

SMSVAGA

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SMSVAGA PORTAL

User guide

The portal shows the readings your scales send from the apiary — weight, daily and weekly yield, temperatures, humidity, battery state and signal strength.

The account is the same one you use in the mobile app. Whatever you change in one place applies in the other, because the data sits on the same server.

portal.smsvaga.com

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1. Signing in

Open portal.smsvaga.com and enter the email address and password of your SMSVaga account. These are the same details you use for the mobile app.

Language — the flags at the top of the page. The choice is remembered, so next time the portal speaks your language straight away.

Forgotten password — enter your email and a message arrives with a link for setting a new password. If it does not come, check the spam folder as well.

No account — the account is opened by the seller when the scale is delivered. If you do not have sign-in details, get in touch with us.

2. The list of scales

After signing in you see all your scales, each on its own card. The card shows the name of the scale, the total weight of the hive, the daily yield and how long ago the last reading came in.

A click on the card opens the details of that scale.

Add new scale — the button at the top. You type in the fifteen-digit IMEI number printed on the scale. In the mobile app the same thing is done by scanning the QR code.

Scale name — changed in the scale details, under settings. Useful when you have several scales — „Acacia“, „Home“, „Meadow“.

Scale not found — the IMEI was copied wrongly, or the scale is already on someone's account. Check the number, and get in touch with us if it still will not go through.

3. The latest reading

At the top of the scale details is the last reading that arrived, with the date and hour when it was taken.

Total weight — everything the scale carries: the hive with its supers, frames, bees and honey.

Daily yield — how much the colony has brought in since the morning reference hour. Explained in chapter 4.

Net weight — the total weight less the TARE — that is, what the bees have brought in compared with the empty equipment.

TARE weight — the weight of the empty hive with its supers. It is set by hand, explained in chapter 5.

Temperatures — outside, in the hive and inside the device — only what your model of scale actually measures is shown.

Humidity — the humidity of the air, if the scale has that sensor.

Battery and GSM — the state of the device as a percentage. Below roughly 20% battery it is time to charge, or to check the panel.

4. How the daily yield is worked out

This is the most common question, so it is worth explaining exactly. The scale measures the total weight, and the yield is not the plain difference between the first and the last weight of the day, but the sum of the differences between each pair of consecutive readings.

The reason is simple: that way your own interventions can be skipped. If the difference between two consecutive readings is more than two kilograms, that is not the bees — a strong flow is up to half a kilogram an hour. Such a jump is left out of the calculation.

So when you add a super or extract the honey, the weight jumps or drops sharply, but the daily yield stays realistic.

The yield is counted from a reference hour, six in the morning by default. The hour can be changed in the scale settings.

Why the yield is negative — the colony is using more that day than it brings in — the flow has stopped, or it is cold or rainy. In the evening a minus often shows simply because water is evaporating from the nectar.

Why the yield is not the difference in weights — because the jumps from interventions have been taken out of the calculation. That is deliberate, and it is the same in the mobile app.

5. TARE — TARE1 and TARE2

The TARE is the weight of the empty equipment: floor, supers, frames with comb, cover. Once the scale knows it, the portal can show the net weight — how much is bees and honey, without the woodwork.

The procedure has two steps precisely because of adding a super:

TARE1 — you press it before you put the new super on. The scale remembers the current weight.

TARE2 — you press it once the super is in place. The difference between those two readings is the weight of the empty super, and it is added to the TARE.

Why this way — so that the weight of the woodwork is not recorded as yield. That keeps the TARE accurate and the daily yield clean.

If the TARE has not been set, the net weight is not shown. This does not affect the measurement of the total weight or the calculation of the yield in any way.

6. Weekly yield

The bars show the yield by days, going back. Each bar is a twenty-four hour period ending at eight in the evening, so the day matches the way a beekeeper looks at the flow — from evening to evening.

The last bar is the current period: it shows how much has come in since eight o'clock yesterday evening. As with the daily yield, the hour can be changed in the settings.

7. The measurement chart

The chart shows how the weight, temperatures, humidity and the other figures changed over the chosen period.

The period is picked with the calendar, from date to date. Below the chart are the settings: which figures to draw and, if you wish, the lowest and highest value on the vertical axis. Leave those fields empty and the scale sets itself.

The chart also shows negative values, so it is easy to see when the colony was living off its stores.

8. Exporting the data

The export button makes an Excel file with every reading in the chosen range of dates. The file opens in Excel or in Google Sheets, so you can do your own sums, draw your own charts, or keep the data with the rest of your records.

9. The map and the weather forecast

Each scale also has a place on the map. Once you put the marker where the scale actually stands, the portal shows the weather forecast for that very point — not for the nearest larger town.

The forecast helps you look ahead: whether the next two days are worth anything for the flow, and when it makes sense to open the hives.

10. Your account

Under Profile are your details, the choice of language and the change of password.

Profile — first name, surname and contact details.

Language — the same choice as on the sign-in page. It can be changed at any time.

Password — changed by entering the old and the new password. The same password works for the mobile app and for the Beekeeping Diary.

11. The scale is not reporting

If the last reading is more than a few hours old, check the following in turn:

Battery — look at the percentage on the last reading. If it was low, the battery is most likely flat. In winter and in cloudy weather the solar panel does not manage to charge it.

Panel — clean it of dust, leaves and snow, and make sure nothing shades it during the day.

Signal — the GSM percentage on the last reading shows what the connection was like. A weak signal on distant ground is solved with a better aerial.

Aerial — check that it is screwed on properly and that the cable is not pinched or chewed through.

SIM card — check that the data plan has not expired and that the card is seated properly.

Damp — after heavy rain, check that water has not got into the housing of the device.

If you have been through all of it and the scale is still silent, get in touch and send us its IMEI number — from our side we can see when it last reported and with what signal.

12. The Beekeeping Diary

Alongside the portal there is also the Beekeeping Diary at dnevnik.smsvaga.com — a record of apiaries, hives, inspections, treatments, feedings and extractions, using the same account as the portal.

If you enter the IMEI of a scale into the diary, it pulls the readings from here for that hive, so records and readings sit in one place. The guide to the diary is on this same page.

13. Support

For anything that is unclear or does not work as it should, write to us at smsvaga@gmail.com. If the question concerns a particular scale, send its IMEI number as well.