

## European Union Reference Laboratory for honeybee health

## **EUROPEAN FOULBROOD**

The EFB is a disease of unsealed (open) brood.

## Etiological agent

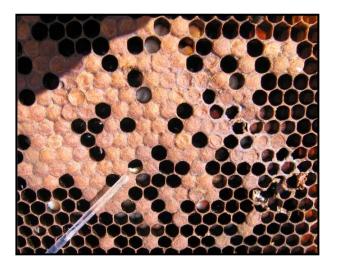
EFB is caused by the bacterium *Melissococcus plutonius*. Secondary agents like *Paenibacillus alvei* and *Enterococcus faecalis* are often present.

## Symptomatic criteria (suspicion):

- "Spotty" brood pattern / mosaic brood / scattered brood
- Slumped larvae
- Larvae with a yellowish to brown colour (generally in unsealed brood)
- Capping with holes
- Vinegar or putrefaction odor of the larvae



Slumped larvae in unsealed cells



Slumped larvae



Larvae with a brown colour

This disease form has been designed to recognize the clinical signs of the disease in the honeybee colony.