

COLOSS Core Project - B-Rap

Bridging bee Research And beekeeping Practice (in short: Bridging Research & Practice)
How to disseminate knowledge effectively from COLOSS to beekeepers?

Workshop in Copenhagen, Denmark 10-11 June 2015

How to disseminate knowledge effectively from COLOSS to beekeepers?

Participants

Patricia Aldea (Chile), Sven Branner (Denmark), Ralph Büchler (Germany), Norman Carreck (UK), Bjørn Dahle (Norway), Johann Fischer (Germany), Ole Kilpinen (Denmark), Lotta Fabricius Kristiansen** (Sweden), Preben Kristiansen (Sweden), Per Kryger** (Denmark), Magnus Ljung (Sweden), Sjeff van der Steen (Netherlands), Asger Søgaard Jørgensen* (Denmark), Flemming Vejsnæs (Denmark), Geoffrey Williams (Switzerland).

*participated only 10 June, **participated only 11 June

Workshop Schedule - First day

11.00-11.15: Registration and welcome

11.15-11.30: Introduction of participants and workshop

11.30-13.30: Oral presentations

13.30-14.30: Lunch break

14.30-16:30: Oral presentations and discussions

Oral presentations

Magnus Ljung

Reaching out, reaching in – what triggers beekeepers to learn?

Lessons from extension science

Sven Branner

Applied and applicable research

Norman Carreck

Disseminating the results of bee research to the target audience

Ralph Büchler

Cooperation between research and practice in the field of honey bee selection

Patricia Aldea

Technology Transferency: Building bridges between Beekeepers and Technology Centres

Flemming Vejsnæs

I don't give a damn shit about beekeepers

Preben Kristiansen

So what's the problem?

Workshop Schedule – Second day

09.00-10.30: Discussions - developing ideas
10.30-11.00: Coffee break
11.00-12.00: Group discussions
12.00-13.30: Lunch break
13.30-14.30: Presentation of group discussions
14.30-15.00: Coffee break
15.00-16.00: Conclusions and plans for the future

Discussions - developing ideas

After having discussed how to continue the discussions at the workshop and different approaches for the work in the B-rap core group, each of us gave a short presentation about the training programmes and information channels etc. in each country represented at the workshop. After the presentations we concluded that it would be a good idea to collect written information on these subjects and then write an article about that.

Some of the key words in the discussions were:

- Set up targets and create strategies – what do we want to achieve
- Make a list of reasons why beekeepers do not succeed with their bees and a list of factors of success in beekeeping
- Train the trainers
- Newsletter to all who give courses

Group discussions

Magnus Ljung suggested the subjects to discuss and he even moderated the discussion when the “results” of the group discussions were presented. We discussed “Varroa monitoring” (How to get a low varroa infestation level) as an example on which to formulate System goals, Behavioural goals and Communicative goals (see page 5 in Magnus Ljung presentation) and how to achieve the goals.

Some important points from the discussion were:

Better to mention the pros and cons of monitoring than just to say “why don’t you monitor”. The latter might prevent beekeepers from monitoring instead of doing it. Make the beekeepers who do the “right thing” visible, e.g. via an online database where beekeepers fill in data, and thus become part of a network.

Better feedback to the beekeepers, e.g. “What happens if you don’t monitor and control varroa?”

The arguments need to be clearer and we need to specify target groups.

The steps in the process of transferring scientific results and knowledge are:

Technology transfer – (standardised treatments) – Problem solving – (individual adaptation of strategy) – Education (IPM-Integrated Pest Management) – Capacity building (Lifelong learning).

On the basis of the discussions we made a list of tasks for the future work of the B-Rap group (see below) and we also agreed that it would be good if we could create an international network of extensionists. Regarding this we also concluded that it is important to talk to the beekeepers associations and to cooperate with them.

Norman Carreck suggested that the work of B-Rap should be presented at the Apimondia congress in South Korea, and he offered to submit an abstract and to give the talk.

Tasks for the B-Rap group

Make a Top 10 list for extension

Make a tool-box to the other taskforces in COLOSS. How to transfer results and knowledge. (How and to what extent do we cooperate with SMART-Bee?)

Ask how beekeepers want to have the information?

Make a list of good examples of beekeepers who are successful (“Lighthouses”).

Collect information about the structure of beekeeping training in different countries, and write an article about that.

Make a catalogue on funding sources for training of extensionist

Identify the reasons why (some) beekeepers don't do what the extensionists recommend.

Make a list of good quality websites that can be recommended, and set up criteria on what is a good quality website.

Identify questions/issues to be studied.

Bridging science and practice

