees is all that is left, the size of a softball. There are hardly any dead bees on the bottom board. There is still a lot of honey left in the top supers. There is some patch of capped brood left, very spotty, maybe with some bees dead on emergence too.

What happened?

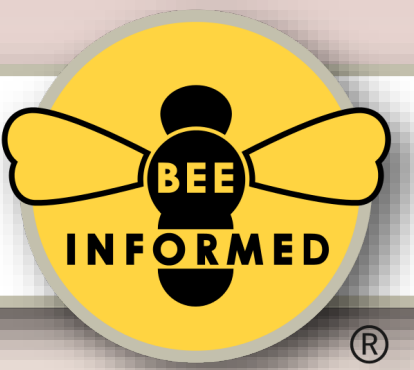


At close inspection:

If you look closely in the cells around the brood, you will see white crystals stuck to the cell walls, looking like someone sprinkled coarse salt in the brood nest.



# Scenario 3



A fellow beekeeper send you a picture of one of the brood frames in their colonies. It shows a typical “shotgun” pattern. (Note: the missing cells are not just back-filled with honey or pollen)

Can you advise them on what they should do from here?  
Should they be worried?

