

## Essex Bee Health Officers Report - Salma Attan & Katy Langley

July 2019 - Role of Bee Health Officer (BHO) for Essex taken as a job share by Katy Langley and Salma Attan; our main aim is to try to co-ordinate efforts within divisions of Essex to improve bee health by expanding members knowledge about disease and pests of honeybees.

Ongoing - distribution of AH identification posters to Libraries, retailers, community centres, schools, places of worship etc within the Essex area (and Hampshire)

July onward - Drive to recruit a Bee Health Officers and Asian Hornet (AH) Lead from each division - 8 out of nine divisions now have a BHO and Asian Hornet Lead, with some divisions having one person taking on both roles. Presentation to Chelmsford BKA on EFB/AFB

August - first meeting with BDO/AH leads, roles discussed.

September - Orsett Show, AH Stand: 200 AH identification posters distributed to members of the public.

October - Katy visited Jersey and spent five days tracking AH with Bob Hogge and dissecting nests at the Jersey Department of Environment. We have maintained contact with both Bob and Jersey AHAT lead, Alistair Christie. Presentations to both Epping Forest and Maldon on AH tracking.

November - Meeting arranged with all divisional BDO/AHAT leads to update on the seasons high EFB levels in Essex and how Asian Hornet is being tackled as well as Katy's experience in Jersey. All BHO distributed bee disease prevention/hive hygiene advice to their divisional members.

January - Healthy Hive Books distributed to Divisional BHOs at 'Train the Trainers Day'

February - BBKA Asian Hornet Conference attended - Our report of the conference has been distributed to all current divisional AHAT leads/BHO with the intention to hold a further meeting in late March to formulate an Essex wide policy. (including AH Leads from neighbouring BKAs) At the current time there is no BBKA wide policy if AH were to establish.

March - Ted Hooper Memorial Lecture - Arranged for Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Prof Giles Budge has been booked as the main speaker and will deliver a lecture on Chronic Bee Paralysis Virus as well as a short update on the current EARS (East Anglia Research student) study, which Essex is part funding. Presentation to Harlow on Equipment Cleaning and FB.

June - Bee Health Day 2020 - Currently in the process of being organised.

October - AH workshop at EBKA conference hosted by Chelmsford

2021 - Ted hooper Lecture and Bee Health Day already being organised.