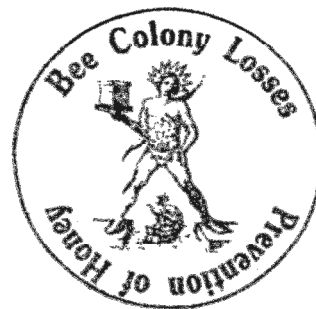




Action FA0803



COLOSS Work Shop

Standardized methods for honey bee rearing in hoarding cages

Agricultural Research Council - Research Unit for Apiculture and Sericulture (CRA-API)
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Start of workshop: 25 November 2010 at 9 am

End of workshop: 26 November 2010 at 5 pm

Reimbursed participation is limited to 15 COLOSS members. Preference will be given to participants actively involved in experiments using hoarding cages. Reimbursement by COST will be around 233 € and will cover travel expenses only (although there is a possibility that extra funding may be available due to 2010 budget residues to be used by the end of the year).

Motivation for workshop:

Observation of honey bees in the laboratory is an important common tool used in many research areas: hoarding cages are used for many different kinds of tests, such as evaluation of toxicity, bee vitality, longevity, development of disease, efficacy of medicaments, synergic effects of several factors. However, it is apparent from the literature that scientists conducting independent experiments on these subjects often make different choices concerning use of this tool (hoarding cage type, temperature, quality and amount of food provided etc), of the infection/infestation procedure (storage of the pathologic material, method of inoculation, honey bee age etc.) and of data recording (post-infection/post-infestation age, examined organs, behavioural observations, longevity assessment etc.).

This workshop is in line with the present need to extend standardization efforts to the different research fields. The final aim is to improve the comparability of experimental results and to examine the possibility of producing standard protocols specific for different tests that could be included in the BEE BOOK.

Scientific programme:

The following issues will be discussed:

- 1 – Observations on **ADULT BEES**
 - 1a – Stress/wellbeing assessment
 - 1b – Longevity tests
 - 1c – Toxicity of medicaments for the bees
 - 1d – Toxicity of environmental contaminants (pesticides etc.)

2 – Observations on **PATHOGENS**

2a – Development of infections

2b – Efficacy of medicaments for the bees

3 – Comparisons: **REARING CONDITIONS AND MATERIAL**

3a - Kind of cage (material, size, hygiene)

3b – Incubation conditions (T, RH, light, precision required for each)

3c - Origin and age of bees

3d - Practical procedures of bee handling (bee collection and anaesthetization)

3e - Kind and mode of feeding

3f – Administration modes of the tested factors (individual / collective inoculation / intoxication)

3g - Duration of test

4 – **STATISTICS**

4a - Number of bees per cage

4b - Number of repetitions and replicates

4c – Experimental setup (problem of autocorrelation in longevity tests)

4d – Observation classes (definition of “dead bee”)

5 - **RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LAB AND FIELD RESULTS**

Deadline for registration and abstracts: October 25, 2010

Local Organizers: Antonio Nanetti, Piotr Medrzycki, Cecilia Costa, Marco Lodesani

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