

Action FA0803: Prevention of honeybee Colony Losses (COLOSS)

Scientific Report of the Work Shop 250509-05781 Monitoring

Netherlands Centre Bee Research, Durk Dijkstrastr. 10 9014 cc Tersoal,
 Meeting Location Hotel Tulip Inn Amsterdam Riverside,
 Provinciale weg 38, 1108 AB Amsterdam Zuid Oost, Netherlands

TIME	PROGRAM
24.05.2009 (Sunday) – Hotel Tulip Inn Amsterdam Riverside	
Arrival, informal social gathering and dinner in the evening at Hotel Tulip Inn.	
25.05.2009 (Monday) – Hotel Tulip Inn Amsterdam Riverside	
08:30 – 09:15	Registration and Coffee: A total of 20 participants from 14 countries were present. (see appendix 1).
09:15 – 09:30	Welcome: Romée van der Zee, head of Netherlands Centre for Bee Research (NCB) and chair of the workshop, welcomed the participants.
09:30 – 11:00	Plenary talk by Dr. R. Jongman from Alterra Wageningen UR: Biodiversity monitoring in Europe, upscaling and downscaling between species and regions. In his talk DR. Jongman described the methodology of the EBONE project and BIOBIO on how an integrated monitoring can be set upon and in which way geographical information can be used for analysis of the observed data. An important issue reviewed by Dr. Jongman was the problem of cooperation and harmonization in monitoring projects between countries and the need to upscale national projects to a European level. European Environmental Stratification reflects biogeographical differences and makes monitoring programs representative and cost effective. Honeybee data (and data of pollinators in general) , might enrich the presented projects, and data of EBONE and BIOBIO might be helpful for an analysis for honeybee decline. In the discussion that followed much attention was given to the migration of honeybee colonies by beekeepers and how that could fit in the existing programs.
11:00 – 11:20	Coffee break
11:20 – 12:30	Plenary talk by dr. Hans Visser from the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency: A spatial data and time series analysis of pesticide application in relation to honeybee colony losses. Dr. Visser demonstrated some complex statistical issues and perspectives of an approach that aims to correlate colony losses with the agricultural use of insecticides.

	His presentation was followed by discussions, mainly on the technical aspects of geocoding in relation to colony losses.
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 15:00	Plenary talk by Flemming Vejsnaes “Implementation of the monitor for the extension service” Dr. Vejsnaes proposed to replace the terms basic-, extension service- and scientific monitoring by a more neutral classification: level 1 (quantification), level 2 (comparison), level 3 (causative factors identification) with the aim to develop a system of prediction (= ‘level 4’). He distributed a format for a level 2/3 questionnaire and invited the participants to comment and send it to him in order to produce a standardized questionnaire accepted by the Coloss workgroup. Next to that he showed results of the Coloss basic questionnaire 2009 in Sweden and Denmark. His presentation was followed by stimulating discussions.
15:00 – 15:20	Energy break
15:20 – 17:20	Plenary talk by Romée van der Zee “Some remarks on the basic Coloss questionnaire”. A new version of the Coloss basic Questionnaire was presented by her, based on the evaluation of a survey with 800 + Dutch beekeepers using the first edition questionnaire. Arguments were given to use the construct CDS (Colony Depopulation Syndrome) to address the colony losses as experienced the last decade and the weakness of the USA construct CCD (Colony Collapse Disorder). Next to that a survey was given of the adaptation to the Coloss basic questionnaire by the European countries. Her presentation was followed by stimulating discussions.
19:00 – open	Social event in the old town of Amsterdam: People gathered in a restaurant and further discussed monitoring issues .
26.05.2009 (Tuesday) – Hotel Tulip Inn Amsterdam Riverside	
09:00 – 11:00	5 minute presentations by the participants about the implementation of monitoring projects in their countries, followed by short discussions. The talk focused, next to basic monitoring, on major monitoring projects that have started or will start this year on the presence of honeybee pathogens and the registration of participating beekeepers and their colonies according to new European regulations. Interesting new approaches were presented. It became clear that in some countries major monitoring projects will be funded in some countries, due to European (EFSA) regulations.
11:00 – 11:20	Energy break
11:20 – 12:00	Continuation of the 5 minute talks
12:00 – 13.00	Evaluation of the workshop. Summary of the top ten issues. 1. Processing of data: Recommendation of standardized calculation and statistics. As pointed out in several talks and discussions this is needed for meaningful comparisons of temporal and spatial losses 2. Interdisciplinary approach: geocoding and spatial analysis on apiary level will be used to

	<p>detect spatial and temporal patterns of colony losses.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Quality management of data: privacy statement and integrity of data. 4. Registration: Precise assessment and/or validation of numbers of colonies and beekeepers in the COST countries. Some countries started to barcode colonies, the EU will also enforce registration of honey producing operations. 5. Basic Questionnaire on colony losses: Edition 2.0 of the Coloss basic questionnaire will be proposed for approval in Montpellier. Some questions will be added and question headings improved. 6. Implementation of the Coloss Basic Questionnaire: The Coloss basic questionnaire will be implemented in the next year in the following countries: Austria, Turkey, Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, Italy, France (professional beekeepers), United Kingdom, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Poland, Portugal, Hungary, Rep. of Macedonia, Germany, Israel, Croatia and Ireland. For some countries the availability of funding for the implementation is uncertain. Some countries are monitoring without funding but this situation is experienced as very unsatisfactory and harming the outcome in the long run. 7. Questionnaire for known causative determinants: The level 2/3 questionnaire will be finished and presented on the next meeting in Montpellier. A first draft version was handed out, discussed and every attendant had the option to make remarks. 8. Diagnostic methods: Different diagnostic methods should be combined, as only one method (e.g. PCR) is limited. 9. Protocols: Protocols for the level 2/3 monitoring must be finalized. 10. Workshop Productivity: The high efficiency of this workshop compared to conferences was stressed.
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch, prolonged discussions end of the workshop.

Appendix 1:

List of attendants

1	Allier	Fabrice	France
2	Andonov	Sreten	Rep. of Macedonia
3	Brodshneider	Robert	Austria
4	Coffey	Mary F.	Ireland
5	Dahle	Bjørn	Norway
6	Hetzroni	Amots	Israel
7	Jongman	Rob	Netherlands
8	Kleijnendorst	Els	Netherlands
9	Martin Hernández	Raquel	Spain
10	Medrzycki	Piotr	Italy
11	Mutinelli	Franco	Italy
12	Otten	Christoph	Germany
13	Özkirim	Asli	Turkey
14	Ritter	Wolfgang	Germany
15	Sgolastra	Fabio	Italy
16	Topolska	Grażyna	Poland
17	Van der Zee	Romée	Netherlands
18	Vejsnaes	Flemming	Denmark
19	Visser	Hans	Netherlands
20	Wilkins	Selwyn	United Kingdom