

THE NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN BEEKEEPING EXAMINATION BOARD  
**EXAMINATION FOR**  
**THE NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN BEEKEEPING**  
MARCH 2024

Candidate Number:
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***Instructions to Candidates:***

Time allowed: 3 hours. Read the questions carefully.

Answer **FOUR** questions only, including the compulsory question.

25 marks are awarded per question.

**I. Compulsory question**

“Because nearly every colony of honey bees that one sees these days is living in a manufactured hive, it is easy to think that honey bees are domesticated animals. But this is not so. The honey bees living under human management do not differ in behaviour from those living in a wild state, such as in a tree cavity, rock crevice, or abandoned hive”. Tom Seeley. Discuss whether honey bees are truly “domesticated”, and implications of this for the conservation of threatened sub-species.

2. Compare and contrast the queen rearing methods used by amateur and professional beekeepers.
3. The British Beekeepers Association is 150 years old in 2024. Over that time, many notable individuals in the United Kingdom have contributed to our current knowledge of the honey bee and to beekeeping practices. Name ten of those UK beekeepers who, in your opinion, have made the most notable contributions to the craft and briefly describe their achievements.
4.
  - a) Discuss methods for preparing honey for sale in all of its forms.
  - b) Legislation applies to both honey processing, honey sales and honey labelling. Detail how these apply, and discuss their impact in practical terms.
5. Write an essay on “bees and climate change”.
6. Discuss the contention that the importation of queen honey bees into the UK is essential to maintain the gene pool.