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INTRODUCTION – The microsporidium *N. ceranae* is reportedly more prevalent in *A. mellifera* colonies of warm regions. Severe environmental and economic damages can be expected due to uncontrolled infections.

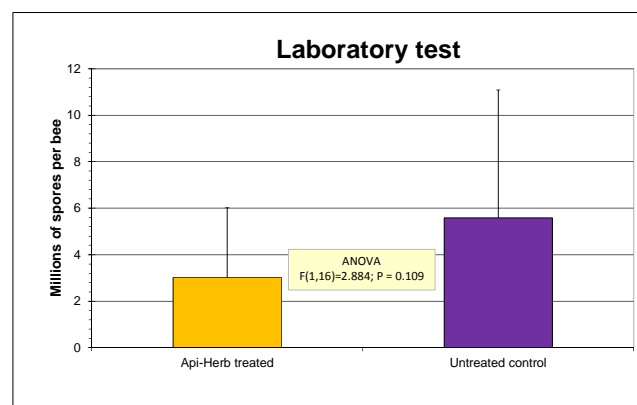
Substances suitable for control are prohibited in many countries; colony manipulations are helpful only in the short term. These experiments are one step forward in the direction of building an integrated control concept against the infections.

METHODS AND RESULTS – Caged bees and free flying colonies received Api-Herb suspension in sugar-water (resp: *ad libitum* for 24 h; 50 ml/administration at 80g/l concentration). All the experiments included untreated controls.



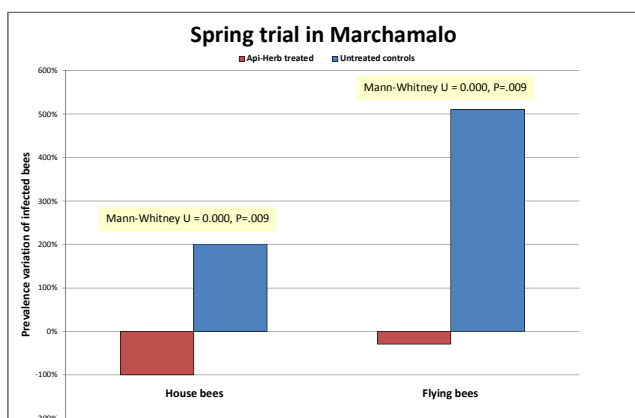
ADMINISTRATION ACCORDING TO LABEL

Fifty milliliters of 80g/l Api-Herb suspension in sugar-water, trickled onto combs three times, one week apart.



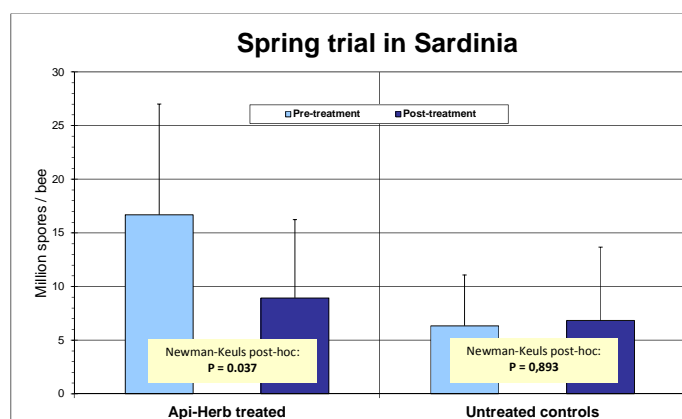
LABORATORY TRIAL

Administration to caged bees for 24 h. Bulk infection with 1×10^5 spores followed. At 10d, less ventricular spores were counted in treated bees.



FIELD TRIAL (NATURAL INFECTIONS)

Three administrations, one day apart. The prevalence of infected bees from combs and entrances decreased in comparison to controls.



FIELD TRIAL (NATURAL INFECTIONS)

Three administrations, one week apart. The number of ventricular spores in bees from entrances decreased in comparison to controls.

CONCLUSION – Api-Herb (Chemicals Laif) may moderate *N. ceranae* infestations, in a way compatible with the organic beekeeping.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS – INIA (FEDER), Proyecto_RT2012-00076-C02-01 provided funds to conduct part of the trials.