

APIDOLOGY AND APICULTURE

Several research groups are working in “Apidology and Apiculture” and have created a thematic network in these fields. They deal with the technical and socio-economic aspects of beekeeping and aim to develop methods and strategies to improve bee health. This network also aims to study the interconnections between environment and managed and wild bees

Our research objectives



- Genetic characterization of managed and wild bees
- Studying technical and socio-economic aspects of beekeeping, with the characterization and authentication of honey bee products
- Improving the health status of managed and wild bees
- Promoting the use of bees as pollinators, environmental bioindicators, and carriers of biocontrol product agents
- Assessing the impact of environmental stressors on bees

Our expertise

- Taxonomy of bees (*sensu* Apiformes)
- Honey bee genetics
- Genomics, bioinformatics and computational biology
- Application of probiotics and prebiotics to enhance bee health
- Analysis of gut microbiota of managed and wild bees
- Sustainable management of pollinators in the agro-ecosystems
- Organization and data analysis for Bee Monitoring Network
- Urban beekeeping
- eDNA analysis using honey bees and honey bee products
- Bee ecotoxicology and environmental risk assessment
- Use of bees as bioindicators of environmental pollution
- Use of bees as carriers of biocontrol product agents
- Pollination ecology and crop pollination
- Role of pollen and pollination in the transmission of plant pathogens
- Honey authenticity and traceability
- Economics of public goods and environmental issues





Our main projects

INTERNATIONAL

- EUFRUIT “The European Fruit Network – EU H2020 (2016-2019)
- NO PROBLEMS “Nourishing PRObiotics to Bees to Mitigate Stressors – EU H2020_MSCA_RISE (2018-2021)
- SEGAE Development of a Serious Game for digital learning in AgroEcology in Europe – EU Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership (2017-2020)
- PROVIDE: “PROVIDing smart Delivery of public goods by EU agriculture and forestry” – H2020 (2015-2018)
- CONSOLE: “CONtract SOLutions for Effective and lasting delivery of agri-environmental-climate public goods by EU agriculture and forestry” - H2020 (2019-2022)
- CooBEEration: a network for beekeeping, biodiversity and food security. International Cooperation Project – EU FSTP Food Security Thematic Programme (2015-17)
- AMIGA “Assessing and Monitoring the Impacts of Genetically modified plants on Agroecosystems” – EU 7PQ (2012-2015)
- PP-ICON “Plant-Pollinator Integrated CONservation approach: a demonstrative proposal” EU LIFE+ (2011-2015)

NATIONAL

- Use of probiotics to control noseosis in *Apis mellifera* – Fondazione Del Monte (2014)
- BEENET: Italian beekeeping monitoring network – MIPAAF (2011-2014)
- APENET: Apiculture and Environment – MIPAAF (2009-2011)

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