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Dear Sir or Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that the long-awaited preparation for bees, VITAEAPIS[®], is already available on the market (for further information about the product: <https://vitaeapis-new.pl>).

As an honorary member of the Association of Polish Beekeepers "Polanka", I would like to thank you for inspiring me to start working on the preparation for bees VITAEAPIS[®]. If it had not been for the march "In defence of bees", organised by Polish beekeepers in 2012 in Warsaw, perhaps I would never have noticed the adverse impact of the use of chemicals and the chemicalization of agriculture and horticulture on the life of bees. Bees cannot speak and yet they should shout in their defence. They are the guardians of life on our planet. The march in defence of bees deeply moved me and made me aware of this truth; it was the reason why I started working on a product that would protect bees against the negative effects of pesticides from the neonicotinoids group.

I have special words of gratitude for the Members and Friends of the Association of Polish Beekeepers "Polanka", who, with their full commitment and deep faith in success, fully supported me in the field research on the product by sharing their results of observations.

The quintessence of the action of the preparation are the words "Vitae Apis".

The latest scientific research indicates that it is necessary to strive towards strengthening the hygienic instinct of bees, their own immunity to pathogens, and not towards using drugs to treat a specific disease.

The preparation I have developed contains hop flavonoids and can be used during the foraging period; it can also be used in ecological apiaries. This advantage of the preparation is particularly important in the context of increasingly strict requirements for honey quality. The preparation VITAEAPIS[®]—by activating the hygienic instinct of bees and their "defence potential"—constitutes an alternative natural method for fighting varroasis and diseases transmitted by the arachnid *Varroa destructor*. The spread of varroasis is the main cause of the mass death of honeybees. Other factors, such as the reduction of bees' immunity, noseosis, and viruses, are probably a derivative of this disease.

The guiding idea for inventing VITAEAPIS[®] was to protect the bee's nervous system from the adverse effects of neonicotinoid pesticides. As a result of the influence of the

preparation on the bees' nervous system, their hygienic instinct is stimulated and their vigour is increased, which leads to bees removing *Varroa destructor* and consequently other diseases transmitted by these mites.

The mechanism of action of the preparation, according to my current knowledge, based on the research conducted, can be explained as follows:

1. The preparation, by influencing/affecting the nervous system (nicotine receptors) of bees, protects them against pesticides
2. Its impact on the nervous system stimulates the hygienic instinct of the bee colony
3. This increased hygienic instinct stimulates bees to undergo self-cleaning and dispose of all impurities, foreign bodies (including *Varroa destructor*), and other sources of infection out of the hive, as well as to remove dead or sick bees and dead or diseased brood out of the beehive
4. A clean beehive—means reducing the occurrence of bee diseases
5. Healthy and vigorous bees result in a far greater quantity of honey, which—in the case of VITAEAPIS®—was confirmed by research.

I hope that VITAEAPIS® will fully meet your expectations for a new, safe, and effective product for bees, which can be used throughout the season—including during the foraging period—and which can also be used in ecological apiaries.

Ladies and gentlemen, every constructive comment on your part regarding the action of VITAEAPIS® will be an expression of our common concern for the safety and health of bees.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. Mariusz Gagoś, PhD habilitated