



Bachelorthesis / Masterthesis

Start: July 2022

***Varroa destructor* treatment using new evaporation technique – Bee Pad**

Background:

Honey Bee (*Apis mellifera*) colonies are declining worldwide, and a number of stressors have been identified that affect, alone or in combination, the health of these honey bees. The ectoparasitic mite *Varroa destructor*, is one of this stressors who harm bees and acts as a vector for different viruses. Presently organic acaricides are used regularly for the control of *Varroa destructor*. Common used evaporation systems are impregnated paperwick system like Liebig-Dispenser or Nassenheider-Evaporator. However, the success of this system dependent on good weather and hive condition.

Aim of this work:

We will investigate the treatment success of the Bee-Pad, a product of different granulate material mixed with formic acid in a bag from that the acid can evaporate into the colony. The aim is to develop an evaporation system which is independent and unsusceptible to the weather condition and achieves efficient treatment against the mites.

Requirements:

We are looking for a candidate with knowledge of practical beekeeping skills to work with up to 30 honey bee colonies.

The project is a cooperation between the Uni Freiburg, Interbran-Nature GmbH and the CVUA Freiburg

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