

eip-agri
AGRICULTURE & INNOVATION

AGENDA

EIP AGRI Focus Group on bee health and sustainable beekeeping. 1st meeting

7th – 8th May 2019
Uppsala, Sweden

Rationale and scope

Beekeeping as an economic activity plays an important role in sustainable development of rural areas: it creates jobs, supplies honey and other apiculture products and provides an essential ecosystem service via pollination. In relation with this pollination contributes to improving food security as well as maintaining the genetic diversity of plants.

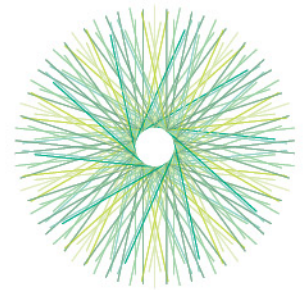
Ultimately, bee health and the economic and environmental sustainability of beekeeping is at risk and depends on many factors, including innovation in hive management, veterinary treatments of bees, reducing stressors where possible, diversification of apiculture products and adaptation to climatic variability. The Focus Group will look at examples of good practices and technologies to tackle the current and future challenges of beekeeping. It will also look at opportunities and barriers, identify knowledge gaps, and propose areas for future research.

The overarching **QUESTION** of the Focus Group is:

How to ensure the sustainability of beekeeping in the face of challenges linked to pests and diseases, intensification of agriculture and climate change?

In order to answer this, the Focus Group is expected to carry out the following tasks at this first meeting:

1. Identify sustainable apicultural practices and tools to cope with challenges posed by climate change and to better control pest and diseases, including harmful invasive species (e.g. *Vespa velutina*).
2. Identify sustainable agricultural practices (at plot, farm and landscape level) influencing beekeeping, including non-chemical alternatives for plant pest and disease prevention and control (i.e. preventive agronomic practices such as crop rotation and use of biological control).
3. Harvest the existing knowledge on ways to monitor the effect of environmental and climatic conditions, beekeeping practices and agricultural practices on bee health and production.

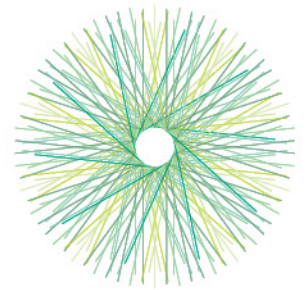


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Day 1: Tuesday 7th May 2019

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| 08:30 | 8:50 | Welcome and why are we here: scope and purpose of the meeting, expectations from the Focus Group (FG). Getting to know the EIP AGRI
<i>Fabio Cossu (European Commission, DG AGRI)</i> |
| 8:50 | 9:05 | Introduction to the FG workflow, roles and agenda of the meeting
<i>Beatriz Guimarey (Task Manager, EIP-AGRI Service Point)</i> |
| 9:05 | 9:25 | Get to know the members of the Focus Group
<i>Lotta Fabricius Kristiansen (Coordinating Expert of the FG, EIP-AGRI Service Point)</i> |
| 9:25 | 9:45 | Setting the scene: Starting paper and results from homework
<i>Lotta Fabricius Kristiansen (Coordinating Expert of the FG, EIP-AGRI Service Point)</i> |
| 9:45 | 10:15 | Buzz from the group: the view of the experts |
| 10:15 | 10:45 | Coffee break |
| 10:45 | 12:30 | Break out session: Good practices, opportunities and sources of innovation
<i>How to foster bee health in the face of challenges linked to pests and diseases, intensification of agriculture and climate change? How to keep healthy bees?</i> |
| 12:30 | 13:30 | Lunch |
| 13:45 | 14:15 | Introduction to the EIP AGRI Operational Groups
<i>Fabio Cossu (European Commission, DG AGRI),</i> |
| 14:30 | 19:00 | Fieldtrip <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Sigtuna Honung</u>• Operational Group <u>BeeScanning</u> (identification of Varroa for infestation level and more) |
| 19:30 | 21:00 | Networking dinner |



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Day 2: Wednesday 8th May 2019

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| 08:00 | 08:15 | Travel logistics and program of the second day
<i>Beatriz Guimarey, Eike Lepmets</i> |
| 08:15 | 8:30 | Recap from yesterday
<i>Lotta F. Kristiansen</i> |
| 8:30 | 10:00 | Minipapers: defining topics and teams (I)
<i>Building up on good practices and key elements fostering bee health</i> |
| 10:00 | 10:30 | Coffee break |
| 10:30 | 11:40 | Minipapers: defining topics and teams (II) |
| 11:40 | 12:00 | Minipapers wrap-up: Presentation of minipapers outlines |
| 12:00 | 12:30 | Conclusions of the meeting
<i>Wrap up of the meeting and next steps</i> |
| 12:30 | 13:30 | Lunch and departure |