



Apimondia Newsletter | July 2024

From the President

David Mukomana the Chairman of the Regional Apimondia Commission for Africa and I are in Tanzania meeting with the LOC for 2027 and at the first Tanzanian Honey Show; beyond hives beyond borders.

There is much enthusiasm and both public and private support for the 2027 Congress. More details to come.

Best Jeff Pettis



Pollination and bee flora

New research on colony loss in Latin America published in Scientific Reports

In recent decades, there has been a worrying increase in honey bee colony losses, which has attracted interest worldwide. We recently conducted a large-scale survey in Latin America to address this issue, covering two years (2016-2018) and involving 1736 beekeepers and 165 honeybee colonies. The survey results revealed that, on average, 30.4% of honey bee colonies and 39.6% of stingless bee colonies were lost annually in the region. Significant loss variations were observed between countries and years, impacting beekeepers and honeybees.

Our research underscores the urgent need to implement effective strategies to mitigate the causes of bee mortality and ensure the prosperity of pollinators for agriculture and the environment.

[Access the full article](#)

Bee Health

The B-THENET project, funded by the European Union, is a collaborative effort to promote sustainable beekeeping practices across Europe. This initiative, led by a network of 18 partners, brings together beekeeper representatives and research institutions from 13 EU member states. Among these partners, APIMONDIA plays a dual role, participating as both a National and International Centre.

The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) is one of three International B-THENET Centres. SLU plays a crucial role in equipping national advisors with the necessary skills to train beekeepers effectively. This includes two international training sessions focused on communication and demonstration techniques for best beekeeping practices. [Read more](#)

The Apimondia Bee Health Symposium

The Symposium drew international attention to the welfare status of honeybee production and the impact of health in the animals and environment. The conference was organized by [AVESPA](#) with Apimondia at the [Universidad Complutense de Madrid](#).

The Bee Health Symposium, held in Madrid on 15 and 16 June 2024, proved to be a resounding success. The event, expertly organized by the Asociación de Veterinarios Especialistas en Sanidad y Producción Apícola (AVESPA) and the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, brought together leading experts on bee health from Spain and beyond. [Learn more](#)

Europe

New European beekeeping federation

On February 2024, the European Beekeeping Association (EBA) was founded. The seat is in Slovenia, president is Boštjan Noč, head of the Slovenian Beekeepers Association. All the objectives of the EBA are fully compatible with the priorities of Apimondia and other existing European beekeeping federations. Apimondia Regional Commission for Europe has offered to create Central coordination / communication point to share ideas and initiatives among existing organisations. Members of EBA, EPBA, BeeLife, Apislavia and Apimondia (eventually others) represents closely all countries / regions of Europe, let's use this power and speak unitedly on important issues of improving the lives of bees and beekeepers. More information at <https://ebaurope.eu/>

10th Congress of Apidology

10th Congress of Apidology (EurBee), will be held on 16-19th of September 2024 in Tallinn, Estonia. EurBee is the event, where old and new friends get together to exchange the knowledge of novel scientific findings, associated with honeybees and other pollinators. [More information](#)

8th International MUĞLA Beekeeping and Pine Honey Congress

Another interesting event will be held between 24 – 27 November 2024 at Grand Yazici Turban Hotel, Marmaris in Turkey. More information at: www.muglacongress.org

EU revises Origin Labelling Rules for honey and creates “Honey Platform”

Directive EU 2024/1438 introduces stringent new labelling requirements for honey, mandating that by June 14, 2026, honey blends must include labels detailing the countries of origin in descending order, along with the percentage share of each origin. The EU is taking strides to combat food fraud in the honey market, following the results of a coordinating testing and sampling campaign revealing almost half of imported honey samples to be adulterated. The European Commission also announced a call for experts to form a new “Honey Platform” to help the Commission develop harmonized traceability rules that enable honey to be tracked from harvest to retail. The Honey Platform, comprising 90 technical experts, is expected to gather data on methods to improve authenticity controls of honey; provide recommendations for an EU traceability system, composition criteria, and a possible reference laboratory; and carry out other activities. Stakeholders along the honey supply chain, civil society, and experts in a personal capacity, including those from academia, are encouraged to submit their application for the Honey Platform.

The call for applications is open until 15 July 2024.

Perception of threats to bee colonies by European beekeepers

Interesting “sociological” studies concerning beekeeping have recently been published: Perception of threats to bee colonies and the future of local beekeeping by beekeepers in [various European countries](#) and advice on how to start beekeeping, memories with bees and the uses of honey: results of an [online questionnaire with European beekeepers](#).

Apimondia has several working groups:

Meet the groups: www.apimondia.org/working-groups.html

Editor of newsletter

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Next Apimondia Congress www.apimondia2025.com will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark on 23 – 27 September 2025 with the Beekeeper Associations from Sweden, Norway and Denmark.

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