

# THE NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN BEEKEEPING

## *Instructions to Candidates*

Read the questions carefully.

Unless stated otherwise questions apply to Honeybees.

Use **BLACK** pen for text. **Black** pencil may only be used for diagrams. **DO NOT USE COLOURS.**

Please start each question on a new side of paper.

Answer **Four** questions only.

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2013      Time Allowed 3 hours

### **Compulsory question:**

- 1      Amid worldwide concern about honey bee colony losses, pesticides have been highlighted as one contributory factor. Recently campaigns to ban the neonicotinoid class of insecticides have taken place in order to "save the bee". What is the evidence against these compounds, and what would be the consequences for UK beekeeping if such a ban were to be implemented?      25
  
- 2      Explain fully the impact that Nosemosis has on *Apis mellifera*. Describe the advice you would give to another beekeeper on how to control this disease.      25
  
- 3      You have undertaken to give a course of six lectures on practical beekeeping to an audience of beekeepers who have only one season's experience. List, with reasons, the subjects you would choose and write brief notes on three of them.      25
  
- 4      "It is with a bee-hive as with a wife – never take one on the recommendation of another person". *Peter Boswell, 1840*  
In recent years, several new designs of beehive have become available. Discuss the merits or otherwise of these new hives compared with traditional hives.      25
  
- 5      In their book "The Superorganism", Hölldobler and Wilson state: "A *superorganism is a colony of individuals self-organised by division of labour and united by a closed system of communication*". Explain fully this statement in relation to the honey bee colony.      25
  
- 6      Outline a system of queen rearing suitable for a beekeeper with 10 hives, and explain how this might be scaled up to provide queens for sale.      25