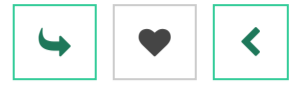


1 2 3

Beekeeper

Also called: Apiarist, apiculturist

Beekeepers manage colonies of honeybees kept in hives to make products like honey and beeswax.



What you'll do

Your day-to-day duties may include:

- building, inspecting or repairing hives
- introducing a new colony or maintaining an existing one
- feeding or checking the health of your bees
- monitoring the size of your colony and amount of honey produced
- treating your hive and bees to fight disease and pests
- collecting honey from hives
- preparing and bottling honey
- marketing honey and products like beeswax
- mentoring or training new beekeepers, once experienced
- breeding queen bees and smaller, starter or 'nucleus' bee colonies

Record relevant activities you've already done on the [Activities tool](#) >

Working hours and environment

Your working hours will vary depending on the time of year and the number of hives you have. You'll spend more time inspecting your hives during the spring and summer when the bees are active and producing honey.

Most of your work will take place outdoors. Bees don't react well to being handled in wet and cold weather so you may use this

time to maintain your equipment or process your honey and other products like royal jelly.

You'll usually wear special clothes to protect you from bee stings. This can include a bee suit and veil, boots, and bee gloves.

You'll likely spend most of your time working independently, and will be responsible for organising your own time and tasks.

Career path and progression

With experience, you could move into commercial beekeeping and develop more hives over a wider area.

You could also train new beekeepers.

Skills required

You'll need:

- strong organisation and planning skills, so you can work to schedules that yield the best honey
- attention to detail, so your records of bee numbers and honey yield are accurate
- practical skills to maintain and repair beekeeping equipment
- good physical fitness, to carry and lift equipment
- a good business mindset, if you're self-employed and selling your own products

Got evidence of these skills? Record your examples on the [Skills tool](#) >

Entry requirements

There are no set requirements, but many beekeepers start out by taking up keeping bees as a hobby. You'll need the right skills and knowledge to successfully set up healthy colonies of honeybees.

You could join a local branch of an organisation like the American Beekeeping Association (US) or British Beekeepers Association (BBKA) where you'll receive advice and guidance on starting out from experienced beekeepers.

You could also do a qualification like a certificate in beekeeping to build your skills and knowledge.

Related university subject profiles

These university subjects are related to this career; check out their profiles on the Subjects library:

- [Food and beverage studies](#) >
- [Zoology](#) >

Related career profiles

You may also be interested in:

- [Zoologist](#) >
- [Botanist](#) >
- [Ecologist](#) >
- [Countryside ranger](#) >

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Want to see what relevant education and training opportunities are available right now? Search here:

Food and beverage studies at uni:

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Labour Market Information (LMI)

Current and predicted figures relating to the Beekeeper profession. Median averages are shown, each with the specific career, or group of careers, that they apply to.

UK USA

Jobs

Agricultural and related trades

297,337

 **563** in your local area of Liverpool

Top 5 local areas

1	Devon	12,214
2	Hampshire	9,308
3	Kent	8,835
4	Surrey	7,704
5	Cornwall	7,668

Salaries

Agricultural and fishing trades n.e.c.

£25,600

Agricultural and related trades

£24,579

 **£24,564** in your region of North West

Top 3 regions

1	East of England	£26,058
2	Scotland	£25,765

3

South East

£25,432

Growth

2020-2035

Skilled agricultural and related trades

+7.8% ↑ 29,404 jobs

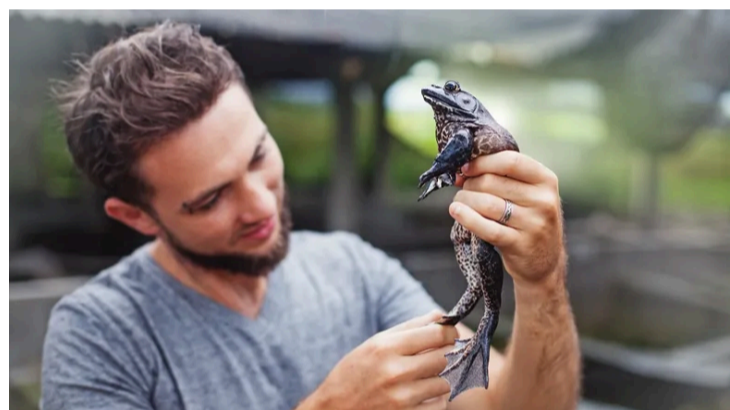
📍 **+6.9%** in your region of North West, an increase of 2,429 jobs

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Zookeeper



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Animal behaviourist

Animal behaviourists understand why animals do the way they do, and help pet owners deal with behaviour problems.

[Read the profile >](#)