



Honey bees suffer from numerous pests and diseases. Many beekeepers put time and effort into controlling these. Wouldn't it be nice if the bees took care of their own diseases? This is not as far-fetched as it may sound. Honey bees have many natural mechanisms for disease resistance. The aim of this pamphlet is to give beekeepers information on one of these: hygienic behaviour (HB).

HB is a collective defence against brood diseases. Hygienic workers