

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Title: Improving honey bee health - Proposed changes to managing and controlling pests and diseases

Response form

Date: January 2013

Please use this form to answer the questions contained within the consultation document on improving honey bee health –proposed changes to managing and controlling pests and diseases.

The closing date for the submission of responses is the 9th March 2013.

Reponses can be returned by email (preferable) or post.

Email address beehealthinfo@defra.gsi.gov.uk (clearly mark the subject field Bee Health Consultation)

or by post to:

Bee Health Policy
Defra
Sand Hutton
York
YO41 1LZ

In order to help us analyse responses, please provide the details below.

When this consultation ends, we intend to put a copy of the responses in the Defra library at Ergon House, London. This is so that the public can see them. Also, members of the public may ask for a copy of responses under freedom of information legislation.

If you do not want your response - including your name, contact details and any other personal information – to be publicly available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your response to the consultation. Please note, if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, that won't count as a confidentiality request.

Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for this information under freedom of information legislation. But, because of the law, we cannot promise that we will always be able to keep those details confidential.

We will summarise all responses and place this summary on our website. This summary will include a list of names of organisations that responded but not people's personal names, addresses or other contact details.

Name	
Organisation / Company / Individual	
Address	
Email	
Telephone	
Fax	

NB: on the form below, please leave the response box blank for any questions that you do not wish to answer. All boxes may be expanded as required.

1. Do you agree with the proposed revision to the objective for the overall programme – see para 24 in section 2?

Yes

No

Why?

2. Do you agree with the recommended changes to current policies as set out in section 3?

Yes

No

If yes, why? You may wish to offer comments on specific pests and diseases.

3. If you disagree with any of the recommended changes in section 3, please identify which pest or disease and which aspect(s) and explain why you disagree.

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4. Would you support the introduction of new sanctions to address beekeepers' poor management of disease risks at their apiaries? (see para 38 for further details). The introduction of such sanctions would be subject to further analysis and a separate consultation and would also require new legislation.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Why?

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5. Are local associations prepared to pay a realistic contribution towards the costs of lectures and training events delivered by NBU staff and bee inspectors (as proposed in para 42 (i))?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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If yes, how much would be realistic?

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6. Are beekeepers prepared to pay a realistic contribution towards the costs of training events organised and run by the NBU(as

proposed in para 42 (i)?

Yes

No

If yes, how much would be realistic?

7. Do you have any other suggestions on how we might change or re-focus current pest and disease control policies and actions to improve health outcomes for honey bees?

8. Do you have any other suggestions on how government can work more closely with national and local associations to improve pest and disease control of honey bees?

9. Do you have any comments on, or additional evidence for the draft impact assessment (see separate document)?

10. To help Defra prepare for discussions and negotiations from 2013 to 2014 on changes to the EU's animal health legislation, what are your initial views on possible additional regulatory controls on beekeepers/suppliers, such as compulsory registration of beekeepers, or specific requirements for nucleus or queen suppliers to reduce risk of disease spread?