PROMOTION AND INCITEMENT TO ORGANIC BEEKEEPING IN PORTUGAL

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First Apimundia Conference on Organic Beekeeping

www.bee-hexagon.net/organic.htm

Sunny Beach, Bulgaria, 27 - 29 August 2010
ORGANIC BEEKEEPING IN 2003

248 Colonies

Alentejo Algarve B. Interior B. Litoral E.D.M. R. Oeste Trás Montes

SPAIN

PORTUGAL

Colonies
Great geographical conditions

Almost no industry

National protected areas
Honey market value

Price / kg honey
Observed Handicaps

- Lack of information in organic beekeeping practices
- No products were allowed under national regulations for varroa control
- Difficulties in access to certified wax
- High costs for certifications
GOALS 1/4

• Implement 4 experimental apiaries
GOALS 2/4

• Test different varroa control methods allowed under the European regulations

Timol

Oxalic acid

Formic acid
ACHIVEMENTS 1 AND 2

Develop in beekeepers the correct management practices
ACHIVEMENTS 1 AND 2

Propose strategies to control varroa infestation

- **WINTER**: TREAT.
- **SPRING**: HONEY SUPPERS
- **SUMMER**: H
- **AUTUMN**: TREAT.

**Timings**
- TIMOL 2 x 2 strips 4g
- FORMIC ACID 4 x 60 mL (60%)
GOALS 3/4

To stimulate the interest of conventional beekeepers

Talks

Technical publications

Book

GOALS 4/4

• Achieve a production level that could:
  • Enable the production of certified wax
  • Reduce costs of certification
  • Create specific trade channels

Biofach

Beekeepers association contract
CURRENT STATUS

Certification requires:

First, contract with certification entity

Second, Registration on government organism

Third, conversion process starts
CURRENT STATUS

**SEVEN** Authorized Private controlling organisms

PT-BIO-09 SGS ICS – Serviços internacionais de certificação, Lda
PT/- BIO-08 CODIMACO – Associação Interprof. Gestora de Marcas Colectivas
PT-BIO-06 AGRICERT – Certificação de Produtos Alimentares, Lda
PT-BIO-05 CERTIS – - Controlo e Certificação, Lda (ex-CERTIALENTEJO)
PT-BIO-04 CERTIPLANET – Certificação da Agric., Flor. e Pescas, Unipessoal, Lda
PT-BIO-03 SATIVA – Desenvolvimento Rural, Lda
PT-BIO-02 ECOCERT PORTUGAL – Unipessoal Lda

REGISTRATION ON-LINE
CURRENT STATUS

- **24 TIMES MORE ORGANIC COLONIES**
- **10 TIMES MORE ORGANIC BEEKEEPERS**

**BUT**

- **1% TOTAL HIVES**
- **0.3% TOTAL BEEKEEPERS**
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THANKS

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