



APIMONDIA

The International Federation of Beekeeper's Associations

15 October 2020

Dear beekeeping friends, presidents, delegates and representatives of the national beekeeping associations

The APIMONDIA Executive Council has supported and agreed to become a partner with the educational organization BeeConf s.r.o. to bring you two online events on bees. We are happy that beekeeping education can continue in a virtual manner in these difficult times. Our regional President from Europe is part of this effort and has worked with BeeConf s.r.o. to help bring these two events to reality. I would like to direct your attention to the following two educational beekeeping conferences that we Apimondia are supporting.

The first virtual world beekeeping conference is entitled as **Honey Fraud Industry**. It is organized on 8th November, 2020, online and live streamed. Honey fraud adulteration is one of the key themes for APIMONDIA. If we protect honey, we protect beekeepers. More information can be found here: beeconf.com

The second virtual world beekeeping conference is named „**Back to basics, back to bees**“. It is organized on February 5th and 6th, 2021. It will focus on the natural life of honeybees and the path toward sustainable beekeeping. It is based on scientific research and many years of experience by some of the best researchers in the world. It can be an inspiration and a lesson learned for all beekeepers, no matter in which country or in which hive system they do their beekeeping! The second part of the conference deals with the most common discrepancies between common beekeeping practices and the needs and biology of bees. It shall help beekeepers to find the limits of the beekeeping practices, beyond which even well-intentioned measures are harmful. The third part of the conference deals with the most important bee pest, the parasite Varroa destructor and a progressive method of controlling it – hyperthermia. More information is here: beeconf.com

Both conferences are unique for several reasons:

- They bring deep knowledge about the actual topics.
- They combine online education and live streaming.
- They are available online in 8 different languages (Slovak, English, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Polish, and Hungarian).
- They are a great opportunity for the beekeeping organizations to educate their members
- Both conferences will be available to every beekeeper thanks to live streaming and translations

The uniqueness of these worldwide conferences also lies in the fact that part of the registration fees gained from the live streaming will be redistributed among the partners. For the first meeting on honey fraud time is too short to setup distribution to all parties but by the February meeting we will be prepared to share the proceeds with all Apimondia organizations that participate. This means that

10% of the funds will subsequently go to you, the beekeeping associations, exactly according to the number of registered beekeepers from your country. These funds will reimburse your costs associated with the promotion and communication with your members, in case of an interesting number of your members will connect online, you will also receive funds for the activities of your organization. Each country will have its own country code for registering for the conference. Each involved beekeeping organization who will effectively communicate about the conference to their members will have a unique ID number with a country code. The system will send you a regular report about the number of the participants who paid for the participation in the online conference.

Please find here below additional useful information.

Programs, introduction of the invited keynote speakers who have already confirmed their participation in the programs, and the details for the registrations can be found on the conference website: beeconf.com.

I will personally contribute to these conferences also as a lecturer. The promotion campaign has already started (see Activities, Future Events at www.Apimondia.com). Please start distributing the website address among your members.

The main communication media is the website **beeconf.com**

I believe that we will be able to present and discuss these interesting topics with a wide, global community of experts and beekeepers, renew our commitment to better beekeeping and improving our beekeeping associations and inspire beekeepers with new opportunities to access valuable knowledge. Apimondia is planning other such virtual events in the near future as a means to meet the growing demand for science-based information on bees and beekeeping

Let's together buzz the whole world!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Pettis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

Dr. Jeff Pettis
Apimondia President