SUMMARY

Survey on the spread of the main honey bee diseases in the Lazio Region and development of IT tools for health management at the apiary level

Key words: honey bee diseases, epidemiology, IT

At present, the OIE's Terrestrial Code (World Organization for Animal Health, 2013) lists seven main bee diseases: American foulbrood (*Paenibacillus larvae*), European foulbrood (*Melissococcus plutonius*), the varroatosis (*Varroa destructor*), l'acarapisosis (*Acarapis woodi*), the tropilaelapsosis (*Tropilaelaps* spp.) and aethinosis (*Aethina tumida*). In Italy, the real prevalence of the above mentioned diseases is unknown.

In order to verify the compliance with the OIE criteria for the listed diseases (Chapter 1.2 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code) and to increase the available information on the prevalence of the main honey bee diseases, the present Research project has applied a sampling plan in the Lazio region, strengthened by the use of innovative diagnostic methods (PCR method for *Acarapis woodi* detection), a new on-line platform for Varroa control (Treat-in-Time) and by a strengthening of the regional information system for veterinary epidemiology (SIEV).