

SOUTH KOREA HOSTS AAA CONFERENCE



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The 10th Asian Apicultural Association (AAA) Conference was held in the peninsula's south coast city of Busan, 4-7 November 2010, co-hosted by the Apicultural Society of Korea, the Korea Beekeeping Association and the Korea Apicultural Agriculture Cooperation. With the theme of *Green Life with Bee World*, the Conference attracted over 4,000 participants from 27 countries, and provided 212 scientific presentations, with three full-day technical tours, and numerous ceremonies and celebrations.

Scientific programme

The five plenary lecturers were: Professor Jae Chun Choi who spoke on *Honey bee and human beings: two great social creatures*; Professor Siriwat Wongsiri (AAA President Thailand) on *Biodiversity and evolution of the genus Apis in Asia*; Dr Moonho Kim (Api-med South Korea) on *Health and the Honey bee: why not bee venom?*; Professor Benjamin Oldroyd (University of Sydney, Australia) on *Solving Darwin's dilemma: evolution of worker sterility in the honey bee*; and Mr Gilles Ratia (President of Apimondia) on *Collaboration between APIMONDIA and AAA*.

Api-Expo

During the Conference, 74 exhibition booths displayed bee products and equipment from 35 Korean and 11 international organisations and companies.

Tours

Daily apiary tours to the local Korea Beekeeping Association's apiary in Busan, managed by Association President Mr Kyung-su Bae, and one-day technical tours were offered to all participants, so that many participants enjoyed visiting apiaries, tasting traditional Korean food and teas, and admiring the scenery of the Korean autumn. The three venues were the Korea Apicultural Agriculture Cooperative, the Kkoh Shaem Food Co (Ltd), and the Yasaeng Beekeeping Supplies Co (Ltd)

Funds for AAA

In addition to organising an excellent Conference, the 2010 AAA Local Organising Committee Chaired by Dr Kun-Suk Woo, contributed US\$20,000 (€14,750) to support the further work of AAA.

Professor Lee is AAA Chapter Delegate for South Korea

Seasonal hive management in Korea

by Mr Cho Sanggyun, President of Korea Beekeeping Cooperatives

This is an excellent account of current beekeeping practices in South Korea, where there are now 33,000 beekeepers managing over 1.5 million *Apis mellifera* colonies, one of the highest colony densities in the world, using intensive management methods. This comprehensive article is now available in *Korean* and in *English* on our Information Portal at www.beesfordevelopment.org



Bees prepared for winter in South Korea. Each colony is protected with a fleece cover and is being fed with sugar syrup. The fleece is applied only after the bees have clustered for winter, in late October.



All Conference participants enjoyed the well-arranged technical tours

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