

OIE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO HONEY BEE HEALTH

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The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) is an intergovernmental organisation established in 1924 with 181 Member Countries (as of September 2017). Its mandate is to improve animal health, veterinary public health and animal welfare world-wide; the health of bees is included in the OIE remit.

Under this general mandate, the OIE is dedicated to:

- ensuring transparency of the animal disease situation world-wide, including diseases transmissible to humans (see paper on the World Animal Health Information System),
- collecting, analysing and disseminating veterinary scientific information,
- providing expertise and promoting international solidarity for the control of animal diseases,
- guaranteeing the sanitary safety of world trade in animals and animal products,
- improving food safety from the farm to the abattoir,
- promoting animal welfare through a science-based approach,
- improving the legal framework and resources of national Veterinary Services.

In application of its mandate, the OIE has published different Standards related to bee diseases. They are mainly laid down in two publications: the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*¹ (*Terrestrial Code*) and the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*² (*Terrestrial Manual*).

For bee diseases, the OIE and its Member Countries can benefit from the support and expertise of several OIE Reference Laboratories.

The OIE also published recently a publication titled bee health and veterinarians (2014) providing useful information to all the actors involved in the management of the health of bees.

Keywords: World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE); honey bees; bee health; activities

1 All the chapters are downloadable from the OIE website: http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_sommaire.htm, website consulted 01/07/2011.

2 All the chapters are downloadable from the OIE website: http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mmanual/A_summry.htm, website consulted 01/07/2011.