

### **County Spray Liaison Co-ordinator**

1. This post is a co-opted, non-voting position on the DBKA Executive Council (EC).
2. The County Spray Liaison Co-ordinator provides a single point of contact for external agencies who are going to spray pesticides, need to inform beekeepers, and need to provide information on pesticides and spraying. The Code of Conduct for using Plant Protection Products (see below) and the BBKA recommend that to minimise risks to flying insects, spraying should be done either first thing in the morning or, preferably, in the evening when bees have stopped flying.
3. The Co-ordinator will put arrangements in place to inform Branch Spray Liaison Officers as and when necessary to allow them to inform farmers, and to allow beekeepers time to take any necessary precautions.

*Note - The Code of Practice for using Plant Protection Products, January 2006, can be found in the 'Bees & Honey' Area of the DBKA website. The code covers plant protection products used in agriculture, amenity, horticulture and forestry; covers all aspects of the safe use of pesticides including safeguarding the environment and human health. It requires the assessment of possible environmental effects and identification of precautions which should be taken to protect wildlife and the environment. It describes the practices and procedures that users of plant protection products should follow in order to minimise any adverse impacts on non-target organisms such as honey bees. Spray Liaison Officers should understand the obligations of the users of pesticides towards honey bees and when the beekeeper is arranging for permission to place hives on a landowners' property, be able to remind the landowner of their obligation towards honey bees. Pesticides might be used on flowering crops including top and soft fruit, oilseed rape, beans, cereals, maize and pea crops, where there are neighbouring flowering crops, and/or where there are flowering weeds and wild flowers.*