

You may have heard us on your introduction course or via club emails encouraging you to register yourself and your apiary on BeeBase but I thought I would again mention the importance and value of [BeeBase](#) to Beekeepers.



[BeeBase](#) is the Animal and Plant Health Agency's (APHA) National Bee Unit website. It is designed for beekeepers and supports Defra, Welsh Government and Scotland's Bee Health Programmes and the [Healthy Bees Plan](#), which set out to protect and sustain our valuable national bee stocks.

As a beekeeper, if you sign up to [BeeBase](#) you can:

- Request a free apiary visit from your local bee inspector, although please bear in mind that inspectors are very busy with a prioritised inspection programme and that it may not be possible to arrange these visits straight away. This workload means that they will usually only arrange a visit if they think it necessary to see the colonies first hand.
- Be alerted to pest and disease problems in your area. It is very important for you as a beekeeper to sign up to BeeBase as this will ensure that you are included in the NBU's inspection programme. It is important to be able to visit every apiary within an area of confirmed disease, so it is vital to have beekeepers' apiaries logged onto BeeBase, to make sure that no potentially infected and/or at risk colonies from being missed.
- Have secure access to your own (and only your own) inspection history and apiary information, via the web.

Their website provides a wide range of invaluable information for beekeepers, to help keep their colonies healthy and productive. It provides a wide range of beekeeping information, such as the activities of the NBU, Honey bee related legislation, pests and diseases information which includes their recognition and control, publications, advisory leaflets and key contacts.

On top of all this they have a really great E-Learning course on Honey Bee Pests, Diseases and Viruses.

The National Bee Unit have also just added some online presentations on Asian Hornet Biology, Asian Hornet Genetics and European Foulbrood, all of which worth a look.

Click on the following links for the presentations and all the training, advisory leaflets they provide.

<http://www.nationalbeeunit.com/public/News/news.cfm?all=y#251>

<http://www.nationalbeeunit.com/index.cfm?pageid=167>

[Starting Right with Bees](#)