

The Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Associations
(Comhnascadh Cumann Beachairí na hÉireann)



Education and Examination Board

Gormanston Intermediate Practical Examination 2017

Date: Monday, 31st. July 2017.

Three hours (14.00-17.00)

You must answer QUESTION 1 and FOUR OTHER QUESTIONS

Draw diagrams and sketches where appropriate.

Write clearly and adhere strictly to the subject matter of the questions.

Start a new question on a new page.

1. a) Explain what is meant by IPM Integrated Pest Management. (5 marks)
b) Describe an Integrated Pest Management system that could be used to minimise the very serious threat posed by Varroa, using these headings; apiary level, physical control, monitoring, biological control and chemical control. (15 marks)
2. (a) Describe your method of swarm control including its advantages and disadvantages. (12 marks)
(b) Give an account of supersedure. What are its advantages/disadvantages? (8 marks)
3. A beekeeper has eight production colonies.
In your opinion how many queens should this beekeeper produce annually? Justify the number by dealing with seasonal requeening and overwintering. (10 marks)
Describe a management system to produce this number of queens. (10 marks)
4. (a) Describe in detail a method of making up a nucleus when a colony in the apiary produces queen cells in the first week of June. (10 marks)
(b) Describe some of the many uses of nuclei. (10 marks)
5. Write notes on five of the following seven items:
apiary hygiene; queen introduction; the label on a 340g jar of honey for sale; chalkbrood; major honey plants by month from April to September; Bailey frame change; harvesting queen cells. (4 x 5 marks)
6. Answer any two of the following;
 - a) Outline how you would inspect for AFB and EFB. (10 marks)
 - b) Outline the preparation of colonies for winter. (10 marks)
 - c) Outline the production of a wax block for show. (10 marks)