

## **A second update on the ReViVe research project**

Full details of the proposal can be found on the BDI web site here:

<http://www.beediseasesinsurance.co.uk/research/revive>

In this, BDI has invited associations to co-fund a research proposal looking the way in which some colonies around the world are able to co-exist with the varroa mite and not succumb to Deformed Wing Virus (DWV). This proposal takes forward some earlier research in which they feel they have identified the mechanism by which these colonies are surviving and will now look at ways in which this could be transferred to the wider bee populations.

BDI is funding £15,000 per year for three years and is asking associations to fund up to a maximum of £300 per annum for a maximum of three years. This would be scaled back if a large number of associations agree to participate.

We have asked associations to indicate their willingness to participate in an on line survey here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7YPTPR9>

To answer some of the questions that have been raised:

### **Our association did not meet in September – are we too late to consider this proposal?**

No – it is clear that quite a few associations needed a longer time to consider the proposal and we are therefore extending the time frame until 30<sup>th</sup> October. At that time we will announce the results of the funding proposal. Assuming we go ahead, then there will also be time in November for groups that do not meet until then to join in. If you are not intending to formally decide until after the end of October, but have a preliminary indication that you will be willing to contribute then it would be helpful if you would let us know on the survey or via email.

### **We would like to contribute a variable amount per annum – is this possible?**

Yes – we have had a number of associations who want to contribute in this manner – perhaps as a function of membership, or indeed an amount added to their subscription. Please indicate this on the survey and importantly give us an expected range that this will contribute per annum, so we can budget accordingly.

### **What will happen to this research project if sufficient funds are not raised?**

We are well on the way to achieving the funds the researchers need, but are by no means there yet. We would hope to achieve the funding levels they need but this depends on the willingness of the beekeeping community. So if you have not already done so, please give the proposal your consideration.

Enough funds are available to allow the initial sampling of the bees to be undertaken. If the entire project is unable to obtain sufficient funding, then it has been agreed that the samples would be frozen and stored until the funding is obtained. Obviously we would prefer to get on with this important research as soon as we can and are hopeful that you will support this work to enable the work to carry on as we have initially planned.

Martin Smith  
BDI President  
1<sup>st</sup> October 2015