# Modelling the Impact of Non-Native Honey Bee Importation on Native *Apis mellifera mellifera* Populations

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# Introduction



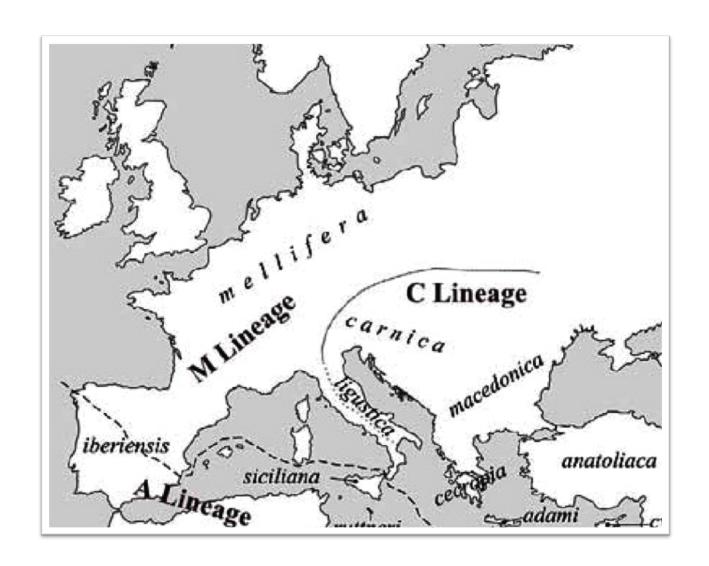
A. m. carnica



A. m. ligustica



A. m. mellifera



# The aims of this study



Model that simulates different importation scenarios between native and non-native populations.



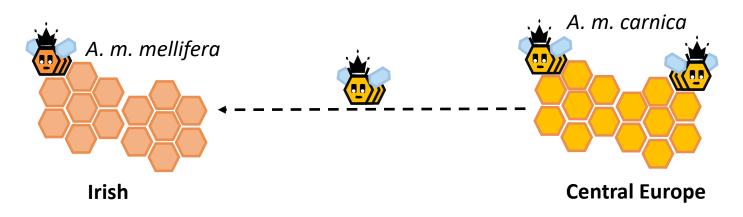
Quantify the magnitude of introgression and its impact.



Set a framework for future research.

### **Materials and Methods**

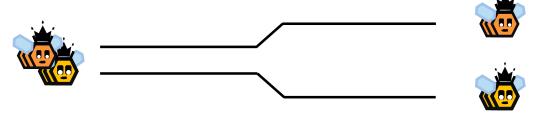
- SIMplyBee: honey bee population simulator.
- Two honey bee populations: Irish and Central European.
  - Irish: A. m. mellifera.
  - Central European: A. m. carnica.
- Yearly cycle
- Imports of queens from the Central European to Irish population.



# **Materials and Methods**



- 4 traits (100 QTLs per chromosome):
  - Fitness in Ireland and fitness in Central Europe.
  - Honey yield in Ireland and honey yield in Central Europe.
- 10 year burn-in pase:



- After 10 year burn-in, balancing selection on fitness, imports and different scenarios.
- Meassure introgression, mean traits and the spread of introgression.

# **Materials and Methods**

#### **Scenarios:**

Change of the percentage of imports:

• 0%, 1.5%, 4% and 10%.









Change in genetic correlations between fitness in both environments:

• From 0.75 to 0.25, -0.25 and -0.75 genetic correlations.

G x E

#### Point of entry:

• A single point of entry of the imports.



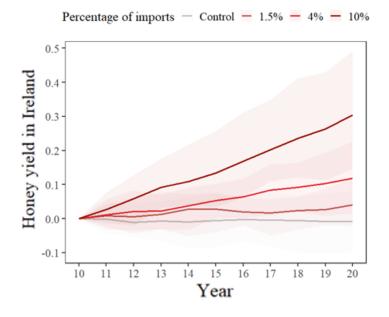
#### Importation halt:

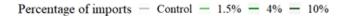
Stopping importation after 10 years.

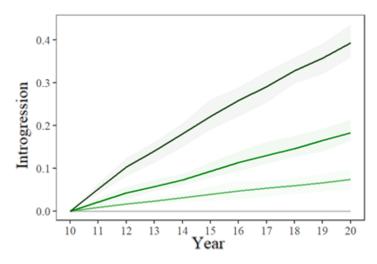


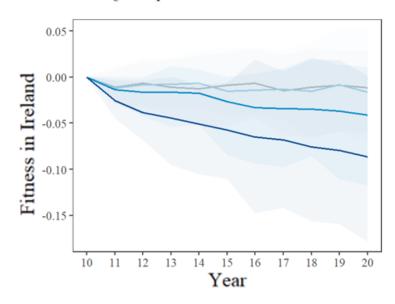
# **Percentage of imports**

0%, 1.5%, 4% and 10%





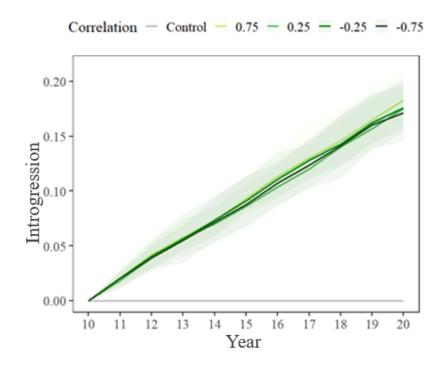


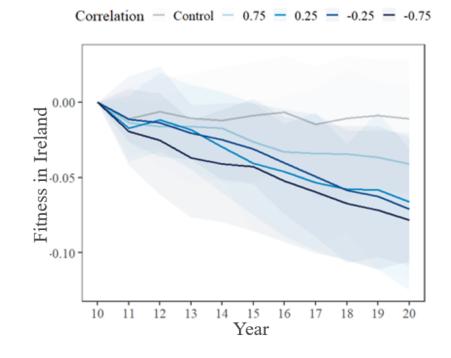


# Changing genetic correlation

#### Between fitness in Ireland and fitness in central Europe:

from 0.75 to 0.25, -0.25 and -0.75 genetic correlations.

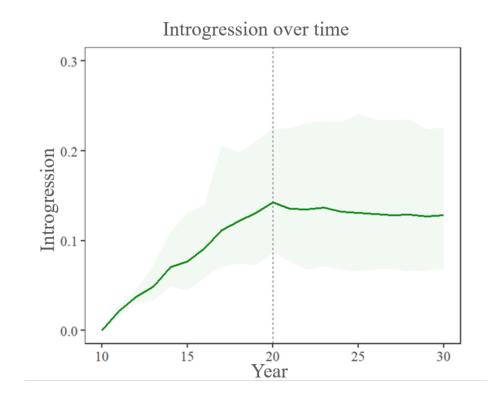




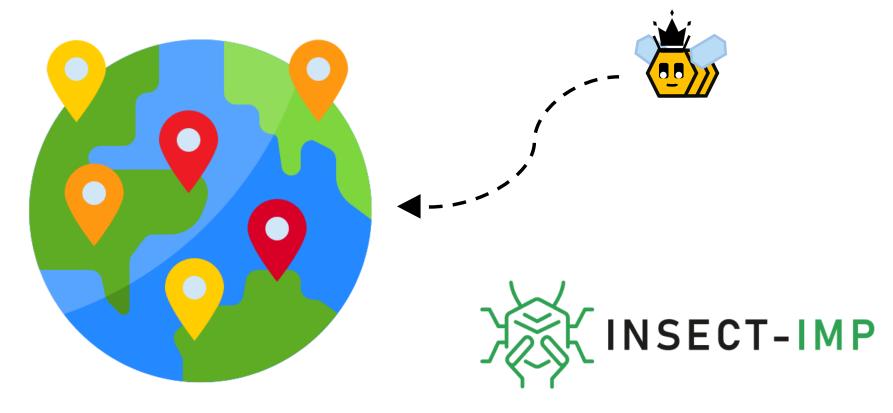
# **Point of entry**

# Year 20 1.00 0.75 0.00 Distance from the point of entry (km)

# **Importation halt**



# **Practical value**



We acknowledge the funding from the COST Action 22140 Insect-IMP: Improved Knowledge Transfer for Sustainable Insect Breeding.