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# BEEHOPE

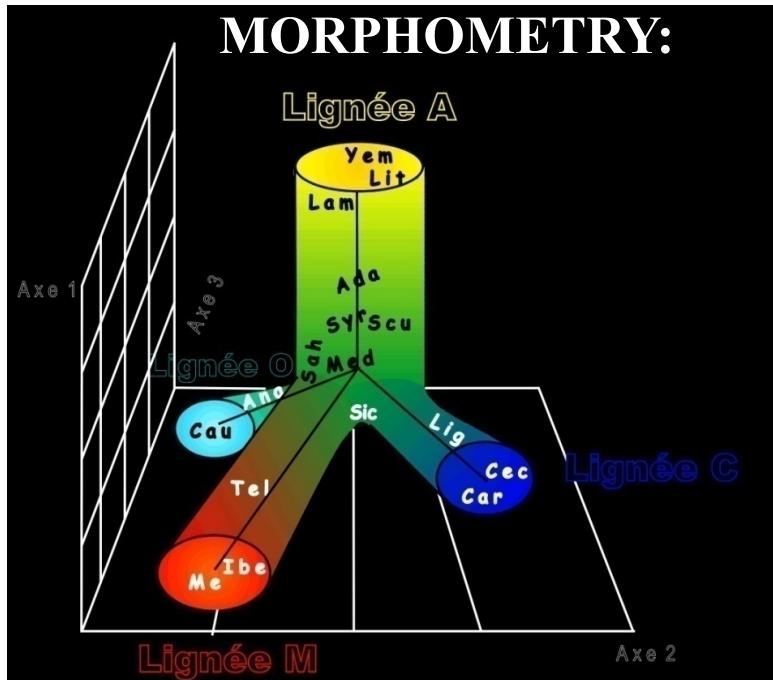
**Honeybee Conservation centers in Western Europe: an innovative strategy using sustainable beekeeping to reduce honeybee decline.**

Les conservatoires d'abeilles en Europe de l'Ouest: une stratégie novatrice fondée sur l'Apiculture durable pour réduire le déclin des abeilles

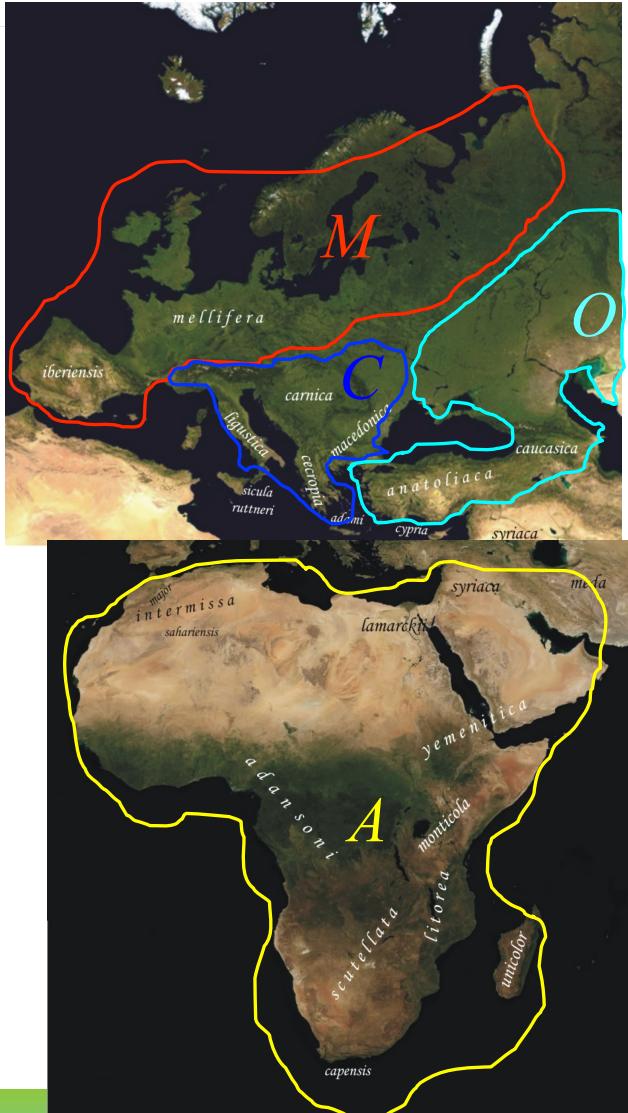


## High level of diversity: Morphological and éco-éthological

### MORPHOMETRY:



=) The 26 subspecies are distributed  
in 4 evolutionary lineages (Ruttner, 1988)





Adaptive and evolutionary heritages to save

## The honeybee paradox

### Ecological interest: Key species

- Pollination of wild plants



### Economical Interest

- Honey, wax, royal jelly, pollen
- Pollination of cultivated plants

**==> essential to conserve the intra-specific diversity**



## Honeybee and «domestication»:

- \* Until the beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> century, the beekeeper is mainly a honey-picker
- \* Since the invention the modern beehive:
  - ==> Development of new apicultural practices
  - Seasonal migrations of honeybee colonies and importing of queens

- \* **Queen rearing:**

(More and more used)

- \* **Artificial insemination:**

(ponctual)

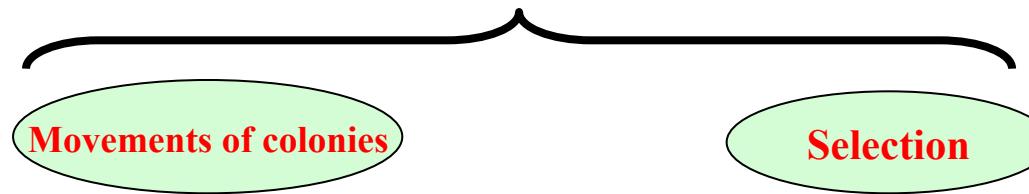


**Real domestication  
(influence the reproductive system)**

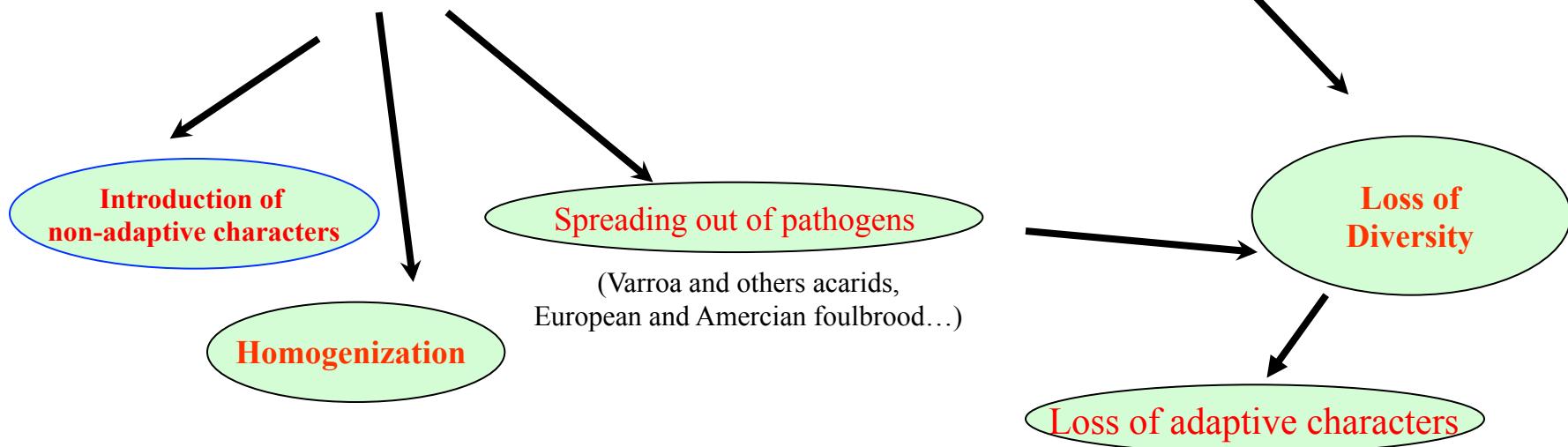
**==> Potential large impact on the genetic diversity of honeybee**



## Impacts of the modern beekeeping on the honeybee diversity?



(importations of queens, seasonal migration)



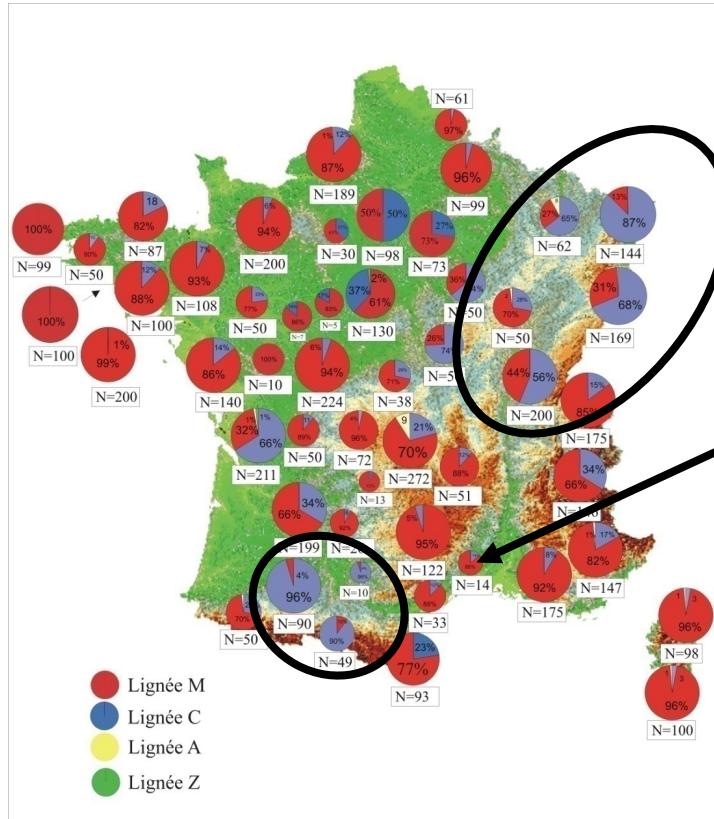


## SITUATION IN FRANCE

73 % M

26 % C and O

1 % A



Samples:  
5227 colonies

Alarming Situation

Areas with a high level of introgressions (importations)  
 $56\% < \% \text{ C} < 96$

In Ile de France  
50% in 2008 / 80% in 2014  
In Cévennes:  
5% in 2006 / 48% in 2014



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## Findings over the last twenty years:

Increasing of **genetic pollution**

Decreasing of honey production

Decreasing of the vitality of queens (fertility, lifespan)

Increasing of colony losses (1990s)

**Only one accused : the pesticides !!!**

**Apiarian practices: a possible additional cause or not ???**

Importation of queens

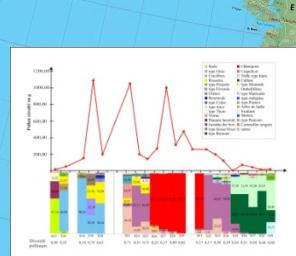
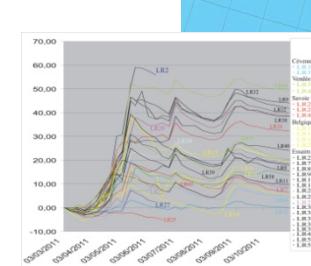
- poor adaptation to the habitat ?

- fast spreading of pathogens (activated by the seasonal migration)

(the beekeepers have a lot of experience):

*Varroa, Nosema cerenae et now Aethinia thumida*

**Which solution ?**



Réseau des conservatoires BEEHOPE

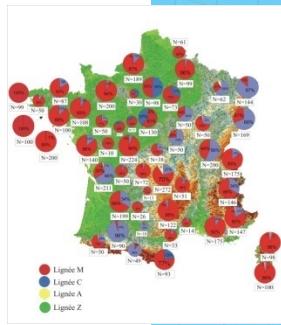
● conservatoires

— gradient

## WP4: Socio Economy Sustainable Beekeeping

### WP2: Eco-ethology

#### Western honeybees

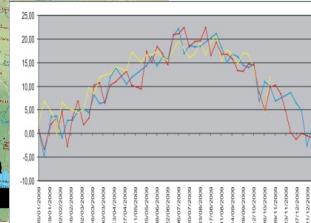


### WP 1: Population genetics and genomics

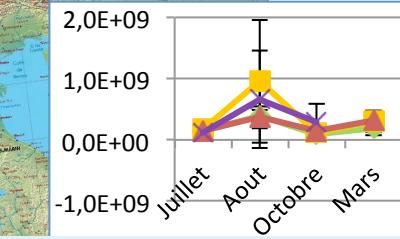
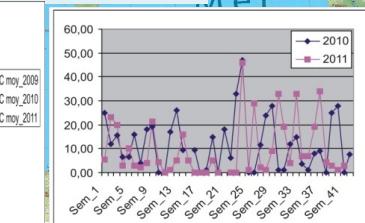


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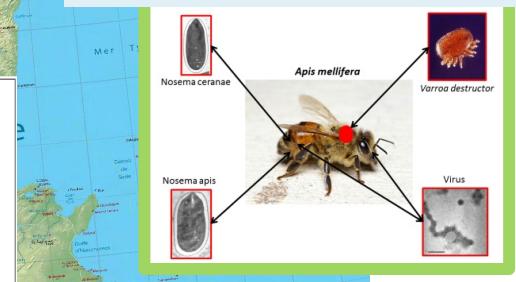
Escola Superior Agrária



#### Climat changes



### WP3: Spatio-temporal evolution of pathogens





# People involved in BEEHOPE



**David Biron**

**Alice Pinto**

**Sylvie Houte**

**Andone Estonba**

**Lionel Garnery**

**Telesphore Sime-Ngando**

**Jorge Araujo**

**Vincent Douarre**

**Mikel Iriondo**

**Hélène Legout**

**Frédéric Delbac**

**Julio Chavez-Galarza**

**Cécile Ribout**

**Carmen Manzano**

**Damien Delalande**

**Jonathan Colombet**

**Dora Henriques**

**Jean-François Odoux**

**Otsanda Ruiz**

**Samuel Guyot**

**Miguel Vilas-Boas**

**Iratxe Montes**

**Noel Mallet**

**Luc Champlin**

**Jean-Charles Labat**



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# Thank you for your attention



**PARTENAIRES.** Réunis hier, au laboratoire micro-organismes génome de l'environnement, près des ruches du campus des Cézeaux. PHOTO S. GRAND

Kick-off meeting, 4-5 March in Arverne  
(*Journal la Montagne du 5 mars 2015*)



## Workpackage 1: The impact study

Aims:

*Objectifs:*

Characterize the genetic structure of each conservation center

*Définir la structure génétique de chaque population conservatoire*

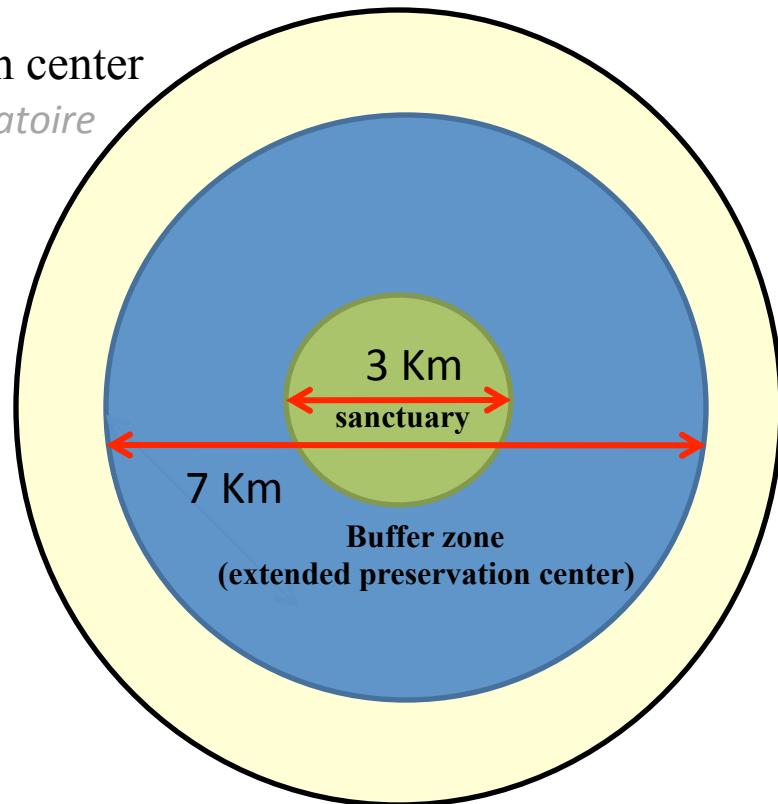
- Levels of variation / *niveaux de variation*
- Levels of introgression / *niveaux d'introgression*
- Risks of introgression / *Risques d'introgressions*

Map the genetic diversity

*Cartographier la diversité génétique*

Mt DNA studies (COI-COII / *Dra I* Test)

14 Microsatellites loci





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## The New Generation Sequencing protocol:

Aims:

*Objectifs:*

- Develop a new genetic system based on SNPs for introgression detection (comparison with microsatellite datas)

Développer de nouveaux marqueurs génétiques de type SNPs pour l'estimation des introgressions (comparaison avec les marqueurs μsat)

- Define an exclusive SNP profil for the honeybee population included in each preservation center =) for local origin assignment

Définir des profils SNPs exclusifs pour caractériser les populations d'abeilles locales de chaque conservatoires

- isolate a set of genomic fragment that show signature of selective Sweeps associated with local adaptation (link with WP2)

Caractériser des régions du génome montrant des signatures de sélection associées aux populations locales (lié au WP2)



## Workpackage 2: Eco-ethological survey:

### Aims:

- Characterize the biological cycle of the colonies of the preservation centers  
Caracteriser le cycle biologique des colonies des conservatoires
- Follow up the evolution of preservation centers in a context of global change  
Suivre l'évolution des conservatoires génétiques dans le contexte de changements globaux.
- Impact of climate change on adaptation of populations for 2 honeybee subspecies  
Etudier l'impact du changement climatique sur l'adaptation des populations de deux sous espèce *d'abeilles*
- Develop protocols for the preservation of genetic and adaptative traits of local populations  
Développer des protocoles de gestion de la diversité génétique et adaptative des populations locales.



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## Workpackage 3: Spatio-temporal dynamics of pathogens

### Aims:

Monitoring the spatio temporal dynamics of key parasites involved in the arm race in each of the studied area (varroa, virus, microsporidia and bacteria).

Objectifs: Suivre la dynamique spatiale et temporelle des parasites clés impliqués dans la course aux armements de chaque sites étudié (varroa, virus, microsporidies et bactéries).

- **Spatial approach:** Assess the diversity of pathogens associated with geographical origin and history of honeybee populations

Approche spatiale: Déterminer les relations entre diversité des pathogènes et origines géographique historique de différentes populations d'abeilles

- **temporal approach:** survey the evolution of the cortege during the project

Approche temporelle: *Suivre l'évolution du cortège de pathogènes durant le projet.*

**Tools:** OMICS methods

*Outils: méthodes OMIC*



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## Workpackage 4: Sustainable beekeeping and preservation centers

-Inform beekeepers about the advantage to breed honeybee ecotype  
Informer les apiculteurs sur les avantages d'élever des abeilles locales

Development of programs promoting the use of honeybee ecotype in European apiaries to counter the honeybee decline and reduce risks of introduction of alien pathogens

Développer des programmes de promotion pour l'utilisation des abeilles locales pour contrer les pertes de colonies et réduire le risque d'introduction de pathogens.



# Succinct Calendar

I-Impact study to choose sanctuary and buffer areas,  
assessment of genetic background of honeybee colonies

-January 2015- December 2015

II-Eco-ethological surveys  
-Springs 2015-December 2017

III- Health monitoring of bee colonies and spatio-temporal  
dynamics of pathogens  
-Spring 2015-December 2016

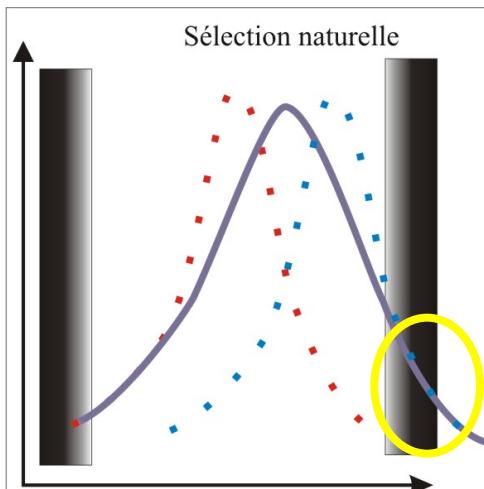
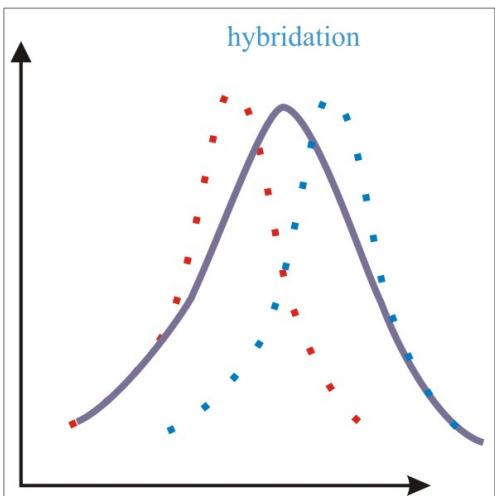
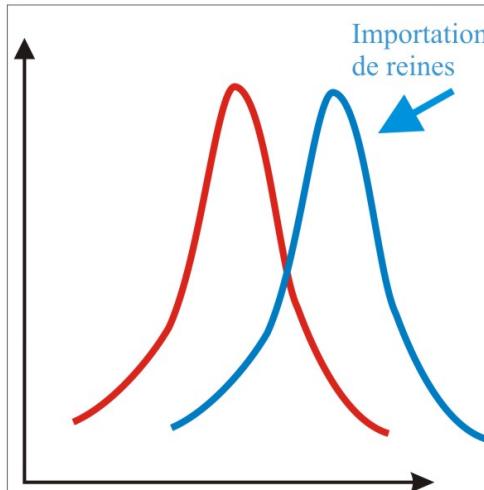
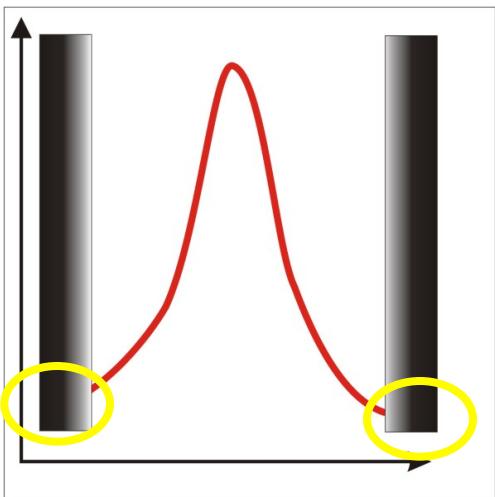
IV-Participative science (citizen comitte on each site, and  
communication with socio-economic actors)  
- Spring 2015-December 2017



*BiodivERsA/FACCE-JPI joint call on “Promoting synergies and reducing trade-offs between food supply, biodiversity and ecosystem services”*

# Effets des importations et de l'introduction de caractères non adaptatifs ?

5 à 10%  
De pertes

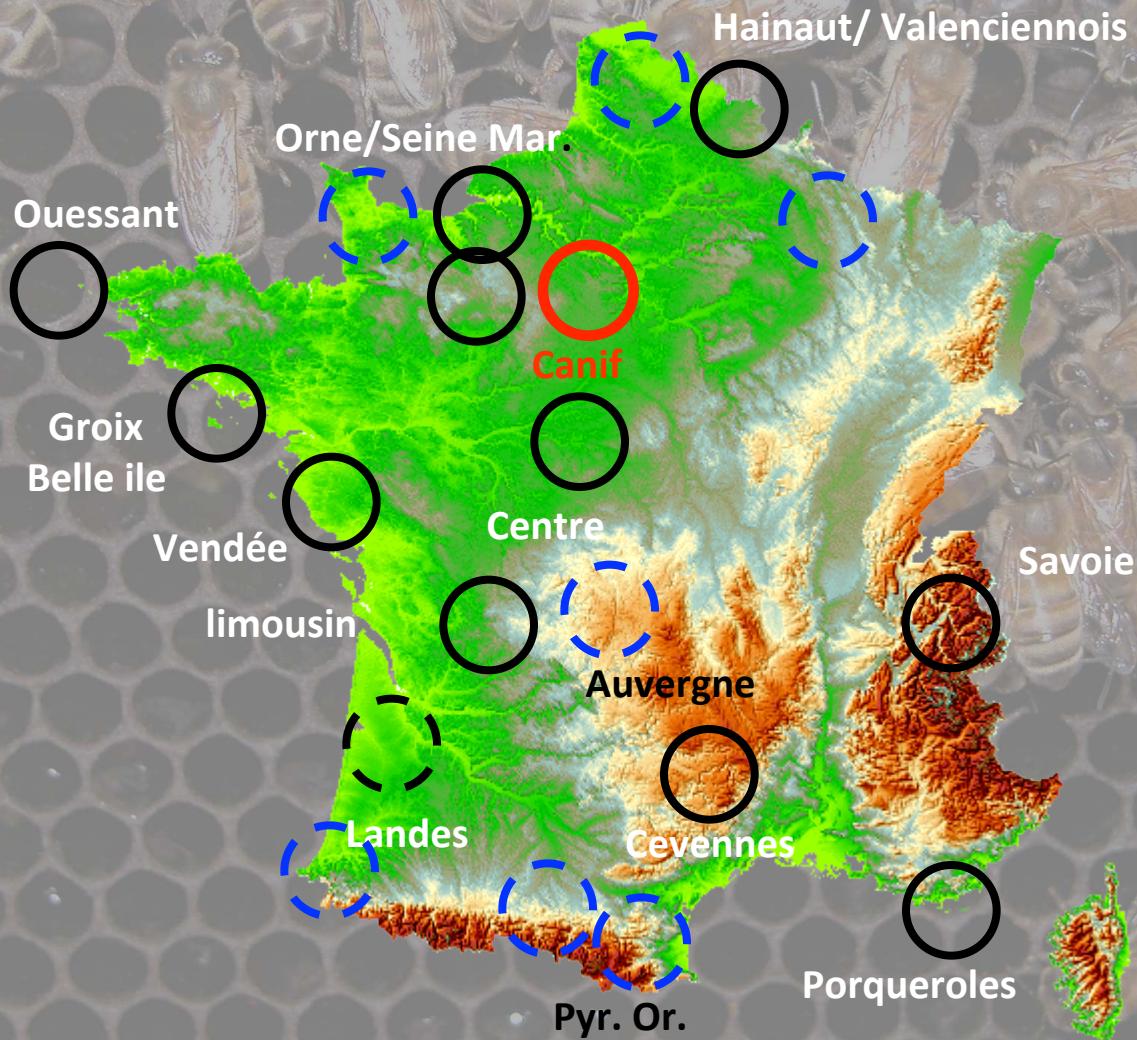


> 10%  
de pertes

Bilan : Augmentation des pertes

# Solution pour le maintien du cheptel d'abeilles locales:

Mise en place d'un réseau de conservatoires génétiques





Center of  
dispersion





