



Apiculture Programmes

**Support to apiculture
through the future CAP
Strategic Plans**

Civil Dialogue Group - Honey

29 November 2021



Apiculture interventions in CSP

- Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing rules on support for strategic plans to be drawn up by Member States under the Common agricultural policy (CAP Strategic Plans) and financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) – **SPR to be approved soon**

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52018PC0392&from=EN>

- Article 55 – Description of Types of intervention in the apiculture sector - Seven types of interventions with one type subdivided into a further 4 – maintain and augment current measures;
- Objectives – linked to specific objectives in Article 6(1);
- Co-funded by EU where min. Union contribution is set at 30% of cost of expenditure for the type of interventions – MS to provide an equivalent amount to Union contribution but can increase up to 100 % of expenditure;
- Budget increased from 40 M€/year for 2019 to 60 M€ from 2021 as per Annex X of SPR and continued under the CSP from 2023 – 2027;
- CSP can be modified and choice of sectoral interventions therein.



CAP Strategic Plan- Types of interventions

- (a) **advisory services**, technical assistance, **training, information and exchange of best practices, including through networking**, for beekeepers and beekeepers' organisations;
- (b) **investments in tangible and intangible assets, as well as other actions, including for:**
 - (i) combatting beehive invaders and diseases, in particular varroasis;
 - (ii) preventing damage caused by adverse climatic events and promoting the development and use of management practices adapted to changing climate conditions;**
 - (iii) restocking of beehives in the Union, including bee breeding;
 - (iv) rationalising transhumance;

CAP Strategic Plan- Types of interventions

- (c) actions to support laboratories for the analysis of apiculture products, **bee losses or productivity drops, and substances potentially toxic to bees;**
- (d) **actions to preserve or increase the existing number of beehives in the Union, including bee breeding;**
- (e) cooperation with specialised bodies for the implementation of research programmes in the field of beekeeping and apiculture products;
- (f) **promotion, communication and marketing** including market monitoring actions and activities aimed in particular at raising consumer awareness about the quality of apiculture products;
- (g) actions to enhance product quality.

Rural Development types of interventions under EAFRD

- (a) environmental, climate and other management commitments;
- (b) natural or other area-specific constraints;
- (c) area-specific disadvantages resulting from certain mandatory requirements;
- (d) investments, including investments in irrigation;
- (e) installation of young farmers, new farmers and rural business start-up;
- (f) risk management tools;
- (g) cooperation
 - Setting-up of producer groups and organisations;
 - Quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs;
- (h) knowledge exchange and information.

At least 35 % of the total EAFRD contribution in CSP reserved for interventions addressing environmental, climate-related and animal welfare objectives.

Environment, climate and management commitments (previous AEEM) and apiculture

- Mandatory interventions - payments to farmers and other land managers who undertake, on a voluntary basis, management commitments that contribute to:
 - climate change mitigation and adaptation;
 - protection/improvement of environment & biodiversity (can include explicit bee-related agri-environment commitments);
 - voluntary commitments in Natura 2000 and support for genetic diversity;
 - organic farming premiums for the maintenance of and the conversion to organic land.

E.g. of Management commitments - environmentally friendly production systems such as agro-ecology, conservation agriculture and integrated production; forest conservation; establishment of agroforestry systems; animal welfare; conservation, sustainable use and development of genetic resources

Agri-environment-climate measure

- E.g. of ECM commitments targeting bees:
 - creation of healthier forage areas for bee populations by fixing strips and parcels of melliferous plants;
 - reducing or prohibiting the use of pesticides and/or fertilisers;
 - use of biological fields sown with specific seeds;
 - transhumance of hives to bee-friendly habitats.
- Other ECM commitments indirectly benefitting pollinators:
 - chemical input reduction,
 - support for flowery meadows with unmown strips,
 - bio field margins or set aside sown with specific seeds, meadow orchards etc
 - maintaining and conversion to organic farming

Direct Payments and apiculture in CSPR

General principals on land eligibility for direct payments and apiculture (no change on the principles compared to the rules currently in force):

- An agricultural area used for beekeeping is eligible to direct payments if it is at the farmer's disposal and used for an agricultural activity;
- Agricultural area (arable land / permanent grassland / permanent crop) having beehives is eligible for direct payments, provided it remains accessible for the performance of an agricultural activity;
- Examples of agricultural activity - cultivating mellifluous plants, maintaining the land in a state suitable for grazing or cultivation of crops

Direct Payments and apiculture

- Under the new CSPR - more flexibility for MS to adapt the eligibility rules to better reflect local specificities. E.g. areas not eligible under the current rules, could become eligible under the new rules which could benefit apiculture.

Benefits through:

- GAEC 9 on preservation of landscape features and based on mandatory share (%) of non-productive elements at farm level such as field margins, hedgerows, favorable covers;
- Eco-schemes (many eco-schemes proposals will have benefits for insects and pollinators in particular: crop diversification, field margins, hedgerows, favorable covers);

(Apiculture not eligible for coupled support under the current Voluntary Coupled Support nor under future CSPR (through Coupled Income Support)).

Thank you for your attention

