

THE BRITISH BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1874

Registered Charity No. 212025

EXAMINATION FOR PROFICIENCY IN APICULTURE MODULE 1 HONEYBEE MANAGEMENT

9th November 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 Why should beekeepers wash their bee suits after receiving a sting through the bee suit?
- Q2 For what do bees need pollen?
- Q3 What colour are queens to be marked in 2019 where the international colour coding is followed?
- Q4 What is the measurement of the 'bee space'?
- Q5 What is meant by drifting of honeybees?
- Q6 Give one way of clearing bees from supers
- Q7 Why do beekeepers sometimes clip a queen's wings?
- Q8 What type of foundation should be used for cut-comb production?
- Q9 Give one way in which the condition of drone-laying queen may be distinguished from that of laying worker.
- Q10 How much stored honey does the average colony need to pass the winter successfully?

PLEASE HAND IN THIS SHEET AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION

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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) What criteria should be considered when siting a permanent out-apiary? 12
(b) What factors affect the number of colonies that should be sited in one out-apiary site? 3
- Q12 A beekeeper has decided to unite two **full sized colonies**:
(a) Give 4 precautions the beekeeper should take before uniting the colonies; 4
(b) Describe one method by which two full sized colonies may be united; 6
(c) Describe a different method by which two nucleus colonies may be united. 5
- Q13 (a) Give 7 reasons why sugar syrup may be fed to bees as part of colony management. 7
(b) What precautions should be taken when feeding syrup to bees, and why? 4
(c) What other food besides sugar syrup may be fed to colonies and under what circumstances might it be appropriate to do so? 4
- Q14 (a) Some of the commonly used hives in the UK are the National, Smith and Commercial hives. For each of these hives list the following using the table provided:
(i) number of brood frames used in the brood chamber; 3
(ii) comparative frame size in the brood chamber; 3
(iii) lugs; 3
(iv) amount of stores available in each brood frame. 3
(b) Give three principles for methods of spacing frames in a honey supers. 3
- Q15 List 15 points that should be considered by a new beekeeper when starting beekeeping, including the main options to be considered for each point made. 15

SECTION C (30 marks)

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

- Q16 (a) What measures can a beekeeper adopt to minimise the likelihood of swarming? 10
(b) On examining a colony advanced open queen cells are found. Describe, with the aid of a diagram, **one method** of swarm control. 15
(c) Why is cutting out queen cells an unreliable method to prevent swarming? 5
- Q 17 The beekeeper has his apiary in a large suburban garden. One of his colonies has become vicious. Detail how the beekeeper should re-queen this colony using a bought-in queen. 30

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- Q14 (a) Some of the commonly used hives in the UK are the National, Smith and Commercial hives . For each of these hives list the following using the table below :
- (i) number of brood frames used in the brood chamber 3
 - (ii) comparative frame size in the brood chamber 3
 - (iii) lugs 3
 - (iv) amount of stores available in each brood frame 3

Hive type	National	Smith	Commercial
Number of frames			
Ratio of brood chamber taking 1 as WBC brood chamber			
Lugs			
Amount of stores in each brood frame			

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