## Why Citizen Science?

Contribute to the acquisition of knowledge for apiculture



Get hands-on experience on innovative methods, accompanied by project technicians and researchers

## The BeeGuards method

We believe that the controlled presence of varroa during the breeding season can naturally select the carriers of resistant genes – drones that can successfully mate despite the residual infestation pressure and further spread the resistance.

We therefore propose to

- Not perform treatments or interventions during spring
- Summer treatment: caging the queen and dribbling oxalic acid
- Winter treatment based on the concept of intervention threshold: if at the autumn control the colony is healthy (varroa infestation on adult bees less than 2-3% and at least 4 combs populated with bees, the intervention is limited to long caging (2 months) of the queen, without application of acaricidal products; otherwise, use acaricidal treatments such as oxalic acid

BeeGuards aims to strengthen the resilience of the European beekeeping sector and beyond, by providing sustainable management practices, new breeding strategies and developing digital forecasting tools to enable the sector to adapt to an ever-changing environment.

COORDINATION IS UNDER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF:



Have you ever thought about changing your strategy to fight varroa? If you would you like to:

- increase the quality of hive products
- reduce stress on brood and beneficial bacterial flora
- avoid resistance to acaricidal active ingredients this study is for you!

IT IS NOT REQUIRED TO HAVE A MINIMUM NUMBER OF COLONIES

DO YOU WANT TO BE PART OF THE TEAM? **SCAN** 





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The views and opinions expressed are however solely those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Commission. Neither the Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for what is written.







## FILL OUT THE FORM WITH YOUR CONTACT DETAILS TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH THE BEEGUARDS TEAM OF EXPERTS AND THE OTHER BEEKEEPERS PARTICIPATING IN THE CITIZEN SCIENCE STUDY





At the end of the season we will collect your impressions through a short questionnaire

Minimal data collection, relevant to adapt the method to your local reality

Follow the protocols and collect data according to the methods suggested in it

SCAN THE OR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE FULL MANUAL



