

THE BRITISH BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1874

Registered Charity No. 212025

EXAMINATION FOR PROFICIENCY IN APICULTURE MODULE 1 HONEY BEE MANAGEMENT

24th April 2021 Time Allowed 1¾ 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 and 30 minutes on Section C.

Unless stated otherwise questions apply to honey bees.

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. Please write your answers on the question paper.

- Q1 What is a Butler cage commonly used for in beekeeping?
- Q2 During which month of the year is the colony population at its minimum?
- Q3 Give an example of when a pollen supplement or substitute may be necessary.
- Q4 Name a crop in the UK that needs specialist management to acquire a honey harvest in the Autumn months.
- Q5 What is a cast swarm?
- Q6 What type of foundation should be used for cut comb production?
- Q7 What colour would be used for marking a queen born in 2023?
- Q8 Give the size of bee space.
- Q9 When would a Snelgrove board be used?
- Q10 What type of sugar should be used for the preparation of syrup for feeding?

PLEASE HAND IN THIS SHEET AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION

MODULE 1 HONEY BEE 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 (a) Why do honey bees need a local water supply? 3
(b) List the main factors to be considered in the provision of a water source for an apiary including the design and placement of the supply provided. 6
(c) In addition to water, list the items that a honey bee forager would collect and state briefly the reasons for their collection. 6
- Q12 A docile colony has suddenly started to show bad temper:
(a) list 7 possible reasons for this change in behaviour; 7
(b) if the bad temper continues, briefly describe a method of uniting this colony to a more docile colony in the same apiary. 8
- Q13 During a routine inspection of a colony of honey bees 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) All methods of swarm control work on the principle that there are three components in a colony, name these elements. 3
(d) At any time of year, what other situations could queen cells in a colony indicate? 2
- Q14 (a) List three advantages for each of the following hives:
(i) Standard National; 3
(ii) Commercial; 3
(iii) WBC. 3
(b) Describe the differences between Hoffman, Manley and SN1 super frames. 3
(c) What is the difference between a DN4 and a DN5 frame? 1
(d) What is the rationale behind the Manley design? 2
- Q15 (a) Give three symptoms that someone who is stung by a honey bee and has a mild reaction might experience. 3
(b) What signs could be observed in someone experiencing a more severe allergic reaction? 6
(c) What can the beekeeper do to minimise stings? 6

SECTION C (30 marks)

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

- Q16 A beekeeper has been approached by a friend who insists that they want to keep a hive in their suburban garden.
(a) What immediate advice should they be given on what to do before making a commitment? 5
(b) What subsequent advice should they be given regarding:
(i) the suitability of their garden; 5
(ii) choice of hives; 8
(iii) additional essential equipment; 5
(iv) sourcing bees; 4
(v) the approximate cost to start out. 3
17. 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? 9
(b) List the equipment that should be taken. 6
(c) Explain how a swarm hanging one metre from the ground could be taken and hived at an apiary. 15