

9th ASIAN APICULTURAL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE, 1-4 NOVEMBER 2008 HANGZHOU, CHINA

KEYWORDS: AAA, Asia, bee products

AAA's ninth Conference took place in Hangzhou, a city of 6.5 million people situated within the Yangtze River Delta and 180 km from Shanghai. Hangzhou is the capital of Zhejiang Province, well known for its beautiful scenery, and Conference participants took the opportunity to visit the famous West Lake, surrounded on three sides by mountains.

This ninth Conference, the largest to date with more than 1,000 participants, included Keynote lectures on Asian honey bees from Professor Siriwat Wongsiri and Professor Nikolaus Koeniger, and many papers on bee biology, products and apitherapy, technology, pathology and pollination. The Conference hosted also the *Second World Propolis Science Forum*, and a special session, *Beekeeping management for food safety in hive products*, hosted by the Japan Royal Jelly Fair Trade Council. This important session was concerned with implementation of

Good Agricultural Practice, ensuring that bee products do not contain residues of drugs used to control honey bee pests and diseases.

The surrounding Zhejiang Province is a major area for beekeeping, with more than 1.1 million colonies, and an apiculture industry valued at 1 billion RMB (US\$146 m; €116 m; UK£98 m). This makes apiculture one of the leading industries in the Province, exporting bee products to Australia, Europe, Japan, south east Asia and USA. The final day consisted of field visits, when Conference participants were able to see *Apis mellifera* and



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Apis cerana beekeeping, and visit some of the large bee product processing factories.

At the Conference Closing Ceremony it was confirmed that South Korea were successful in their bid to host the next AAA Conference in 2010.

AAA was established in 1992 to encourage friendly exchange of information between beekeepers and bee scientists in Asia. The Conference is held every two years.

AAA MEMBERSHIP

Annual rates: Individual US\$20 Institutional US\$100

Sustaining US\$300

Join AAA by contacting your Local Representative (details on the BfD website) or e-mail HSRC@agr.tamagawa.ac.jp

BID Journal is proud to be the official Newsletter of AAA



AAA Conference participants visit one of the major bee products factories



These glass houses contain an exhibition of bees and beekeeping, part of Bee Words display for visitors



Ms Hitomi Enomoto, AAA Co-ordinator, joins others in viewing detailed exhibits