

The key to resilient beekeeping is to harness the power of nature to restore harmony and balance inside the honey bee colony and between the colony and the environment

Honey bee colonies are often poorly adapted to cope with abiotic stresses such as climate change, habitat loss and hazardous chemicals, in no small part due to modern beekeeping practices.

We believe that the path to harmony and balance is shown by Darwinian colonies: abandoned colonies and feral colonies that have survived in the wild.

However, such colonies usually lack many favorable characteristics that are important in modern beekeeping.

The solution here is to understand the processes and mechanisms that apply in nature and to adapt modern beekeeping practices and decision making accordingly, and when appropriate using the benefits of advanced technologies.

The restoration of harmony and balance must take place on three levels: the environment, the honey bee and beekeeping practices.



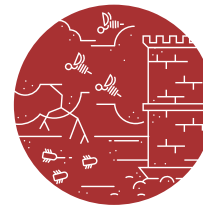
Pollinator ecology

Can we predict the landscape pollinator carrying capacity and the competition with wild pollinators taking local context into account?



Resilience to chemicals

Can ecosystem complexity enhance resilience to chemicals of plant-pollinator communities?



Resilience to climate and heat stress

Can we predict the effects of climate change on beekeeping based on genetics? Can we improve the physical properties of the hive?



Local adaptation by Darwinian selection

What are the characteristics of a Darwinian colony? What is the impact of mobility in the beekeeping sector?



Immune resilience

Can we develop a novel haemocyte typology? What is the impact of heat and nutritional stress on the immune potential of honey bees?



Future of beekeeping under global change pressures

Can the optimization of hive and beekeeping practices mitigate disruptive events, climatic stressors and invasive species?

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This work was supported by the Better-B project, which has received funding from the European Union, the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) and UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) under the UK government's Horizon Europe funding guarantee (grant number 10068544).

