

## Project Update: January 2021

So far, we were able to restart the preference experiments in the greenhouses that were interrupted last year due to the pandemics. Nevertheless, this year the weather is different and the temperature inside the greenhouses is getting very high, which was compromising the survival of the bees. As a consequence, we had to interrupt the experiment again. We are working on a solution for this problem and already have some alternatives that are being studied.

We have also transferred the 20 colonies that will be used in WP2 to the observational boxes (photos 1 and 2). The colonies are now being cared for and adapting to the boxes. We haven't started the experiments yet because we were having a lot of trouble buying the material needed to build the feeders and finding a woodworker to build them. Fortunately, last week we were able to purchase the material and we are now waiting for its delivery, so we can build the feeders and start the experiment. We could not find a woodworker to build them, so we are going to do it ourselves.



Nest transference to observational boxes. © Livia Maria Negrini Ferreira



Brood cells of a *Plebeia lucii* colony transferred to an observational box. © Lívia Maria Negrini Ferreira



*Plebeia lucii* bees feeding on sucrose solution contaminated with pesticide. © Lívia Maria Negrini Ferreira



A *Plebeia lucii* bee feeding on sweat, which provides salt and moisture to its diet. © Livia Maria Negrini Ferreira