

THE BRITISH BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1874

Registered Charity No. 212025

EXAMINATION FOR PROFICIENCY IN APICULTURE MODULE 1 HONEY BEE MANAGEMENT

10th November 2018 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 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 Give a simple method for confirming queenlessness.
- Q2 Name a hive that uses British Standard frames with short lugs in the brood box.
- Q3 What type of foundation is used for comb sections?
- Q4 What is the value of pollen to a colony?
- Q5 Give one way to prevent drifting of bees between hives.
- Q6 Name one method of uniting honey bees.
- Q7 Name a hive which uses 10 frames in the brood box.
- Q8 What is a Rhombus used for?
- Q9 Using the international queen marking system, what will be the colour used to mark queens raised in 2019?
- Q10 What are the dimensions of bee space?

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

- Q 11 (a) How would a beekeeper manage honey bee colonies to take full advantage of:
(i) autumn sown oil seed rape (OSR), and
(ii) spring sown OSR? 12
(b) What are the problems commonly associated with OSR? 3
- Q12 List 15 things a beekeeper should perform or examine for during the first spring inspection of a honey bee colony. 15
- Q13 (a) Describe how a beekeeper would recognise if a colony is being robbed. 5
(b) What actions can a beekeeper take to reduce robbing? 6
(c) What are the dangers of robbing? 3
(d) Name one other species that may rob honey bee colonies. 1
- Q14 (a) Why should beekeepers regularly replace comb within a hive? 5
(b) How would a beekeeper perform a complete brood comb change in May on a strong colony with a brood chamber and two supers? The weather is good and the beekeeper wishes to keep the brood. 10
- Q15 (a) Other than a plastic queen excluder, list 3 different types of queen excluders available to beekeepers. 3
(b) What are the advantages and disadvantages of the plastic queen excluder? 7
(c) List five situations or tasks that may use a queen excluder. 5

SECTION C (30 marks)

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

- Q16 (a) What is the difference between a cast swarm and a prime swarm? 2
(b) What visual signs should a beekeeper look for to confirm that a colony is preparing to swarm? 6
(c) List 10 swarm prevention techniques that can be employed by a beekeeper. 10
(d) On examining a colony, a beekeeper found advanced unsealed queen cells. Describe, with the aid of diagrams, an artificial swarm method of swarm control. 12
- Q 17 The beekeeper has his apiary in a large suburban garden. One of his colonies has become so vicious the beekeeper is unable to find the queen by normal inspection. Detail how the beekeeper should re-queen this colony using a bought in queen.
The answer should include:
(a) managing the postal queen; 5
(b) finding and disposing of the vicious queen; 19
(c) introducing the new queen. 6