

Individual Project Summary Report 2006/07

1. Project summary and information about the grant holder

Project title	Bee Project	AONB Proj. No:	SDF/067/9
Overall objectives of the project	To set up a small beekeeping enterprise on sites in the Shropshire Hills AONB by establishing three apiaries in the AONB. The resultant honey crop to be marketed as Shropshire Hills Honey.		
Start date	14/06/06	End date	15/01/07
SDF grant holder <i>(your organisation)</i>	Phil Moore		
Contact details <i>(your name, address, telephone and email)</i>	Phil Moore, c/o Cath Landles, Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership. Tel (01588) 674084. Email: cath.landles@shropshire-cc.gov.uk		

2. Funding information

SDF funding received this year	£ 6,620	SDF funding received last year <i>(if any)</i>	£ 0
Total cost of the project this year	£ 13,776	Any special funding arrangements <i>(such as staged payments or financial conditions required by funders)</i>	No
Sources of other funding <i>(funding body or volunteer activity)</i>	Value of other funding where contributed in cash	Estimate of value (£ equivalent) where contributed in kind	
Applicants own contribution	£ 7,156	£	

3. Achievements of the project

What were the specific objectives that you set for the project in the grant application form?	How well were the objectives met?	What issues affected the achievement of the objectives?
Purchase high quality breeding stock and hardware	All relevant breeding stock and hardware purchased	Timescales are critical when raising queens. Had some problems with the supply of hives and frames. The delay in delivery of the hives caused logistical problems with the painting of the hives, which became increasingly difficult with the wet weather.
Establish 3 apiaries, each with 14 colonies, located within the AONB	3 apiaries established with bees on all sites. Sites at Round Oak, Barlow and Hopton Castle.	The sourcing of the 3 apiaries was possible because of the enthusiastic assistance of three local farmers who have all provided excellent sites for bees.
Produce and market Shropshire Hills Honey	Shropshire Hills Honey produced and marketed. Point of sale labels and leaflets produced.	Subject to weather conditions we hope to produce 1 tonne of Shropshire Hills Honey, which will be sold through local outlets and further a field in Birmingham.

4. Lessons learned

What were the key lessons you learned during the project?	Providing valuable experience for a young Salopian who is considering his potential employment. Subsequently Sam went to New Zealand to work full time for a commercial beekeeper from September to April.
Do you have any further comments?	The project has provided further security for my business producing and selling local and organic food. With a more reliable supply of Shropshire Hills Honey, Hopesay Glebe Farm will improve its range of products available throughout the year. This is especially important during the 'hungry gap' in June.

