

THE B4 PROJECT

ANCESTRY-INFORMATIVE HONEYBEE GENETIC TESTING SERVICE

CIRCULAR ECONOMY & ENVIRONMENTAL GROWTH

INTRODUCTION

The B4 Project represents a group of beekeepers whose aim is to protect the UK's native dark honeybee, *Apis Mellifera*. It has established apiaries and reserves for our Cornish native honeybees around the county. The apiaries create an opportunity for large numbers of the public to value and understand our native bees. The work of the B4 project is aimed at increasing our understanding of the local environment and its relationship with honeybees. The B4 Project's genetic work supports the Product for Cornwall Scheme, making verification of Cornish Black Bees and Cornish Black Bee Honey provenance possible.

The B4 project seeks to provide a genetic analysis service available to the Cornish bee keeping community. The service uses a cost-effective genotyping platform which can be used to identify colonies of native honeybees. These colonies require conservation in order to preserve a healthy genetic diversity in the UK honeybee population.



GRANT AWARDED

£3,285.12

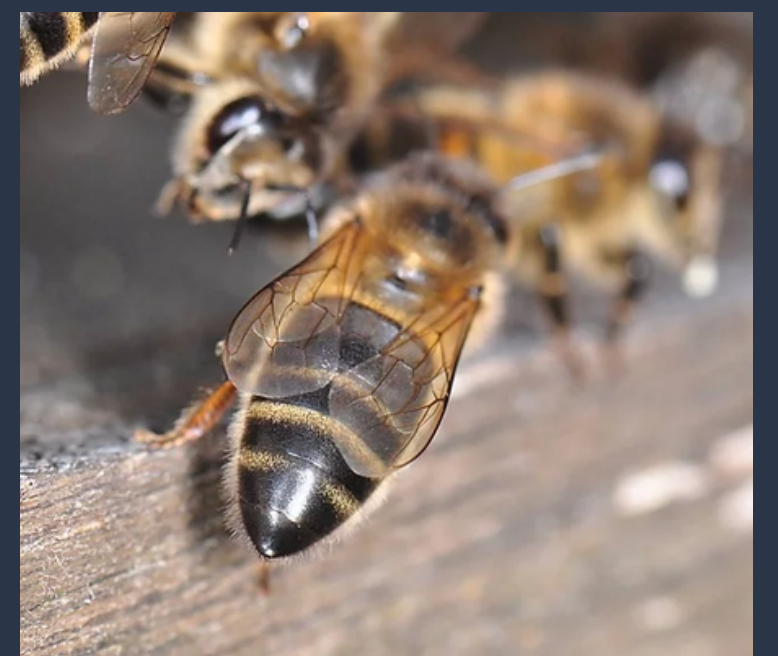
Used to purchase
Ancestry-informative
honeybee genetic
testing service

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

"Maintaining a healthy pollinator population in Cornwall is critical to the health of our environment."

Tevi pollinator experts have helped guide us to through the best strategy to protect and strengthen knowledge and awareness of our local honey bee population".

Andrew Brown (Director)



IMPACT SUMMARY

This project contributes to environmental growth by valuing and understanding the history of the native dark honey bee in relation to Cornwall. The project also enhances the public experience of bees by displaying the bees at educational institutions across Cornwall and providing protection of honey bee reserves.

This appreciation of locally bred bees also contributes to the transition to a circular economy by preventing the inevitable burden to the genetic integrity of local populations that arise from importations as well as reducing damage that may arise from accompanying pests and pathogens.