



## OIE Webinar Symposium on Biosecurity Measures in Beekeeping

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“guaranteeing honey bee health in Italy under the new Animal Health Law”

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# Apiculture: a Sector for long time considered neglected

For a long time apiculture has been considered a minor sector with no relevant issues related to animal health.

Veterinarians has been scarcely involved in the prevention and managing of bee diseases

Starting from the beginning of 2000 veterinary services have increased their attention to the sector due the use of drug against Varroa destructor.

This shed a light of a lack of general preparedness of the veterinarians in the domain of bee diseases, prevention and biosecurity

The incursion of Aethina Tumida in 2014 in the South of Italy highlighted the need to improve the knowledge with regard to the prevention and eradication of bee diseases

In this regard Italian Ministry of Health financed several project included one on biosecurity with the aim to draw guidelines to apply in apiaries

In April 2016 the new regulation on animal health ( Regulation 2016/429) entered into force. This regulation applies also to bees and bumble bees

# Main pillars of Regulation 429....

Regulation 2016/429 gives particular emphasis on prevention, surveillance and early warning

Italy is committed to follow the main pillars of Regulation 429 also in the beekeeping sector with the following measures:

- Compulsory training (certificate) for beekeepers on bee disease (in particular Varroasis, American foulbrood *Aethina Tumida* and *Tropilaelaps*), biosecurity and best practices as well as the correct use of medicinal products
- Beekeepers should rely on Veterinarians who carry out risk based «health visit»

Aim of health visit:

- Advising beekeeper **on biosecurity** and prevention
- Clinical inspection / and notification of listed diseases

# Definition of Biosecurity in Regulation 2016/429

‘biosecurity’ means the sum of management and physical measures designed to reduce the risk of the introduction, development and spread of diseases to, from and within:

(a) an animal population, or

(b) an establishment, zone, compartment, means of transport or any other facilities, premises or location;

# Main pillars of Regulation 429- Biosecurity in beekeeping sector

- Compulsory Application of BIOSECURITY measures in apiaries and BEST PRACTICES
- The Biosecurity measures should be applied on the basis of risk
- Criteria of risk are still to be defined (movements of consignment, number of hives , epidemiological situation in the zone)
- Official veterinarians should perform control to verify the level of application of biosecurity measures by beekeepers
- For the next future (2024) the outcome of controls (included the ones related to biosecurity) will be inserted in a system call «Classyfarm» wich will rate the level of risk of each apiary
- Official controls will be reoriented on the basis of the risk rating of each apiary

# Biosecurity in the beekeeping sector

*Thanks for your kind attention !!!!*