



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

T: 01904 465709  
helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk  
[www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)

**Your ref:**  
**Our ref:**  
**Date: 10 January 2013**

Dear Consultee

### Consultation on Improving Honey Bee Health

1. I am writing to invite views on proposed changes to the management and control of pests and diseases of honey bees.
2. The following documents may be found on Defra's website:  
<http://www.defra.gov.uk/consult/open/>
  - Consultation letter
  - Consultation document
  - Consultee list
  - Impact assessment
  - Pest and disease evidence profiles
  - Report on prioritisation study
3. The following supporting documents/data can be found on the National Bee Unit's (NBU) Beebase website: [www.nationalbeeunit.com](http://www.nationalbeeunit.com)
  - Response plan for Asian Hornet
  - Contingency plan on *Aethina tumida* (small hive beetle) and Tropilaelaps mites
  - NBU inspection data
4. Risk assessments on *Aethina tumida* (small hive beetle), Tropilaelaps mites and the Asian Hornet are available on the GB Non-Native Species Secretariat's website at <https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/nonnativespecies/home/index.cfm> .
5. We welcome your views and comments on the proposals. If you wish to obtain a copy of this consultation. Please contact:

Bee Health Policy Team,  
Defra  
Rm 10GA07  
Sand Hutton,  
York YO41 1LZ



E-mail: [beehealthinfo@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:beehealthinfo@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

Tel: 01904 462158

### **Responses**

6. Please send responses to the bee health policy team at the above address.
7. Responses should be received by 9 March 2013.

### **Consultation Criteria**

8. This consultation is in line with the Consultations Principles. This can be found at <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/consultation-principles-guidance>
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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.
12. We will summarise all responses and place this summary on our website at [www.defra.gov.uk/consult](http://www.defra.gov.uk/consult). This summary will include a list of names of organisations that responded but not people's personal names, addresses or other contact details.
13. To see consultation responses and summaries, please contact the library at:

Defra  
Information Resource Centre  
Lower Ground Floor  
Ergon House  
17 Smith Square  
London  
SW1P 3JR  
Telephone: 020-7238-6575

Email: [defra.library@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:defra.library@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

14. Please give the library 24 hours' notice. There is a charge for photocopying and postage.

15. If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to Defra Consultation Co-ordinator, Area 2D Ergon House, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AL, or email [consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk).

16. Thank you for your help in this matter. If you have any queries please contact us as above.

**Yours faithfully**

**Richard Watkins**

**Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**