Numbers of spermatozoa in queens and drones indicate multiple mating of queens in Apis andreniformis and Apis dorsata.

ABSTRACT

Drones of Apis dorsata had an average of 2.46·106 spermatozoa in their vesiculae seminales. Two queens had 3.67·106 spermatozoa in their spermathecae. In A adreniformis, drones had an average of 0.13·106 and the spermathecae of 2 queens contained 0.98 and 1.09·106 spermatozoa. In both A dorsata and A andreniformis the spermathecae of queens contained more spermatozoa than the vesiculae seminales of a single drone of either species. Therefore, we conclude that multiple mating occurs in both species as is the case for A mellifera, A cerana and A florea.

Keyword: Multiple mating; Spermatozoon; Apis andreniformis; Apis dorsata.