COST exhibition at the European Parliament in Brussels

COST marked its 40th anniversary with a successful exhibition at the European Parliament in Brussels this past October. Several EU Parliamentarians discussed relevant bee health issues with Dr. Peter Neumann, who was the only Action Chair invited by COST to participate.

STSMs at the Institute of Pomology and Floriculture, Pulawy, Poland

At the end of July, Leonidas Charistos from the Hellenic Institute of Apiculture in Greece and Sladjan Rasic from the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Belgrade, Serbia, travelled to the laboratory of Malgorzata Bienkowska in Pulawy to learn techniques of artificial, instrumental insemination of honey bee queens.

A member of COLOSS Work Group 4 (Diversity and Vitality), part of Leonidas’ Ph.D. thesis is investigating how queen performance and quality is influenced by mating with drones from different genetic lines. Also a member of the same Work Group, Sladjan is interested in using knowledge gained in Pulawy to maintain, as well as create, lines of honey bees in an attempt to improve vitality and productivity.