

**Annual Meeting of the International Honey Commission 01.08.08 in Tzarevo**  
**Discussion after the Honeydew Honey Symposium 3.8.2008 in Tzarevo**

Short report

More than 50 people from 23 countries participated at the IHC meeting and at the Symposium, at which 30 oral presentations and 13 posters were presented.

**Residues**

Anne Claire Martel will ask you by e-mail for the future work of this group – use of antibiotic substances (e.g. Tylosine, Fumagiline), determination methods, ring trial on Erythromycine.

Reference point of action:

Since several years we are discussing an action limit for antibiotic residues. Kurt-Peter Raezke has prepared a proposal to forward this to the EU. It was pointed out and the participants have agreed that for substances without MRL the reference point of action should be 10 µg/kg honey. Kurt-Peter Raezke will discuss this shortly with members of this working group which have not participated in Tzarevo. A paper on the topic will be submitted.

**Botanical Origin of Honey (former Unifloral Honeys)**

Livia Persano-Oddo did a great job as the leader of this group. Unfortunately she is retired. Due to this fact we looked for a new one. Andreas Thrasylvoulou will step into this job.

Data base on honeydew honeys

It was agreed to create a databank of different types of honeydew honeys, similar to the one on unifloral honeys. Andreas Thrasylvoulou will contact all members to send him these data. The results of the symposium shall be published in Journal of Apicultural Research or Apidologie.

Questions raised by Andreas:

1. EU Honey Directive Limit for HMF for honey with low enzymatic activity with not more than 15 mg/kg and DN more than 3. The 15 mg/kg limit is not justified. *Comment by Stefan Bogdanov: there is no such limit for the Codex Alimentarius Standard.*
2. Limit for a minimal Glucose plus Fructose content of honeydew honey is not fulfilled by some Greek honeys.

**Adulteration**

Lutz Elflein reported about interesting new methods to detect adulteration (LC/MS plus isotope analyses, special enzymatic analyses).

**Sensory Analysis**

Here we had the special seminar on Friday afternoon with Lucia Piana.

**Honey of other bees**

Ligia Muradian reported about the work and publications of the Melipona working group. Surendra Joshi informed about honey from Asian bee species.

**Pollen:**

Maria Campos has given an important talk about her work and the group work on pollen as well as a long reference list.

**Propolis:**

Vassya Bankova has given a quite complete overview on the ingredients and the MIC values (minimum inhibition concentration) of different kind of propolis. There are also new kinds of

propolis on the market like Pacific Propolis (from Japan, Taiwan, Indonesia), Red Propolis (Cuba, Brazil) and non poplar Propolis (from the Mediterranean Europe).

### **Homepage**

Stefan Bogdanov will take care of our homepage. The new address will be [www.bee-hexagon.com/en/network.htm](http://www.bee-hexagon.com/en/network.htm)

### **Apimondia / FAO / Codex Alimentarius**

The participants agreed to the proposal of Apimondia that Nicola Breadbear, Stefan Bogdanov and Werner von der Ohe should be the official representatives of Apimondia in the Codex Alimentarius platform.

### **Further talks**

Adulteration of bee wax" (Ewa Was), "Vitamins in pollen" (Ligia Muradian) and "HMF: fast determination method" (Kurt-Peter Raezke).

The pdf's of the presentations will be placed on the website

Werner von der Ohe and Stefan Bogdanov will represent the IHC and the Apimondia at the Codex Alimentarius.

**Next IHC meeting during APIMONDIA Congress, Montpellier, France, 14. – 19.09.2009**

**Next Honeydew Honey Symposium 2010 in Greece, organized by Andreas Thrasyvoulou.**

Werner von der Ohe/Stefan Bogdanov, August 2008