# Immunity, stress and sub-lethal effects of neonicotinoids

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### **Multitrophic Interactions**



### Interactions at metaorganism level



### Holobiont phenotype is controlled by the hologenome



Kevin R. Theis et al. mSystems 2016;1:e00028-16







Lee & Hase, Nature Chemical Biology, 2014

### **Multifactorial regulation of immunity**



### **Stress and Honeybee Immunity**



EU – FP7

# Pathogen loads are highly covariant in collapsing colonies



✓ Increased susceptibility to a diverse set of pathogens
✓ Co-infections can act synergistically

Cornman et al., 2012



## The induced collapse experiment



#### low infested colonies (LIC)

>20 km

#### highly infested colonies (HIC)

### **Expression of immune genes**



### Dorsal expression is influenced by DWV



Influence on Dorsal: Varroa or DWV?



Nazzi et al., 2012

# The down-regulation of the transcription factor dorsal-1A by RNAi promotes DWV replication



48 h

PATHOGENS

starting level in untreated bees

Nazzi et al., 2012



### DWV titer positively correlates with honeybee immunosuppression

Nylon thread implantation





*Di Prisco et al. PNAS 2016* 

### A delicate balance underpins covert DWV infections



## Varroa triggers immune reactions associated with a severe metabolic stress...



### ...which promote viral replication



#### Varroa acts as a vector and promotes DWV replication

SANC

Bee immunosuppression by DWV favours Varroa feeding and enhances mite's fitness





# A mutualistic symbiosis between a parasitic mite and a pathogenic virus undermines honey bee immunity and health

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# Do stress factors acting on bee immunocompetence influence DWV replication?





Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

#### Science of the Total Environment

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/scitotenv



Transcriptomic and proteomic effects of a neonicotinoid insecticide mixture in the marine mussel (*Mytilus galloprovincialis*, Lam.)

Francesco Dondero <sup>a,\*,1</sup>, Alessandro Negri <sup>a,1</sup>, Lara Boatti <sup>a</sup>, Francesco Marsano <sup>a</sup>, Flavio Mignone <sup>b</sup>, Aldo Viarengo <sup>a</sup>

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b Department of Structural Chemistry, University of Milan, Milan, Italy

"Thiacloprid elicited the modulation of gene transcription and mRNA metabolic processes: three ribonucleoproteins, and two transcription factors (mflj00348 protein, also known as "caterpiller" in mammals) were identified. The latter sequences, in human cells, may modulate T-cell activation, decrease the transcription of genes that are normally up-regulated after T-cell stimulation and delays degradation of NFKBIA/IKBA"

### Neonicotinoid impact on honey bee immunity





## Effect of insecticides on DWV replication in honey bees bearing covert infections



PNAS

# Effect of insecticides on DWV replication in honey bees bearing covert infections





### Neonicotinoids and honey bee antiviral immunity



PNAS



Lee & Hase, Nature Chemical Biology, 2014

# SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

**OPEN** 

Received: 19 December 2016 Accepted: 19 April 2017 Published online: 02 June 2017 Neonicotinoid-induced pathogen susceptibility is mitigated by *Lactobacillus plantarum* immune stimulation in a *Drosophila melanogaster* model

Brendan A. Daisley<sup>1,2</sup>, Mark Trinder<sup>1,2</sup>, Tim W. McDowell<sup>3</sup>, Hylke Welle<sup>1,2,4</sup>, Josh S. Dube<sup>2</sup>, Sohrab N. Ali<sup>2,5</sup>, Hon S. Leong<sup>2,6</sup>, Mark W. Sumarah<sup>3</sup> & Gregor Reid<sup>1,2,6</sup>

### **Microbiota priming of antiviral immunity**



Sansone et al., 2015, Cell Host & Microbe 18, 571–581



# SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

Received: 6 July 2017 Accepted: 18 September 2017 Published online: 18 October 2017

### OPEN The neonicotinoid insecticide Clothianidin adversely affects immune signaling in a human cell line

Gennaro Di Prisco, Marco Iannaccone, Flora Ianniello, Rosalba Ferrara, Emilio Caprio, Francesco Pennacchio & Rosanna Capparelli

ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

#### Life Sciences

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/lifescie

## Specific immune responses in mice following subchronic exposure to acetamiprid

Soumaya Marzouki<sup>a,1</sup>, Ines Bini Dhouib<sup>b,c,1</sup>, Chaouki Benabdessalem<sup>a</sup>, Raja Rekik<sup>a</sup>, Raoudha Doghri<sup>d</sup>, Ammar Maroueni<sup>e</sup>, Zakaria Bellasfar<sup>e</sup>, Saloua Fazaa<sup>c</sup>, Jihene Bettaieb<sup>a,f</sup>, Mohamed Ridha Barbouche<sup>a,f</sup>, Melika Ben Ahmed<sup>a,f,\*</sup>

*Results:* The ACE-treated mice showed a significant immunosuppression of the specific humoral response with a restorative effect of curcumin when administered with ACE. Similarly, ACE significantly decreased the level of splenocyte proliferation after either a non specific or a specific activation. Curcumin partially restores the antigen specific cellular immune response. Moreover, when administered alone, curcumin significantly inhibits the proliferative responses to the mitogen confirming its anti-mitogenic effect. Histological analysis showed alteration of spleens of mice exposed to ACE.

Significance: Altogether, our data indicated that ACE could potentially be harmful to the immune system.







## Wild and managed bees are exposed to a number of interacting stressors





### **Multifactorial induction of hive collapse**



- ✓ Varroa infestation and DWV replication contribute to 70% of colony losses
- A single factor may not be sufficient to trigger colony losses
- ✓ A combination of stressors appears to impact hive health



Kielmanowicz et al., 2015

Conclusions

✓DWV mediates honeybee immunosuppression by targeting NF-kB signaling

✓ *Varroa* mites promote DWV replication, exacerbate immunosuppression and enhance their fitness

✓ Neonicotinoids upregulate an inhibitor of NF-kB activation and triggers immunosuppression, which promotes DWV replication

✓ Nutrition cross-modulates honey bee immune pathways

### The "Sword of Damocles" paradigm





#### Nazzi and Pennacchio – Viruses, 2018



### University of Napoli "Federico II" Department of Agricultural Sciences

