

Bee Husbandry Survey etc



The Food and Environment
Research Agency

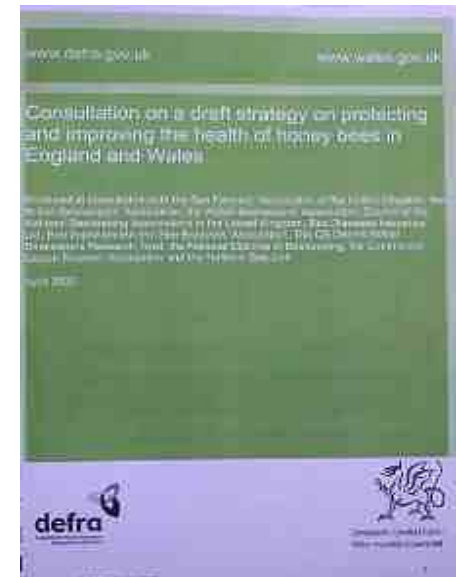


Selwyn Wilkins
National Bee Unit

Amsterdam – CoLoss Questionnaire Workshop 25-26 May 2009

Healthy Bees – 10 Year Plan England (AKA- The Bee Health Strategy)

- Formulated after consultation between Defra and all Stakeholders
- **5 Key areas**
 - Effective communication
 - Effective bio security
 - Good standards of beekeeping
 - Impacts from pests and disease and other hazards at lowest levels
 - Sound science and evidence underpins policy and its implementation



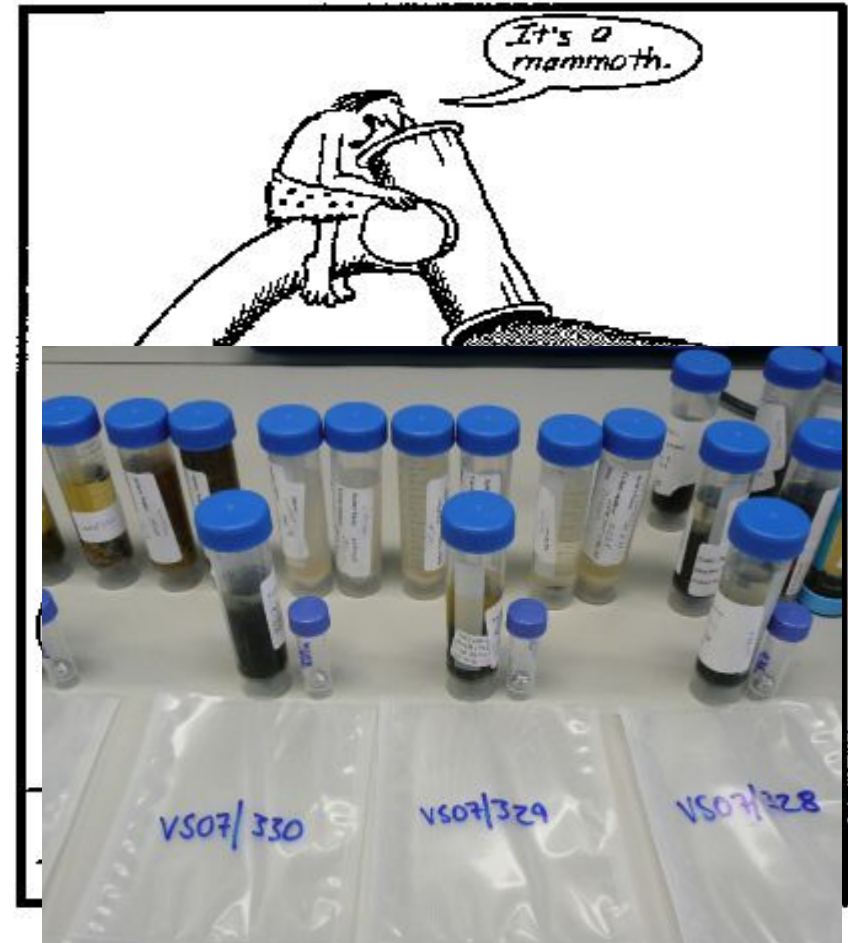
First two years – of new strategy/programme

- Additional £2M Direct to NBU kick-start programme
Wales also considering a parallel programme
- Baseline information
Based on the evidence
Future programme together based on a robust analysis of the risks



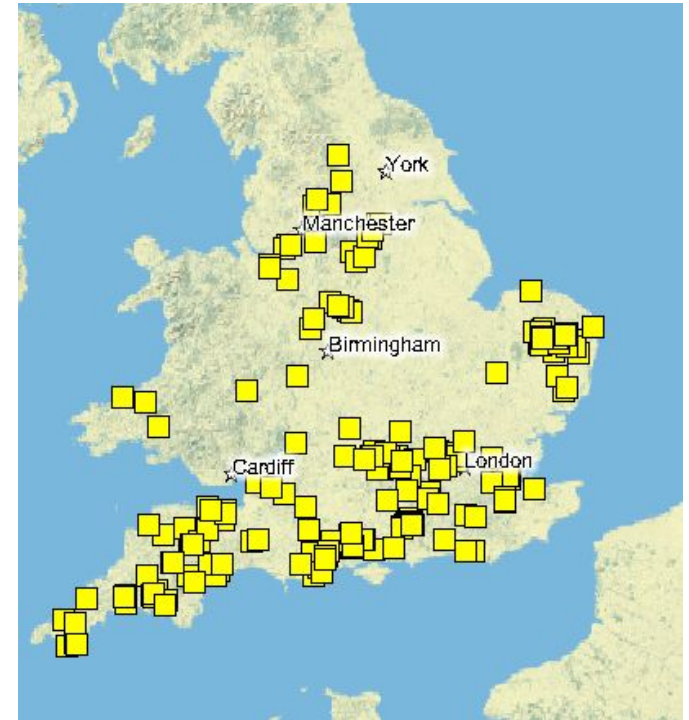
What are we going to do?

- **Existing work**
- Apiary inspections, disease control, training
- New elements to improve baseline data
 - Increase and encourage beekeepers on BeeBase
- Information on beekeepers and their apiaries
 - Statistically based apiary and colony sampling – 5000 Apiaries, 25000 samples over 2 years



What are we doing?

- Strengthen Inspectorate ~70 Inspectors
- Extra programme support
 - Laboratory diagnostics
 - MTU
 - Diagnostics research team
 - Statistical advice
 - IT support BeeBase



Extensive Bee Husbandry Survey

- Launched BHS 2009
- Online – Survey-o-Matic on BeeBase (nationalbeeunit.com)
- Hard Copies circulated to BKs BKAs
- So far ~1000 responses

National Bee Unit

Honey bee husbandry survey 2009

We are conducting a national survey to obtain information on current honey bee husbandry practices. We intend to gather this data regularly and use it monitor trends in UK beekeeping and help with beekeeper training. The survey takes approximately 5 minutes to complete and will be of great value to beekeeping in the UK. All your answers are strictly confidential and will **only** be used for the purposes of this study. ***There is no need to write your name anywhere on this questionnaire.*** Please mark your response with an 'X' where indicated and enter value or comment where appropriate.

We hope to get the best possible results out of this survey and to make this the most comprehensive survey of beekeeping practices ever completed in the UK. Many thanks for completing this form.

CoLoss!

- Although we have this extra funding we cannot use it directly for CoLoss!
- However
 - Can fund the maintenance
 - Will promote the loss questionnaire
 - Feed in information into CoLoss

Contact

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