



PROJECTS CO-FINANCED BY EUROPEAN FUNDS (SUCH AS EAFRD or ERDF) TO VISIT DURING SHAPING THE FUTURE OF RURAL AREAS FIELD TRIP



EL COLMENAR DE VALDERROMERO BEEKEEPING CENTER AND MUSEUM IN SIGÜENZA



El Colmenar de Valderromero is a small family business with a deep-rooted tradition in honey production. Founded by vocational beekeepers, it has held the quality seal of Alcarria honey Protected Designation of Origin for more than twenty years.

Jesús Donoso García's company was founded in 1987. Thanks to the consistency and quality of its honey and derived products, it is currently one of the most important companies in the area, with a modern packaging plant in accordance with the latest sanitary regulations of the EU. Since 2002 it has been certified with La Alcarria Protected Designation of Origin.

In May 2006, the company was granted a LEADER/CLLD fund aid from the Rural Development Group ADEL SIERRA NORTE within the objectives included in their strategy to support the modernization of the companies in its area. The aid helped finance a project of "Refurbishment of the Honey Extraction and Packaging Plant" which aimed to improve the quality of the honey extraction process for its better commercialization. The aid consisted in:

TOTAL INVESTMENT: 58.114,31 €

LEADER/CLLD AID (EAFRD): 16.097,67€



El Colmenar de Valderromero offers a wide variety of products: different kinds of honey (multifloral, rosemary, lavender, thyme, forest, eucalyptus, orange blossom...) as well as pollen, royal jelly, propolis... They also have a wide range of beekeeping cosmetics.

Over the years, Jesús Donoso García, in his eagerness to highlight the importance of honey and the role of bees for the environment, decided to build a MUSEUM-CENTER with his own funds. In this museum visitors can learn about the biology of the hive and to be able to see how the *Apis mellifera* bees live and work inside. Also, on the date of the visit, it will be possible to observe the extraction of honey from the hives themselves, as well as a tasting of the honey produced.

The Centro Apícola El Colmenar del Valderromero honey museum has become a regional benchmark, not just because of the elaboration and processing of honey, but also as a tourist attraction, aiming to bring the world of bees closer to its visitors while making them aware of the importance of bees in the conservation and preservation of the environment.

