

PRESS RELEASE

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The COLOSS *BEEBOOK*

The unique and innovative COLOSS "*BEEBOOK*": standard methodologies for *Apis mellifera* research will today be published both online in the *Journal of Apicultural Research* and as a hard copy book for use at the laboratory bench.

The COLOSS *BEEBOOK* aims for the first time to standardise methods for studying the honey bee, *Apis mellifera*. It is a practical manual compiling standard methods in all fields of research on the honey bee, and will become the definitive, but evolving, research manual. Chapters describe methods for studying honey bee biology, methods for understanding honey bee pests and pathogens, and methods for breeding honey bees. It has been edited by Dr Vincent Dietemann of the Swiss Bee Research Centre, Agroscope Liebefeld-Posieux, Prof. Peter Neumann of the University of Bern, Switzerland, and Prof. Jamie Ellis of the University of Florida, USA. The initial *BEEBOOK* project is divided into two volumes: The COLOSS *BEEBOOK*, Volume I: Standard methods for *Apis mellifera* research and The COLOSS *BEEBOOK*, Volume II: Standard methods for *Apis mellifera* pest and pathogen research. A further volume covering hive products is in preparation.

IBRA Science Director and *JAR* Senior Editor Norman Carreck says: "*Volumes I and II are composed of 32 peer-reviewed chapters describing some 1700 individual experimental protocols, and have been authored by 243 of the world's leading honey bee experts from 34 different countries. This illustrates the unprecedented degree of international collaboration that the crisis in honey bees and the COLOSS network has engendered*".

COLOSS Chairman Prof. Peter Neumann says: "*The editors and author team hope that the COLOSS BEEBOOK will serve as the standard reference tool for honey bee and other researchers globally. We hope that the honey bee research community will embrace this exciting venture and will ensure that it continues to evolve*".

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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NOTES FOR EDITORS:-

1. The COLOSS *BEEBOOK* - Volumes 1 and 2 are available online at:-

<http://www.ibra.org.uk/articles/The-COLOSS-BEEBOOK>

2. The COLOSS *BEEBOOK* - Volumes 1 and 2 are available as hard copies from the IBRA Bookshop:-

http://ibrastore.org.uk/index.php?main_page=advanced_search_result&search_in_description=1&keyword=beebook

3. The COLOSS *BEEBOOK* Volume I: Standard Methods for *Apis mellifera* Research.

Edited by Vincent Dietemann, James D Ellis, Peter Neumann. ISBN-10: 0-86098-274-2

ISBN-13: 978-0-86098-274-6 RRP £60 + postage and packing.

The COLOSS *BEEBOOK* Volume II: Standard Methods for *Apis mellifera* Pest and Pathogen Research.

Edited by Vincent Dietemann, James D Ellis, Peter Neumann.

ISBN-10: 0-86098-275-0 ISBN-13: 978-0-86098-275-3 RRP £50 + postage and packing.

Both Published 1 September 2013 by and available from: IBRA, Unit 6, Centre Court, Treforest, CF37 5YR, UK. For trade enquires please contact Sarah Jones: jonesl@ibra.org.uk

4. COLOSS is a network funded by the European Union COST Programme (Action FA0803) and the Ricola Foundation – Nature & Culture, which aims to explain and prevent massive honey bee colony losses. The network does not directly support science, but aims to coordinate international research activities across Europe and worldwide, promoting cooperative approaches and a research programme with a strong focus on the transfer of science into beekeeping practice. COLOSS has more than 300 members drawn from 60 countries worldwide. It is chaired by Prof. Peter Neumann of the University of Bern, Switzerland. Website <http://www.coloss.org/>

5. The International Bee Research Association ("IBRA") is the world's longest established apicultural research publishers and promotes the value of bees by providing information on bee science and beekeeping worldwide.

6. IBRA publishes the peer reviewed scientific journal the *Journal of Apicultural Research* founded by IBRA in 1962. It includes original research articles, theoretical papers; scientific notes and comments; together with authoritative reviews on scientific aspects of the biology, ecology, natural history, conservation and culture of all types of bee.

7. IBRA publishes and sells books on bee science, bee conservation and beekeeping and also provides bee information services. IBRA is a Registered Charity, and its Council of trustees boasts some of the world's leading bee scientists.

8. Membership of IBRA costs just £33.00 annually. Membership benefits include receipt of four quarterly issues of *Bee World*, our accessible and topical journal on latest bee research, news, reviews and other relevant information for the bee scientist, beekeeper, and anyone with an interest in bees.

International Bee Research Association

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