



Apimondia Newsletter | February 2023 | www.apimondia.org

EVENTS

[African Regional Apimondia Symposium](#)

Durban, South Africa | 20 – 24 March 2023

Africa is set to host the 3rd Apimondia Africa Regional Symposium at the ICC in Durban, South Africa from 21 – 24 March 2023, an event that is promising to be uniquely exciting, educational, engaging and ground-breaking given the topics lined up on the program.

Apimondia symposia are meant to bring stakeholders from beekeepers, equipment manufacturers, scientists / academia, policymakers, development partners to honey processors / traders under one roof to exchange information, ideas and experiences on how to develop the apiculture sector within the respective regions. Despite Apimondia having been formed in 1893, Africa has only seen 2 regional symposia hosted in Arusha, Tanzania (November 2014) and Addis Ababa (December 2018), a situation that has left stakeholders with few opportunities to come together and engage in information-sharing.

[World Bee Day](#)

20 May 2023 we shall celebrate the World Bee Day of the United Nations and Apimondia.

World Bee Day is observed on 20 May each year to draw attention to the essential role bees and other pollinators play in keeping people and the planet healthy. It provides an opportunity for governments, organizations, civil society and concerned citizens everywhere to promote actions that will protect and enhance pollinators and their habitats, improve their abundance and diversity, and support the sustainable development of beekeeping.

World Bee Day shines a light on the habitat of pollinators to improve the conditions for their survival so that bees and other pollinators may thrive.

48th Apicultural Congress

Santiago, Chile 4- 8 September 2023

[48th APIMONDIA | International Apicultural Congress \(apimondia2023.com\)](https://apimondia2023.com)

Apimondia is the International Organization of Beekeeping Associations that brings together scientists, specialists and beekeepers from around the world and in 2023 Chile will host this international event.

The setting for this congress is Santiago, the capital of Chile, with the snow-capped Andes mountains as a backdrop. Technical tours will take you to nearby beekeeping operations and the chance to visit world class bodegas to taste Chilean wines. During the Apimondia Congress you can meet old friends and make new ones as you tour the ApiEXPO and take in the latest science and beekeeping ideas.

UPDATES FROM APIMONDIA

Million-strong pesticides petition delivered to EU Parliament



A million-strong petition to ban synthetic pesticides was received by the European Parliament on 24 January 2023. The ‘Save bees and farmers towards a bee-friendly agriculture for a healthy environment’ petition was formally presented to parliament’s environment and agricultural committees in a four-hour hearing in Brussels.

The ‘Save the bees and Farmers’ initiative, of which Apimondia is also a partner, collected over a million signatures for this European Citizen Initiative. It is the 7th official European Citizens Initiative (ECI), a direct democracy tool created by the Treaty of Lisbon. The European Commission says the ECI, along with an earlier pesticide ECI by some of the same organisers, inspired it to propose Europe’s first legally binding pesticide cuts by 50%. It has also tabled a Nature Restoration Law. Both proposals are now under serious threat from special interests groups, ECI organisers warned the hearing yesterday. Pesticide residues are the highest food safety concern for Europeans, according to recent official polling.

Watch a [video of the Official Hearing of the Save Bees and Farmer European Citizens Initiative](#) and read more on the [Pesticide Action Network website](#).

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