

Fast + Simple
Focused on Veterinary Diagnostics



FASTest® BEE BQCV Strip

BQCV – a relevant problem in the queen breeding

Fast test for the qualitative onsite detection of Black queen cell virus (BQCV) in the bee maggot/bee pupa

Rapid direct virus detection

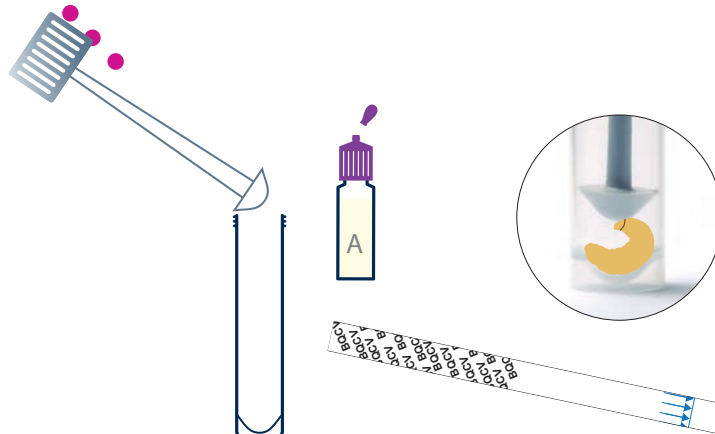
- silent replacement of the queen bee
- unclear peracute loss

Detection of asymptomatic carrier bees

Year-round virus monitoring

**On-site test for decision support of
beekeeping required measures**

**Indirect conclusion about the
potential virus vector *Nosema* spp.**



- Simple and hygienic test procedure
- Test procedure with 1–3 maggots
- Fast test interpretation after 15 minutes
- Storage at room temperature (15–25 °C), long shelf life
- Compact test box with,
10, 25 or 50 tests



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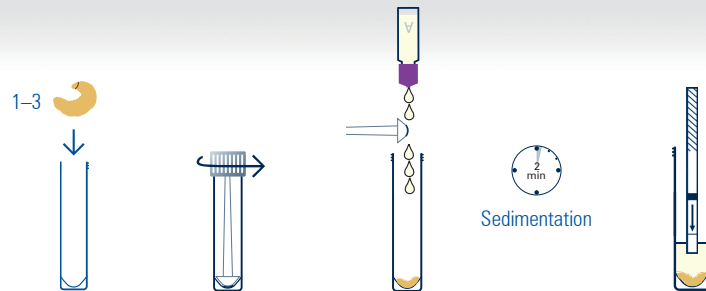
Honeybees (*Apis mellifera*) are among the top 3 agricultural livestock world-wide by pollinating a wide range of crops and ornamental plants. This important ecosystem service is essential for sustainable, productive agriculture and for the maintenance of the non-agricultural ecosystem. Therefore, monitoring the health and vitality of honeybee colonies plays a crucial role. One of the greatest threats to honey bees is viral infections, as these can be significantly linked to colony losses. In particular, the sacbrood virus SBV, the deformed wing virus DWV, the black queen cell virus BQCV and the acute bee paralysis virus ABPV are associated with the death of individual bees and the collapse of individual colonies. Early detection of virus outbreaks could help reduce colony losses and prevent the spread of disease. The availability of specific rapid tests can greatly simplify and speed up virus diagnosis.

The black queen cell virus (BQCV) is an RNA virus (order picornavirales). Despite its widespread distribution, symptoms are rarely reported. It can therefore be assumed that this virus primarily occurs as a hidden infection without symptoms. If infection occurs, it mainly affects queen maggots and pupae, which die and decompose as a result of the infection. During this process, the queen cell turns black, hence the name. Interestingly, adult bees can also become ill and die if they are artificially injected with BQCV. This is taken as an indication that BQCV can also be dangerous to adult bees if it is transmitted to other bees.

BQCV diagnosis in honey bees is currently only possible using reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) and real-time PCR, both of which are expensive and time-consuming laboratory procedures.

With the **FASTest® BEE BQCV** Strip, beekeepers can now detect BQCV easily, cost-effectively and directly at the hive.

Test procedure



Test interpretation



POSITIVE

BQCV

Test line and Control line are visible

NEGATIVE

Only the Control line appears

The combination test **FASTest® BEE 3T** can provide further information about the health of the hive. This triple test can be used for detection of DWV, ABPV and SBV.



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