

CONFERENCE

New Challenges for Bees: The Way Forward

Wednesday 30 September 2015

14:00-18:30

Room PHS 3C050

Thursday 1 October 2015

09:00-12:30

JAN4Q2

European Parliament, Brussels

Hosted by

Mariya Gabriel MEP

Chair of the “Apiculture & Bee Health” working group of the EP Intergroup
“Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development”

Since 2012, the European Week of Bees and Pollinators takes place annually in the European Parliament offering the opportunity for stakeholders to meet and exchange views. Members of the European Parliament, Commission representatives, leaders of the European institutions, and national and regional representatives participate each year in greater numbers to this important event, which gathers beekeepers, farmers, NGOs, economic and industrial actors, and scientists.

Understanding the severe issues related to bee health is essential for public decision-makers as pathologies, viruses, pesticides, decline in biodiversity, or modification of pollinators habitat are various factors threatening the sector.

This 4th edition of the European Week of Bees and Pollinators intends to review these exchanges and present the new challenges that have to be faced. A common solution will have to be found. In this regard, a strong focus will be put on dialogue and on effective and collaborative efforts to develop and contribute to the implementation of audacious public policies with the aim to improve the conditions of bees in Europe and worldwide.





Day 1

14:00-14:30 Opening Ceremony of the Bee Village with **Desislava Taneva, Minister of Agriculture and Food of the Republic of Bulgaria**

Esplanade Simone Veil – European Parliament, Place du Luxembourg

14:30-15:00 Registration, **Altiero Spinelli building, Place du Luxembourg**

Opening session

15:00-15:05 Welcome remarks by **Mariya Gabriel MEP**

15:05-15:15 Welcome and opening remarks by **Desislava Taneva**, Minister of Agriculture and Food of the Republic of Bulgaria

15:15-15:25 **Gaston Franco**, former MEP and initiator of the European Bee Week in the European Parliament

15:25-15:35 **Luis Carazo Jimenez**, Head of Unit “Animal Products”, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission

15:35-15:45 **Luc Bas**, Director of the European Regional Office, International Union for the Conservation of Nature - IUCN

15:45-16:00 Q&A with the audience

Session 1 – Bees at a crossroads: State of play

16:00-16:05 Introductory remarks by **Alojz Peterle MEP**

16:05-16:20 State of play by **Dr. Dennis VanEngelsdorp**, Honey Bee Lab, University of Maryland

16:20-16:35 State of play of phytosanitary products – **Marianna Paolino**, Policy Officer Pesticides and Biocides, DG SANTE, European Commission

16:35-16:50 State of play of disease control – **Vincent Dietemann**, Agroscope, Swiss Bee Research Center



16:50-17:05 Biodiversity – Food resource quality and availability: a major challenge – **Peter Neumann**, Institute of Bee Health, University of Bern

17:05-18:30 Q&A with the audience

18:30-20:00 *Cocktail reception*

Day 2

08:00-08:45 – Registration, Altiero Spinelli building, Place du Luxembourg

Session 2 – Thinking Collaborative Models

09:00-09:10 Introductory remarks by **Gaston Franco**, former MEP

09:10-09:25 State of Play - **Dr. Bach Kim Nguyen**, University of Liège (Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech), BeeOdiversity

09:25-09:40 Pollination by bees: the case of apples - **Daniel Sauvatre**, President, World Apple and Pear Association

09:40-09:55 Pollination by bees: the case of oil seed rape – **Dr. Chris Hartfield**, National Farming Union, UK

09:55-10:15 Working with Non-Governmental Organisations – **Marie-Antoinette Micheli**, Pollinis

10:15-10:30 Working with the Business Sector – **Dr. Peter J. Campbell**, Chair of Pollinator Steering Team, European Crop Protection Association - ECPA

10:30-10:45 Main findings of the Beekeepers Forum – **Etienne Bruneau**, Chief Executive, CARI

10:45-12:10 Q&A with the audience

12:10-12:25 Wrap-up of the day by **Dr. Bach Kim Nguyen**, University of Liège (Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech), BeeOdiversity

12:25-12:30 Closing remarks by **Gaston Franco**, former MEP