

THE NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN BEEKEEPING EXAMINATION BOARD

# EXAMINATION FOR THE NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN BEEKEEPING

MARCH 2021

Candidate Number:
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***Instructions to Candidates:***

Time allowed: 3 hours. Read the questions carefully.

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

25 marks are awarded per question.

1. **Compulsory question**

In November 2020 Defra unveiled the Healthy Bees Plan 2030, which will guide the UK government's actions in relation to honey bees for the next ten years. What were the achievements of the previous Healthy Bees Plan, how does the new plan differ, and how will its effectiveness be measured?

2. Give guidance to your local County Council on the planting of road verges.
3. It is claimed that wild native honey bee colonies found in the UK (e.g. those undisturbed in old churches) make smaller comb cells throughout their self-made colony structures in contrast to the larger cell size produced from purchased cell foundation used by UK beekeepers. What is the evidence that this is true, and is the smaller cell size less favourable to the varroa mite? How might this be so?
4. It could be said that practical beekeeping in Britain and Ireland has changed very little over the past 50 years. Discuss whether this view is a valid one.
5. Explain how semiochemicals are used within a honey bee colony.
6. Honey bees are considered to be generalist pollinators. Describe the adaptations that the individual worker foraging bee, and the colony as a whole, possess in order to be able achieve this.