



Agriculture And Rural Development ISAMM CM

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Communication information

Form number:	000161	Notifier:	United Kingdom
Name:	Notification of apiculture programme	Status:	SENT
Business process:	Support programmes	Sector:	Apiculture products
Reference period:	01/08/2019 to 31/07/2022	Encoding period:	15/02/2019 08:00 to 15/03/2019 23:59
Legal base:	Commission Regulation - R 2015/1368 Art. 3		
Description:	Notification of apiculture programme		

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Annex - (1)

Evaluation of the results achieved to date during the implementation of the previous apiculture programme

		
	upload document	190227_Annex_1_APICULTURE PROGRAMME 2019-22 Evaluation of Results.pdf





Annex - (2)

Description of the method used to determine the number of beehives in accordance with Article 2 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 2015/1366

		
	upload document	190227_Annex_2_APICULTURE PROGRAMME 2019-22 Hive Count Methodology.pdf

Annex - (3) - Points (i) to (x)

A study carried out by the Member State on the producing and marketing structure in the beekeeping sector in its territory

		
	(i) The number of beekeepers	40 275
	(ii) The number of beekeepers managing more than 150 beehives	89
	(iii) The total number of beehives	34 814

Annex - (4)

■		
▶	upload document	190227_Annex 4_APICULTURE PROGRAMME 2019-22 Evaluation of the Needs.pdf

A description of the objectives of the apiculture programme and the link between those objectives and the apiculture measures selected in the list in Article 55(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

■		
▶	upload document	190227_Annex 5_APICULTURE PROGRAMME 2019-22 Aims of the Programme.pdf

Annex - (6)

A detailed description of the actions which will be carried out under the apiculture measures selected in the list in Article 55(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, including the estimated costs and a financing plan broken down by year and by measure

■		Next year	The year after	And the year after
▶	(a) Technical assistance to beekeepers and beekeepers' organisations	320 839.00 €	320 839.00 €	320 839.00 €
▶	(b) Combating beehive invaders and diseases, particularly varroasis	788 123.00 €	788 123.00 €	788 123.00 €
▶	(c) Rationalisation of transhumance	0.00 €	0.00 €	0.00 €
▶	(d) Measures to support laboratories for the analysis of apiculture products	0.00 €	0.00 €	0.00 €
▶	(e) Restocking of hives	8 217.00 €	8 217.00 €	8 217.00 €
▶	(f) Applied research programmes	0.00 €	0.00 €	0.00 €
▶	(g) Market monitoring	0.00 €	0.00 €	0.00 €
▶	(h) Enhancement of product quality	0.00 €	0.00 €	0.00 €

Annex - (6) Upload document

■		
▶	upload document	190227_Annex 6_APICULTURE PROGRAMME 2019-22 Description of the Actions.pdf

Annex - (7)

Criteria established by the Member State to ensure that there is no double funding of apiculture programmes

■		
▶	upload document	190227_Annex 7_APICULTURE PROGRAMME 2019-22 Criteria to Avoid Double Funding.pdf

Annex - (8)

Performance indicators used for each apiculture measure selected. Member State shall select at least one relevant performance indicator per measure.

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Annex - (8)

▶ upload document	190606_Annex 8_APICULTURE PROGRAMME 2019-22 KPIs per Measure_amended.pdf
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Annex - (9)

Implementing arrangements of the apiculture programme

■	
▶ (i) Contact point responsible for the management of the apiculture programme (upload document)	190606_Annex 9i_APICULTURE PROGRAMME 2019-22 Implementing Arrangements Contact_amended.pdf
▶ (ii) Description of the procedure for monitoring checks (upload document)	190227_Annex 9ii_APICULTURE PROGRAMME 2019-22 Implementing Arrangements monitoring.pdf
▶ (iii) Description of the actions to be taken in case of undue payments to the beneficiaries, including the penalties (upload document)	190227_Annex 9iii_APICULTURE PROGRAMME 2019-22 Implementing-undue-paymentsfinal.pdf
▶ (iv) The provisions to ensure that the approved programme is publicised in the Member State (upload document)	190227_Annex 9iv_APICULTURE PROGRAMME 2019-22 Implementing Arrangements publicity.pdf
▶ (v) The actions taken to cooperate with representative organisations in the beekeeping field (upload document)	190227_Annex 9v_APICULTURE PROGRAMME 2019-22 Implementing Arrangements co-operation.pdf

Annex - (9)

	document)	
▶	(vi) Description of the method used to evaluate the results of the measures of the apiculture programme (upload document)	190227 Annex 9vi APICULTURE PROGRAMME 2019-22 Implementing Arrangements Evaluation.pdf

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Evaluation of the results of the previous apiculture programme

Beekeeping associations have been consulted on the apiculture programme and indicated their support for the existing support measures to remain unchanged, although they wish for the programme to remain flexible to accommodate any changing needs of the sector.

Across the UK the 2016-19 National Apiculture Programme focused on: combating beehive invaders and diseases, particularly Varroasis and exotic pests; technical assistance to beekeepers, particularly training and education through the delivery of courses and in 1:1 tuition during colony inspections; and measures to support the restocking of hives.

In a prior consultation with beekeeping associations, inspection services in the UK were reported to play an important role in helping beekeepers control Varroa effectively, thus reducing colony loss and loss of revenue. This is reported to have had a knock-on effect in ensuring that there is a continued incentive to keep bees, with benefits for the wider environment and economy in the pollination services they provide.

Associations had also previously reported that the National Apiculture Programme enabled already proficient beekeepers to keep up to date with information on bee diseases, and allowed new and developing beekeepers to acquire the knowledge and skills to become competent.

Combating beehive invaders and diseases, particularly Varroasis and exotic pests

During the course of the 2016-2019 National Apiculture Programme, approximately 11000 inspections will have taken place across the UK funded by the National Apiculture Programme, whereby inspectors carried out a risk-based programme to identify and treat bee pests and diseases.

The UK remains free of Small hive beetle and the Tropilaelaps mite. Four outbreaks of the Asian hornet have been successfully contained.

Through these inspections and one-to-one advice, beekeepers are now more aware of exotic pests and the steps they need to take to reduce the risk of their introduction, as well as in a better position to tackle endemic pests such as Varroa and foulbrood.

Technical assistance to beekeepers, particularly training and education through the delivery of courses and in 1:1 tuition during colony inspections

During the 2016-2019 programme, Beginner days were held as well as Intermediate and Higher level training. Support by the Inspectorate was given with training days and live apiary inspections. Feedback from those events consistently rated the training as good or excellent.

Bee Health days were delivered and received highly positive feedback. These events enabled beekeepers to identify diseases within sample 'diseased' combs and gave trainers the opportunity to demonstrate diagnostic tips and husbandry practices.

In Scotland, the overall ranking of training events by attendees was "5" (excellent). Training events included swarm control and prevention; queen rearing; beginners training; bee health awareness; best practice advisory and husbandry.

Excellent dissemination of information occurs annually for four consecutive days in June at the Royal Highland Show near Edinburgh where contact is made with hundreds of interested visitors primarily with a beekeeping interest.

Defra commissions an annual survey of a subset of beekeepers to seek information on beekeepers husbandry techniques and the uptake of training courses. In the 2017-18 survey, 55% of the 1154 responders had attended a National Bee Unit training event in 2017-18. Of these 638 keepers who had attended a training event, 24% (153) had attended a disease recognition course, 16% (99) a course on good husbandry and 11% (68) a bee health advisor course. All these courses had satisfaction ratings (they indicated they found the course useful) of 100%. 75% of 1175 respondents had referred to the UK's National Bee Unit literature for training/education. Each of the NBU leaflets covered by the survey were rated as useful by at least 94% of those who expressed a view.

Measures to support the restocking of hives

Measures in Scotland to support the restocking of hives have been taken during the course of the 2016-19 programme and will continue into the 2019-22 programme.

Beehive Count Methodology

Approach

1. BeeBase and Beekeeping in the UK

UK honey bee biosecurity is supported by a voluntary register and database called [BeeBase](#) upon which records of beekeepers, their apiaries, hives and disease status for England, Scotland and Wales are secured. Beekeeper records for Northern Ireland are kept on a separate database. These records support the work of our bee inspectors who carry out surveillance and disease control activities across the UK in delivering our part in the EU's overall biosecurity programme. BeeBase is also used as a portal to provide beekeepers with a ready source of information on bee pests and diseases and their management.

In 2010, 19,000 beekeepers were registered on BeeBase. By 2012, after extensive publicity campaigns by government and the beekeeping associations, the number of registered beekeepers had climbed to 29,000. Today the number of beekeepers registered on BeeBase is around 40,000. This total is likely to reflect both an increase in the proportion of beekeepers registered but also an increase in the number of people keeping bees in the UK.

Please note that as the beekeepers in the UK are predominately hobbyists with fewer than 10 hives, we have no means of compelling them to update their details on BeeBase, instead relying on their goodwill.

Please note Northern Ireland does not use BeeBase but has its own database which collates beekeeper names, hive numbers, addresses, and contact telephone numbers. Beekeeper email addresses are now being collated. Similar to GB, Northern Ireland has no compulsory system of registration but relies on the goodwill of beekeepers to provide hive numbers and contact details. Bee inspectors also regularly update the database to ensure data is accurate. Currently, Northern Ireland has approximately 1000 beekeepers recorded on this database.

2. Bee Hive Count Protocol

In the development of the protocol we were minded to maintain a proportionate approach – providing a robust estimate without placing undue burdens on beekeepers or UK public finances. BeeBase is therefore being used as the core resource in providing this estimate for England, Scotland and Wales.

Northern Ireland relies on its own database to provide a robust and accurate bee hive count. Like the rest of the UK, Northern Ireland has used a proportionate approach which does not place undue burdens on beekeepers.

Stage one: estimate the number of overwintering hives.

1. Obtain the baseline number of beekeepers and beehives in England, Scotland and Wales that are registered on BeeBase. Northern Ireland to obtain a baseline number of beekeepers from its own database.
2. Each autumn, beekeepers will be contacted by e-mail and asked to update their records to reflect their number of hives as at 1st November. Beekeepers will be given two months to update their records. Given the voluntary nature of BeeBase registration, we expect that only a proportion of beekeepers will respond. Beekeepers can note that they have reviewed their data and the figures do not need updating.

Northern Ireland will contact 100 beekeepers each autumn and obtain up to date information on hive numbers, including email addresses.

3. Obtain from BeeBase the post-autumn survey number of beekeepers and beehives in England, Scotland and Wales that are registered and calculate the difference compared to the baseline data obtained in (1).

Northern Ireland will carry out a similar procedure – obtaining from their own database the post-autumn survey of beekeepers in Northern Ireland.

4. Obtain the number of keepers contacted and the number of those who opened the email.
5. The change in hive numbers in (3) is assumed to be caused by keepers who opened the email, saw the message in (4) and acted to check and update their records. This provides an estimate of the change in hives per keeper. The number of overwintering hives per keeper provided by BeeBase can then be used in stage three. NI to use the sample of 100 beekeepers surveyed.

Stage two: estimate the number of registered keepers.

6. Obtain from BeeBase the number of people who identified themselves as not belonging to a beekeeping association (i.e. they're registered to BeeBase exclusively). It is Northern Ireland's intention going forward to contact associations to ascertain estimates as our database does not hold this information at present.

7. Obtain the total number of members of the British Beekeepers Association (England only), Scottish Beekeepers Association and Welsh Beekeepers Association. Northern Ireland will follow suit.
8. Add (6) and (7) to get the total number of keepers registered to BeeBase and/or an association. Northern Ireland will follow suit. Note: This methodology does not account for the population of beekeepers who are unknown to BeeBase and the NI database or the beekeeping associations.

Stage three: estimate the number of overwintering hives for all registered keepers.

9. Multiply the overwintering hives per keeper (see 5) by the number of registered keepers (see 8).

3. Validation

Throughout the year, the number of hives registered in BeeBase and the NI database will be checked during apiary visits against the situation on the ground.

Where other information from other non-government databases can be obtained to the relevant detail, we will use this to validate the information in the databases.

Northern Ireland is currently reviewing their existing database with a view to further developing their own GIS based data collection which will include accurate and up to date data capture in the field and greater public engagement through IT development.

Study on the structure of the apiculture sector

In accordance with part 3 of the Annex within Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/1368, results of a study into the UK's production and marketing structure of the beekeeping sector are as follows:

Methodology

Approximately 50 Authorised Bee Inspectors (ABIs) are surveyed each year to obtain estimates of honey yields per colony and prices of mixed flower honey. ABIs are surveyed on bulk sales (bucket), whole sales (jars) and direct sales (jars) of honey. Honey sold in drums is not accounted for. Additional information on honey sales has been obtained from the Bee Farmers Association whose members carry out commercial beekeeping in the United Kingdom.

The number of beekeepers

There are 40,275 keepers in the UK. This is based on British figures from BeeBase (December 2018) and figures for Northern Ireland provided separately by the devolved administration (March 2019).

The numbers of beekeepers managing more than 150 beehives

There are 89 beekeepers that are registered on BeeBase who manage 150 beehives or more.

The total number of beehives managed by beekeepers with more than 150 beehives:

In total these 89 beekeepers manage 34,814 hives.

The total number of beekeepers organised in beekeeper's associations

British Beekeepers Association: 26,555

Welsh Beekeepers Association: 1900

Scottish Beekeepers Association: 1668

Northern Ireland: 1000

Bee Farmers' Association: 450

The annual national production of honey in kg in the last two calendar years preceding the notification of the apiculture programme

2017 4639200 kg

2018 6552000 kg

The range of prices for multi-floral honey at the site of production

In 2018, prices ranged from £11.48/€12.83 per kg to £13.99/ €15.64 per kg. The average price across the UK was £12.66/€14.15 per kg.

The range of prices for multi-floral honey in bulk at wholesalers

In 2018, the range of prices for honey at wholesalers was £9.22/ €10.31 per kg to £11.20/€12.52 per kg (average £10.21/€11.42). Bulk sales ranged from £6.60/ €7.38 per kg to £8.80/€9.84 per kg (average £7.70/€8.61). The average price for bulk and wholesale honey was £8.98/€10.04 per kg.

The estimated average yield in kg of honey per beehive and per year

Yields vary according to the practices of the beekeeper and whether they are a hobbyist or a professional, commercial beekeeper.

Our latest figures for 2017 as reported by National Bee Unit bee inspectors show the average yield to be 19kg per hive for main-crop honey and 11kg for heather honey.

For a commercial bee farmer the average yield was reported to be between 32 and 36kg per colony for all crops.

The estimated average production cost (fixed and variable) per kg of honey produced

The cost of honey production is extremely variable due to the range of methods by which beekeepers take up beekeeping.

Latest figures for a commercial bee farmer suggest production costs per kg of honey range from £4.66/€5.21 to £6.31/€7.05 (average £5.48/€6.13). Costs for a hobby beekeeper are expected to be lower due to less outgoings in the production of honey.

The number of beehives determined in the last two calendar years preceding the notification of the apiculture programme

Provided separately

Evaluation of the needs of the apiculture sector

In 2012 Defra and the Welsh Government carried out a review of bee health policy and the needs of the beekeeping sector. Consultations were held with beekeeping associations on the options for future direction of policy. The response to the consultation indicated that varroa remains the biggest threat to beekeepers. The priorities for advisory inspections and education programme were adjusted in accordance with the findings but we continue to keep this area under review.

Defra and the Welsh Government meet quarterly with beekeeping associations at the Bee Health Advisory Forum. This meeting enables the associations to raise areas of concern for the sector and highlight particular needs. Over the last year the meeting has discussed the threat, and actual incursions into the UK, of Asian hornet, the 2018-19 review of the Healthy Bees Plan, the Hive Count and forthcoming legislative changes .

In Scotland a Honey Bee Health Strategy is monitored and implemented through a Steering Group. This Steering Group meets annually and reviews progress in all areas of the sector. Programmes and initiatives are delegated to 2 sub-groups who meet formally around 3 times a year. Through these channels excellent relationships have been developed allowing a knowledge and understanding of emerging issues and areas for development to be shared in a non-threatening environment. This has established a positive and creative “can do” attitude as the norm.

The apiculture sector in the UK is comprised predominantly of amateur keepers. The National Bee Unit husbandry survey carried out at the outset of the 2016-19 apiculture programme found that 92% of the 1053 respondents reported that 10% or less of their income came from beekeeping activities. The 2018 husbandry survey revealed that varroosis, deformed wing virus and failing queens were the most common husbandry/health problems for UK beekeepers. Movement of hives for pollination or honey production was not a major feature of the sector with only 7% of 960 keepers moving hives: of this 7%, 47% moved no more than 30% of their hives.

Apiculture Consultations

Consultations on the next Apiculture Programme were held across the UK. The British Beekeepers Association, which has over 26,000 members in England, confirmed that they are content for the 2019-22 programme to continue to focus on supporting inspections and training. A separate consultation was conducted by

Welsh Government with the Welsh Beekeepers Association, who confirmed their willingness for the programme to continue supporting these same measures.

Scottish Government consulted their stakeholder group, who were unanimous in supporting the continuation of existing measures, namely inspections, training and restocking of hives.

Aims of the programme

Combating beehive invaders and diseases, particularly exotic pests

A network of appointed bee inspectors and programme support will be used across the UK to inspect colonies of bees for signs of foulbrood disease, Varroa and exotic pests. In England and Wales, this service is provided by the Animal and Plant Health Agency's National Bee Unit. Inspectors will show beekeepers how to do the same, and monitor and treat for incidence of diseases associated with Varroosis. Beekeepers will also be shown how to check for signs of the exotic pests Small hive beetle and Tropilaelaps mite (which have not yet been detected in the UK), and to monitor their apiaries for Asian hornet. An annual target of 4,000 inspections will be adopted.

Technical assistance to beekeepers particularly training and education through the delivery of courses and in 1:1 tuition during colony inspections

A comprehensive regional advisory and training programme for beekeepers including Bee Health days, Preliminary and Intermediate Beekeeping courses, lectures, field demonstrations, outreach at agricultural/trade shows and leaflets, provided by trained beekeeping extension workers and supported by beekeeping websites, such as BeeBase, will be performed across the UK. The programme will concentrate on bee disease recognition and control linked to good colony husbandry and apiary management, and awareness of exotic pests. This will involve training in good husbandry, minimising risks from introducing new colonies, resistance monitoring, Integrated Pest Management and identifying exotic pests, in particular the Asian hornet, Small hive beetle and Tropilaelaps mites. Integrated Pest Management has assumed greater importance since Varroa resistance to pyrethroids has been confirmed, and inspectors are working with associations and beekeepers to promote and develop IPM methods appropriate to UK conditions. The programme also includes optimising Varroa treatments and reducing the possibility of varroacides entering honey. 120 lectures and field demonstrations will be performed annually across the programme.

Poster, displays and handouts produced by the National Bee Unit and the Non-Native Species Secretariat (which is also part of APHA) will be made available for such events.

Measures to support the restocking of hives

Restocking of hives has been a component of the 2016-19 programme in Scotland, and this will continue into the 2019-22 programme.

Descriptions of the actions which will be carried out under the apiculture measures

Approximate spend per year (includes EU funding and match funding from UK government):

Technical Assistance	£287,000 - €320839
Combatting disease and pests	£705,000 - €788123
Restocking	£7,350 - €8217
Total	£999,350

Technical Assistance to Beekeepers and Beekeeping Associations:

120 training events: Comprehensive regional training programme. Lectures, field demonstrations of identification of pests and diseases including Varroa diagnosis and control. Training beekeepers to become trainers of others and to become self-sufficient in pest and disease control, thus enhancing the efficiency and production of apiculture products. Programme to be monitored nationally but arranged locally to suit need.

Combatting beehive invaders and diseases, particularly varroosis

4,000 apiary visits: Regional colony inspections by bee inspectors. Each visit will be to examine colonies for condition, advise the beekeeper on varroa diagnosis and control, identification of exotic pests and good biosecurity practices and to monitor incidence of associated foul brood. This includes monitoring colonies for varroa resistance and training beekeepers to do the same. Analysis of samples taken in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Restocking

Under this measure we will deliver a training programme to enable greater utilization of restocking possibilities. Queen rearing and “making increase” workshops will be run.

Criteria to avoid double funding

The Programme for England and Wales is delivered by a single agency (The National Bee Unit, Animal and Plant Health Agency) which is part of the UK government. The National Bee Unit does not receive any support under any other programme, including the rural development programme. Therefore there is negligible risk of double funding. However, the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Welsh Government will seek assurances from the National Bee Unit that the work undertaken under the programme is not subject to other grants or support.

The Animal and Plant Health Agency have their own internal management and audit systems to ensure the funds have been spent appropriately. In addition there are a number of governance meetings and procedures between the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Animal and Plant Health Agency (see section on monitoring delivery) to ensure that the measures are delivered.

Scottish Government has its own auditing systems to monitor expenditure and appropriate use of allocated funding. Being match funded the Apiculture Programme is closely monitored and expenditure heads clearly defined to ensure double funding is avoided.

In Northern Ireland, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs will ensure that there is no double funding of apiculture programmes under aid in the apiculture sector. The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs matches the apiculture funding therefore has its own robust internal auditing systems to monitor expenditure and appropriate use of allocated funding.

Key Performance Indicators

These figures are dependent upon the final support provided.

120 training courses, lectures and field demonstrations per annum will be delivered across the UK under the apiculture programme.

4000 site visits per annum across the UK will be provided including advice to beekeepers on bee health and husbandry issues.

Training will be delivered to 5000 beekeepers per annum.

Feedback from beekeepers as to the impact of these measures will be collated.

Deliver queen rearing and “making increase” workshops to 15 beekeepers per annum in Scotland – courses will achieve a “good” or higher rating in the workshop evaluations assessment for each event.

Implementing arrangements

(i) the designation by the Member State of a contact point responsible for the management of the apiculture programmes;

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs is responsible for the management of the apiculture programme in England. Their contact information is:

National Agri-food Innovation Campus
Sand Hutton
York
YO41 1LZ
Email: BeeHealth.Info@defra.gov.uk

The Welsh Government is responsible for the management of the apiculture programme in Wales. Their contact information is:

Welsh Government - Land, Nature and Forestry Division
Economy, Skills & Natural Resources Group
Aberystwyth
Ceredigion
SY23 3UR

Email: kathleen.carroll@gov.wales

The Scottish Government Animal Health & Welfare department is responsible for the management of the apiculture programme in Scotland. Their contact information is:

Scottish Government Agriculture and Rural Economy Directorate
P Spur
Saughton House
Broomhouse Drive
Edinburgh
EH11 3XD
Email: beesmailbox@gov.scot

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs is responsible for the management of the apiculture programme in Northern Ireland. Their contact information is:

Plant Health Policy Branch

Forest Service

Inishkeen House

Enniskillen BT74 4EJ.

Email: Leyland.Walker@daera-ni.gov.uk

(ii) A description of the procedure for monitoring checks;

In England, the programme is monitored by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). The National Bee Unit (NBU), which is part of the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), has an internal management agreement with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) for the delivery of the apiculture programme, which includes the requirement that they provide relevant information to Defra to support the claim and details of the money spent.

In Wales, the programme is monitored by the Land, Nature and Forestry Division, Welsh Government. As with England, the National Bee Unit (which is part of the Animal and Plant Health Agency) has a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Welsh Government for the delivery of the apiculture programme. This SLA covers the delivery of the apiculture programme in Wales which includes inspections, training and education, the provision of monthly reports relating to the Apiculture Programme and the administration and maintenance of BeeBase.

In Scotland, the programme is monitored by the Scottish Government's Agriculture, Food and Rural Communities Directorate (AFRC) (Animal Health – Diseases Prevention team); and in Northern Ireland by inspectors from Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs' (DAERA) Agri-food Inspection Branch.

Service Level Agreements are in place between the Agriculture Departments and the Rural Payments Agency (which is the body responsible for claiming reimbursement of expenditure from the Commission).

In all countries the monitoring checks will consist of both administrative and on-the-spot checks.

100% administrative checks will be performed on all aid applications and payment claims

Regarding on-the-spot checks we will verify:

- (i) The correct implementation of the measures included in the apiculture programme;
- (ii) The expenditure actually incurred is at least equivalent to the financial support requested;
- (iii) Where relevant, the number of beehives declared is consistent with the number of beehives found to be kept by the beekeeper taking into account additional data provided by the beekeeper on activity during the apiculture year concerned;

5% of applicants for aid will be subject to on-the-spot checks. Those checked will be from a sample drawn from the entire population of applicants and shall include:

- (i) A number of applicants randomly selected in order to obtain a representative error rate;
- (ii) A number of applicants selected on the basis of a risk analysis based on the following criteria;
 - a. The amount of financing allocated to the beneficiaries ;
 - b. The nature of the actions financed under the apiculture measures;
 - c. The conclusions of previous on-the-spot checks

(iii) A description of the actions to be taken in case of undue payments to the beneficiaries, including the penalties

Interest added to the amount of undue payments recovered in accordance with Article 54(1), 58(1)(e) or 63(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 shall be calculated in accordance with Article 27 of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014.

In case of fraud or serious negligence for which they are responsible, beneficiaries shall, in addition to repaying undue payments received and interest therein in accordance with Article 63(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013, pay an amount equal to the difference between the amount initially paid and the amount they are entitled to.

(iv) the provisions to ensure that the approved programme is publicised in the Member State

The programme will be notified to representative organisations via the Bee Health Advisory Forum/Steering Group. The publicity surrounding the annual Beehive Count will also explain the programme and how the money is used within the UK.

(v) the actions taken to cooperate with representative organisations in the beekeeping field

The following beekeeping associations in the UK were consulted on the programme - the British Beekeepers' Association (BBKA); the Bee Farmers' Association (BFA); the Welsh Beekeepers' Association (WBKA); the Scottish Beekeeping Association (SBA) Committee; Scottish Local beekeeping Associations.

The programme was co-ordinated by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) on behalf of, and in consultation with, all the UK Agriculture Departments.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and the Welsh Government meet with members of the British Beekeepers' Association (BBKA), the Bee Farmers' Association (BFA) and the Welsh Beekeepers' Association (WBKA), quarterly at the Bee Health Advisory Forum to discuss bee health issues and the needs of the beekeeping sector. There is a similar meeting in Scotland which is held twice a year.

(vi) a description of the method used to evaluate the results of the measures of the apiculture programme for the apiculture sector of the Member State concerned.

The programme in England and Wales will be evaluated annually by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and the views on the effectiveness of the programme will be sought from the Bee Health Advisory Forum which comprises Government representatives (in England and Wales) and beekeeping stakeholders.

In Scotland the programme will be evaluated by the Scottish Government's Agriculture and Rural Economy Directorate (Animal Health – Diseases Prevention Team) with views being sought from Scotland's Honey Health Strategy Working groups.

In Northern Ireland success will be measured through beekeepers aspiring to higher standards of beekeeping and becoming more self-reliant in recognising and controlling pests and diseases.

Results of the programme will be evaluated annually according to the KPIs provided.

The number of activities under the following will be collated and reported to the Commission through ISAMM as per Article 10 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/1368

- Training courses, lectures and field demonstrations
- Site visits
- The number of beekeepers trained
- The number of queen rearing and "making increase" workshops delivered and to how many beekeepers

Feedback from training activities and event ratings will be collated and reported to the Commission annually via ISAMM.

Implementing arrangements

(i) the designation by the Member State of a contact point responsible for the management of the apiculture programmes;

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs is responsible for the management of the apiculture programme in England. Their contact information is:

National Agri-food Innovation Campus
Sand Hutton
York
YO41 1LZ
Email: BeeHealth.Info@defra.gov.uk

The Welsh Government is responsible for the management of the apiculture programme in Wales. Their contact information is:

Welsh Government - Land, Nature and Forestry Division
Economy, Skills & Natural Resources Group
Aberystwyth
Ceredigion
SY23 3UR

Email: NatureConservation@gov.wales.

The Scottish Government Animal Health & Welfare department is responsible for the management of the apiculture programme in Scotland. Their contact information is:

Scottish Government Agriculture and Rural Economy Directorate
P Spur
Saughton House
Broomhouse Drive
Edinburgh
EH11 3XD
Email: beesmailbox@gov.scot

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs is responsible for the management of the apiculture programme in Northern Ireland. Their contact information is:

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