

## **ABSTRACT BOOK**

## How ready are beekeepers for Precision Apiculture Systems (P.A.S.)? A survey in France, Germany and Greece.

<u>F.Vardakas</u>, G.Mainardi , E.Minaud, F. Requier, I. Steffan-Dewenter, <u>F. Hatjina</u> *Institute of Animal Science Hellenic Agriculture Organisation DEMETER, Nea Moudania (Greece) Université Paris-Saclay - Evolution, Genomes, Behaviour and Ecology, CNRS, IRD, Gif-sur-Yvette (France) University of Würzburg - Department of Animal Ecology and Tropical Biology, Würzburg (Germany)* 

Considering the relentless pace in which our personal and professional lives are being transformed daily by Information and Communication Technologies, Precision Apiculture could not stay behind for long. While beekeeping is still a mainly traditional sector compared to other agricultural ones, Precision Apiculture Systems (P.A.S.) and academic studies around it are on the rise.

As part of the European BeeConnected Programme we undertook a survey in order to understand in which extent beekeepers are willing or prepared to implement such technologies in their apiaries.

A survey translated in 4 languages (English, Greek, French and German) was undertaken on 538 beekeepers from France, Germany and Greece focused on beekeeper perspectives on the current use of P.A.S.

In this survey we sought for a better understanding of the reasons behind the lack of use of such systems and what kind of P.A.S they would be more inclined to use in the future. Additionally, the survey provided some insights that highlight the factors and barriers that might influence their decision on a P.A.S. installation in their apiary.

Overall, the respondents were quite heterogeneous but about half of them had used some kind of P.A.S. and seemed to be affected mostly by the high cost of these systems. This survey has shown that there still needs to be an effort from the market to make those systems be more cost-effective rather than merely gadgets.