



# **EUROPEAN WEEK OF BEES and POLLINATION – 5<sup>TH</sup> EDITION**

## **Evaluation of the reformed CAP: Beekeeping programmes**

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# Overview of EU honey market (1)

- EU second world producer (250 000 tons) after China
- Total number of beehives: 16 millions
- Total number of beekeepers decreasing: 600 000
- Small sector but essential for agriculture for pollinisation



## Overview of EU honey market (2)

- EU is not self-sufficient in honey
- Imports needed to cover our internal consumption
- Main supplier for honey on the EU market: China (around 50% of our imports)
- Trade balance largely negative: Imports > Exports



# Many Challenges for EU beekeeping

- Bee health (diseases) and Bee environment (pesticides, food resources)
- Honey quality and labelling
- Quality and prices of imports
- EU beekeepers in competition with cheaper imports from Third countries (China, Ukraine)
- Achieve a better valorisation of all apiculture products: honey but also beeswax, pollen, royal jelly and propolis



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# CAP and the apiculture sector

General and specific tools available under the reformed CAP to address the challenges faced by the beekeeping sector

**Specific** support programme for the apiculture sector:

- National apiculture programmes

**More general tools to improve indirectly bee's environment**

- Greening measures under pillar I
- Agri-environmental- climate changes measures under pillar II (rural development programmes)



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# National apiculture programmes

- Single CMO Regulation
- Three years apiculture programme
- 50% co-financed by the EU budget
- Budget allocation based on number of beehives
- Member States to choose among the eight measures eligible
- Usage rate of funds > 90% high in previous programmes
- Relative small budget but regularly increasing: 36 EUR million for 2017-2019



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# Main changes in national apiculture programmes with the new CAP

- Single CMO reviewed
- in 2013
- Delegated and implementing acts adopted in 2015
- Changes related to funding and eligible measures



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# Main changes in national apiculture programmes with the new CAP

- Member states to have a reliable method to determine the number of beehives in order to ensure a fairer allocation of **funds**
- **New eligible measures:**
  - Technical assistance to beekeepers
  - **Combating beehive invaders and diseases, particularly varroasis** (previously only varroasis)
  - Rationalisation of transhumance
  - **Analysis of apiculture products** (previously only honey)
  - Restocking of hives
  - Applied research
  - **Market monitoring**
  - **Enhancement of product quality**

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# Effects of the new CAP

- Difficult to fully assess at this early stage
- 28 MS submitted their national apiculture programmes for 2017-2019 on 15 March 2016
- Commission in the process of approving the programmes
- Reliable method to determine the number of wintering beehives
- New measures taken by the MS
- Commission will publish on its website the national apiculture programmes and update statistics on the apiculture sector

# Conclusion

- Apiculture small sector but essential for agriculture
- Honey has a positive image of a natural product and world consumption is rising
- Several tools available in the CAP to support the sector or to improve bees' environment
- Challenges faced by the beekeeping sector need to be addressed by joint efforts of the EU institutions, Member States, the beekeeping sector and European citizens

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