



# BeeDoctor and BeeClinic, two new diagnostic tools for bee health

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# OUTLINE

- BEEDOC-project
- extension grade diagnostic tool: **BeeDoctor**
- limitations of molecular fingerprinting
- research grade diagnostic tool: **BeeClinic**
- working with BeeClinic
- conclusions

# BEEDOC PROJECT

EU funded project < 7th framework programme

11 partners

diagnostics department



# BEEDOC PROJECT

objectives:

- **field grade tool**

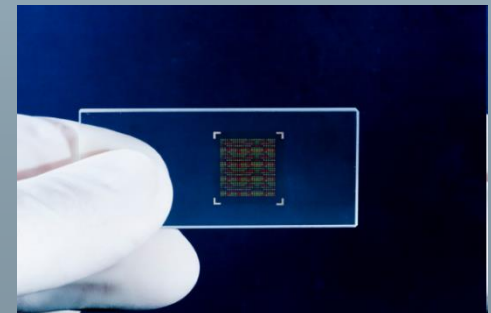
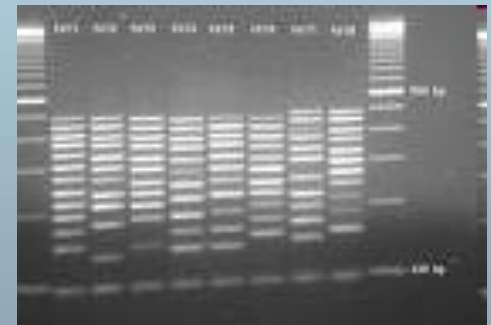
= lateral flow device

- **extension grade tool**

= BeeDoctor, PCR-based

- **research grade tool**

= BeeClinic, DNA chip

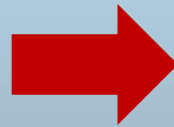


# BEEDOC PROJECT

introduction of molecular diagnostics in bee health: early 2000



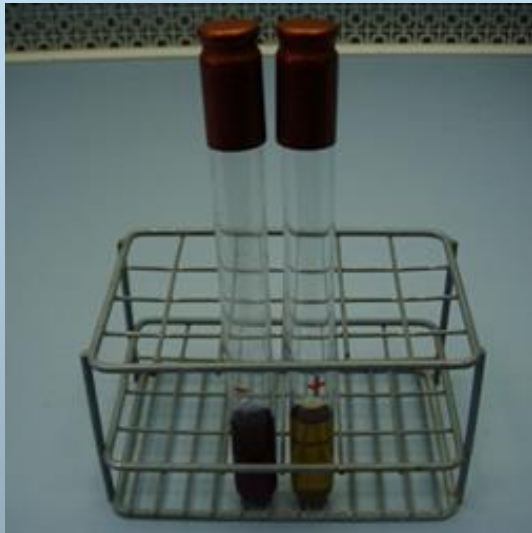
microscopy



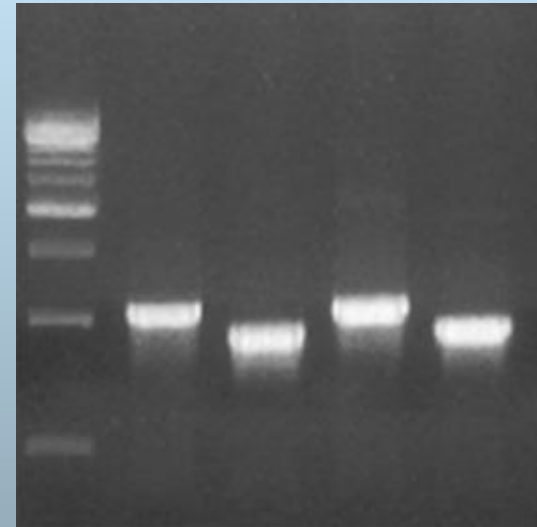
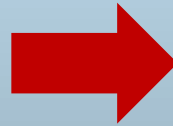
CSI-like technology

# BEEDOC PROJECT

introduction of molecular diagnostics in bee health:  
American foulbrood



biochemical profiling  
- cheap



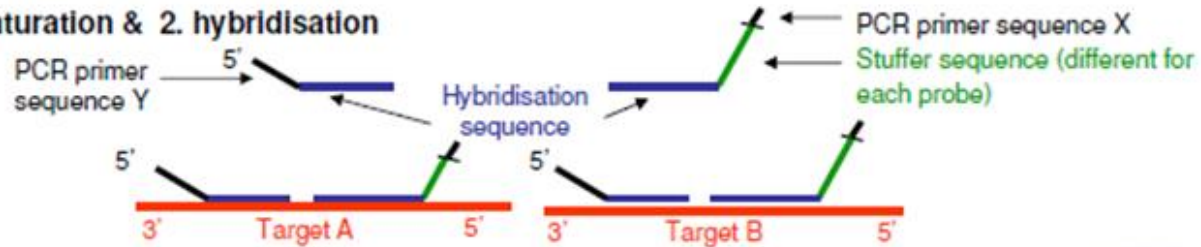
PCR-technology  
(molecular fingerprint)  
- rapid  
- highly specific

# BEEDOCTOR

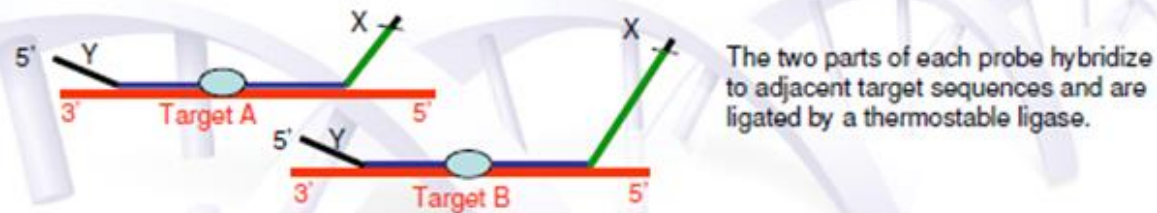
## BeeDoctor

### Multiplex Ligation-dependent Probe Amplification

#### 1. Denaturation & 2. hybridisation



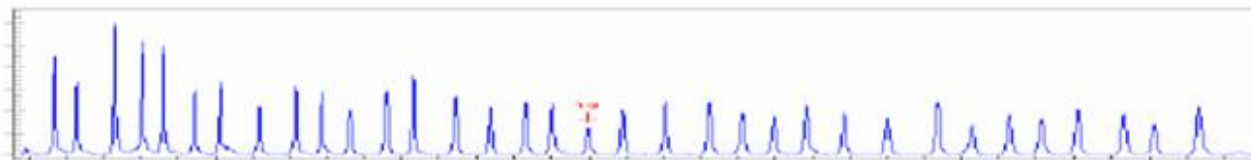
#### 3. Ligation



#### 4. PCR: All probe ligation products are amplified by PCR using only one primer pair.



#### 5. Separation of amplification products by electrophoresis: Amplification products are separated by electrophoresis. Relative amounts of probe amplification products, as compared to a control DNA sample, reflect the relative copy number of target sequences.



example:

RespiFinder, 15 respiratory viruses in one reaction

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0095-1137/08/\$08.00+0 doi:10.1128/JCM.02294-07

Vol. 46, No. 4

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## RespiFinder: a New Multiparameter Test To Differentially Identify Fifteen Respiratory Viruses<sup>∇</sup>

Martin Reijans,<sup>1\*</sup> Gijs Dingemans,<sup>1†</sup> Corné H. Klaassen,<sup>1</sup> Jacques F. Meis,<sup>1</sup> Judith Keijndener,<sup>2</sup>  
Brit Mulders,<sup>2</sup> Kimberly Eadie,<sup>3</sup> Willem van Leeuwen,<sup>3</sup> Alex van Belkum,<sup>3</sup>  
Alphons M. Horrevorts,<sup>1</sup> and Guus Simons<sup>2</sup>

*Department of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Canisius Wilhelmina Hospital, Nijmegen, The Netherlands<sup>1</sup>;  
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Erasmus Medical Center Rotterdam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands<sup>3</sup>*

Received 29 November 2007/Returned for modification 2 January 2008/Accepted 25 January 2008

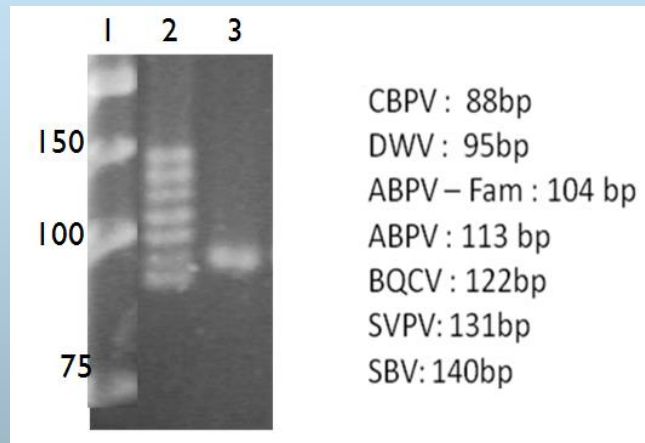
Broad-spectrum analysis for pathogens in patients with respiratory tract infections is becoming more relevant as the number of potential infectious agents is still increasing. Here we describe the new multiparameter RespiFinder assay, which is based on the multiplex ligation-dependent probe amplification (MLPA) technology. This assay detects 15 respiratory viruses in one reaction. The MLPA reaction is preceded by a preamplification step which ensures the detection of both RNA and DNA viruses with the same specificity and



# BEEDOCTOR

## results:

- targets = bee viruses:



- negative strand detection
- robust test
- (single mutation permitted)
- proficiency test

CBPV

DWV – KV – VDV

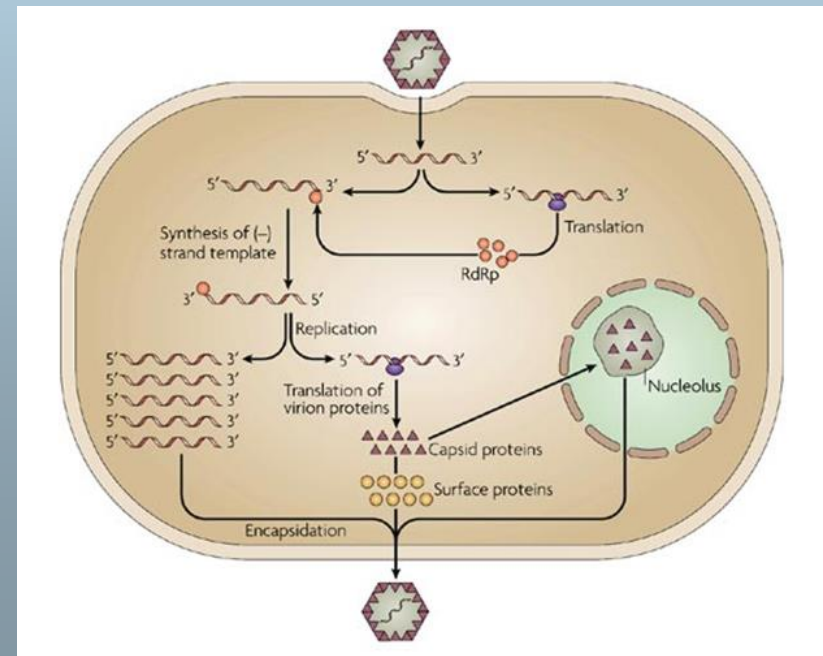
ABPV – KBV – IAPV

ABPV

BQCV

SBPV

SBV



## BeeDoctor, a Versatile MLPA-Based Diagnostic Tool for Screening Bee Viruses

Lina De Smet<sup>1\*</sup>, Jorgen Ravoet<sup>1</sup>, Joachim R. de Miranda<sup>2</sup>, Tom Wenseleers<sup>3</sup>, Matthias Y. Mueller<sup>4</sup>, Robin F. A. Moritz<sup>4</sup>, Dirk C. de Graaf<sup>1</sup>

**1** Laboratory of Zoophysiology, Department of Physiology, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium, **2** Department of Ecology, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala, Sweden, **3** Laboratory of Socioecology and Social Evolution, KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium, **4** Institut für Biologie, Martin Luther Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Halle/Saale, Germany

### Abstract

The long-term decline of managed honeybee hives in the world has drawn significant attention to the scientific community and bee-keeping industry. A high pathogen load is believed to play a crucial role in this phenomenon, with the bee viruses being key players. Most of the currently characterized honeybee viruses (around twenty) are positive stranded RNA viruses. Techniques based on RNA signatures are widely used to determine the viral load in honeybee colonies. High throughput screening for viral loads necessitates the development of a multiplex polymerase chain reaction approach in which different viruses can be targeted simultaneously. A new multiparameter assay, called "BeeDoctor", was developed based on multiplex-ligation probe dependent amplification (MLPA) technology. This assay detects 10 honeybee viruses in one reaction. "BeeDoctor" is also able to screen selectively for either the positive strand of the targeted RNA bee viruses or the negative strand, which is indicative for active viral replication. Due to its sensitivity and specificity, the MLPA assay is a useful tool for rapid diagnosis, pathogen characterization, and epidemiology of viruses in honeybee populations. "BeeDoctor" was used for screening 363 samples from apiaries located throughout Flanders; the northern half of Belgium. Using the "BeeDoctor", virus infections were detected in almost eighty percent of the colonies, with deformed wing virus by far the most frequently detected virus and multiple virus infections were found in 26 percent of the colonies.

**Citation:** De Smet L, Ravoet J, de Miranda JR, Wenseleers T, Mueller MY, et al. (2012) BeeDoctor, a Versatile MLPA-Based Diagnostic Tool for Screening Bee Viruses. PLoS ONE 7(10): e47953. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0047953

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**Competing Interests:** The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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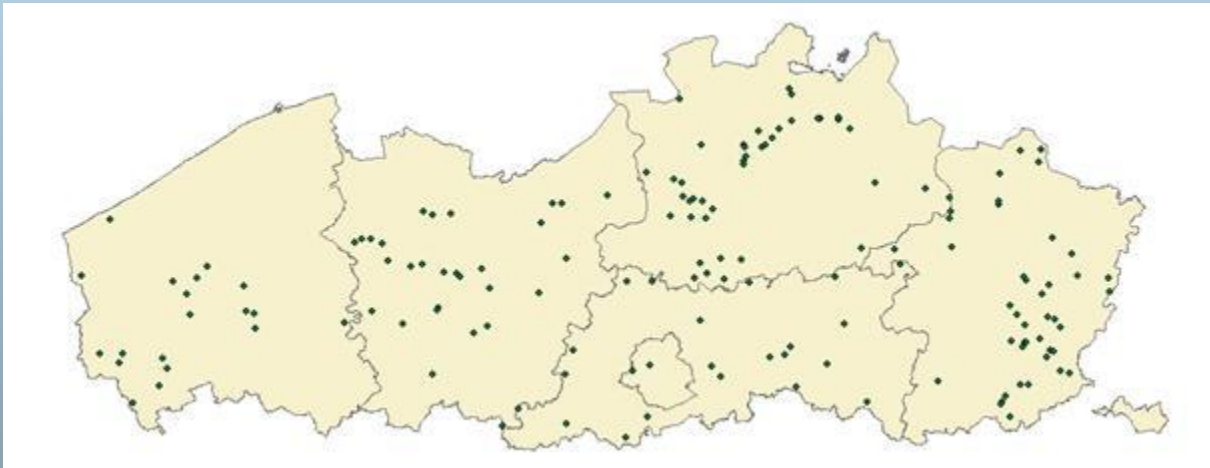
# BEEDOCTOR

first application: Flemish bee health monitoring

- virusscreening in 2011:

363 samples from 170 apiaries

30 adult bees taken at flight entrance



**Table 2.** Prevalence, co-infection rates and the results of the association analysis of honeybee viruses in Flemish apiaries.

		FREQUENCY		TOTAL	ASSOCIATION
				PREVALENCE	ANALYSIS
ZERO VIRUSES	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>21,5%</b>		n.a.
ONE VIRUS	ABPV	1	0,3%	3,3%	n.a.
	BQCV	14	3,9%	13,5%	n.a.
	CBPV	2	0,6%	1,7%	n.a.
	DWV	164	45,2%	69,4%	n.a.
	SBV	10	2,8%	19,0%	n.a.
	SBPV	0	0,0%	0,0%	n.a.
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>52,6%</b>		
					$\chi^2_{(1)}$
TWO VIRUSES	ABPV-BQCV	0	0,0%	-	0,06 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	ABPV-CBPV	0	0,0%	-	0,06 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	ABPV-DWV	9	2,5%	-	0,04 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	ABPV-SBV	1	0,3%	-	0,03 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	BQCV-CBPV	0	0,0%	-	0,02 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	BQCV-DWV	23	6,3%	-	1,79 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	BQCV-SBV	5	1,4%	-	1,11 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	CBPV-DWV	2	0,6%	-	0,00 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	CBPV-SBV	0	0,0%	-	0,00 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	DWV-SBV	45	12,4%	-	2,19 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>23,4%</b>		
					$\chi^2_{(3)}$
THREE VIRUSES	ABPV-BQCV-CBPV	0	0,0%	-	0,53 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	ABPV-BQCV-DWV	0	0,0%	-	4,47 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	ABPV-BQCV-SBV	0	0,0%	-	1,10 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	ABPV-CBPV-DWV	1	0,3%	-	0,42 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	ABPV-CBPV-SBV	0	0,0%	-	0,24 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	ABPV-DWV-SBV	0	0,0%	-	6,91 <sup>p&lt;0.10</sup>
	BQCV-CBPV-DWV	0	0,0%	-	1,86 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	BQCV-CBPV-SBV	0	0,0%	-	1,12 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	BQCV-DWV-SBV	7	1,9%	-	5,33 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	CBPV-DWV-SBV	1	0,3%	-	1,94 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2,5%</b>		
					$\chi^2_{(9)}$
FOUR VIRUSES	ABPV-BQCV-CBPV-DWV	0	0,0%	-	3,09 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	ABPV-BQCV-CBPV-SBV	0	0,0%	-	2,22 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	ABPV-BQCV-DWV-SBV	0	0,0%	-	9,04 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	ABPV-CBPV-DWV-SBV	0	0,0%	-	5,94 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	BQCV-CBPV-DWV-SBV	0	0,0%	-	4,81 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0,0%</b>		
					$\chi^2_{(21)}$
FIVE VIRUSES	ABPV-BQCV-CBPV-DWV-SBV	0	0,0%	-	7,32 <sup>n.s.</sup>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>100,0%</b>		

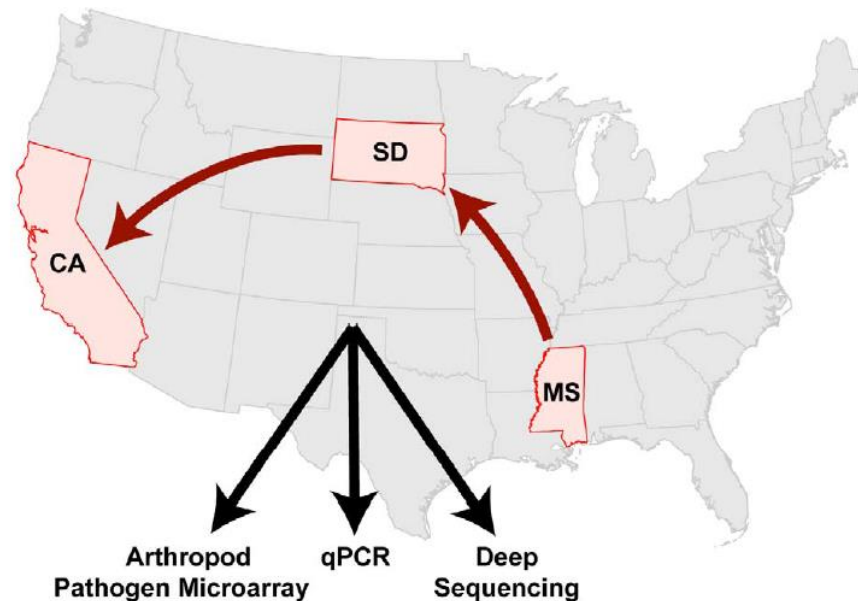
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PLoS one

## Temporal Analysis of the Honey Bee Microbiome Reveals Four Novel Viruses and Seasonal Prevalence of Known Viruses, *Nosema*, and *Crithidia*

Charles Runckel<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Michelle L. Flenniken<sup>3\*</sup>, Juan C. Engel<sup>4</sup>, J. Graham Ruby<sup>1,2</sup>, Donald Ganem<sup>1,2</sup>, Raul Andino<sup>3</sup>, Joseph L. DeRisi<sup>1,2\*</sup>



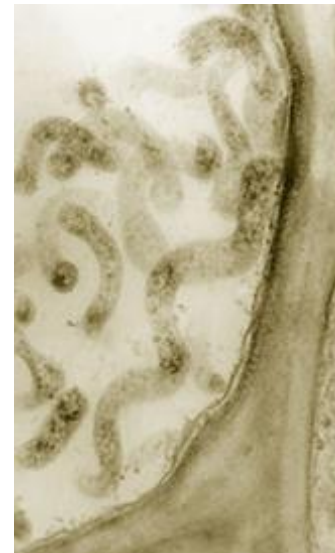
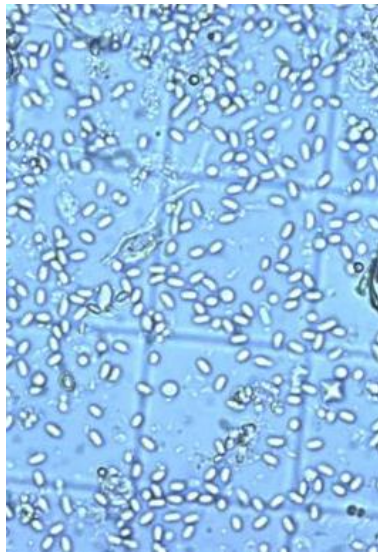
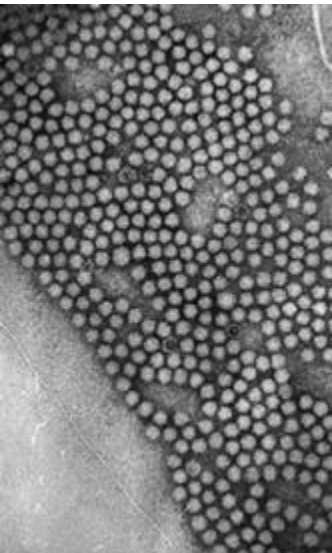
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4 new viruses:  
- ALPV str. Brookings  
- BSRV  
- LSV str. 1 and 2

*Nosema ceranae*

*Crithidia mellificae*

*Spiroplasma melliferum* and *S. apis*

*Apocephalus borealis*

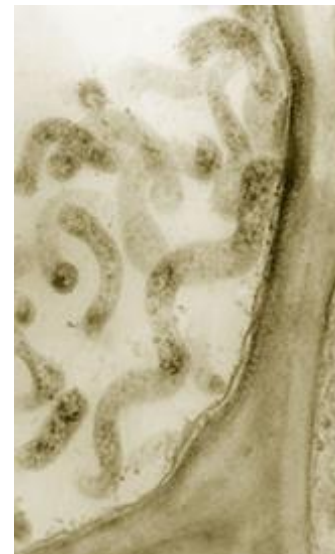
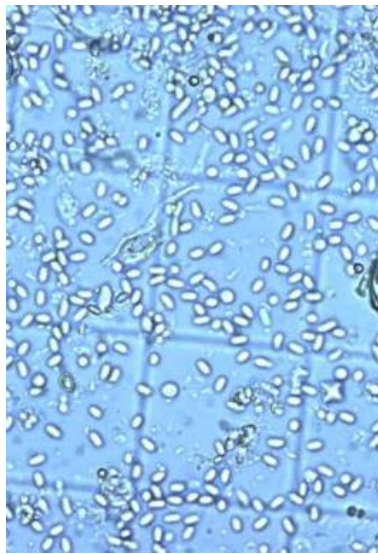
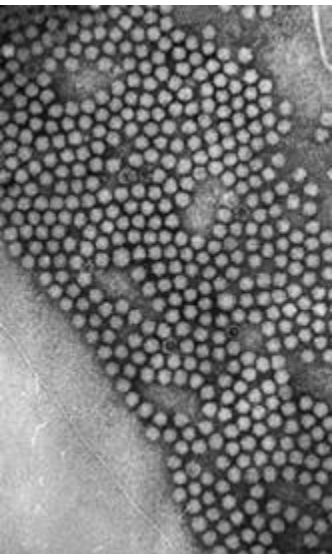
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## Comprehensive Bee Pathogen Screening in Belgium Reveals *Crithidia mellifica* as a New Contributory Factor to Winter Mortality

Jorgen Ravoet<sup>1\*</sup>, Jafar Maharramov<sup>2</sup>, Ivan Meeus<sup>2</sup>, Lina De Smet<sup>1</sup>, Tom Wenseleers<sup>3</sup>, Guy Smaghe<sup>2</sup>, Dirk C. de Graaf<sup>1</sup>



3 new viruses:  
- ALPV str. Brookings  
- VdMLV  
- LSV str. 4

*Nosema ceranae*

*Crithidia mellifica*

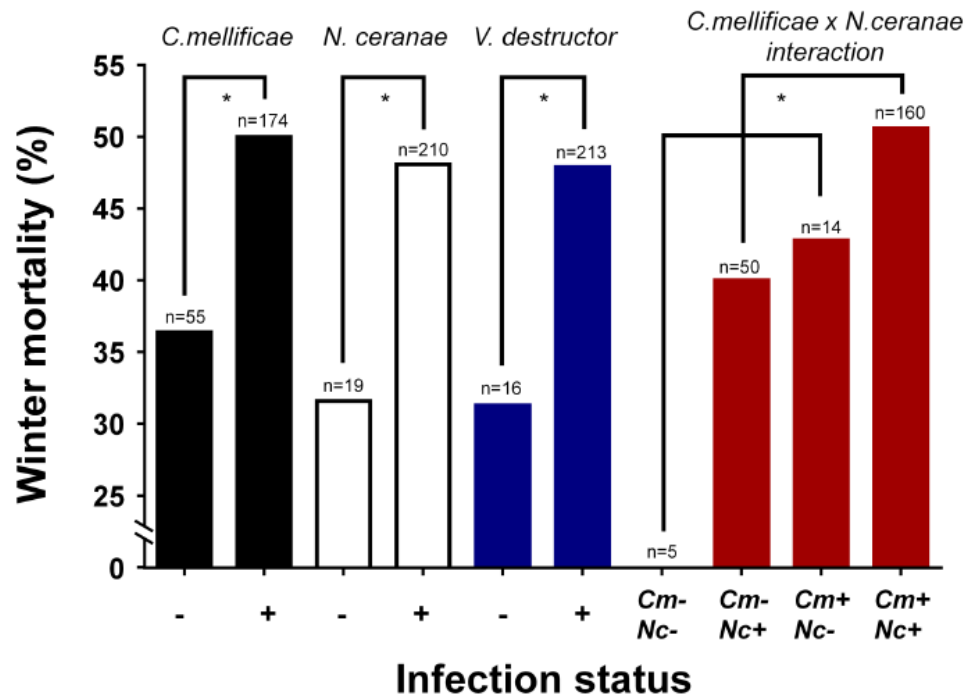
*Spiroplasma melliferum* and *S. apis*

*Apocephalus borealis*

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**Table 1.** Honey bee pathogen incidences.

Pathogen	Type	Prevalences			Associations	
		Overall	Surviving colonies*	Collapsed colonies*	Between pathogens	With winter losses*
ABPV	Dicistroviridae	3.3% (12/363)	3.3% (4/122)	3.7% (4/107)		No
ALPV	Dicistroviridae	56.2% (204/363)	59.0% (72/122)	54.2% (58/107)	<i>Nosema</i> spores (p = 0.011)	No
<i>Apicystis bombi</i>	Ophryocystidae	40.8% (148/363)	41.8% (51/122)	41.1% (44/107)		No
<i>Apocephalus borealis</i>	Phoridae	31.1% (118/363)	32.8% (40/122)	33.6% (36/107)		No
BQCV	Dicistroviridae	13.5% (49/363)	10.7% (13/122)	14.0% (15/107)	LSV complex (p = 0.009)	No
CBPV	Unclassified RNA virus	1.7% (6/363)	0.0% (0/122)	1.9% (2/107)		No
<i>Crithidia mellificae</i>	Trypanosomatidae	70.5% (256/363)	71.3% (87/122)	81.3% (87/107)		Yes (p = 0.03)
DWV	Iflaviridae	69.4% (252/363)	61.5% (75/122)	67.3% (72/107)		No
LSV complex	Unclassified RNA virus	14.6% (43/363)	17.2% (21/122)	15.0% (16/107)	BQCV (p = 0.009)	No
<i>Nosema apis</i>	Nosematidae	10.2% (37/363)	13.1% (16/122)	10.3% (11/107)		No
<i>Nosema ceranae</i>	Nosematidae	92.6% (336/363)	89.3% (109/122)	94.4% (101/107)	VdMLV (p < 0.001)	No
<i>Nosema</i> spores	Nosematidae	75.2% (273/363)	71.3% (87/122)	72.9% (78/107)	ALPV (p = 0.011)	No
SBV	Iflaviridae	19.0% (69/363)	17.2% (21/122)	21.5% (23/107)		No
<i>Spiroplasma apis</i>	Spiroplasmataceae	0.3% (1/363)	0.0% (0/122)	0.0% (0/107)		No
<i>Spiroplasma melliferum</i>	Spiroplasmataceae	4.4% (16/363)	3.3% (4/122)	6.5% (7/107)		No
<i>Varroa destructor</i>	Varroidae	93.7% (313/334)	91.0% (111/122)	95.3% (102/107)		Yes (p = 0.07)
VdMLV	Tymoviridae	84.3% (306/363)	79.5% (97/122)	84.1% (90/107)	<i>N. ceranae</i> (p < 0.001)	No

Prevalences of honey bee pathogens found in Belgian honey bee colonies, the relationships between these pathogens and the effect of the occurrence of each pathogen on colony winter losses.

\*These data includes a subset of the samples (229), since 25% of the beekeepers did not provide data about winter losses of the monitored colonies.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0072443.t001

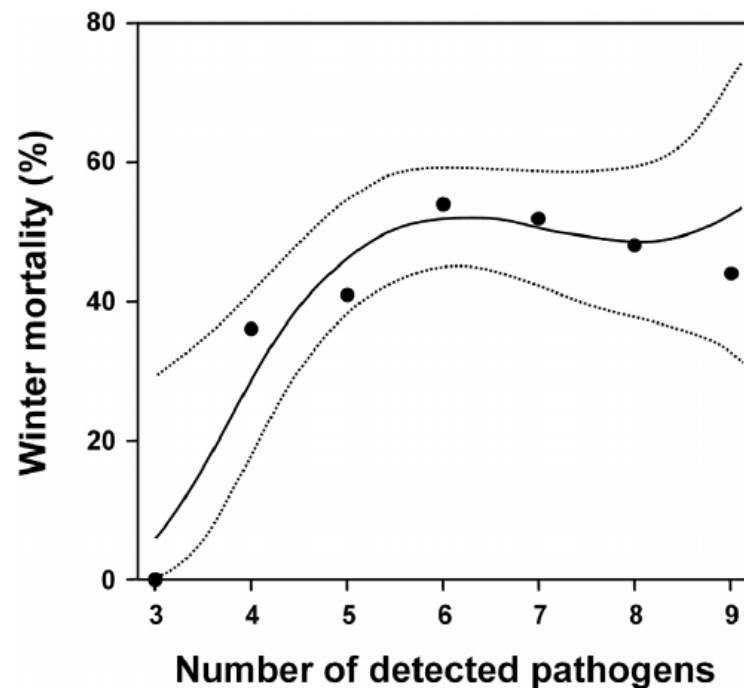
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disadvantages of molecular diagnostics:  
cfr. the *Nosema ceranae*-case: first discovery

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Short communication

*Nosema ceranae*, a new microsporidian parasite in honeybees in Europe

Mariano Higes<sup>a,\*</sup>, Raquel Martín<sup>a</sup>, Aránzazu Meana<sup>b</sup>

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DOI: 10.1051/apido:2006054

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**Original article**

**A *Nosema ceranae* isolate from the honeybee *Apis mellifera*\***

Wei-Fone HUANG<sup>a</sup>, Jing-Hao JIANG<sup>a</sup>, Yue-Wen CHEN<sup>b</sup>, Chung-Hsiung WANG<sup>a</sup>

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disadvantages of molecular diagnostics:  
cfr. the *Nosema ceranae*-case: widespread



First detection of  
European honey

Geoffrey R. Wil

<sup>a</sup> Depa  
<sup>b</sup> Wil

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INVERTEBRATE

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NOTES AND COMMENTS

## Presence of *Nosema ceranae* in French honey bee colonies



Marie-Pierre Chauzat<sup>1</sup>\*, Mariano Higes<sup>2</sup>, Raquel Martín-Hernández<sup>2</sup>, Aranzazu Meana<sup>3</sup>, Nicolas Cougoule<sup>1</sup>  
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**Keywords:** *Nosema apis*, *Nosema ceranae*, France, PCR detection, *Apis mellifera*

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disadvantages of molecular diagnostics:  
cfr. the *Nosema ceranae*-case: retrospective studies

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Available online at:  
[www.apidologie.org](http://www.apidologie.org)

**Original article**

## *Nosema ceranae* has infected *Apis mellifera* in Europe since at least 1998 and may be more virulent than *Nosema apis*\*

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'you only find what you are looking for'

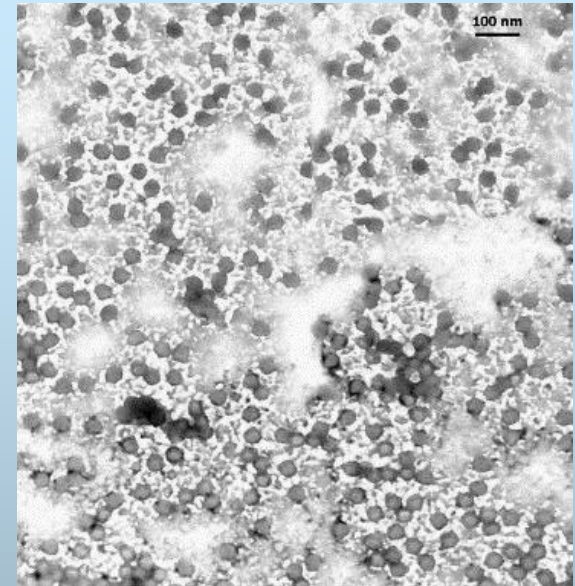
# LIMITATIONS OF FINGERPRINTING

what about rapidly evolving pathogens?

bee viruses

ABPV – KBV – IAPV

DWV – KV – VDV



what about other diseases?

## environmental microbiology reports

***Apicystis bombi* (Apicomplexa: Neogregarinorida) parasitizing *Apis mellifera* and *Bombus terrestris* (Hymenoptera: Apidae) in Argentina**

Santiago Plischuk<sup>1,\*</sup>, Ivan Meeus<sup>2</sup>, Guy Smagghe<sup>2</sup>, Carlos E. Lange<sup>1</sup>

# LIMITATIONS OF FINGERPRINTING

developing molecular tools with reduced specificity:

Journal of  
Applied Microbiology



Journal of Applied Microbiology ISSN 1364-5072

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## **Multiplex PCR detection of slowly-evolving trypanosomatids and neogregarines in bumblebees using broad-range primers**

I. Meeus<sup>1,2</sup>, D.C. de Graaf<sup>2</sup>, K. Jans<sup>3</sup> and G. Smagghe<sup>1</sup>

# LIMITATIONS OF FINGERPRINTING

looking at all the microbes

$tsI$ , also has  $(\phi_t, \psi_t)_{tsI} = (0^\circ, 70^\circ)$ .

By probing the HJ dynamics in response to pulling forces in three different directions, we mapped the location of the transition states in the two-dimensional (2D) reaction landscape and deduced the global structure of the transient species populated during the HJ conformational changes. Our simplest model envisions a shallow minimum between the two transition states, depicted as the open structure (Fig. 3A and 3D), but it is also possible that a continuum of conformations exist, spanning from  $tsI$  and  $tsII$  with nearly identical free energies, instead of having a single well-defined minimum.

The development reported here expands on the current arsenal of hybrid single-molecule techniques combining force and other observables (8, 25–27). Unlike DNA or RNA hairpins, where forces on the order of 15 pN are necessary to induce mechanical unzipping (10, 11), the conformations of HJs could be biased at 0.5 pN or lower. The lever-arm effect makes it unlikely that a purely mechanical tool could have probed the force effect on HJ conformations, because if the arms are lengthened to magnify the distance change, the force effect will occur at even lower forces. FRET can also report on vectors other than the end-to-end distances, which we exploited here by pulling on  $XR$ ,  $HR$ , or  $BR$  arms while simultaneously measuring the same HB vector by FRET, which led to the 2D mapping of reaction landscapes. Our method is readily applicable to other nucleic acids systems and their interaction with proteins and enzymes, and with the advent of new orthogonal labeling techniques, should be extendable

## A Metagenomic Survey of Microbes in Honey Bee Colony Collapse Disorder

Diana L. Cox-Foster,<sup>1</sup> Sean Conlan,<sup>2</sup> Edward C. Holmes,<sup>3,4</sup> Gustavo Palacios,<sup>2</sup> Jay D. Evans,<sup>5</sup> Nancy A. Moran,<sup>6</sup> Phenix-Lan Quan,<sup>2</sup> Thomas Briese,<sup>2</sup> Mady Hornig,<sup>2</sup> David M. Geiser,<sup>7</sup> Vince Martinson,<sup>8</sup> Dennis vanEngelsdorp,<sup>1,9</sup> Abby L. Kalkstein,<sup>1</sup> Andrew Drysdale,<sup>2</sup> Jeffrey Hui,<sup>2</sup> Junhui Zhai,<sup>2</sup> Liwang Cui,<sup>1</sup> Stephen K. Hutchison,<sup>10</sup> Jan Fredrik Simons,<sup>10</sup> Michael Egholm,<sup>10</sup> Jeffery S. Pettis,<sup>5</sup> W. Ian Lipkin<sup>2\*</sup>

In colony collapse disorder (CCD), honey bee colonies inexplicably lose their workers. CCD has resulted in a loss of 50 to 90% of colonies in beekeeping operations across the United States. The observation that irradiated combs from affected colonies can be repopulated with naive bees suggests that infection may contribute to CCD. We used an unbiased metagenomic approach to survey microflora in CCD hives, normal hives, and imported royal jelly. Candidate pathogens were screened for significance of association with CCD by the examination of samples collected from several sites over a period of 3 years. One organism, Israeli acute paralysis virus of bees, was strongly correlated with CCD.

Methods for cloning nucleic acids of microbial pathogens directly from clinical and environmental specimens afford unprecedented opportunities for pathogen discovery and surveillance. Subtractive cloning, polymerase chain reaction (PCR), and DNA microarrays have implicated previously unknown pathogens as the etiological agents of several acute and chronic diseases. Here, we describe the application of unbiased high-throughput pyrosequencing technology (1) in the characterization

of the microflora associated with *Apis mellifera* in a search for the cause of colony collapse disorder (CCD).

CCD is characterized by the rapid loss from a colony of its adult bee population (2–4). No dead adult bees are found inside or in close proximity to the colony. At the final stages of collapse, a queen is attended only by a few newly emerged adult bees. Collapsed colonies often have considerable capped brood and food reserves. The phenomenon of CCD was first reported in 2006;

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## Temporal Analysis of the Honey Bee Microbiome Reveals Four Novel Viruses and Seasonal Prevalence of Known Viruses, *Nosema*, and *Crithidia*

Charles Runckel<sup>1,2,3\*</sup>, Michelle L. Flenniken<sup>3,9</sup>, Juan C. Engel<sup>4</sup>, J. Graham Ruby<sup>1,2</sup>, Donald Ganem<sup>1,2</sup>, Raul Andino<sup>3</sup>, Joseph L. DeRisi<sup>1,2\*</sup>



# LIMITATIONS OF FINGERPRINTING

what about other causes of death - bad performance?  
over-exposure to pesticides



GC-MS analysis of pesticides in case of intoxication: 290 €

# LIMITATIONS OF FINGERPRINTING

what about other causes of death - bad performance?  
food shortage - incomplete diet



# BEECLINIC

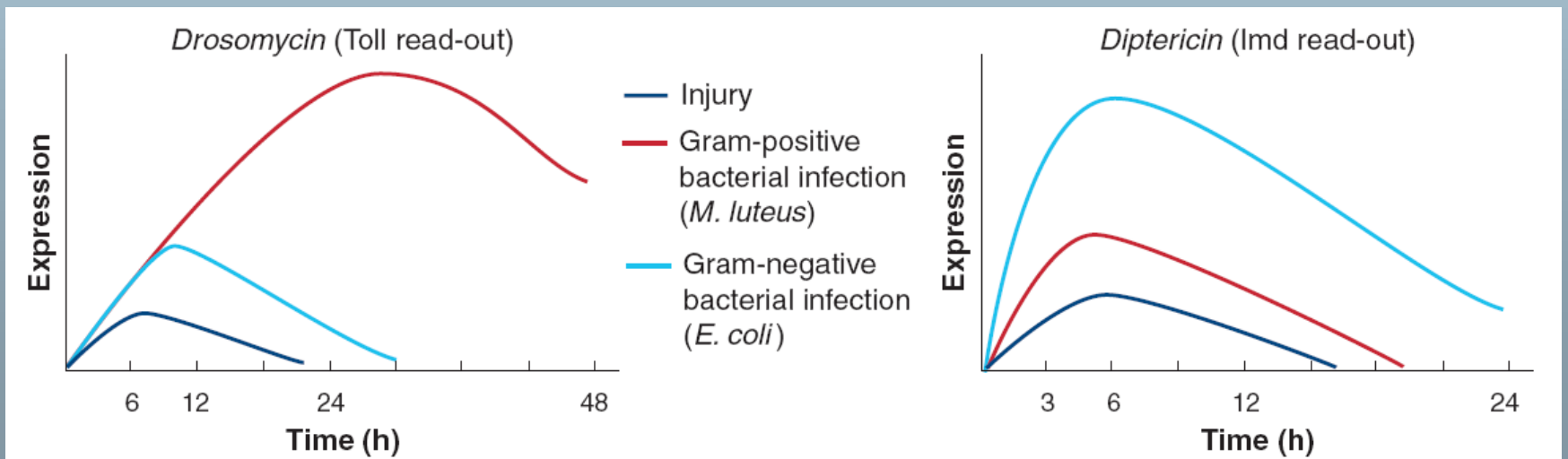
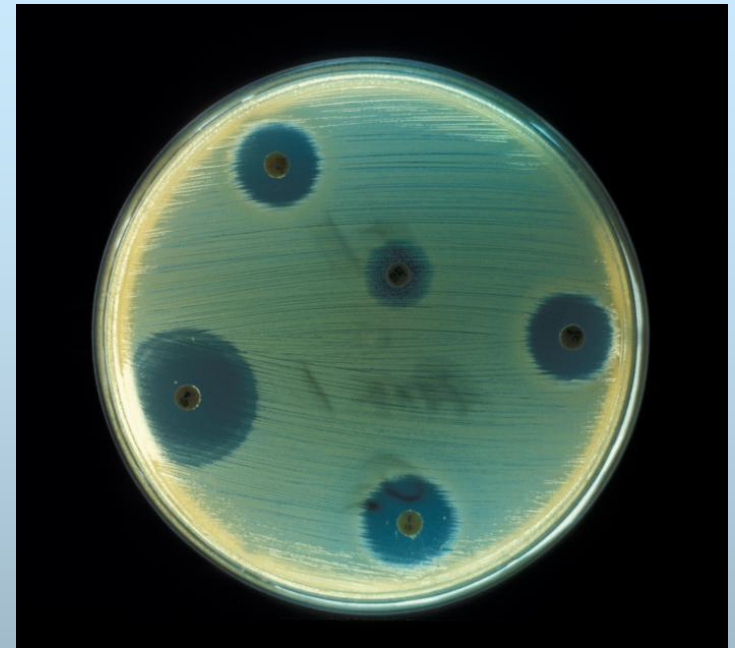
listen to what our body tells us!

fever < inflammation (stress indicator)



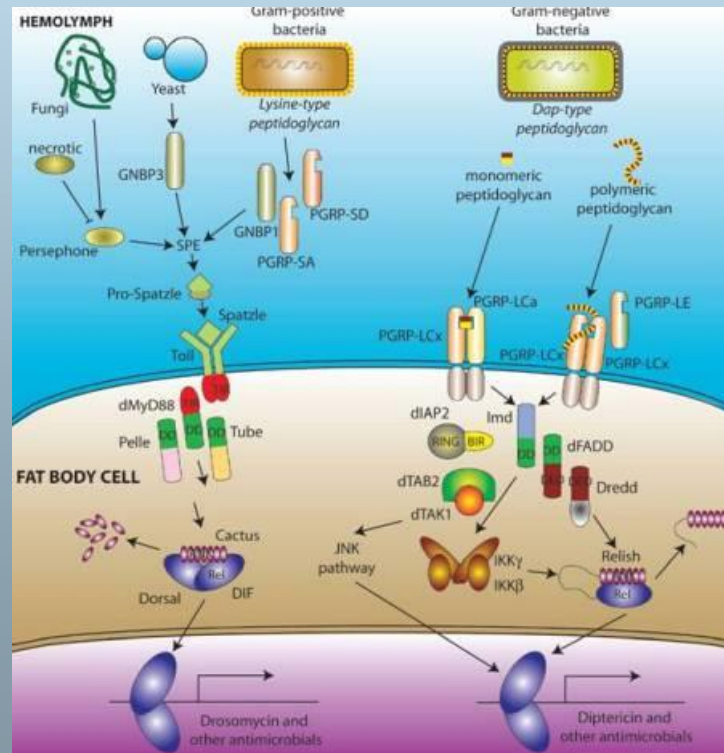
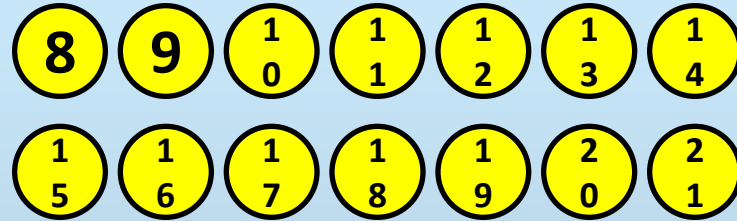
# BEECLINIC

**insect immunity:**  
humoral response  
antimicrobial peptides  
= immune end product  
= **stress indicators**



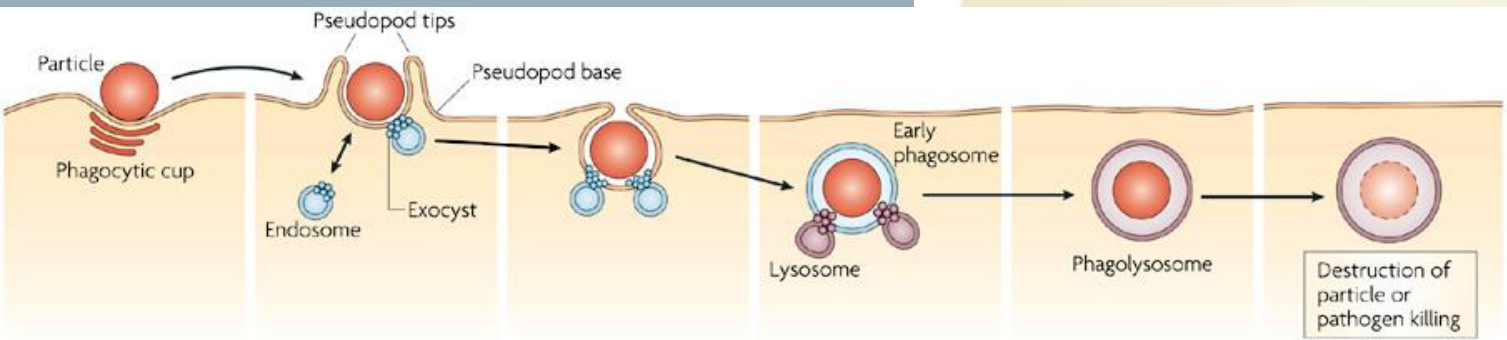
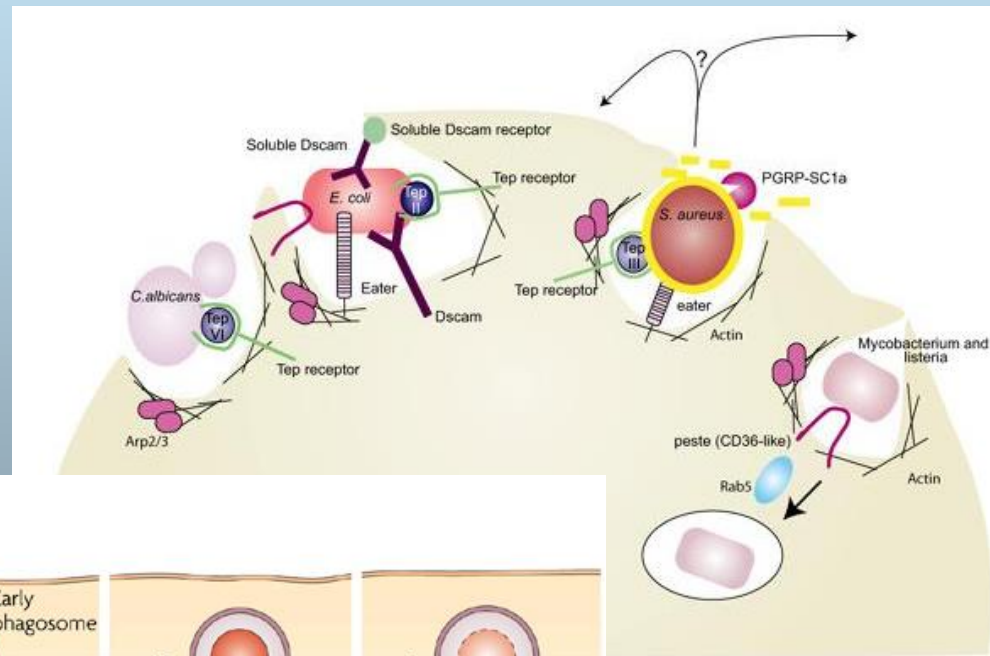
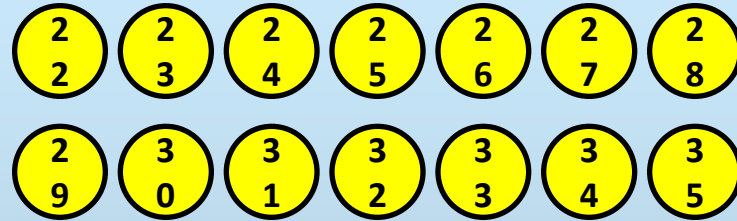
# BEECLINIC

**insect immunity:**  
humoral response  
signalling pathway  
**= stress indicators**



# BEECLINIC

**insect immunity:**  
cellular response  
fagocytosis  
receptors  
**= stress indicators**



# BEECLINIC

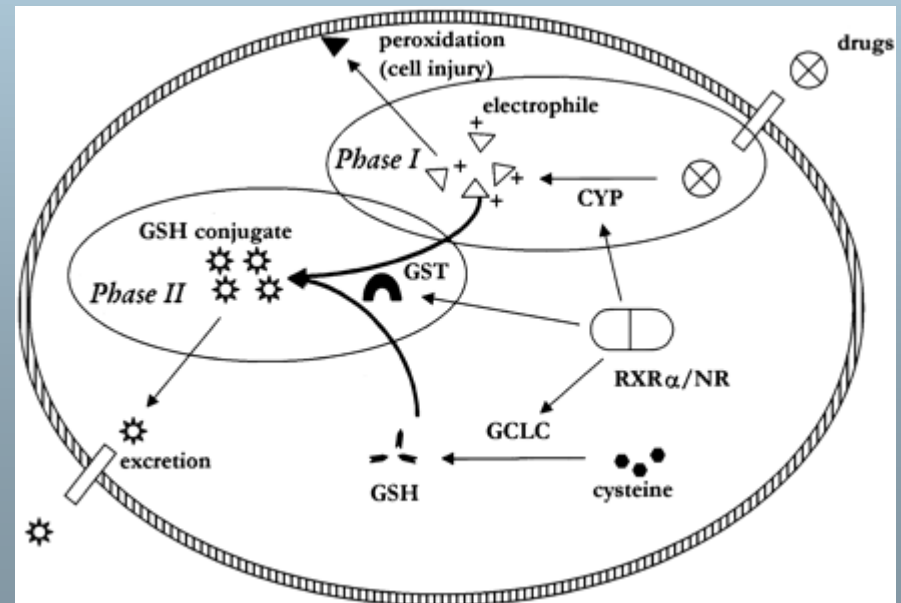
## detoxification:

honey bee genome project

30-50% fewer genes encoding

- carboxylesterase
- cytochrome P450
- glutathione S-transferase

= toxicological stress indicators



# BEECLINIC

## malnutrition:

cfr. J. Van der Steen

measuring colony fitness

< mean hemolymph vitellogenin concentration

(influenced by *Varroa destructor*, discontinuous pollen flow, low diversity of pollen)

= nutritional stress indicators





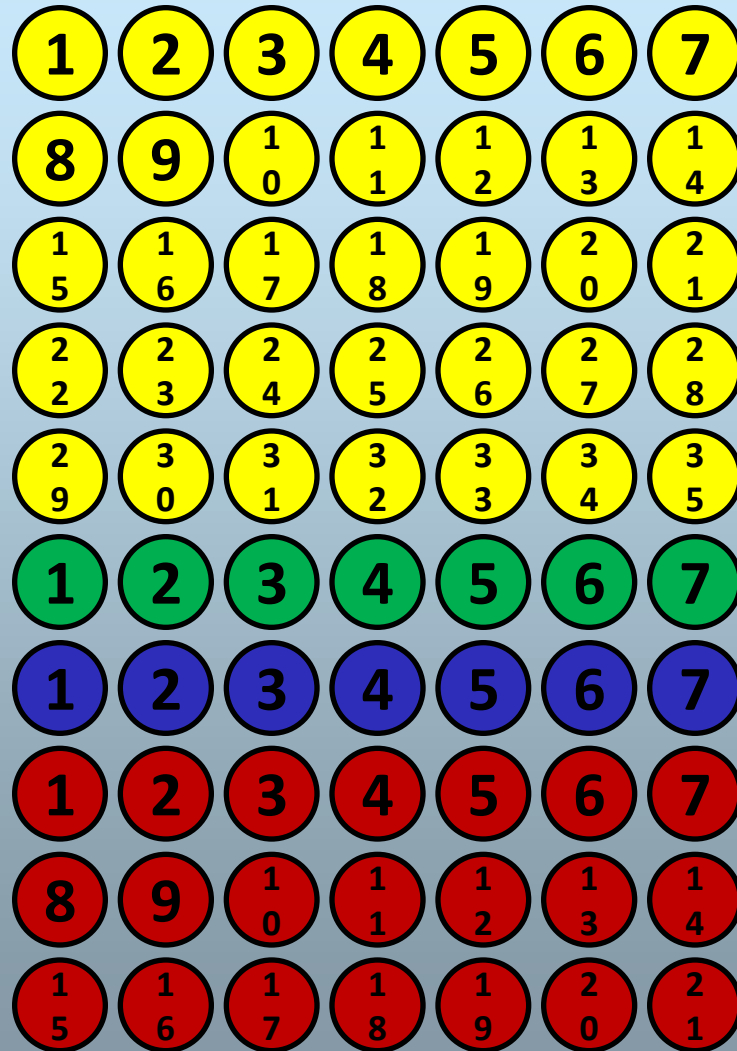
# BEECLINIC

## DNA-chip technology:

probes against each  
stress indicator

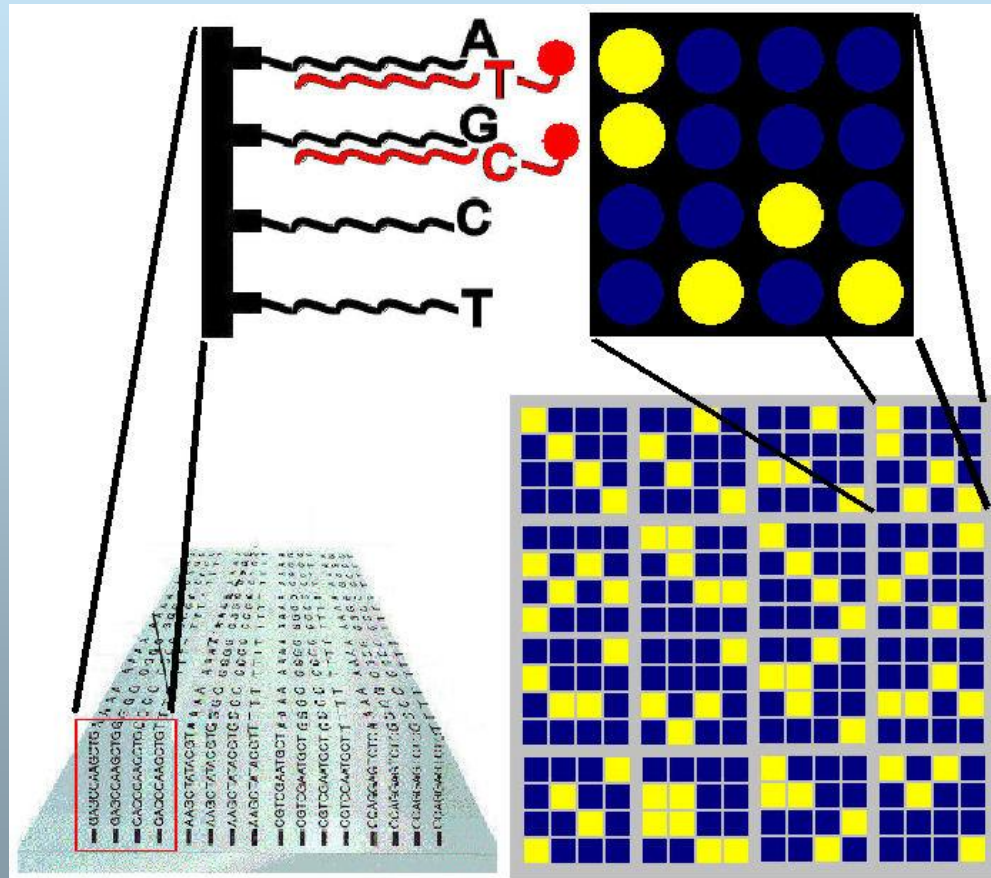
+

every known bee pathogen



# BEECLINIC

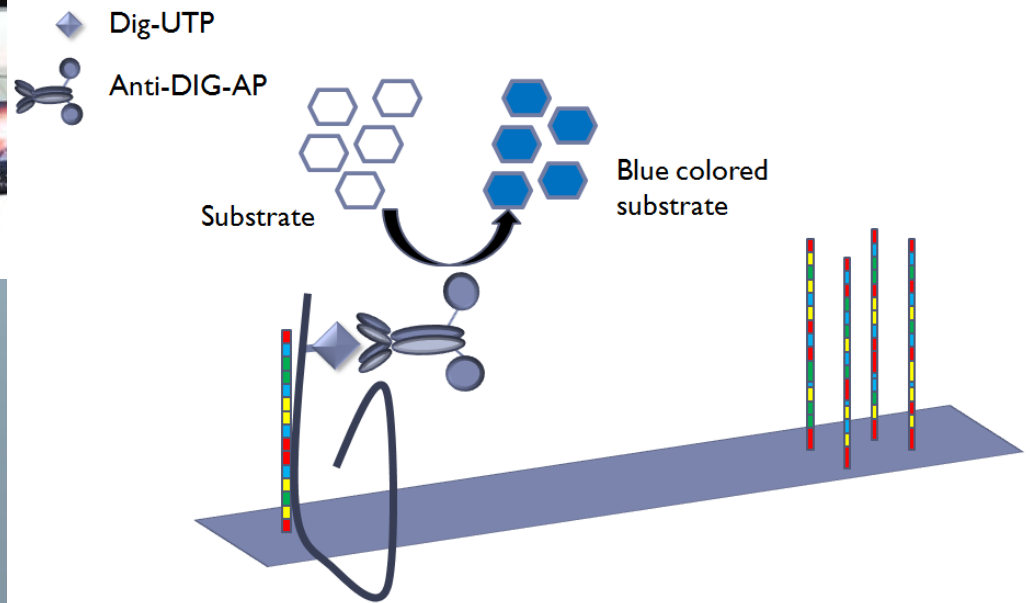
## DNA-chip technology:



# BEECLINIC

making DNA-chip technology accessible:

ArrayIT<sup>®</sup> SpotWave<sup>™</sup> Colorimetric Microarray scanner



# BEECLINIC

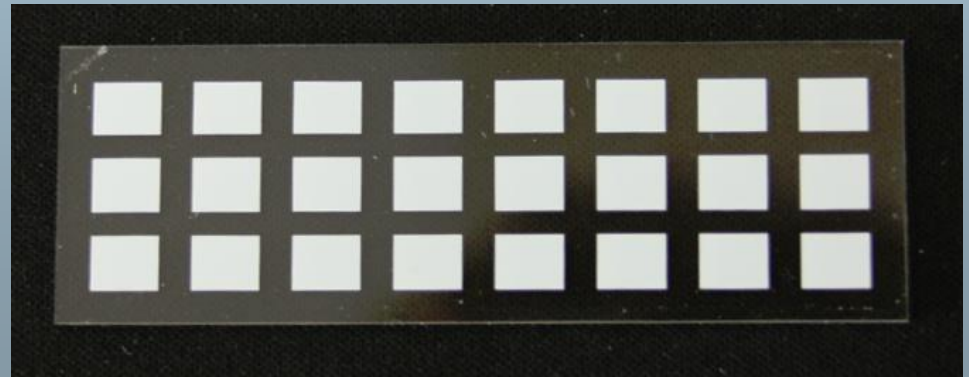
## DNA chip first prototype:

- printing on nylon coated glass slides
- multi-well cassette: multiplex 24 samples



## DNA chip second prototype:

- nylon cut in 24 squares
- > covering 1 DNA chip each
- >> better sealing of multi-well cassette



# BEECLINIC

## selection of targets:

- simultaneous measurement of honeybee genes and pathogens
- cfr. Evans, 2006:
  - quantitative-PCR array
  - 48 targets



Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)



Journal of Invertebrate Pathology 93 (2006) 135–139

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Journal of  
INVERTEBRATE  
PATHOLOGY

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[www.elsevier.com/locate/yjipa](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/yjipa)

Short communication

## Beepath: An ordered quantitative-PCR array for exploring honey bee immunity and disease

Jay D. Evans\*

*USDA-ARS Bee Research Laboratory, BARC-East Bldg., 476 Beltsville, MD 20705, USA*

# BEECLINIC

## targets :

R, pathogen recognition

E, immune end product

D, developmental genes

S, immune signalling pathway

C, controls

P, pathogens

Locus	Cat	Locus	Cat	Locus	Cat	Locus	Cat	Locus	Cat
BglucA	R	Am53C8	D	Dorsal-2	S	Spaetzle	S	Dscam	E
PGRP9710	R			Dredd	S	Tab	S	EGFlukeA	E
PGRPLC710	R	Toll	S	hemipterous	S	Tak1	S	Hymenopt	E
PGRPSC2505	R	Basket	S	hopscotch	S			Lys-1	E
PGRPSC4300	R	Cactus-1	S	Imd	S	Abaecin	E	Lys-2	E
		Cactus-2	S	Kenny	S	AmPPO	E	Lys-31	E
RPL8	C	Domeless	S	Myd88	S	Apidaec	E	PPOact	E
RPS5	C	Dorsal-1	S	Perseph	S	Defensin2	E	TEP7	E
				Relish	S	Defensin1	E	TEPA	E

Locus	Cat
<i>A. apis</i>	P
<i>M. pluton</i>	P
<i>N. apis</i>	P
chitinA	P
germSA	P
PIS18	P
Bact16S	P

# BEECLINIC

## DNA chip second prototype:

- first run:

Non -Challenged – 24h



Challenged with *E. coli* – 24h



- 1 Dredd
- 2 Cactus-2
- 3 Abaecin
- 4 Apidaecin
- 5 Apisimin
- 6 Defensin1
- 7 Hymenoptaecin

## DNA chip third prototype:

- extension of target number = 110 (in double)

pathogen: 20

pathogen recognition: 4

immune signalling pathway: 18

immune end product: 16

pesticide exposure: 9

nutritional stress: 8

varroa infestation: 10

nosema infestation: 9

varroa tolerance/QTL: 1

nosema tolerance/QTL: 2

transition summer/winter bee: 6

transition forager bee: 1

transition sterile/fertile worker bee: 1

housekeeping genes: 3

negative ctrl: 2

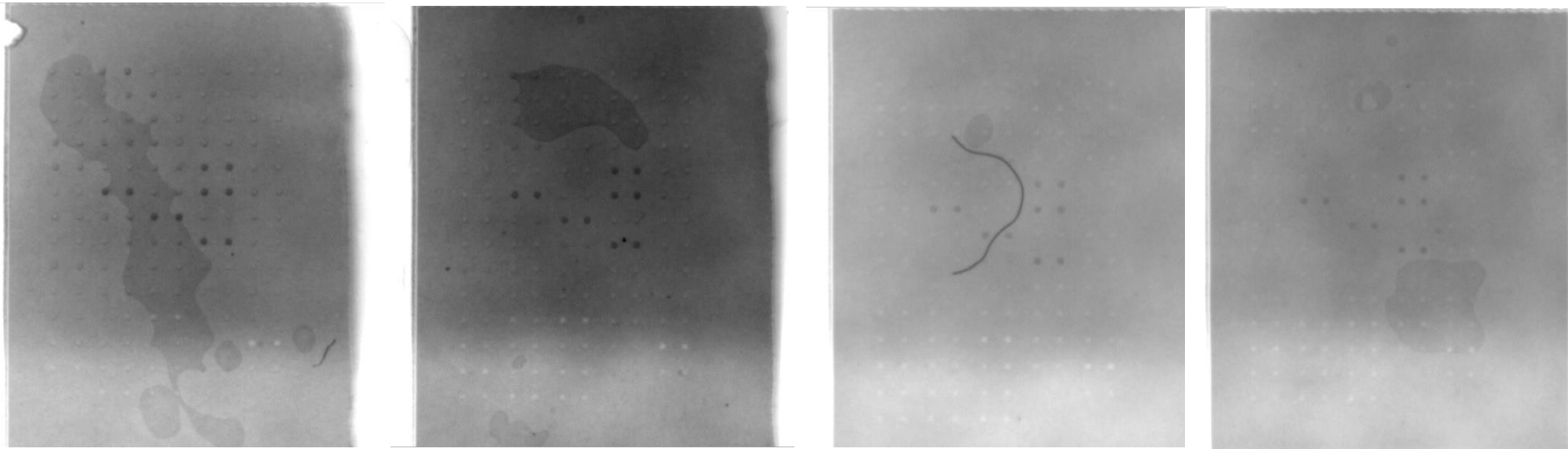


# BEECLINIC

quantification of spot intensity (TIFF-files):

< MAPIX software

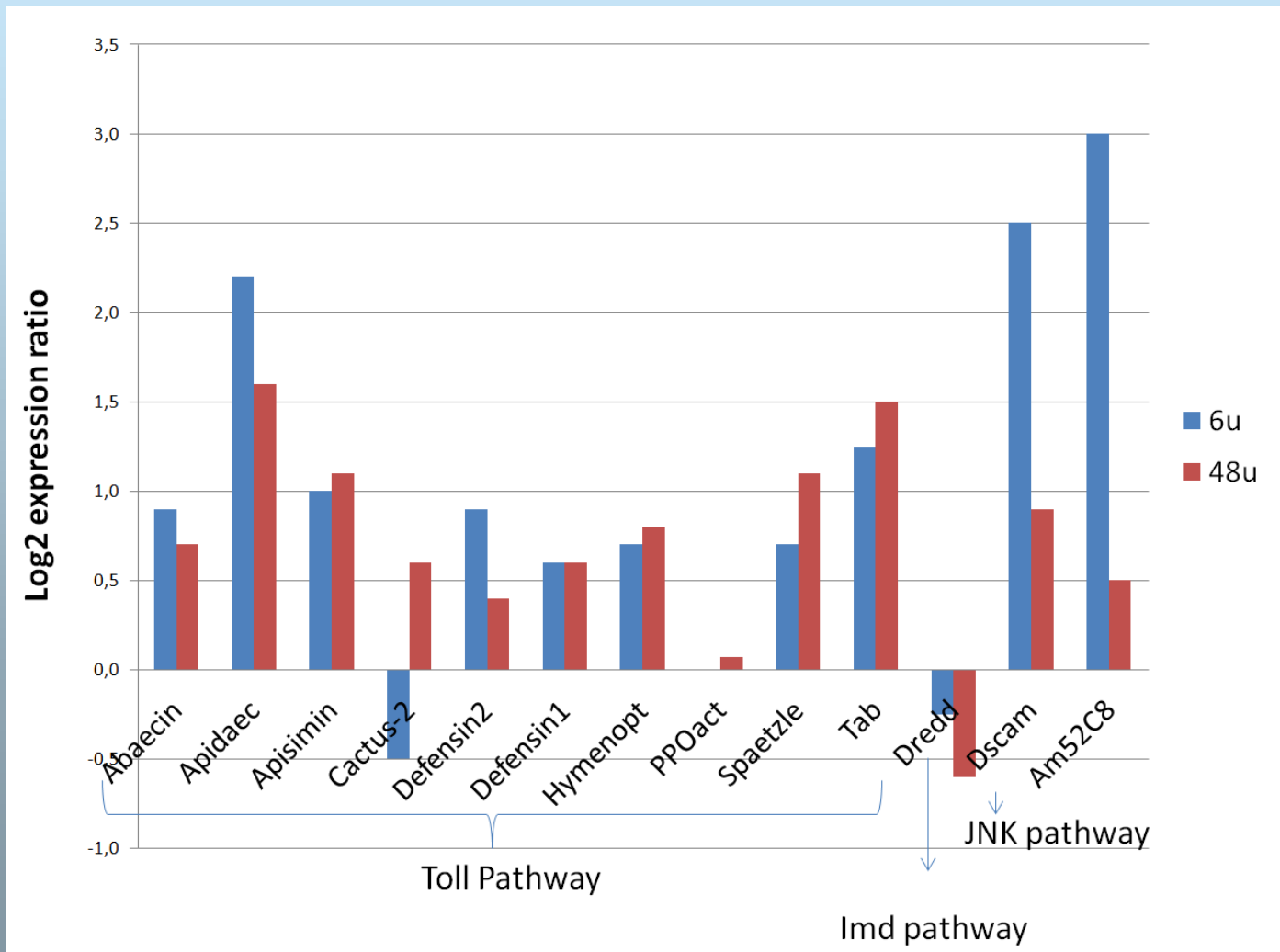
optimization:



[Probe]

# BEECLINIC

## *E. coli* infection:



# WORKING WITH BEECLINIC

- 2 week sampling:

5 educative apiaries

10 colonies each

started at July 2011

- objectives:

unique samples

x transition summer/winter

x just before colony collapse

**insight in moment of collapse**

BeeClinic on 22 selected samples

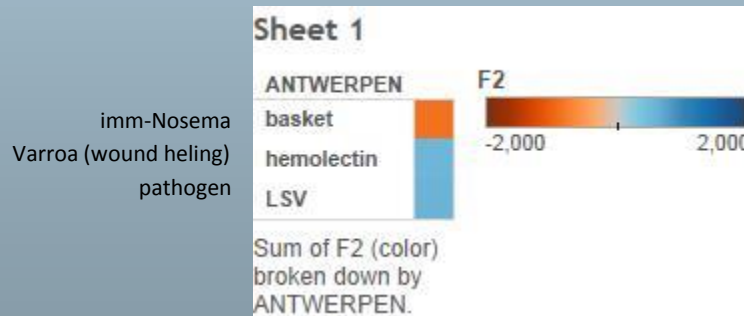
**insight in cause of collapse**



# WORKING WITH BEECLINIC

DNA-chip Antwerp:  
few stress-indicators influenced  
putative cause: *Nosema-Varroa*

heat maps:



# WORKING WITH BEECLINIC

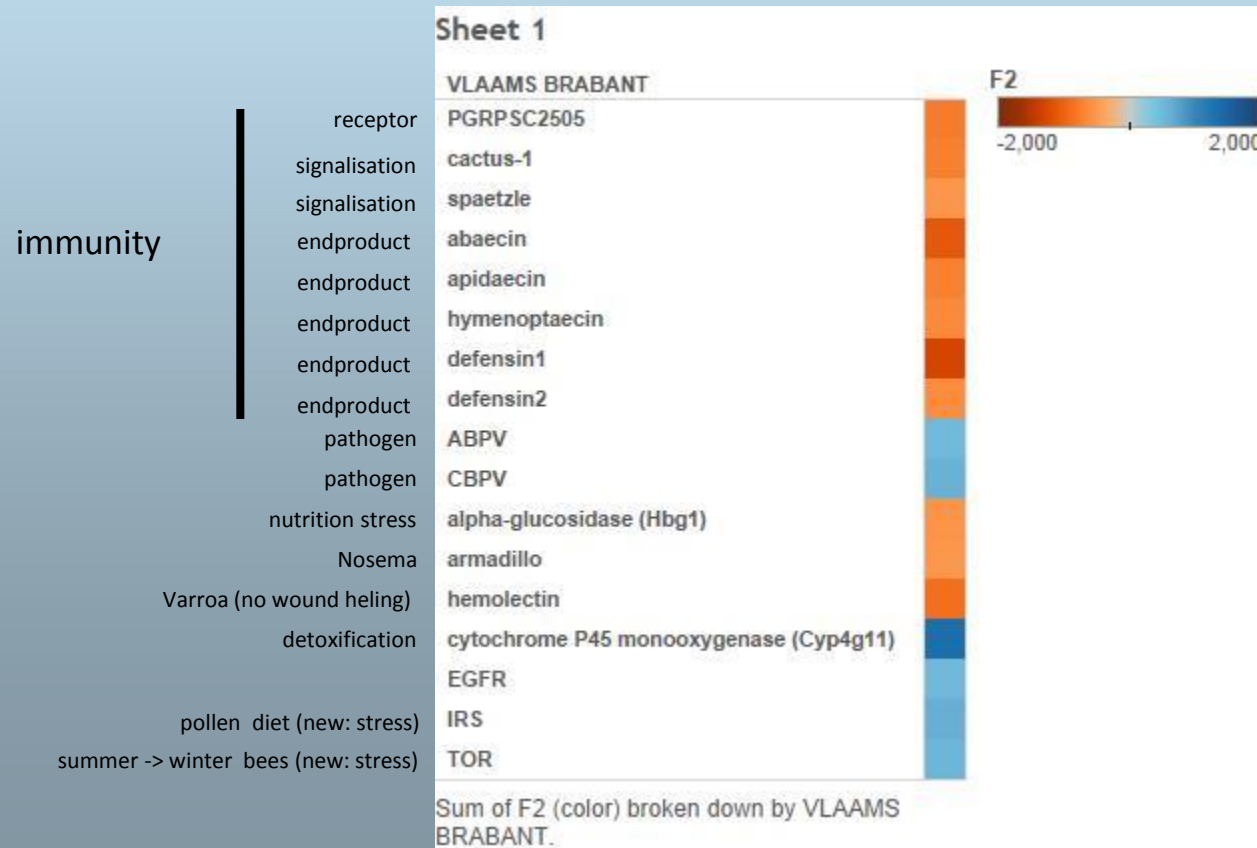
DNA-chip Flemish Brabant:

many more stress-indicators influenced

putative cause:

immunity down

pathogens, intoxication, nutrition???



# CONCLUSIONS

development of an extension grade diagnostic tool

based on MLPA technology

focussing on bee viruses

= BeeDoctor

molecular fingerprinting tools have their limitation:

‘you only find what you are looking for’

research grade diagnostics tool

based on colorimetric DNA chip technology

simultaneous measurement of honeybee genes and pathogens

= BeeClinic

first usage of BeeClinic shows

major geographic differences in causes of colony collapse