

EDINBURGH & MIDLOTHIAN BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION (EMBA)



APIARY RISK ASSESSMENT

Name of Apiary:

Apiarist:

Location:

Date of Assessment: __ / __ / ____

Assessors signature:

What Are The Hazards	Who Is At Risk	What Risk Management Actions Have Already Been Taken	What Further Actions Are Required To Achieve Best Practice	Action Plan Owner	Action Plan Timeframe	Done
<p>Being stung by a bee / bees</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apiarist • Other Beekeepers • Visitors • Passers-by 	<p>Hives are sited away from footpaths</p> <p>An “Advice on Stings” document is located in all public/staff areas in the apiary vicinity</p> <p>Strict requirement for the wearing of protective clothing prior to entering the apiary</p>	<p>Display a “Bees at work” sign prominently, 5m from hive</p> <p>Ensure all beekeepers and visitors are ‘properly’ wearing full protective clothing prior to entering the apiary</p> <p>Ensure visitors are advised about best bee friendly behaviour hive-side</p> <p>Ensure that an emergency bee-suit is available at the Apiary</p>	<p>Apiarist</p>	<p>Prior to installing bees on site</p> <p>At the Health and Safety briefing prior to going into the Apiary</p>	

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Vandalism of beehives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vandals • Passers-by 	<p>Site all hives out of public view.</p> <p>Strap hives & lock down</p>	Ongoing maintenance of apiary site and security equipment	Person who is responsible for site - Apiarist/Apiary Coordinator	Ongoing	
Back strain/problems from lifting hive boxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apiarist • Other Beekeepers • Visitors 	<p>Hive stands/footings chosen and sited with full consideration taken of manual handling best practice</p> <p>Basic manual-handling training undertaken by lead Apiarist</p>	<p>Ensure all visitors are informed that Brood boxes and Supers can be very heavy and demonstrate the proper technique for separating, lifting and handling hive parts safely</p> <p>Ensure written/illustrated basic manual handling instructions are available in the Apiary (referencing “lift with legs” etc)</p>	Apiarist	<p>At the Health and Safety briefing prior to going into the Apiary</p> <p>Prior to visitors undertaking any lifting actions</p>	

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Chemical use (Bee pest & disease treatments & hive preserving chemicals)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apiarist • Other Beekeepers • Visitors 	<p>All chemicals are labelled clearly, stored in their original container and in accordance with the manufacturers instructions</p> <p>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) required during the use and administration of chemical products is readily available and in good condition.</p> <p>Clear Instructions are in place and visible to ensure safe handling, application and disposal of chemical products.</p>	<p>Ensure products are date checked prior to use.</p> <p>Ensure contemporaneous records are kept and maintained for any chemical products used on the hive in accordance with Scottish Government requirements</p> <p>Ensure any beekeeper or learner in attendance at the time of treatment is equipped with the appropriate PPE.</p> <p>Ensure the appropriate first aid equipment is available in the Apiary.</p>	<p>Person who is responsible for site - Apiarist/Apiary Coordinator</p>	<p>At the Health and Safety briefing conducted prior to undertaking any treatment</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	

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Slips, trips & falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apiarist • Other Beekeepers • Visitors 	<p>Path to Apiary clear, signposted if necessary and any hazards removed or made safe</p> <p>Smooth off ground & fill in any potholes</p> <p>Area around hives kept clear for ease of access and manipulation</p>	<p>Ensure any potential terrain or accessibility issues are highlighted to visitors in advance of their planned attendance at the Apiary</p> <p>Ensure appropriate first aid equipment is available on site</p>	Person who is responsible for site - Apiarist/Apiary Coordinator	<p>At the Health and Safety briefing prior to going into the Apiary</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	

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<p>Fire or skin burns from using a Smoker</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apiarist • Other Beekeepers • People in the immediate vicinity of the Apiary 	<p>The smoker has a nozzle cork when not in use</p> <p>The smoker is stored safely when not in use in a place or container that has been fully fire risk assessed</p> <p>The smoker is lit outdoors away from other combustible material and any matches are extinguished and disposed of safely</p> <p>Gloves are worn when handling the smoker and it is handled by the bellows at all times</p>	<p>When in use the Apiarist supervises any visitor using the smoker ensuring proper handling technique</p> <p>The lit smoker is always placed in clear line of sight and on a stable surface</p> <p>Once inspections are over the smoker content is extinguished and disposed of safely.</p> <p>The smoker is left to cool before being stored</p>	<p>Apiarist</p>	<p>At the Health and Safety briefing prior to going into the Apiary</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	

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Apiary Site (non beekeeping) staff awareness of what to do in an Emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People (non beekeeping) living/working in the immediate vicinity of the Apiary 	<p>A notice is clearly displayed in the vicinity of the Apiary / on the site / in the office with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear and illustrated first aid instructions on what to do if someone gets stung • The number to call for medical help • The number to contact if there is a swarm 	<p>Regular Health and Safety reviews undertaken and shared with the Apiary Site Owner / Manager</p> <p>Emergency numbers and practical information are updated as required</p>	<p>Person who is responsible for site - Apiarist/Apiary Coordinator</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	

Review Date: Annually in March/April	Items to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incidents since last review • Changed circumstances • Changed emergency numbers
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