

Keeping Wales' Honey Bees Healthy

The Welsh team of the National Bee Unit is working with local beekeepers' associations across Wales to deliver a series of workshops this summer. The workshops are designed to help beekeepers to develop their knowledge and diagnosis of the key disease threats to their bees. They will also provide the opportunity for beekeepers to understand the role of the Bee Inspectorate work and to meet some of the local team.

The workshops will give detailed insights on the notifiable diseases, American Foul Brood and European Foul Brood, as well as looking at the overall disease situation in Wales and updated approaches to its control. Beekeepers will learn about other pests and diseases, in particular Varroa and its associated viruses, that can pose a risk to their colonies.

The Inspectors are licensed to bring with them examples of diseased comb. Participants will have the chance to examine these live examples of disease and put their learning into practice, on the day.

The concluding session will address the importance of biosecurity with an introduction to the underlying concepts of barrier management in beekeeping. A final discussion will encourage beekeepers to consider how best to apply their newly acquired knowledge of diseases and prevention techniques in order to safeguard their own bees' health.

The weekend workshops run from 2 – 5pm and are open to both association members and non-members. Contact the local association to attend. Details are available from <http://www.wbka.com/member-associations/> or francis.gellatly@apha.gsi.gov.uk

DISEASE RECOGNITION AND COMB WORKSHOPS : WALES 2015

DATE	Beekeeper Association (BKA)	VENUE
Sat. 30 May	Teifyside BKA	Coed y Bryn Village Hall SA44 5LQ
Sat. 6 June	South Clwyd BKA	Llysfasi College LL15 2LB
Sun. 13 June	Bridgend BKA	Coytrahen Community Centre CF32 9DW
Sat. 27 June	Carmarthen BKA	Newchurch Community Hall SA33 6AF
Sat. 4 July	Conwy BKA	Henfaes Research Centre LL33 0LB
Sat. 11 July	Gwent BKA	Goytre Village Hall NP4 0AW
Sat. 18 July	Montgomery BKA	Gregynog Hall SY16 3PW



Photos by Barry Griffiths