



COLOSS Update

May 2012

Although the busy bee season is upon us, we are already looking forward to September when the 9th COLOSS Conference will take place in Halle an der Saale, Germany. This year's event will be held in conjunction with EurBee 5, Europe's premiere biennial bee research conference that will host a number of eminent scientists from around the world and focus on a diverse range of topics, such as bee physiology, pathology, and management.

Because COST financial support will end in December 2012, our next conference will focus on summarizing the network's achievements over the past four years, as well as provide selected Early Stage Researchers with the opportunity to orally present their research results to the COLOSS community. Extended deadline for registration and submission of abstracts is the end of May.



Members of COLOSS have also prepared a recently accepted pre-proposal to COST for a new Action on bee health. A full proposal will be submitted in the coming months, so keep your fingers crossed!

Working Group 1 (Monitoring Losses) Workshops

Over the past few months Working Group 1 has held two workshops. The first, held at the Netherlands Centre for Bee Research in Tersoal, dealt with advanced modelling and statistics to better understand and explain colony loss data collected by COLOSS members in over 24 countries. The second, hosted by the Food and Environment Research Agency in York, England, focussed on Working Group 1's contribution to the *COLOSS BEEBOOK*. Both these events coincided with an important journal article produced by 35 COLOSS members that was recently published in the *Journal of Apicultural Research*.

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

Managed honey bee colony losses in Canada, China, Europe, Israel and Turkey, for the winters of 2008-9 and 2009-10

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