Bath Beekeepers Teaching Apiary on Park Farm, Newton-St-Loe, Bath BA2 9JA

Risk Assessment for Bath Training Apiary – Version June 2026 Review Date: on or before June 2027

The Apiary Site: Bath TA is located just outside Bath 3 miles from the nearest Accident & Emergency Hospital (Bath RUH approx. 15 minutes in normal traffic). Bath TA is on a site with access through an unmanned gate. The Apiary entrance is opposite the farmhouse.

Emergency procedures: Contact details and telephone numbers for emergencies are displayed along with details of the location, grid reference, post code and directions for emergency services who may be asked to attend. A first aid kit and defibrillator are available in the Kitchen area of the TA.

A sign giving the location of the apiary for the emergency services is displayed by the front door.

Location: Park Farm, Newton-St-Loe, Bath BA2 9JA

Grid Ref: ST 695 631 **What3words**: Vertical.Outnumber.Routines

Emergency contact numbers:

Emergency Services: 999

First Aider: Ad hoc, whoever is on site

Apiary manager: Pete Davis Mobile - 07720321627

Swarm collectors – see website: https://bathbeekeepers.com/

Who is affected:

A. Bath BK Apiary Manager, all Bath members and any sub-contractors working on and/or maintaining the site

B. Experienced beekeepers managing colonies and acting as trainers and mentors (Participants)

C. Trainee beekeepers starting as complete novices (Participants)

D. The general public who have shown an interest and are attending an introductory meeting (Participants)

E. Other Duchy of Cornwall personnel and any other visitors

F. Trespassers

Hazards identified.	Associated risks	Risk (LMH)	Who is affected	Actions and Controls
Injury/ incident/ medical issue	Lack of appropriate incident management or First Aid leading to exaggeration of injury, further injury, death	L	A, B, C, D	1. An induction check list (annex A) should be read and signed by all Participants at the start of the day. 2. Injuries and incidents requiring first aid or emergency assistance will be managed by a trained First Aider if on-site. If an ambulance is called, the Apirary Manger(s) must be informed. 3. A First Aid kit is kept in the TA kitchen area for treatment of minor injuries. 4. First Aid kit to be checked regularly. 5. Hives are situated away from footpaths and protected from accidental intrusion by humans or animals. 6. Within the apiary, footpaths and grassed areas are well maintained to eliminate trip hazards. 7. Hive stands should be well maintained to prevent risk of being knocked over. 8. Minimise lone working within the apiary. Anyone doing so to inform Apiary Manager(s) when on site. Lone workers to always carry a mobile phone with emergency numbers. 9. There should always be one mobile phone available on site and a check should be made to ensure there is adequate signal to make an emergency call. 10. There is a defibrillator in the TA kitchen which can be accessed. 11. If participants behave inappropriately, potentially endangering others and they do not modify their behaviour after being asked to do so by the trainer/mentor, those persons should be instructed to leave the apiary. 12. Demonstration of safe lifting of heavy brood boxes and supers should be included for new beekeeper training.
Stings and pre-existing allergy to bee stings	Bee sting leading to allergic reaction and or shock	L	A, B, C, D	1. Anyone within the hive area must wear a full bee suit, gloves and suitable footwear to protect from any stings. 2. Any colonies of bees showing defensive behaviour must be reported to the apiary manager(s) immediately for the colonies to be relocated to an alternative apiary. The colony to remain offsite until the behaviour has settled down. 3. Apiary managers to rear new colonies from calm bees.

				4. If Participants have previously had an adverse reaction to a sting, they should seek medical advice before attending the course. 5. Participants or visitors with pre-existing specific allergies must inform the person in charge on the day and must carry their medication with them. 6. Participants to have been informed prior to attending to bring with them over the counter antihistamines (eg Piriton or Cetirizine) to use in case of a sting. 7. A sign to be displayed in the apiary with the current NHS guidance on action to be taken following a sting. 8. Actions to be taken in the event of a sting to be discussed with all participants at the start of the meeting. 9. Anyone who is stung to leave the apiary to be treated for stings in order to distance themselves from bees.
Litigation following injury/ incident	Reputational damage, project closure, legal costs.	**L**	A, B, C, D	1. A comprehensive attendance register to be kept of all training meetings, taster days etc. Records to be kept for 3 years. 2. All first aid incidents and accidents to be recorded into the Bath BK incident register which must be kept for 3 years.
Increased population of Bees in surrounding area	Contact with surrounding members of the public (e.g. on-site events) leading to increased likelihood of bee stings varying from minor one-off stings to anaphylactic shock	M	A, B, C, D, E & F	1. Bee flight paths to be managed by surrounding the apiary enclosure with 1.8 m screening. Screening is provided by shrub and tree planting and existing dense scrub in the area. This will encourage the bees to forage further away for pollen and nectar from trees and wildflowers. 2. The entrance gate to the apiary is secured. 3. All C & D must be accompanied by a B. B must ask anyone who enters the area if they have had an adverse reaction to a bee or wasp sting in the past or have suffered from anaphylactic shock. 4. All training to include (early on) explanation of bee stings, how to avoid them and what to do if you are stung. 5. Anyone working with the hives must wear appropriate protective clothing. Sets of clothing must be available at all meetings and training sessions where users do not have their own equipment. 6. D, E, F will be informed of the presence of the Apiary via appropriate signage adjacent to the apiary fencing.

				7. The action to take in the event of anaphylactic shock is to be included in the "emergency procedure".
Swarms	Risk of bee stings as swarm moves out of the apiary. Reaction of non-bee keepers may be fear of swarm	M	A, B, C, D, E & F	1. Implementation of seasonal swarm control to reduce the likelihood of swarms. Regular check by A or B. 2. Appropriate signage adjacent to the apiary fencing to inform D, E, F of swarm procedures, include swarm line and apiary manager phone numbers.
Tools and equipment	Cuts, abrasions, eye damage.	M	A&B	1. Manual gardening tools and equipment kept on site to be stored in a locked container. Safety glasses to be provided. 2. Contractors bring their own equipment.
Lifting and carrying	Physical injuries, especially to arms and back.	M	A, B &C	1. Members doing work around the site should not try to lift or move loads which are too heavy. 2. Where appropriate find a mechanical way to move material (a trolley or wheelbarrow) or get assistance. For excessive loads seek advice and assistance. 3. Some parts of hives (eg full supers) can be heavy. This should be explained during training and care should be taken not to become injured when making these lifts. Thus a "toolbox" talk on manual handling should be provided as part of the training.
Fire	Burns, clothing and dry undergrowth catching fire	M	A, B, C	1. Light smokers in an open area, ensure veils are not in place. Ensure smoker is fully extinguished after use. 2. There is a water supply and hose pipe just outside the toilets which may be employed to extinguish a small fire.
Unsafe storage & housekeeping in the tools and equipment store	Possible injury if items are inappropriately stored	M	A&B	1. Ensure correct storage of items (e.g., smokers, feed, spare tools and hives, bee medications) and that the container and TA are locked and secured after use.

Annex A:

An Induction Check List (to be kept with TA attendance and first aid incidents and accidents records for 3 years, then destroyed)

Name of Event: Date: Event Leader: [insert name]		
Name of Participant:		
Please tick answer box	No	Yes
The Event Leader has explained where the first aid kit is located and who will assist if first aid is required.		
The Event Leader has pointed out the location of signs displaying contact details for emergency services, location details of the apiary site.		
The Event Leader has informed participants of any applicable Health and safety rules.		
The Event Leader has informed participants about bee stings, how to avoid them and what action to take in the event of being stung.		
Have you brought over the counter antihistamines with you in case of a sting?		
Do you have any allergies to bee stings for which you have been prescribed medication by your GP?		
If you have been prescribed medication, have you informed the Event Leader where your medication is located?		
In case of emergency, please contact: Telephone number:		