

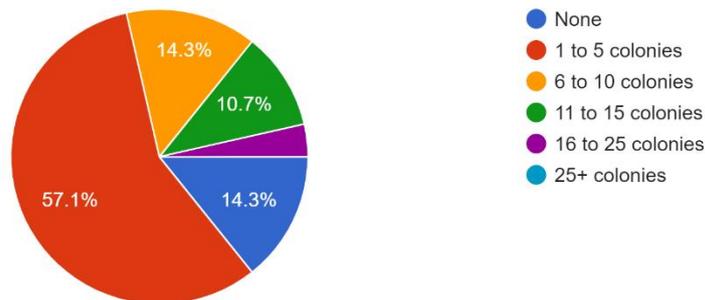
Results of the 2020 Members' Survey

Thank you to everyone who took part in the 2020 Members' survey. Our intention behind the survey was to identify a training and support pathway that best fits our members' needs. The association is run by the members for the members, so your support is greatly appreciated. Twenty-eight members responded out of a membership of sixty-seven (42%).

Q1) The number of colonies you run.

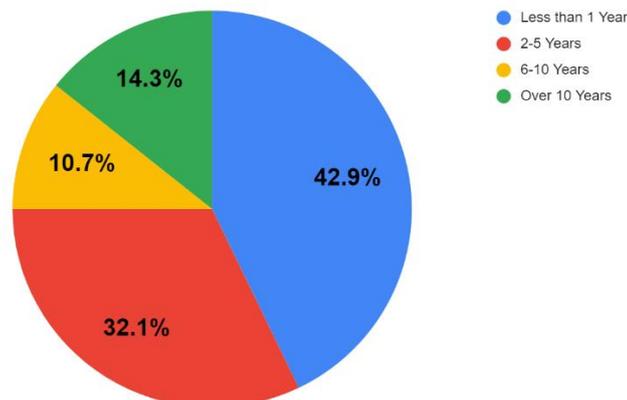
Most of our members (57.1%) keep 5 or fewer colonies. Approximately 14% of our membership have over 11 colonies. 14.3% of our members don't have any bees.

No of colonies that you run...
28 responses



Q2) How many years beekeeping experience do you have? This means the number of years since you got your first hive.

There is a large portion of our membership which has less than 2 years beekeeping experience. Whilst this is skewed by the number of new members who have engaged with the survey, I believe that it does illustrate the reason why we wanted to get a greater handle on the training that our members need.



Q3) Your beekeeping confidence levels...

(colour shows where the majority of the members sit- i.e. confident or not confident)

	Not at all confident	Somewhat Confident	Confident	Proficient	I could teach it
<i>Handling Bees</i>	2 (7.1%)	7 (25%)	14 (50%)	3 (10.7%)	2 (7.1%)
	32%		68%		
<i>Swarm Prevention</i>	7 (25%)	12 (42.9%)	7 (25%)	0 (0%)	2 (7.1%)
	68%		32%		
<i>Swarm Control</i>	11 (39.3%)	8 (28.6%)	7 (25%)	0 (0%)	2 (7.1%)
	67.9%		32%		
<i>Swarm Collection</i>	9 (32.1%)	12 (42.9%)	3 (10.7%)	2 (7.1%)	2 (7.1%)
	75%		25%		
<i>Bee Biology</i>	13 (46.4%)	12 (42.9%)	3 (10.7%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
	89%		11%		
<i>Bee Behaviour</i>	9 (32.1%)	12 (42.9%)	5 (17.9%)	1 (3.6%)	1 (3.6%)
	75%		25%		
<i>Apiary Hygiene</i>	7 (25%)	11 (39.3%)	6 (21.4%)	2 (7.1%)	2 (7.1%)
	64%		36%		
<i>Extraction, processing, jarring and your legal duty</i>	5 (17.9%)	7 (25%)	8 (28.6%)	6 (21.4%)	2 (7.1%)
	43%		57%		
<i>Queen Rearing / Breeding</i>	21 (75%)	5 (17.6%)	1 (3.6%)	0 (0%)	1 (3.6%)
	93%		7%		
<i>Honey Bee Pests and Diseases #</i>	5 (17.9%)	17 (60.7%)	4 (14.3%)	2 (7.1%)	0 (0%)
	79%		21%		
<i>Identifying Asian Hornets</i>	4 (14.3%)	13 (46.4%)	6 (21.4%)	4 (14.3%)	2 (7.1%)
	61%		43%		

should have perhaps separated rearing and breeding into two questions.

Q4) To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
<i>Membership is value for money.</i>	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	8 (28.6%)	20 (71.4%)
<i>The association supports me well as a beekeeper.</i>	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (10.7%)	12 (42.9%)	13 (46.4%)
<i>If there was a bulk buying service for syrup, fondant, wax and equipment, I would take advantage.</i>	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (14.3%)	9 (32.1%)	15 (53.6%)
<i>I would be interested in taking part in a Bee Safari</i>	1 (3.6%) *member doesn't have any bees	0 (0%)	6 (21.4%)	15 (53.6%)	6 (21.4%)
<i>If there was a "Local Honey" page on the Barnsley BKA website, I would add my details so that the public can find me.#</i>	4 (14.3%)	6 (21.4%)	8 (28.6%)	6 (21.4%)	4 (14.3%)

I wonder if people were worried about privacy? Members could just have an email or a phone number and a general location if they wanted? Think this is still worth perusing for the interested parties. I've mocked up what I have pictured in my head, [here](#))

Q5) Is there any topic or service that you would like to see Barnsley BKA address or provide?

(Copied exactly from what was submitted. Each box is a different person's comment)

I appreciated borrowing equipment	Na
Beekeepers Month by Month	Wax and wax products ie soap
more specific tuition by demonstration of queen rearing and introduction	Occasional practical hands-on session. Named mentors for new members.
Bee rearing	Building up and managing strong production colonies
yet to take advantage of the BKA fully yet due to covid and work commitments	Have a stock of good quality equipment available to hire/borrow.
To support new members to source local starter colonies. Some associations do this on the basis that in following years the favour is passed on to a new member.	We are keen to become bee keepers and looking forward to our first hive in spring 2021.
How ti find more time!! A beekeeping refresher course for very part time keepers like me. I can't get to many meetings because of a clash of commitments but would like to be more up to date.	I have very poor close range eyesight. If there are hints/tips/schemes for visually impaired to be able to recognise what I am looking for in terms of eggs / larvae, disease or other problems that would be really useful.

Q6) Is there any other feedback that you would like to give us?

(Copied exactly from what was submitted. Each box is a different person's comment)

Zoom sessions were excellent. Efficient use of time and nice and relaxed.	Going through a bee venom desensitisation process so not actively keeping bees at the moment.
I favour the zoom meetings and an occasional physical meeting	You seem to be good at member communications. I must get around to sorting our member fees out, sorry!
Could aviary meetings be moved to an evening	Only a recent member but feel very supported so far.
As a new beekeeper I am very appreciative of the support and guidance I have received over the past year.	I have been really impressed by the attitude and friendliness of BBKA. I especially want to say thank you for all who have given their time on the Whatsapp & zom sessions this year. Without that I am sure I would have packed up by now.
Zoom sessions have been great and very well run	I find the association very friendly and helpful. Supportive to new beekeepers
no	Doing a brilliant'job'. Thanks
Communication is brilliant and I am very sorry that I can't be more engaged.	Prefer On-line meetings with the occasional public/networking meeting
Keep up the good work!	Work of current committee is much appreciated!
I just found it a little difficult this year to get my first bees - In the end attracted a swarm at the end of May. I am conscious that several other new starters have spent a lot of money on both colonies and equipment - some of it excessive. I think a new member on the Committee might help in making the Association responsive to the needs of our new starters.	I think the group is very inclusive, it's been a wonderful source of knowledge & information and as a new bee keeper absolutely invaluable. The WhatsApp group in particular has been a wonderful resource and I'm looking forward to my next year
Zoom sessions have been absolutely super providing an excellent forum for sharing knowledge and experiences - the Barnsley BKA has such an amazing wealth of experience.	

Chairman's Summary

There is lots of positive feedback, which is good and lots of useful information. Several areas of education and training are identified which gives the committee an idea of what needs to be included in our programme. As per usual, queen rearing/breeding came up as the weakest area, we will take this on board, although some members possibly don't realise that simply splitting a hive in two and allowing the queenless hive to raise a queen themselves is actually queen rearing (simplistically), it's not just about grafting In relation to the comments in questions 5 & 6, the committee will publish a response document addressing comments/suggestions directly.

We will certainly do what we can with your suggestions, remembering however that the club is run, (very well) by volunteers on a budget of £8 per member, per year. We also rely on the good will of our experienced beekeepers, to whom extend our thanks.