

Interests & concerns from the Beekeeping sector

CDG « Animal product », Honey

29th November 2021





A European coverage



Different ways but a common goal: a healthier agro-environment for bees and pollinators

The map displays the following countries and regions with BeeLife project icons:

- Islande** (Iceland)
- Royaume-Uni** (United Kingdom)
- Irlande** (Ireland)
- Norvège** (Norway)
- Suède** (Sweden)
- Finlande** (Finland)
- Allemagne** (Germany)
- Pologne** (Poland)
- France** (France)
- Belgique** (Belgium)
- Autriche** (Austria)
- Chypre** (Cyprus)
- Grèce** (Greece)
- Italie** (Italy)
- Portugal** (Portugal)
- Espagne** (Spain)
- Maroc** (Morocco)
- Algérie** (Algeria)
- Tunisie** (Tunisia)
- Russie** (Russia)
- Biélorussie** (Belarus)
- Ukraine** (Ukraine)
- Moldavie** (Moldavia)
- Roumanie** (Romania)
- Bulgarie** (Bulgaria)
- Serbie** (Serbia)
- Monténégro** (Montenegro)
- Macédoine** (Macedonia)
- Albanie** (Albania)
- Turquie** (Turkey)

BeeLife
European Beekeeping Coordination

CAP: one more time a missed opportunity for pollinators



- BeeLife proposed an Ecoscheme « Pollinators » supported by our members and IPM
- But business as usual: beekeepers when they took part to the negotiations only for the sector part **BUT BEES should be at the core of the CAP!**
- Public consultation are running now in some MS for the National Strategic Plans: how the NSP will be linked to the Farm to Fork Strategy objectives?
- A positive point: Pollinator Index



The Pollinator Eco-Scheme is a proposal for the future Common Agricultural Policy enabling all Member States to introduce a “package” of good farming practices for the protection of pollinators. Pollinator-friendly practices are to become the eligibility criteria for a farmer to benefit from the Pollinator Eco-scheme. It comprehends a number of mandatory practices to be applied by farmers, as well as some other practices that Member States may wish to add to a package of beneficial measures for pollinators. **The Pollinator Eco-Scheme provides an EU-wide tool within the CAP, easily adaptable to national or local levels.**

KEY PROPOSALS

COMPULSORY MEASURES

- A farmer includes one or more crops interesting to pollinators in at least 10% of his/her agricultural surface every year, possibly looking for prolonged

EXPECTED RESULTS

Access to resources for honey bees and wild pollinators (food) all year long. Increase honey production.



Agricultural practice	Example of payment per year if practices supported are...	
	alternative criteria	cumulative criteria
Keeping a treatment register compiling results of pest monitoring, monitoring methods (e. g. pictures, trapping, etc.) and decision criteria for establishing treatment need		
1 Seed/soil treatments reduced by 95% in 3 years, in comparison with first year of engagement (33% reduction/year) Spray treatments reduced by 50% in 3 years, in comparison with first year of engagement (17% reduction/year)	50€/Ha	1 + 2 + 3 are applied =
2 If pesticide needs to be used, favour non persistent one	50€/Ha	
3 Pesticide application after sundown	50€/Ha	150€/Ha

Directive 2009/128/EC on sustainable use pesticides (SUD)



- Turn the SUD into a Regulation
- 2 main concerns : NBT and Drones

→ Status of NBT as a tool for reducing the use of PPPs: **NO**

- Why are beekeepers concerned?

Regarding the CJUE judgment, the New Breeding Techniques (NBT) = new GMO

As a result: honey produced by rapeseed (canola) V_rTH should be labelled as such and one more beekeepers are co-lateral victim!

How can a beekeepers have access to this information?

What about the pollen producers?



The use of drones



- Amendment of Art.9 of the SUD ?

Need to prove that the pesticide risk is decreased by the use of drones



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EFSA – Bee Guidance Document



- Juin 2021: Specific Protection Goal = 10% for reduction of honey bee colony size pro active substances
- Violation of the fundamental rights of beekeepers as producers (have to accept an impact on their colonies)
- No agricultural sector should be allowed to develop at the expense of another
- EFSA is developing a methodology for SPG for *Bombus* sp. and wild bees, something maybe published during the 1st quarter 2022
- Timetable pushed back again and again, BeeLife has been fighting since 2009!



About Labelling



- **Front-of-pack nutritional labelling systems** such as colour-coded systems (e.g. Option 4 in F2F strategy) : honey as orange, we fear that this as it contradicts the healthy image of hive products. We ask for exemption for the bee products or on voluntary initiative
- **Transparency about origin:** honey and other bee products
 - Honey Directive:
 - How? Will the Commission propose a text? Will the Copa-Cogeca do it? What about the other beekeepers who are not represented in those arena?
 - When? Under the French presidency?
 - Our Fear: the process...



Honey sold in supermarket, voluntary initiative, Bruxelles (credit: C. Adolphe, 2020)

What we are asking

- The respect of our honeybees and our work
- The respect of the integrity of OUR BEE Products
- For that, we need:
 - A coherent policy at European level
 - To take into account, for real, the climate change issue which is already highly impacting our sector
 - « Save Bees and Farmers »
 - To pursue the work regarding the « authenticity » (with the evolment of beekeepers) to fight against the fraud which is putting at risk our European beekeepers sector!



From a CDG point of view, more dialogue maybe...

©P.Bross,
Hungary

Thanks for your attention!



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