



## Syndicat des Producteurs de Miel de France. SPMF

Gers Chamber of Agriculture

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Tarbes 13 February 2025

Info SPMF 2025 N°3

**Open days around the 94th General Meeting of the SPMF**  
will take place at the "JARDIN PECHEUR" 11 rue Lucien FAURE Quartier  
du musée du Vin, 33 300 Bordeaux.

## **The final programme is as follows**

**Tuesday 18 February 2025, from 4pm welcome**

**Wednesday 19 February 2025: MIEL open day, Welcome: 8.30 am. Meeting starts: 9am.**

- 1 The honey market in France and the EU: a detailed assessment for 2023 and an initial approach for 2024. Jacques COMBES.
- 2 EU Mercosur: one agreement among many. Assessment to date (January 2025) of the free trade agreements signed by the EU with third countries exporting to the EU (UA, MX, VN, AR, BR, UY, CL, NZ, UK). Towards 0% access to the entire EU market? Jacques COMBES.
- 3 The EU's association agreements with MERCOSUR and UKRAINE: developments in the negotiations and impact on the structure of the EU's honey supply. Draft scenarios. Damien FAGGION, FAMILLE MICHAUD APICULTEURS.

**10.45 a.m. Break. Resume at 11am**

- 4 Assessment of crisis management in 2023. Comments from beekeepers in the presence of MASA, Ministère de l'Agriculture, DGPE, Mme Léa PELTRET
- 4 Practical explanations and timetable for application of the updated Directive 2001/110. What is the link with the "honey-platform" set up by the EU for "delegated acts": SPMF.
- 5 Explanations on the ISO standard under discussion, AFNOR group.

**12.30 p.m.: snack lunch on site. Resumption at 1.45pm: scientific and technical information**

- 6 False positives, false negatives, laboratory developments. Explanations on the "new" DNA analysis of honey.

Following explanations from beekeepers on the practical problems they encounter when carrying out analyses, 5 laboratories will be taking part.

- Laurence THOMAZO (AB Labo France)
- Dr Martin LINKOGEL (QSI Germany)
- Dr Giancarlo QUAGLIA (Life Analytics Italy)
- Dr Kaarel KRJUSKOV (CELVIA Estonia Laboratory, MDA analyses) is currently expected to take part in an Internet videoconference and is waiting to find out whether he will be able to travel.
- Dr Michael TRAUGOTT (Sinsoma Austria Laboratory) Honey DNA.

The 5 laboratories plan to organise themselves (30 minutes maximum each) without duplicating work.

**6pm end of day.**

**Thursday 20 February 2025: open day BEE and botany, nectar production, pathologies Welcome:**  
**8.30 am. Start of meeting: 9am. Break mid-morning depending on discussions.**

- a) From 9am to 10.45am, Bret ADEE, manager of one of the largest beekeeping companies in the USA (several tens of thousands of hives), will start the day. After a summary of the previous day's "honey economics", and a comparison with the situation in the USA, we will move on to "bee issues". This year, our American colleagues are very high hive mortality, which is affecting the 2025 almond pollination campaign. This will be the first time that it has been possible to discuss these issues between the two continents. **Please note that this presentation, which was intended to be shared between the 2 days, will be concentrated on Thursday 20th. However, Mr and Mrs ADEE will be present at all three dinners. Dialogue will therefore be possible outside the meeting.**
- b) Instead of the wet-finger beekeeping publications of yesteryear, for several years now we have had genuine, reliable production estimates. Comparative analysis of each year's surveys (AGREX 2023 and ADA France 2023 and 2024) to see whether or not it is possible to learn anything about the reasons for the considerable changes and variations in honey production between major regions and within neighbouring areas.
- c) Discussions with beekeepers on the OMAA report and the bee monitoring dossier: Agnes LEBOSSELIER and Alexandra ARROYO (DRAAF Nouvelle Aquitaine). How would it be possible to draw up a report on each of the factors responsible for the decline in colony vitality: phytosanitary impact, varroa mites, viruses, hornets, climate change, etc.?

**12 noon snack lunch on site. Resumption at 1.45pm until 5.45pm.**

- d) Provence lavender/French lavender file: Patrick MOLLE, Jean Louis LAUTARD
- e) Wild bees/domestic bees, by Philippe LECOMPTE. The RBA's work on the evolution of floral resources. Explanation of their scientific method for measuring possible competition between bee species.
- f) The point of view of the APILAB laboratory, Claire GAY, Head of Biodiversity Research.
- g) Location of beehives in state-owned forests and forests subject to the forestry regime,
- h) New anti-varroa drug recently approved,

**Friday morning, 21 February from 9am to 3pm, including lunch: Statutory General Meeting.**  
**Attendance with voting rights is reserved for subscribers up to date with 2025 (€110.00 or €220.00).**  
**It is open without voting rights to subscribers paying €440.00 and to guests who have registered before 18 February 2025.**

Every year, the SPMF days are a unique, ultra-professional forum for brainstorming and exchanging information on fundamental topics concerning beekeeping in the broadest sense of the term: production, marketing, health, regulations, etc...: production, marketing, health, regulations, etc... In the presence of several guests who will take part in the discussions, including, among others: **BERNHARD HEUVEL (EPBA), Mario KALVET and Taavi TULL (Estonia), Justine PAPILLON (Eurofins), Alain RIOU and Guillaume IGON (Icko Apiculture), Guillaume LEDYS (Thomas Apiculture).**

**Each evening, the dinners provide an opportunity for privileged exchanges between participants from many countries, in close contact with scientists and beekeepers. Don't miss them.**

For the SPMF... The Board of Directors...Thursday 13 February 2025.