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Bee Culture

Kløfta, Norway 23. september 2005

Yours ref.:

Our ref.: TG/TG
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Illegal publication of test results!

About the articles: Johnsen, H. O., 2005. Commercial Beekeeping In Norway. BeeCulture, September 2005, page 37-40.

A large amount of this article describes results from a test of different cell sizes in beehives, accomplished in Norway in the period 2002-2004. This is a test that the Norwegian Beekeepers Association has started and is responsible for, a fact that Johnsen neglected in his article. The Norwegian Beekeepers Association owns both the test and the exclusive rights to publish any of the results.

Hans Otto Johnsen has had knowledge to some of the preliminary results, because he has been one of the people doing the practical work with this project. He has also been fully aware of the Norwegian Beekeepers Associations ownership to the results. The trust he has been shown, he has used against us, publishing parts of the results in his articles in Bee Culture and The Beekeepers Quarterly. It should be stressed that the total results from the test so far appears to have a rather different conclusion than Johnsens.

It is important for the Norwegian Beekeepers Association to point out that the test is not finished, that the results in the mentioned articles is taken out of a larger context, and that Johnsen has published some of the preliminary results without the approval of the Norwegian Beekeepers Association.

We would like to have this statement published in your magazine as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely
NORGES BIRØKTERLAG
(Norwegian Beekeepers Association)

Trond Gjessing
General secretary