CAPA - 2024 Core Winter loss survey questions

The followings are the core questions that will be used in 2024 by each provincial apiarist for reporting the colony winter losses at the national level. As it has been since 2007, the objective is to estimate the winter kills with a simple and standardized method while taking into account the large diversity of situations around the country. This is a survey so these questions are to be answered by the beekeepers.

1. How many full sized colonies[1] were put into winter in fall 2023?

Outdoor wintering	Indoor wintering	Total

2. How many full sized colonies[1] survived the 2023/2024 winter and were considered viable[2] on May 1st (British Columbia), May 15th (Ontario, Quebec and Maritimes) or May 21st (Alberta, Manitoba, Newfoundland and Saskatchewan)?

Outdoor wintering	Indoor wintering	Total

3. Which method of treatment did you use for **varroa control** in **2023**? (Choose all that apply)

Treatment	Beginning of beekeeping season	Mid beekeeping season (honey flow)	End of beekeeping season (late flow or no supers)
Apistan (Fluvalinate)	☐	☐	☐
CheckMite+ (Coumaphos)	☐	☐	☐
Apivar (Amitraz)	☐	☐	☐
Bayvarol (Flumethrin)	☐	☐	☐
Thymovar (Thymol)	☐	☐	☐
ApiLifeVar (Thymol)	☐	☐	☐
65% formic acid – 40 mL multiple applications	☐	☐	☐
65% formic acid – 250 mL single application (Mite Wipe)	☐	☐	☐
MAQS (formic acid)	☐	☐	☐
Formic Pro (formic acid)	☐	☐	☐

1 Does not include nucleus colonies
2 Viable: A viable colony, in a standard 10-frame hive, is defined has having 4 frames or more being 75% bee-covered on both sides.
NB: You must not include in this data new colonies created by division or purchased in spring 2023. You must however include overwintered colonies that would have been sold before May 1st (British Columbia), May 15th (Ontario, Quebec and Maritimes) or May 21st (Alberta, Manitoba, Newfoundland and Saskatchewan).

Oxalic acid – drip	☐	☐	☐
Oxalic acid – sublimation	☐	☐	☐
Hopguard II and III (Hop compounds)	☐	☐	☐
Other (please specify) _____	☐	☐	☐
None	☐	☐	☐

4. Which monitoring methods did you use for **varroa monitoring** in 2023?

Monitoring method	Beginning of beekeeping season	Mid beekeeping season (honey flow)	End of beekeeping season (late flow or no supers)
Mite fall/sticky board	☐	☐	☐
Alcohol wash	☐	☐	☐
Sugar shake	☐	☐	☐
CO_2 roll	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐
None	☐	☐	☐

5. Did you monitor for varroa **before and after treatment** in 2023? (Choose all that apply)

	Before treatment	After treatment
Always	☐	☐
Sometimes	☐	☐
No	☐	☐

6. Which method of treatment did you use for **nosema** control in 2023? (Choose all that apply)

Treatment	Beginning of beekeeping season	End of beekeeping season
Fumagillin (antibiotic)	☐	☐
Other (please specify) _____	☐	☐
None	☐	☐

7. Did you apply the following antibiotics (prescription drugs) in 2023 for foulbrood diseases control? (Choose all that apply)

Treatment	Beginning of beekeeping season	End of beekeeping season
Oxytetracycline	☐	☐
Tylosin	☐	☐
Lincomycin	☐	☐
None	☐	☐

For those who applied an antibiotic for foulbrood:

8. Why did you apply an antibiotic for the control of foulbrood in your colonies in 2023? (Choose all that apply)
   - ☐ To prevent foulbrood diseases
   - ☐ To treat observed disease
   - ☐ Both

For those who choose either “To treat observed disease” or “Both” :

9. Which disease did you observe?
   - ☐ Signs of AFB
   - ☐ Signs of EFB
   - ☐ Unsure which foulbrood disease

10. To what do you attribute the main cause of death of your colonies in 2023-2024? (Please check every suspected cause and rank the causes according to their relative importance.)

	Cause of death	**Rank (1 = most important, 10 = least important)**
☐	Don’t know	
☐	Starvation	
☐	Poor queens	
☐	Varroa and associated viruses	
☐	Nosema	
☐	Weather/climate	
☐	Weak colonies in the fall	
☐	Other (Please specify) _____	
☐	Other (Please specify) _____	
☐	Other (Please specify) _____	