



Apimondia Newsletter | February 2024

World Bee Day 2024



World Bee Day is observed on 20 May each year to draw attention to the essential role bees and other pollinators play in keeping people and the planet healthy. It provides an opportunity for governments, organizations, civil society and concerned citizens everywhere to promote actions that will protect and enhance pollinators and their habitats, improve their abundance and diversity, and support the sustainable development of beekeeping. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is preparing events in Rome and we hope that you as member of Apimondia will prepare your own activities around the world.

World Bee Day shines a light on the habitat of pollinators to improve the conditions for their survival so that bees and other pollinators may thrive. Find out more at [World Bee Day- APIMONDIA](#)

20 May was declared World Bee Day by the General Assembly of the United Nations (UN) in December 2017 after three years of intensive work by the Slovenian Beekeepers Association and the Slovenian Government. Find out more: [About the World Bee Day project | GOV.SI](#)

On World Bee Day, scientists, farmers, and environmentalists call for global action to raise awareness about the role of bees in our well-being and the need to protect and stop the decline of their populations. Bees are fundamental to guaranteeing our food and promoting sustainable forms of agricultural production: their actions contribute to the mitigation of climate change and the conservation of healthy environments that benefit people's physical and mental health. Therefore, bee protection and proper management are essential for the future resilience of our planet and its inhabitants. Find out more in this [video](#).



Golden Bee Award

Slovenia has announced open call for the 2024 Golden Bee Award. It is the highest national award for outstanding achievements in the conservation and protection of bees and other pollinators. The deadline for submitting proposals is 15 March 2024.

Find out more and how to apply: <https://bit.ly/48WG08q>

Bee research

The Apimondia President Jeff Pettis is off to Korea for two weeks to attend the Korean National Beekeeping meeting and conduct research on *Tropilaelaps* mites. The question he is addressing is: how can *Tropilaelaps* survive cold winters? his research is funded by a European Union grant, BeeGuards and Project Apis M in the United States.

40th Annual meeting of Apicultural Society of Korea,
with the International conference of Coloss Asia 2024

**Bee Health and Sustainable Beekeeping
for Public Benefit**

Plenary Lectures
Jeffery Stuart Pettis (President, Apimondia /USDA Beltsville Bee Lab)
Keon Mook Seong (Professor, Chungnam National University)
Xxx (Coloss)

The graphic features a green and teal background with decorative elements including a bee icon, a circular pattern, and a blue circle. The text is arranged in a clear, hierarchical layout.

BeeGuards- Resilient beekeeping and breeding to safeguard natural genetic resources and pollination services

After a competitive two-stage evaluation process, the BeeGuards project was selected as one of two research projects for the Resilient Beekeeping call funded under the Horizon Europe framework (HORIZON-CL6- 2022-BIODIV-02). The BeeGuards consortium, coordinated by Dr Cecilia Costa from the Italian Agricultural research Council (CREA), consists of 27 partners including scientists, beekeepers and beekeeping associations, consulting and technology companies, from 16 countries. The 4-year project starting in October 2023, aims to provide sustainable management practices, novel breeding strategies, and digital and forecasting tools that will allow the beekeeping sector to adapt to a changing environment.

BeeGuards will perform complementary immunological, behavioural, pathological, genomic and ecological studies that will serve to elucidate how management, climate and environment act on honey bees and other pollinators. Beekeepers, farmers and citizens will be involved via a WikiBeedia and by citizen-science and carbon footprint studies to ensure that research findings are directly translated into useful/good practices for end users. APIMONDIA is one of the 27 partners! Happy to be part of such a project! <https://beeguards.eu/>



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Best practices and innovations for a sustainable beekeeping in Europe: the B-THENET Thematic Network

The B-THENET Thematic Network is an EU Horizon Coordination and Support Action funded by the European Research Executive Agency that involves 18 partners originating from beekeepers' representatives and research institutions from 13 different EU Member States. The Network activities started on the 1st of September 2022 and will last 48 months. B-THENET is the thematic network of European beekeeping, based on a multi actor approach to engage the entire apiculture sector: beekeepers, advisors, researchers, policymakers, industry, consumers, etc. Goal of B-THENET is to collect, categorize and validate in Europe best practices and applicable research innovations not sufficiently known, using a bottom-up methodology.

Goal of the B-THENET thematic network will be to modernize the EU beekeeping sector, sharing knowledge that is ready to be put into practice, while fostering innovation and digitalization. Beekeepers will be advanced toward more economically viable and sustainable beekeeping through the knowledge sharing and training of useful and applicable Best Practices.

APIMONDIA is an important partner as it serves as a national Center for Italy as well as one of the three International Centres! <https://www.bthenet.eu/>



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EVENTS

Bee Health Symposium 2024

June 2024, Madrid, Spain

The Symposium draws international attention to the welfare status of honeybee production and the impact of health in the animals and environment. The event will bring together beekeepers and international experts from the scientific community to foster research and share experiences and new practices in beekeeping to protect the health of bees, consumers, and our world. Organised by AVESPA, APIMONDIA and Universidad Complutense de Madrid.

More details and registration here: <https://www.ucm.es/bee-health2024/>

Apimondia webinar on Invasive Species in Europe

26 March 2024 | 15:00 CET | ONLINE

Bee Health Commission together with Europe Commission in Apimondia with B-Thenet Project and Beelife are organising a webinar on Invasive species in Europe. Scientists as well as experienced beekeepers will present their knowledge and experience on their fight against these species. The webinar aims to shed light on the invasion pathways, fill possible gaps on the biology and discuss coordinating actions for mitigation.

More details will be posted on the APIMONDIA website: www.apimondia.org/events.html

Apimondia works all over the world: learn more

[Where we work- APIMONDIA](#)

Editor of newsletter

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