



BeeNectar questionnaire 2

first impressions

Beekeeper's Name and Last Name	All positive characteristics of the new LR lid that you've been able to notice	All negative characteristics of the new LR lid that you've been able to notice
Nenad Stojanović	<p>Maintaining the microclimate (airing and ventilation) in the beehive is better. In beehives with standard covers the roof and the feeder are at 38 degrees of a distinct beard, while with the new LR lid there is no bearding. Syrup feeding is three times faster, as it does not require removing the roof and opening the feeder. Medicine administration is faster and simpler; I inserted bars of kluvalimat faster and without having to use a smoker. Due to a better microclimate the bees have concentrated more on gathering pollen and nectar rather than on cooling the beehive. The nest cannot perish due to high temperatures. Due to the possibility of regulating the ventilation with the new cover, I think, and I intend to prove it through a series of tests, that it is possible to achieve the same efficiency in smoking the hives to prevent Varroa mites by using amitraz, because the smoke does not leave the hive, making the process cheaper and less polluting to the hives, as well as creating less chance that side effects harmful to bees will appear.</p>	<p>In my experience of employing the new LR lid I haven't noticed a single fault or drawback. I'd like to suggest, however, a new way of fastening the extension: I think that a system with a steel wire shaped like a portal a better and cheaper solution. The wire would be hooked onto the handle of the LR extension and would envelop the cover (like in LR hives made of styrofoam).</p>
Borivoje Bocić	<p>The lid is well made. It has a nice air isolation making it a good thermal isolator. It fits well onto a hive. Bees are more peaceful within the hive and take the sugar syrup from the feeder well. The frames are well visible.</p>	<p>It is longer than the LR extension, which will result in its moving during transport. I think it should be the same size.</p>
Radojko Gole	<p>LR cover handling is magnificent. -Bees seem to behave well. -Ventilation is excellent. -Access while collecting the syrup is good, making it possible for no syrup to be left over in the feeder. -The cover shuts well. -The linkage between the cover and the corpus is excellent.</p>	<p>I have no complaints for the time being. -If you have any experiences concerning the wintering, please let me know.</p>
Branislav Jakovljević	<p>It is early to write about all the positive characteristics, especially since there are so many. In the first place, everything is made into a single piece (the lid board and the feeder, making it easy to work with). During visual inspections a smoker is really not needed, meaning there is no need to create disturbance. There are also an exquisite feeder and a place for a bee bread. It is early to give a final estimate. We should wait for the winter to pass, and then we will see. I don't think the hooks are necessary, but I might be wrong. What is important is whether or not it will be glued with propolis. This is enough praise from me for the time being. The ventilation is great.</p>	<p>As I already mentioned in the first questionnaire, the cover could have been a little bigger because of a possible water leakage. Winters here can be rather harsh. I wonder how you planned to achieve warming up of the colony. So far we have used newspapers for that purpose - placing a thicker layer under the lid. This problem should be reconsidered.</p>
Miroslav Vasiljević	<p>A commendable innovation. So far we have had a feeder and the cover board made into a single piece, and now you're offering the cover board, the feeder and the lid all made into one piece. Good job!</p>	<p>I haven't spotted any negative characteristics. However, I wish to use this opportunity to share certain things I have learned during my 33 years of experience in apiculture: -plastic stands have not caught on -aluminum hives didn't find their buyers -styrofoam hives are unlikely to sell -a set of fir hives is offered for 3800 dinars a piece Beekeepers do not appreciate their work enough. Our expenses are huge, and profits are small. Please check out my articles in the magazine "Pčelar" (Beekeeper) no.8/2012 (article "Moj pčelinjak izdržao tornado") and no. 9/2013 (article "Pehovi maleroznih pcelara"). You may also go to the website spos/info, where you will be able to find an article entitled "Krađa pčela u Kovinu" from August 2nd. In order to be able to make some profit, we are forced to distribute the bees over several pastures. We pay the transport by the kilometer, so we usually load the hives stacking them one onto another. Is your lid able to sustain the weight of more than 100 kg? For expert opinion, I'd like to recommend you to contact the following persons: -Dušan Stojković from Kruševac, tel: 037/35-42-978 -Vili Mirko from Trstenik, tel: 037/71-21-77</p>

Predrag Radulović	<p>Considering that the lids have been tested after an acacia pasture, and that in this area (around Niš) for some reason there has not been a significant intake (to be more precise, the scales are dropping daily or are at zero at best), I have been so far unable to make a proper assessment concerning the intake. However, I have noticed that the three hives with new lids contain much more honey in the comb than any other hive. Working with the lids is quite easy and simple, it doesn't disturb the bees, and the whole hive is nicely visible even without taking the cover off. Colonies of similar strength tend to make beards in big heats, which doesn't appear to happen with the hives with the lids (a good ventilation). So far, high temperatures have caused no trouble to the lids. This is all I have to say for the time being.</p>	I haven't noticed any so far.
Vladan Jakovljević	<p>Easy to use and maintain. - Easier to inspect visually. - A good development of the colonies. - Minimum disturbance.</p>	For the time being there are no significant drawbacks. Perhaps those could be the price and the lifetime.
Mile Simonović	<p>The design solution of the LR lid is excellent -The LR lid contains (replaces) a cover board, a feeder and a standard roof-cover -The comb is suitable for stimulative and standard feeding -In the feeder under the transparent cover one may put solid food, like honey sugar dough -This LR lid is suitable for beekeeping beginners, and even more for professional beekeepers -A beekeeper can inspect the bee colony without opening the hive and/or smoking. -Under the transparent plastic cover a beekeeper can register the growths of the nucleus, the colony, and he knows when he should add a beeswax basis or body -This LR lid enables the bees to work harmoniously, do not get disturbed, or feel any stress. Thus a bigger yield of honey is achieved per hive, and a quicker development of the colony. The hive inspection takes but a little time - savings are considerable</p>	<p>The white color of the lid gets dirty easily -In stationary beekeeping the fastening of the lid with a buckle creates an additional expense -A condensate appears on the inside. How does it behave in winter? -The price of the lid</p>
Živan Radaković	<p>It fits and closes well. Opening the lid produces almost no sound. The 3 L feeder is too big for a spring development. The ventilation is well established, despite the fact that the bees started to make beards on the flight board on hot days and at night, and the free space beneath the transparent lid was not filled with bees. It takes less space than the standard lid, and is lighter. It does not reflect sunlight blinding the beekeeper in the process, the way an aluminum lid does. When the lid is being opened, the bees don't get disturbed; however, they do get upset when I open the transparent lid and take charge at me, although I did nothing to provoke them. One of these days I will install APIGUARD and I will be able to check the daily output of the bees without opening the transparent lid.</p>	<p>The three-liter feeder is not sufficient for winter feeding, because the hive's being lopsided toward the front reduces the level, so the actual capacity is 2.5 liters. It would be ideal if the capacity is twice that much, i.e. 5 liters. In fair weather the lid remains locked in the vertical position, but gets fully opened or closed even at the slightest breeze. I suggest magnets on both sides which would enable the lid position of cca 10 degrees, and that would in turn prolong the lifespan of the hinges and the lid. The ventilation regulator opening outlets do not have peripheral bumps, so the fingers tend to slip. Certain hatches have a little stronger than necessary position stopper, which causes a problem after a transport. In case of the hives containing an additional 2 centimeters high wooden ring under the cover there was no vigorous flying out after unloading the hives, which happened with the other three hives that didn't have this ring. The hinges on the transparent lid are damaged according to the list on the back.</p>
Vladimir Kovačević	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Syrup and bread are easily distributed. 2. The watering dish is easy to clean and maintain. 3. The ventilation during transport is excellent. 4. The microclimate is better maintained - fewer bee beards under the hive in hot temperatures. 5. Easy and simple to work with and use 6. Due to a better ventilation, the bees are more diligent and therefore the honey intake on sunflowers is better in hives with these lids. I must be cautious with this assessment, because it takes a few more pastures to confirm this. An acacia pasture will be the most suitable to base the assessment on. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Smaller problems while working in a stronger wind, the lid is lifted because it is not propped on the lower side. 2. There is no possibility of placing anything with honey over the bases as an additional and stimulative feeding of each colony on their own honey.

Mile Mučalov	<p>A quick visual inspection of the bee colony</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Along with the wire basis I possess, the bees are able to have a good ventilation and air circulation -The microclimate in the hive is easily maintainable -During sunflower honey extraction a steady output of honey was found to be produced in the hives with Lab-Set lid, while the outputs in others varied. -During transport hives with plastic lids take less space (more hives can be moved at once). -A quicker inspection of bee colonies -Beards under the hives are either smaller or completely absent, meaning that the bees work better and longer, and that the yields are greater. 	<p>The ventilation openings should be bigger for transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -At present, when beekeepers are faced with thefts, hives with these lids have to be installed exclusively in spots where they may be guarded, otherwise there will be a great risk of them being stolen. -As I already mentioned in the previous questionnaire, the price of the lid should be lower, considering the living conditions of the beekeepers in Serbia
Dejan Čukalović	<p>The lightness of the lid enables an easier manipulation while working with the colony. By opening only the upper cover one is able to inspect the colony easily, i.e. the present biological state of the colony as well as a minor intervention on it.</p> <p>The front and back temperature regulators (i.e. of the airflow) group a greater number of bees under the cover than on the flight board, and therefore the time needed for driving the bees into the hive for the purpose of transporting the hive to another pasture is shorter, and the bees themselves are not that aggressive while going out and in, as they are subjected to less stress.</p> <p>Adding the bars for treatment shortened the needed time considerably in comparison to the conventional way, i.e. with feeder and roof used before.</p>	<p>There appeared a problem with handling the extensions, so buckling of the lid and the appropriate extension was not possible. I think that sliding clamps should be used, because they are cheaper and hold each of the extensions tightly to the lid. Stronger colonies have formed the honeycomb close to the transparent plastic and glued it, so the lid is a little harder to open (it is not always so).</p>
Božur Ilić	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As the chief advantage I wish to stress again the time and simplicity of handling a hive. 2. The dimensions of the new LR lid fit the width of the hive, so that hives may be easily stacked one atop another during transport. 3. A simple way to open the ventilation shafts 4. The new LR lid may also be used for ten-frame DB hives. 5. When selling bee products at fairs a beekeeper may easily display the bee colony, which has a positive influence on the consumers' mind. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Since the size of the lid is the same as the size of the very hive, there is a possibility of water running down its side, so the hive may be ruined. Since the standard lids (covers) of the same width were used in Greece, I wish to point out that the beekeepers there received state subventions of 80% for hive replacement. 2. The pins on the transparent part of the hive are quite sensitive so they were ruined during transport. 3. There are lids for LR hives at present, but DB hives are still predominant here.
Kračun Lučijan	<p>I have to commend an extremely good ventilation. No beards are formed. There has been a lesser expenditure of water in the hives on which these lids are tested. Due to the exquisite ventilation, honey matured sooner, so there were more covered frames.</p> <p>The frames are easily inspectable. Feeding is easier, while ants and wasps are prevented from reaching the feeder, which is not the case with standard LR lids. And, most importantly, there was a 20% increase on average.</p>	<p>Since the lids are made of plastic, smokers cannot be placed on them, the way most beekeepers are used to, so I suggest you should only place some kind of warning because I believe that a lot of people wouldn't pay enough mind.</p>
Sadik Ličina	<p>The positive side is that in one set we get the cover board, the feeder and the lid. It is simple to manage and at the same time it replaces a number of elements which in case of standard covers come separately. And although it is true that we can inspect the hive by simply lifting the lid, the lid has to be removed for any detailed examination which are quite a few in the course of a season, so I don't see some significant improvement in that.</p>	<p>The negative side is that, at least in my case, the lid does not cover the whole body of the hive, because the width of the walls of the hive (i.e. the boards) is 2.5 cm, so it is my guess that the hive will wear out quickly because it is not protected completely from the elements (rain, snow). Moreover, the buckles fastening the lid to the body have to be moved or renewed when new extensions are introduced or when they are being replaced, which makes the work harder. I think that in the front part of the cover the bees will be producing sprouts during honey extraction, which also makes the work harder if new extensions are to be introduced or if we have to remove the cover.</p>

Stoiša Ivanović	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Esthetically very well designed. 2. Practical to use. 3. Resistant to high temperatures. 4. Enables an easy inspection of the colony. 5. Accelerates and facilitates occupying the frames (including the beeswax foundations) in upper (honey) extensions in 100 % of the cases. 6. Enables a spotless ventilation. 7. Facilitates and accelerates feeding of the colonies, especially the swarms. 8. Transport of colonies and their packing are made easier. 9. It is easy to remove and there is no damage in spots onto which the lid leans, because bees overlay it with propolis. 10. It is practical and efficient for adding king and queen bees directly onto the foundations. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The use of buckles is not always practical. 2. It takes additional attention in case of bad weather, if the buckles are not used. 3. There is a slightly increased possibility of water leakage in the hive due to smaller dimensions. 4. It fails to prevent ants from entering the feeder. 5. The hinges on the inner cover might be slightly frailer. <p>I received two covers with broken hinges, so now I pay more attention to them.</p>
Stojan Anđelković		
Duško Mijatović	<p>The bees are noticeably more peaceful than those with the standard lid and cover board. I don't use smoke. The bees do not make beards. Only one vent shaft is open in the back. All the hives have a wiry forefront, but the flight behavior of the bees from the LR cover hives is completely normal (without lingering, fanning, beards).</p> <p>It enables an inspection of the colony without removing the lid (through the transparent part). The inspection takes significantly less time per hive. Feeding with liquid food is instantaneous, easy, practical, fast. The volume of the feeder is sufficient even for bigger food supplements.</p>	None so far.
Ivan Jovanović	<p>The bees are still on a sunflower pasture in Vršac. The advantage of this cover is that it is fixated with a hive clamp, so no additional insurance from the storm is necessary. It is suitable for adding water into a water dish in these draught periods. I haven't noticed any difference in the yield based on sunflowers. A shorter time to open and close a hive.</p>	<p>I work with extensions (LR i Farar) in such a way that I place full boxes up underneath the cover, and lower the empty ones to the nest, which in this case is not possible because of the clamps fastening the cover. That is why I have to lower individual frames to the nest, and lift full frames into the body fastened with a clamp. When loading hives into and unloading them from a truck, a special care should be taken to the covers so that they are not damaged by additional material (the palettes used as carriers).</p>
Ilija Avramović	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bees are easy to inspect. 2. A commendable feeder. There's no crowding. 3. Easy to handle. 4. There are no vermins. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rain trickles down the hive. The hive is likely to rot sooner. 2. The feeder lid tends to overturn. 3. Bees tend to propolize the feeder - the feeding is prevented. 4. The hooks tend to break.
Zoran Dragosavac	<p>The work is faster – opening the hive (in comparison to the former elements of the hive)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A more comfortable visual inspection, without disturbing the bees - A better ventilation – airing of the hive - Regulation of ventilation shafts – an increased gluing of the net with propolis – a bigger yield of propolis - Due to a decreased number of cases of opening the hive for the sake of control, an increased total weight of honey has been detected in the monitored colonies. - 5 covers, placed in newly formed swarms, with a regulated ventilation and feeding, 2 beeswax foundations built faster and sowed more than other swarms in standard LR hives with standard cover board, feeder, net and roof (I haven't been able to determine the reason for this so far) - A quicker access to the feeder, pouring of the syrup, and closing of the lid than in standard LR hives - A safer work in the fertilizer station - the feeding of fertilizer and nucleus 	<p>In my experience with working with the new LR lid I haven't been able to notice any drawbacks, quite on the contrary.</p>

Safet Gilić	<p>Since the covers arrived when the colonies had already been in full development, I cannot say how much they influenced this year's yield. But it is certain that the ventilation is handled great, because it prevented swarming: no control colony developed swarms, although the colonies were fairly strong. A young bee has a sufficient space in the transparent part so that is not suffocated between the frames. The development of the hive is easily monitored without opening the hive, and enables every intervention if necessary. There is no stress during medical treatment, feeding, of visual inspection. It opens easily, enables a quick inspection of a great number of colonies. There is no possibility of wasps entering the feeder during feeding, thus preventing any diseases that wasps transfer. The first impression is that it is a good solution and I hope that they are fantastic.</p>	<p>The transparent part has easily breakable teeth, and some were broken even upon arrival. The transparent plastic should be thicker, and the teeth should be, if possible, made of metal, smelted throughout its length with a special wire. Rainwater will probably flow down the hive. For the time being I am unsure whether and how the hive should be heated in winter, or the material it is made of is a sufficient insulator. In any case, there seem to be fewer negative sides in comparison with the great number of positive ones.</p>
Jaroslav Javornik	<p>It is lighter than a standard LR cover and definitely more practical. An inspection into how much honey the colony has and what the beeswax cappings are like is conducted easily. The "gills" are masterfully designed - the ventilation shafts which can be opened or closed as required. The only potential problem is whether in what way an airflow will be enabled and whether it will be sufficient during a truck transport. The design of the feeder is really revolutionary. Bees do not drown during feeding, since there is a very narrow slit letting in but one bee at a time. The advantage is the possibility of pouring a lot of syrup without any bees rowning in it. The window for colony inspections and for adding bread in winter is also beautifully designed. A bread can be supplied with ease even in cold weather. It is a good thing that a small notch for an American knife is left. The lid is easier to open.</p>	<p>No negative characteristics so far. I can only assume that the gills will be too narrow for the transport of the hives, but this problem may be solved by the spring management.</p>
Ivan Pihler	<p>The cover is nicely designed and handling it is rather simple, while some operations like bee preparations and treatment are simplified. Some detailed analyses of the cover may be produced only after May of next year, after a inspection results analysis.</p>	<p>Due to a very precise design, it fits well only on new extensions (boxes). Even small discrepancies in the dimensions of the boxes may cause a problem. Even with four ventilation shafts a condensate may appear on the inside of the cover. The access for bees during feeding is too precise and small, so that two bees on 10 covers could not access the food left for them in the feeder.</p>
Milorad Evtić	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The time for opening of the hive is halved – because the cover and net are made into a single piece. 2. Pouring time – feeding bees liquid food – syrup, is several times shorter and takes no more than 6 to 7 seconds. 3. The health condition unchanged. After cold nights - bees tend to fly out to pasture sooner (during a sunflower pasture). 4. The quantity of honey produced is bigger in medium strong and weaker colonies by 20 – 30 %. 5. An increase of the colony by up to 20 % when nights are warm, and when they are cold (on II sunflower) - the increase is insignificant. 6. Work load – work is up to ten times easier and faster, because the cover is made of plastic and contains a transparent part for visual control. 7. A decrease of Varroa is noticeable even without an application of medication. 8. The construction of the comb is increased on warm and hot days. 9. During the transport – the moment when you unload a beehive from the vehicle and place it on the ground, you may open it right away, as if it were not transported. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Since it is made of plastic, a hive full of honey should not be placed upon a hive with this cover. 2. The transparent section breaks easily if lifted by more than 60 ° 3. There is a possibility of theft unless the whole hive is hidden among sunflowers.