

To: see attached list

8 January 2013

Dear All

**APICULTURE PROGRAMME (September 2013 to August 2016)
MEASURES IMPROVING GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR THE PRODUCTION AND
MARKETING OF APICULTURE PRODUCTS**

The current UK apiculture programme covers the period from 1 September 2010 to 31 August 2013 and we are now required by the Commission to submit the next 3 year programme (1 September 2013 to 31 August 2016) by 15 April 2013.

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 917/2004 and Council Regulation (EC) 1234/2007 describes the detailed rules involved with implementing the Apiculture Programme and provides information on EU support for improving general conditions for the production and marketing of apiculture products. Member States may draw up a national Apiculture Programme, in close collaboration with their representative organisations and beekeeping cooperatives, and submit a three year programme detailing the measures they wish to be carried out during that period (*the eligible measures which are laid down in the legislation are detailed below for ease of reference*).

Apiculture Programme – eligible measures:

- a) Technical assistance to beekeepers and groupings of beekeepers;
- b) Control of varroasis;
- c) Rationalisation of transhumance;
- d) Measures to support laboratories carrying out analyses of the physico-chemical properties of honey;
- e) Measures to support the restocking of hives in the Community; and
- f) Cooperation with specialised bodies for the implementation of applied research programmes in the field of beekeeping and apiculture products.

To honour this commitment we would welcome suggestions from you on the content of Scotland's programme for the next 3 years bearing in mind the limited funding which has previously been available. *(Please note that funding for 2013-15 has not yet been allocated but, as an example, the UK/Scotland budget breakdown for 2010-13 is detailed below.)*

UK/Scotland budget breakdown for 2010-13

The UK budget breakdown which details Scotland's share for the 2010-13 programme is based on an amount corresponding to its share of the total number of beehives in the Community. Funds are allocated to each member state based on the percentage share of colonies within the Community. The UK has around a 2% share which is further broken down between devolved administrations and Scotland having 12.25% of UK hives.

Year (Sept. – Aug.)	UK Allocation (£)	Scotland's Share (£)	% of hives in the UK
2010 – 11	672,144	82,338	12.25
2011 – 12	669,982	82,072	12.25
2012 – 13	666,911	81,696	12.25

In previous years the financial allocations have primarily focussed on measures (a) *technical assistance to beekeepers and groupings of beekeepers* and (b) *control of varroasis*. These activities have been provided through contributions to the funding of a full-time apiculture specialist at Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) to provide free of charge and part-funded services to beekeepers across Scotland (e.g. training courses, lectures and advice) and also the provision of a free diagnostic service for beekeepers to identify and confirm the presence of notifiable diseases and pests as well as varroa. In considering priorities for the next programme you may wish to consider:

- Maintaining the status quo – primarily focussing on Measures A and B (by the funding of a full-time apiculture specialist to provide comprehensive advisory, training and education programmes for beekeepers throughout Scotland and the provision of a free diagnostic service at SASA to help identify and confirm the presence of a notifiable bee pest or disease as well as varroa).
- The re-allocation of spending to different Measures (a full list of measures is detailed above)

Attached is an example template which you may wish to use when responding to this request. If so, please mark the measures in your order of preference detailing your reasons and any ideas on how you would like things to be amended and administered.

Please send your comments and suggestions to me at: Alison.Knox@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or by post at: Alison Knox, Animal Health-Disease Prevention Team, P-Spur, Saughton House, Broomhouse Road, Edinburgh, EH11 3XD by Friday 15th February 2013. Comments will be analysed and a decision on the way forward will be announced in due course.

Yours sincerely



ALISON KNOX

EXAMPLE TEMPLATE:

RESPONSE TO THE APICULTURE PROGRAMME (September 2013 to August 2016)

NAME: _____

ORGANISATION: _____

ELIGIBLE MEASURES		PREFERRED MEASURE (to be marked in order of preference)	PLEASE DETAIL HOW WOULD YOU LIKE THE SELECTED MEASURE TO BE ADMINISTERED?
A	Technical assistance to beekeepers and groupings of beekeepers		
B	Control of varroasis		
C	Rationalisation of transhumance		
D	Measures to support laboratories carrying out analyses of the physico-chemical properties of honey		
E	Measures to support the restocking of hives in the Community		
F	Cooperation with specialised bodies for the implementation of applied research programmes in the field of beekeeping and apiculture products		

Please return by Friday 15th February 2013 to:

Alison Knox
Animal Health-Disease Prevention Team
P-Spur
Saughton House
Broomhouse Road
Edinburgh, EH11 3XD

**CIRCULATION LIST:
APICULTURE PROGRAMME (September 2013 to August 2016)**

SCOTTISH BEEKEEPING ASSOCIATION (SBA)

President	Phil McAnespie
Vice-President	Bron Wright
Immediate Past President	Ian Craig
Bee Health Convener	Dr Phil Moss
Education Convener	Alan Riach
Library Convener	Una Robertson
Promotion of Beekeeping	Peter Matthews

SBA LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS - SECRETARY OF:

Aberdeen & District	Kelvin Valley
Ayr	Kilbarchan & District
Border	Kilmarnock & District
Bute	Largs & District
Caddonfoot	Lamarich
Clyde Area	Lochaber
Cowal	Moray
Dingwall	Mull
Dunblane & Stirling	Nairn & District
Dunfermline & West Fife	Oban & District
East Lothian	Olrig & District
East of Scotland	Orkney
Easter Ross	Peebles-shire
Eastwood	Perth & District
Edinburgh & Midlothian	Skye & Lochalsh
Fife	South of Scotland
Fortingal	Sutherland
Glasgow & District	West Linton & District
Helensburgh & District	Western Isles
Inverness-shire	Western Galloway

BEE FARMERS ASSOCIATION (BFA): SCOTTISH REPRESENTATIVES:

Responses will be co-ordinated by Ms Margaret Ginman, General Secretary

For Information:

Mike Brown, National Bee Unit
Belinda Phillipson, Defra
Andy Wattam, NBU Inspector

Kim Chadwick, Fera
Huw Jones, Welsh Office
Sonia Verschuur, Northern Ireland Office