

# Fall Management Beekeeping Checklist

Fall management is important for your hives because you want to make sure that your bees can survive the winter and then build up quickly in the spring. You want your colonies to stay healthy, well fed, and disease free.

## Install Mouse Guard

When mice or rodents get into a hive, they cause a lot of damage. Prevent this by installing an entrance reducer or mouse guard to the front of your hive.

## Look For Queen

When checking for the queen make sure that there are both eggs and larvae in the hive. If you see both, there is a queen present. If there is no queen in the hive, you must either requeen, or combine colonies.

## Check Varroa Levels

Check for varroa in the early fall, so you have time to administer treatment, if needed.

## Adjust Colony Size

The average colony should have about 30,000 bees in the fall.

## Check Honey Reserves

Bees living in cold climates will need roughly 60 lbs of honey to survive winter, while bees in warmer climates can make do with 40 lbs.

## Insulate Your Hive

If the temperature gets below freezing, it is recommended to add some insulation.

## Provide a Windbreak and Secure Covers

Shrubby or a temporary fence can help to block strong winds. The windbreak should be 1 foot taller than the hive and placed 4-6 feet away.

For More Information, go to [completebeehives.com](http://completebeehives.com)

