

THE BRITISH BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1874

Registered Charity No. 212025

EXAMINATION FOR PROFICIENCY IN APICULTURE MODULE 1 HONEYBEE MANAGEMENT

21st March 2015 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 Name a hive which uses 10 frames in the brood box.
- Q2 Name one type of queen excluder.
- Q3 What part of the bees' diet is nectar?
- Q4 What should bees be fed if the
hive is found to be light in January?
- Q5 What is the best time of day to return extracted supers?
- Q6 Give one reason for choosing a hive with top bee space.
- Q7 Give the name of one device used to clear supers.
- Q8 What month of the year should a mouse guard be fitted?
- Q9 State the width of bee space in millimetres.
- Q10 Describe one symptom
experienced when stung by a honeybee.

PLEASE HAND IN THIS SHEET AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION

MODULE 1 HONEYBEE MANAGEMENT

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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 Explain how to:
- (a) mark a queen; 5
 - (b) clip a queen. 5
 - (c) Why might each of these procedures be carried out? 4
 - (d) What colour should the queen be marked in 2016 according to the International Queen Marking Code? 1
- Q12 On examination of a colony at the end of July, the queen cannot be found.
- (a) What are the signs of queenlessness? 4
 - (b) How would this be determined? 2
 - (c) If the situation of queenlessness is ignored, what are the most likely consequences before the colony dies out? 2
 - (d) How would these consequences be recognised? 7
- Q13
- (a) Why should comb be changed regularly in the brood box? 3
 - (b) Name two methods of transferring the colony onto clean comb. 2
 - (c) Using diagrams, explain one method by which this can be achieved. 10
- Q14 During a routine inspection of a colony of honeybees in May, a large number of unsealed queen cells have been discovered. The queen is still present.
- (a) What is most likely to be happening within this colony? 1
 - (b) What could the beekeeper have done to attempt to prevent this situation arising. 9
 - (c) What are the principles behind swarm control? 3
 - (d) At any time of year, what other situations could queen cells in a colony indicate 2
- Q15 A home apiary has become too small for the number of colonies.
- (a) Give the criteria to be used in the selection of an out apiary. 12
 - (b) Draw a diagram to show how four colonies could be sited in the apiary. 3

SECTION C (30 marks)

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

- Q16 A member of the public has phoned to say that they have a swarm of bees in their garden.
- (a) What information should be ascertained and given before going to collect the swarm? 8
 - (b) How might modern technology be used to confirm that they are honeybees? 1
 - (c) List the equipment that should be taken. 6
 - (d) Explain how a swarm hanging one metre from the ground could be taken and hived at an apiary. 15
- Q17 A friend has decided that they would like to keep a couple of colonies of bees.
- (a) What should they do before getting bees? 4
 - (b) Give a breakdown of the equipment they will need in the first two years and the possible costs involved. 8
 - (c) Describe the Smith and the Modified Commercial hives, so that the beginner could choose between them, listing the similarities and difference between these two hives. 14
 - (d) What possible sources of information are available to beginner beekeepers? 4