

Comments received in 2023 Asian Hornet survey with responses where possible

BBKA - AH organisation	BBKA Comment	
Do all AHATs have to be led by a co-ordinator that is a committee member of an association to be covered by BBKA insurance?	For discussion at this meeting!	
Improve BBKA AH map so only Association and coordinators are shown. They can cascade down to members		
Improve the recording of AH Team members on er2 to efficiently record members who are interested in being verifiers		
Make it easier to communicate with the AH team		
Standardise naming e.g. AHT vs AHAT	We recommend associations set up local WhatsApp groups BBKA now refers to AHTs (Asian Hornet teams)	
Insurance arrangements for members of the public assisting with selective spring queen trapping as done in Jersey.	BBKA insurance can only cover members. However we will investigate a new membership category where this may be possible	
BBKA lobbying/Campaigning		
BBKA lobby DEFRA for more resources		
BBKA lobby for a change of the law around trapping and releasing AH to facilitate track and trace	Anyone can apply for a licence - there is a large form to complete!	
Fipronil custard needs to be addressed, I know it's illegal, but lots of beekeepers are talking about using it.	BBKA cannot condone Fipronil use - this will require a change in the law	
Set up a national/ government coordinated action group - threat is to all pollinators, fruit and vegetable farmers etc	New BBKA Asian Hornet sub-committee will discuss this but welcomes marketing ideas	
Promote use of AH Watch app more		
Negotiate a bulk purchase deal for trappit	BBKA have approached Pest Control professional bodies about this	
BBKA - communication		
A Coordinators online register - facilitate intra association communication	BBKA will see if this can be added to eR2 Directory of officers	
Are BBKA liaising with counties to share best practice?	Yes! We also share good local association resources via the BBKA website	
Is BBKA in contact with those Area Associations who are not members of BBKA?	Yes!	
Need more public awareness. How is BBKA raising the profile of the Asian Hornet situation in the national press and media?	Ongoing but in 2023, BBKA have sent out a number of press releases and responded to press enquires, funded advertising on buses and made a lot of resources available for associations to use for their own publicity	
Would like to see centrally co-ordinated waves of publicity starting in the south and moving north, tied to increasing temperatures, beginning in the spring.	{Subject to final approval}, the BBKA will appoint a new 'Outreach' officer to focus on this and other activities to improve awareness and co-ordinate responses to AH	
Please could we have more information about how BBKA is working with the National Bee Unit.	NBU contact the BBKA office whenever there is a credible sighting so we can contact the local AH co-ordinator. Also involved in many 1:1 discussions as well as participation in the NBUs Bee Health forum	
BBKA resources		
Can we have some more/better quality artwork for business cards please?	Great ideas which we will investigate further. If any associations already have materials that meet these needs, please let us know to save re-inventing the wheel	
Material for the public on AH behaviour (not simply ID) to inform the public including 'do's and don't's'		
A1 posters for sandwich boards		
Media pack - to ensure all associations talking off same page when contacting local media		
Advice as to the number and sizes of holes in jar trap lids (with jars laid on their side) necessary to minimise by-catch and required frequency to check traps for By-catch 3.		
Info on spring trapping of AH queens		
Leaflet for the general public with space for local verifier's contact details		
More copyright free photos		
Is BBKA able to help with translations of publicity material to other languages.		Potentially. What languages are needed. Anyone in associations who could help with this?
Video of why AH in the UK matters		We're open to this! Any good video-makers out there? NB A leaflet is already available on the BBKA website (Asian Hornet resources)
Resources - remove link to bottle trap - too long and complicated	We will make this less prominent on the website	
Coasters, beer mats;	We have some provisional costings on this. We will investigate developing artwork which local associations could use	
More emphasis on monitoring stations than traps in areas where no AH sightings	This is BBKA policy and reflected in our communications including social media	
DIY traps	Information available on the website already	
General Presentation to none Beekeeping groups	We can look at this but welcome any existing materials from associations which we can share	
Month by month AH life cycle	See BBKA News January 2024 edition!	
Small sticker for adding to honey jars	Already available on the BBKA website (Asian Hornet resources)	
NBU		
A more inclusive attitude from NBU would make us all feel a bit more valued		
An NBU/BBKA Track and trace training video for BKAs to play and discuss at local meetings		
Associations want more clarity when a sighting or nest is confirmed.		
Can BBKA liaise with NBU to organise T & Trace training/shadowing alongside bee inspectors or live call outs?		
NBU did not contact us even when an AH nest was found in our area!		
Please can we have clarification of how all the agencies involved are being co-ordinated and working together to manage this situation. E.g NNSS, NBU, APHA		
Please can we have clarification of the role of the NNSS.		
Why the secrecy when hornets have been spotted? Make more use of volunteers to Track and Trace - many willing at own expense! Notify all beekeepers within 3km		
Will the App continue to be human checked, or will a bot be used? Increased sightings -> overwhelming situation		
Will there be any central funding of baits/traps?		
How do FERA/NBU want beekeepers to do to support them. E.g. lobbying for resources? What about foulbrood inspections?		
Standardise naming Yellow legged hornet vs Asian Hornet		