

## Improvers Theory / BBKA Module 1 Course (Autumn 2011)

**What:** Improvers Theory / BBKA Module 1 Exam Beekeeping Course, (The syllabus will be approximately based on the BBKA Module 1 Theory Exam)

**Where:** Woodhatch Centre, Reigate, Surrey RH2 7LS.

**When:** 9 sessions (weekly), 7.30 – 9.30pm. 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> September, 12, 19, 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2011 (Note the gaps are due to the monthly club winter lectures)

**Why:** Learn more about Honeybee Management (Optionally, it will assist you in preparations for the BBKA Module 1 Theory Exam).

**Who:** Improvers, and those wishing to learn more about colony management. (non members welcome subject to places)

**Tutor:** Adam Leitch (Master Beekeeper)

**Cost:** Theory £90 (Proceeds to the club)

### **Further Details:**

BBKA are offering an improvers beekeeping course to assist those who wish to develop their knowledge or study for their Module 1 Theory exam\*<sup>1</sup>. Additional study will be required outside the formal teaching including homework (yes, really – this will be at approximately the level of the BBKA correspondence course so requires a commitment to the study time to be spent in addition to the course itself).

A wide ranging course that re-covers some of the essential principles of beekeeping at an increased depth compared to the introductory course. The BBKA Exam Module 1 syllabus will be followed, with some additional material to cover other areas of interest. Topics include, hives, principles of bee space, a year in the apiary, making nucleus and turning them into production colonies, marking and clipping queens, spring management and management for heather or oil seed rape, moving colonies, clearing supers, basic biology, swarm control and swarm prevention.

To join the course, you must have passed your basic exam, or have a minimum 2 years experience and have a copy of "BBKA Study Notes Modules 1-4 by Yates \*<sup>2</sup>. Members of other clubs are welcome to attend, subject to places. Wider reading is essential and use of the club library is recommended.

\*<sup>1</sup> - For those that hate exams, it is not compulsory!

\*<sup>2</sup> - I can organise a bulk buy, payment in advance.

Phew, after all that, you may ask what's in it for me. Well, my experience was that I doubled my honey crop and halved the time spent doing inspections as I was better able to recognise what was going on, how to deal with it and how earlier preparations could affect a later outcome. It reduces the time you spend in colonies and the number of times you go back to correct an earlier mistake! It will make you more confident, and able to undertake a wider variety of manipulations, and provide the skills to raise your own (gentle) queens. Finally, you'll set yourself on the way to Master Beekeeper, and make yourself a sought after tutor for our newer members.

Course requires a minimum of 10 people to take place.

## Application Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (Block capitals please!!!) \_\_\_\_\_

Home/Mobile Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Colonies \_\_\_\_\_

Years Experience \_\_\_\_\_

Qualifications? E.g. Modules etc \_\_\_\_\_

Are you planning to take the Module 1 Exam Next year \_\_\_\_\_ never \_\_\_\_\_ not sure \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything specific you would like to be covered in the material \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**To secure a place, on a first come, first serve basis please forward a cheque for £90, made payable to "Reigate Beekeepers" to Adam Leitch, 15 Broadhurst Gardens, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 8AW.**

**Non-members must contact in advance to check if places are available (bees@reigatebeekeepers.org.uk)**