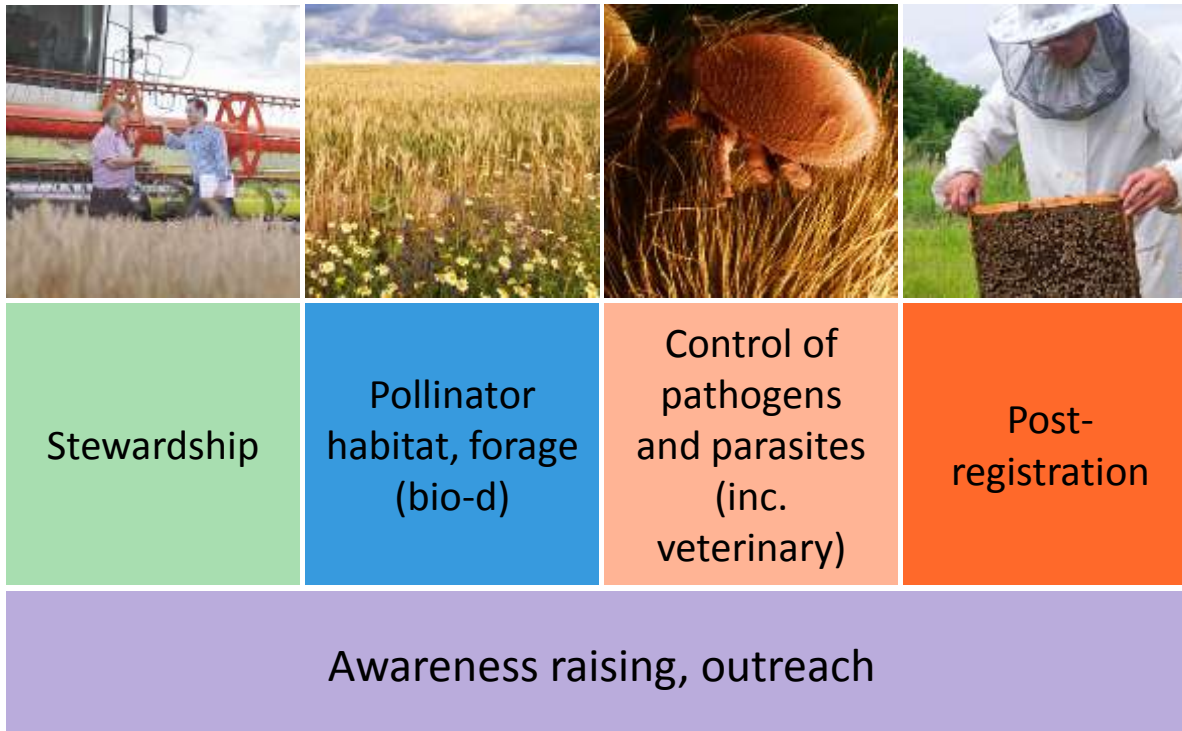


# Working group on bee health

Brussels, 29<sup>th</sup> October

# ECPA network bee health actions



## Actors:

- Member companies
- National assoc's
- ECPA secretariat

## Engagement:

- Local
- National
- Pan-European
- Global

# ECPA network member bee health actions

## Stewardship

### Seed treatment stewardship (this e.g. Bayer)

In addition to normal PPP  
guidance, guidance on:

- Avoidance of dust
- Prevention of uncovered drilled seeds and spillages
- Phone services - 'hotline'
- Demonstrations
- Online

**Seed treatment stewardship**

Seed treatments are considered by many as one of the most environmentally friendly methods of crop protection targeting the treatment and reducing the need to spray. However, the surface of treated seed still contains agrochemicals, and there's a potential danger to wildlife if these chemicals get into the environment in an uncontrolled way.



Stewardship Seed treatment stewardship Slug pellet stewardship Insecticide stewardship  
Potato tuber treatment stewardship

**Background**

Other than your normal care when using crop protection treatments two specific areas to watch are:

- Dust
- Uncovered drilled seeds and spillages

Some types of drills, especially precision vacuum types, emit air that have been drilled to

You can count on SureStart stewardship resources to cover you.

# ECPA network member bee health actions

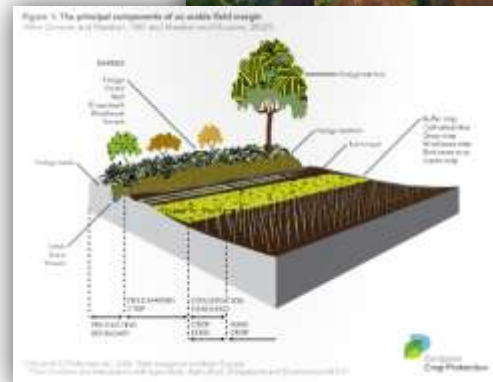
Habitat, forage (bio-d)

## Multifunctional Role of Field Margins in Arable Farming (ECPA)

European literature review.

Descriptions of the different  
types of field margins.

How FM implementation can  
be optimised for different  
conservation objectives –  
inc. honey bee and other  
pollinators



# ECPA network member bee health actions

Habitat, forage (bio-d)

## Operation Pollinator (Syngenta)

International program to boost number of pollinating insects on commercial farms.

Creates specific FM habitats, tailored to local conditions & native insects.

- Flowering plant seed mixes
- FM Management advice



Improving the fortunes of pollinators,  
whilst retaining farm profitability

### Boost numbers of pollinators

Habitat creation for pollinators has been proven by independent monitoring to increase bumblebee numbers by up to 600%, butterfly numbers up 12 fold and other insects more than 10 fold within three years.

# ECPA network member bee health actions

Stewardship

Habitat, forage (bio-d)

**INSPIA** (ECPA + non-industry partners)

***European Index for Sustainable Productive Agriculture***

- Sustainability indicators for PPP use
- Inc. habitat and forage provision for pollinators.

Index helps farmers monitor improvements and identify areas needing improvement.





# ECPA network member bee health actions

Control of pathogens & parasites  
(inc. veterinary)

Solutions for the control of the  
Varroa mite

- Monsanto
  - *BioDirect™*
- BASF
  - *MAQS™* Beehive Strip
- Bayer
  - Supporting Arista foundation  
Bee Research on Varroa  
Resistant Honeybees
  - Development of novel tools to  
control Varroa, such as the  
*VarroaGate*



# ECPA network member bee health actions

Post-registration

## Post registration monitoring

Syngenta and Bayer are engaged in large-scale bee health monitoring activities on NNI-treated oilseed rape, in five European countries, in the context of joint 5 Point Action Plan on bee health.

1. Scale up creation of flowering field margins across EU
2. Support for the est. of a field monitoring program for bee health
3. Mandatory imp. of strict measures to mitigate bee exposure risk
4. Investment in new tech to further reduce dust emissions from the planting of seed treated with NNIs
5. Investment in the R&D of new solutions for the main factors impacting bee health, which include parasites and viruses



# ECPA network member bee health actions

## Outreach

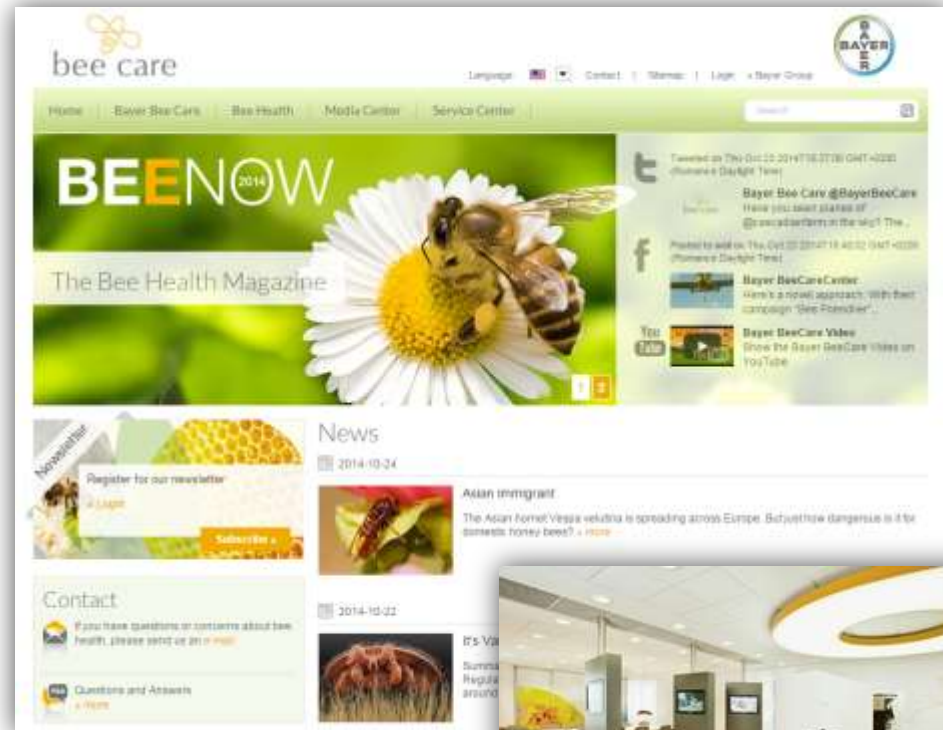
### **Bayer Bee Care Centre(s)** (Bayer)

‘Visitor centres’ for  
interaction with stakeholders  
on bee health.

Outreach for cooperation on  
bee health, good science,  
effective communication

Builds transparency

Monheim, DE  
North Carolina, USA



# ECPA network member bee health actions

Outreach

**Various...**

**Pollination Station** (ECPA)

[www.pollination-station.eu](http://www.pollination-station.eu)

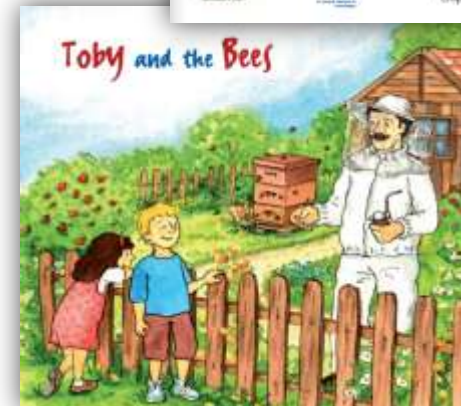
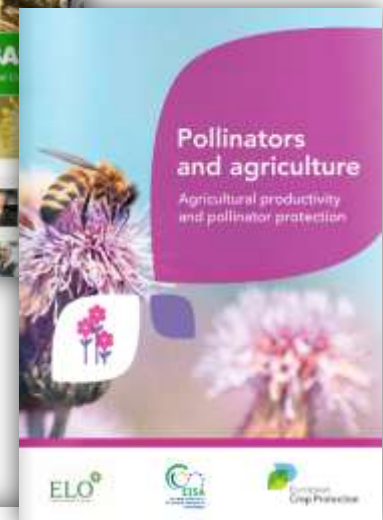
**Pollinators & Agriculture** (ECPA)

Report – relationship between pollinators  
and agricultural production

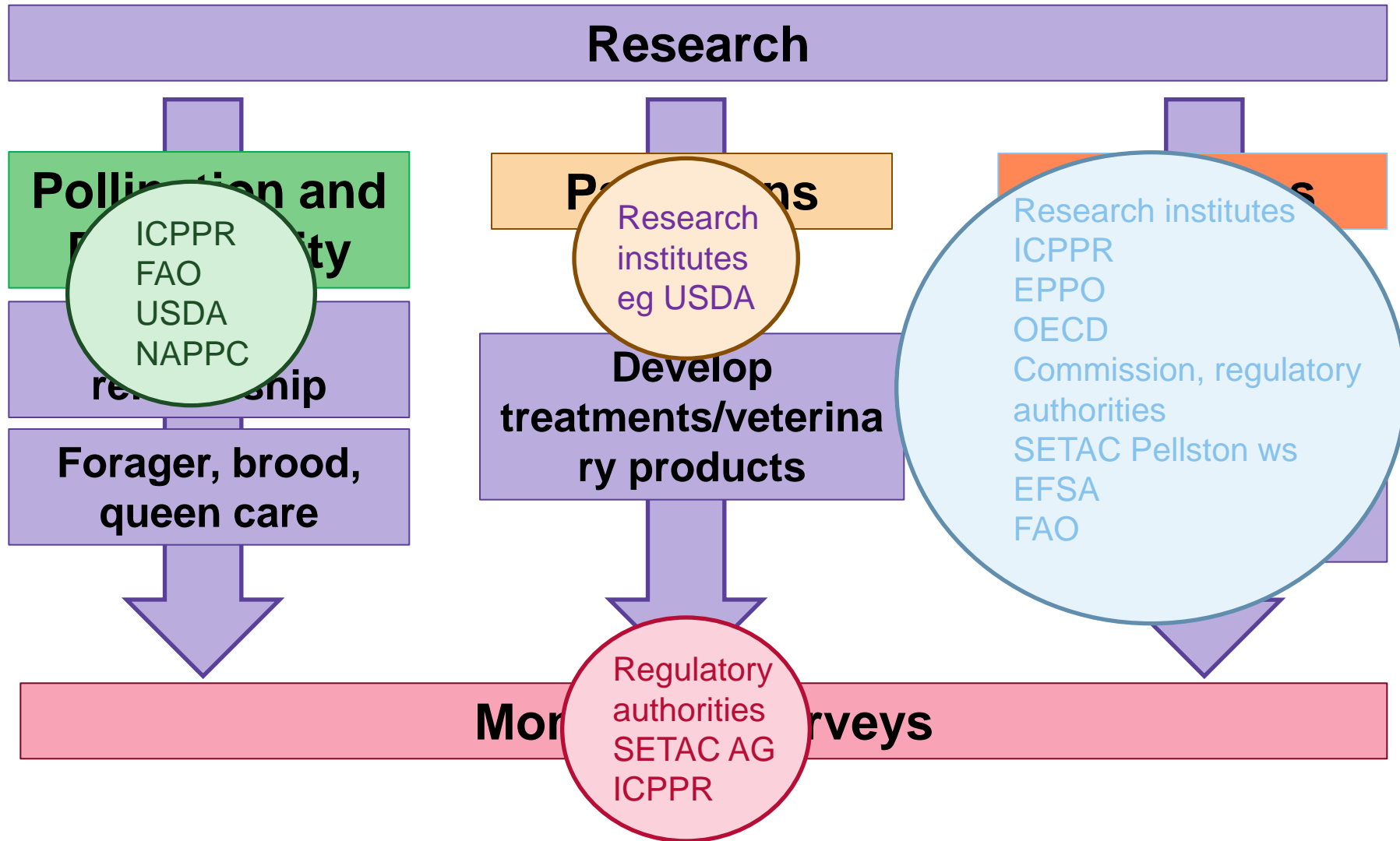
BMPs for pollinator protection, promotion

**Toby and the bees** (Bayer)

Honey bee basics, importance of forage



# Research and expert groups



# Expectations of the platform

- 🍌 **Aim:** Improving honey bee health
- 🍌 **Approach:** Pragmatic, solution oriented, structured (i.e. project)
- 🍌 **Context:** Sustainable beekeeping and agriculture
- 🍌 **Scope:** Build on existing initiatives (avoid redundancy)
- 🍌 **Outputs:** e.g. BMPs, improved stewardship, better communication
- 🍌 **Composition:** Multi-stakeholder – all key stakeholders
- 🍌 **Timeframe:** Time-bound and results driven
- 🍌 **Governance:** Multi-stakeholder – representative of platform
- 🍌 **Financing:** Shared contribution, transparent

# Next steps?

## 2015 stakeholder platform workshop to:

- Agree priority actions
- Properly map existing initiatives to avoid redundancy
- Agree on proposal for governance and financing
- Agree roles and responsibilities and ways of working
- Agree deadline for finalising project planning
- Establish timeline for 2015> activities

Thank you for your attention

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