

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **IBRA strikes gold at Apimondia**

The International Bee Research association (IBRA) has won a Gold Medal at the International Apicultural Congress held at Buenos Aires, Argentina, for its book "Varroa - still a problem in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?"

This important new book covers the major problem affecting bees worldwide, the parasitic mite *Varroa destructor*. One of the book's authors, Professor Keith Delaplane of the University of Georgia, USA, coordinator of the US\$4.1M "Managed Pollinator Coordinated Agricultural Project", a multi-institutional consortium funded by the US Department of Agriculture and dedicated to the goal of understanding and mitigating the causes of bee decline says: "it is simply non controversial among the world's practicing bee scientists that *Varroa destructor* is problem #1".

In recent years, the world's headlines have been full of stories of mass deaths of honey bee colonies, but scientific consensus suggests that there is no single cause, and that different interacting factors may be occurring in different regions. It is inescapable, however, that varroa is present in all regions where recent colony losses have occurred, and the mite is known to interact with other pests and diseases, principally viruses. Varroa is, however, not new, but remains a problem because conventional approaches to control have failed, with the mite becoming resistant to many of the chemicals used.

In this new book, a team of international scientists addresses all aspects of the varroa problem, with chapters on: mite biology; varroa and viruses; chemical control; Integrated Pest Management; biological control and breeding bees for varroa tolerance. The final chapter looks forward at prospects for improved control and innovative ways to tackle the problem.

IBRA Scientific Director Norman Carreck says: "We are delighted at this recognition that our book brings together in one place the state of our current knowledge of how the global varroa crisis can be tackled".

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## **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT**

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## **FOR COMPLEMENTARY REVIEW COPY OF THE BOOK PLEASE CONTACT**

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## **NOTES FOR EDITORS:-**

1. The International Apicultural Congress (Apimondia) is held every two years and attracts thousands of beekeepers, bee scientists, honey traders and beekeeping equipment suppliers: [www.apimondia.org/](http://www.apimondia.org/)

2. The book "Varroa - still a problem in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?" is available from IBRA price £13.50: [www.ibra.org.uk](http://www.ibra.org.uk)

3. 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.

4. IBRA publishes the following peer reviewed scientific journals: -

5.1 The *Journal of Apicultural Research* was 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 and culture of all types of bee.

6.2 The *Journal of ApiProduct and Apimedical Science* was launched by IBRA in 2009. It focuses upon evidence based research being carried out on biologically relevant properties of bee and hive products, and their scientific relevance in the fields of medicine, nutrition and healthcare. This journal provides a forum where the efficacy and effectiveness of bee and hive products with therapeutic properties can be presented, debated and evaluated using scientific principles.

7. IBRA publishes and sells books on bee science 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 £31.50 annually. Membership benefits include receipt of four quarterly issues of *Bee World*, an 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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