

THE NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN BEEKEEPING EXAMINATION BOARD

EXAMINATION FOR THE NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN BEEKEEPING

MARCH 2017

Instructions to Candidates:

Candidate
Number:

Time allowed: 3 hours. Read the questions carefully.

Answer **FOUR** questions only, including the compulsory question.

25 marks are awarded per question. Unless stated otherwise, questions apply to honey bees.

Begin each answer on a new side of paper, writing your candidate number in the upper right corner.

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

1. **Compulsory question**

The Asian hornet *Vespa velutina* was discovered in Gloucestershire on 19 August 2016. This was the first discovery of this exotic pest in the UK. Outline the contingency measures that had been put in place, the history of findings in the UK, and the possible implications for beekeeping.

2. Varroa was discovered in the UK in 1992, yet it remains the greatest threat to beekeeping in these islands. Give an outline of attempts to breed Varroa resistant / tolerant bees, outlining the techniques used and notable traits identified.
3. a) Honey bees in winter live about 4 times the length of their sister in summer. Describe the physiological and social changes that make this possible with reference to the hormonal influences.
b) During the year there is an approximate balance between house bee and flying bees. Describe how this balance is maintained and how problems for the colony might arise if this balance was not maintained. Describe 2 other mechanisms that a colony of bees use to ensure that the numbers of respective elements in the colony remain in balance.
4. List the actions that should be taken when preparing to demonstrate live bee colonies at a two day agricultural show.
5. a) Describe the measures needed to satisfy a visiting Environmental Health Officer that the honey being processed on the premises visited is fit for sale to the public.
b) What are the circumstances which allow beekeepers exemption from registration as a food processor, and does this mean that beekeepers do not need to comply with the food hygiene legislation?
6. Give an account of the work of any four of the following:
Colin Butler, Frank Cheshire, William Herod-Hempsall, Ted Hooper, Anton Janša, Roger Morse.