

THE BRITISH BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1874

Registered Charity No. 212025

EXAMINATION FOR PROFICIENCY IN APICULTURE MODULE 1 HONEYBEE MANAGEMENT

23rd March 2013 Time Allowed 1½ hours

Candidate Number:

Instructions to Candidates

Read the questions carefully. Answer All Sections. It is recommended not to spend more than 10 minutes on Section A, 50 minutes on Section B or 30 minutes on Section C.

Unless stated otherwise questions apply to Honeybees.

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

Examiner Use Only

Question	Sec A	B11	B12	B13	B14	B15	C16	C17	Total
Mark									
Moderated									

SECTION A (10 marks, 1 for each question)

Answer **ALL** the questions in this section. Use one or two word or short phrase answers.

- Q1 What is a Rhombus used for?
- Q2 What is a water spray used for when handling bees?
- Q3 Using the International Queen Marking system, which year will the colour blue be next used for queen marking?
- Q4 A prime swarm is the first swarm to leave a colony, what is the second swarm called?
- Q5 How should bees be cleared from combs of brood containing queen cells?
- Q6 Name a self spacing super frame other than a Hoffman
- Q7 Name the traditional straw item that can be used for collecting swarms
- Q8 Name a swarm control method that makes the hive taller
- Q9 What is the solution used for decontaminating a hive tool?
- Q10 What is the purpose of a strip of metal with 8 mm holes?

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SECTION B (60 marks, 15 for each question)

Answer any **FOUR** questions from this section. Write short notes for your answers.

Marks

- Q11 A beekeeper has been given some second hand beekeeping equipment. The equipment is compatible with the hive that they own. There are wooden brood and super boxes all with wired comb and some with honey, Miller feeders, wire queen excluders, plastic queen excluders, crown board, solid floors and roofs. Advise what should be used and how to prepare the equipment for safe use in the next season. Give reasons for your actions. 15
- Q12 A beekeeper has received a call from a householder about a swarm sitting on a fence post in the neighbouring park. List what actions should be taken: how to collect, move and introduce the swarm. 15
- Q13 (a) List the precautions necessary when feeding bees. 5
(b) Describe how and with what to feed bees in the following times and conditions:
(i) preparing a full colony for winter 4
(ii) feeding after removal of rape honey during a period of bad weather 3
(iii) late winter emergency feeding 1
(iv) in a situation where a colony is starving in the summer. 2
- Q14 (a) (i) Why would a beekeeper suspect a colony is queenless? 3
(ii) List the steps a beekeeper should take to check a colony for queenlessness. 6
(b) In the table provided, put a cross in the boxes that apply to the given conditions. 6
- Q15 Advise a new beekeeper about the implications of setting up one colony of bees in a town garden which is about the size of a tennis court. 15

SECTION C (30 marks)

Answer **ONE** question from this section. Give *labelled* diagrams where applicable.

- Q16 (a) Give four uses of a nucleus colony of honeybees. 4
(b) A colony is about to swarm in late May, the queen is still present. Detail how to set up a 5 frame national nucleus for sale to a beginner. Your answer should include how to overcome any problems that might arise when setting up the nucleus and how the method used would also act as a method to prevent the colony from swarming. 20
(c) How would you advise a buyer of this nucleus to manage and develop the nucleus into a full size colony ready to survive the winter? 6
- Q17 There are two colonies of bees. One is strong and bad tempered. The other was a nucleus last year, is building up well and the bees are gentle.
(a) Explain how to requeen the bad tempered colony using the brood from the gentle colony. 25
(b) Using this situation how would the beekeeper have proceeded to create a third colony that is likely to be gentle? 5

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Q14 (b) Put a cross in the boxes that apply to the following conditions.

6

Egg pattern	Brood pattern	Queenless	Queenright	Drone laying queen	Laying worker	Young Queen
Multiple eggs at bottom of cell	Capped only					
Single egg at the bottom of the cell	Regular pattern					
Multiple eggs on side of cell	Random pattern. Domed cappings on worker cells					
Single egg at the bottom of the cell	Regular pattern. Domed cappings on worker cells					

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