

# Bees for development

No 125 December 2017

# JOURNAL

- BEES VERSUS ELEPHANTS
- FLATPACK LESSONS
- BEE FRIENDLY FARMING
- APIMONDIA



The Journal for sustainable beekeeping

# Dear friends

It is good to see increasing efforts to promote and develop beekeeping as a feasible way to build rural livelihoods.

Here at **Bees for Development** our approach is that true, lasting livelihood-building by means of beekeeping is achieved best when communities learn skills to make all the equipment that they need for their beekeeping. Local bees are always utilised, and this means that people living with little money can create top-class honey and beeswax – valuable products created at little or no cost. We have learned over many years that this is what works best.

Yet still there are projects where donors provide equipment that cannot be easily made locally – so people cannot expand their beekeeping without donor support.

**THESE PROJECTS NEVER SUCCEED IN THE LONG TERM!** Sorry to use capital letters – but sometimes we need to emphasise!

In this edition we bring you an example of excellent asset-based beekeeping development – taking place in South Africa.

Guy Stubbs describes (pages five to eight) how the “flat pack” beekeeping project achieved success.

Indeed the focus for this edition is on good lessons being shared: for example we are delighted that the Bee Friendly planting idea has spread from here in Monmouth in Wales, to Kampala in Uganda, where the concept of Bee Friendly Farming is now being promoted (page 9). The concept of using bees to deter elephants from farmland has been widely shared, and is now underway from Chad to South Africa (pages 10-12). And opposite you can see details of the recent Apimondia Congress in Istanbul – a fabulous week of sharing all the latest bee news and views. Some of our recent correspondents are featured on page 4 – we always love to hear from you if you have some good bee news to share!

*Nicola Bradbear*

**Dr Nicola Bradbear**  
Director, **Bees for Development**

## Issue 125 December 2017

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**Bees for Development**  
Works to assist beekeepers in developing countries.



### Cover picture

*Guy Stubbs says:* Refilwe Ramohaladi started with *African Honey Bee* last year. She is doing so well that I have started training her to be a Facilitator. Refilwe is 26 years old and has five hives all with bees, and two tower gardens.

*More on page 5.*

# 45<sup>th</sup> APIMONDIA INTERNATIONAL APICULTURAL CONGRESS



Istanbul, Turkey

The recent Apimondia Congress held in Istanbul in late September was a tremendous success. Thousands of people from all continents came together to share knowledge, make new contacts, and to admire and question all the new developments and inventions of people and companies worldwide.

The **Apimondia Scientific Commission Beekeeping for Rural Development** organised seven Symposia, with topics ranging from honey hunting and micro-franchising, to apitourism in Nepal, and the best approaches to beekeeping development (and see Guy Stubb's article on pages five to eight).

The next Apimondia Congress will be held in September 2019 in Montréal, Canada. An event not to miss, as the **Apimondia Scientific Commission Beekeeping for Rural Development** has great plans for Apimondia 2019! Until then, enjoy these images from the excellent Apimondia Congress in Turkey.

*Turkey is a vast country, home to five separate races of the honey bee *Apis mellifera*. Bees of each race were brought to a site near to the Congress to give delegates the opportunity to see them.*

Photos © Milan Wiercx van Rhijn



*Balparmak honey company's modern premises in Istanbul*



*Balparmak's sophisticated laboratories analyse all honey bought by the company*



# News

## NIGERIA

The National Youth Service Corps in Abia State thank **Bees for Development** for their support toward their Community Development Service. We have trained over 500 Corps Members using the resource materials we received.



Photo © Odedele Akinrotimi



*Recently trained students with their certificates*  
 Odedele Akinrotimi, National Youth Service Corps,  
 Umuahia

## TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

I am a beekeeper based in Trinidad and have been facing challenges due to farmers spraying harmful chemicals on their crops. Because of this many of my colonies are weak and a few did not make it.

However, rather than be defeated, I have decided to draw inspiration from the experience. I am in the process of developing a project highlighting the effects of neonicotinoids on local bees. The first stage will involve:

- Partnering with local organic farmers to demonstrate that farming is possible without these chemicals;
- Producing valuable content informing both the local farming community and the general public of the effects these chemicals have on bees, and the knock-on effects for the environment and human health;
- Lobbying to have local regulations changed to remove these chemicals from the approved list.

I appreciate that **Bees for Development** has a wealth of experience in these matters: your advice and support to move this project forward will be appreciated.

*Nikita Legall, Tropical Hives Ltd*

## CAMEROON

### Sustainable beekeeping around Mount Cameroon National Park

Forestry, Agriculture, Animal and Fishery Network (FAAFNET) is an NGO based in Buea. We recently organised a two-day seminar to discuss beekeeping with 32 people from beekeeping groups, honey hunters, schools, government technical services, Mount Cameroon National Park, universities and research institutions.

The market potential for bee products was discussed and we agreed to create a bee research network as a required component for beekeeping development in the area. There are plans to construct honey buying and processing centres within easy reach of farmers.

Since 1998 we have trained over 400 beekeepers and we are working on a partnership deed with Mount Cameroon National Park. We have introduced beekeeping at all levels through the creation of beekeeping clubs with a membership of over 250 students. Some schools have established *Beekeeping Enterprises* – marketing honey and other bee products - with profits used to improve educational facilities in schools and to assist students with basic school needs.



*Lyonga William Mumbe (5th left) with students of the Birocol Beekeeping Club and their Resource Box materials*

We thank **Bees for Development Trust** for the continuous information support including *Resource Boxes* and *BfD Journals*. The *Journals* were distributed to seminar participants and school libraries. Some participants and schools expressed interest to receive a sponsored subscription to *BfD Journal* and applications have been dispatched. We intend to create a *Bees for Development Club* in our area. We need support (technical volunteers, material and financial) to promote sustainable beekeeping in the Mount Cameroon National Park buffer zone with farmers, pupils and students to strengthen the existing network of beekeepers known as “Fako Beekeepers Union”. Please contact us through **Bees for Development**.

*Lyonga William Mumbe, FAAFNET Co-ordinator, Buea*

Photo © Lyonga William Mumbe, FAAFNET

# Beekeeping Development – self-selection and other lessons

Guy Stubbs – African Honey Bee, South Africa

**After three years of training, support and producing truckloads of honey, 18 beekeeper families in South Africa's Vhembe District, Limpopo Province, stopped supplying our company, *African Honey Bee* with honey.**

Naturally we investigated the situation. The prices we paid had been higher than other bidders, our training and support had been effective – all 18 beekeepers had made their own veils, gloves, smokers, and hive tools, and each was bee-farming with an average 15 hives that they had made themselves. They were also signed up with *African Honey Bee* as beekeepers who stood to share in value chain profits.

The reason became clear towards the end of the 2016 honey flow. The group leader called to tell me that the Limpopo government had given each member of the group an expensive bee suit, smoker, gloves, hive tool, and bee brush, and 20 expensive frame hives. The condition of this 'gift' was that they would supply the government officials with any honey that was produced, and that they could no longer supply *African Honey Bee*.

Six months later, the same group leader called me. He told me that the prices paid for honey by the officials were 50% lower than *African Honey Bee's* prices, and some of the payments had taken five months to appear in the beekeepers' bank accounts. He said that the beekeeper families did not like the situation, yet they felt obliged to remain loyal to the government officials because they had received hives and equipment from them. He then asked if *African Honey Bee* would 'buy' their allegiance back, by donating hives and beekeeping equipment to them, to counter the government's 'extortive' gifts. Grudgingly I explained that we do not work like that, and I have not heard from him again.

This is one of many examples of how the South African government, and certain development agencies are crippling the beekeeping development industry. Dependency on government grants, of grants of equipment and a week of training, has been our single greatest challenge in retaining beekeeping development in our projects. Convincing rural, poor families that they can transform their own lives, with their own God-given talents has become the key.

In 2014, after many failed attempts to retain beekeepers in my projects, I was invited to Swaziland as a keynote speaker at their annual beekeeping convention. In the same year, I was commissioned to visit beekeeping

projects in the same country by FAO. Visiting many of the beekeeper families, and some of the training sessions, I was struck by two major differences between Swazi and South African beekeeping. In Swaziland, beekeepers were taught to make their own equipment, and Swazis did not earn government grants. They were not dependant on anyone but themselves. As a result, there were many practising beekeepers, harvesting honey from their homemade equipment. I suddenly realised why my projects (and most of the South African projects that I had researched) battled to retain their beekeepers.

As a response, I changed some fundamentals in my approach: firstly, everyone within walking distance of a training venue is invited to beekeeper training. There is no discrimination or preferential treatment for those who are dependable supporters of a specific chief or political leader. Anyone is welcome. On the first day of training, attendees are told that they need to provide their own food during training, and that they will not be given anything other than training. Sometimes a lot of the people leave at that stage. Sadly, many of those who leave are youth inflicted with a politically cultivated sense of entitlement. Interestingly those who continue are mostly older than 27, peaking at 30, consisting of those who left school, migrated to the cities after their entitlement dreams, and returned ten years later with more realistic outlooks on life.

I have realised that in poverty alleviation, there will always be an ultimate guiding inspiration. Many projects have greed, or political power, or some-or-other works-based deity as their compass.

## Training underway



Photos © Guy Stubbs



*Practical lessons*

On the first day we explain that the God of creation is the same God who gave us hands and brains to do things for ourselves. We do not need to depend on a political leader, a chief, or any other human.

Attendees are divided into groups to make beekeeping gloves from old jeans, veils from t-shirts, hats, wire and kitchen curtains. Smokers are made from old paint tins, and hive tools are adapted screwdrivers, or bent and sharpened pieces of flat bar. On day two, everyone makes their own, from materials sourced from their own environments. Attendees are then taught to make

a top-bar hive, according to Langstroth frame hive sizes, from materials available to them in their villages. This approach is known as *Asset Based Community Development*.

Everyone who successfully completes their own gloves, veil, smoker, and hive tool, is then signed up as a project member, and presented with the materials to build their first hive. This starter kit, called a flatpack, consists of planks cut from locally available building timber, nails, a plastic sheet, and waxroll.

The instructions are available in the Subsistence

*Home made equipment is the best*



*Gloves made from an old pair of jeans*



manual available at: <https://africanhoneybee.co.za/pdf/AHB-Subsistance-manual%20-2017.pdf>

It is extremely rewarding to see an old man sewing for the first time, or an old girl hammering a nail for the first time.

When a beekeeper completes their veil, or hive, the sense of accomplishment is often overwhelming. Members suddenly feel empowered to take on the world. You should see how proud a single mother, surviving on a menial government grant becomes when bees move into her hive, that she made with her own hands. I love being at the scene when beekeepers harvest and get paid for their first honey. The scene is met by jovial ululations and dancing, huge smiles, and ecstatic families. It is usually the first time the person has earned income from the fruits of their own hands.

In 2016 I was having great success at retaining beekeepers for the training sessions. Training included a milestone based approach, where beekeepers move on to the next level if they successfully complete the previous task. However, after training ended it was extremely difficult to incentivise them to meet on a regular basis, which made mentorship and support complicated and expensive. In 2017, I partnered with SaveAct who have been training and mentoring my facilitators to set our groups up as savings groups, where they learn to save, lend and borrow. They make up their rules, charge interest for the loans, and pay the saved amount out (plus interest) after 18 months. Rules such as fining for coming late, and fining and warning for missing a meeting, incentivise social cohesion and instil self-discipline. Saving is not only teaching our beekeepers to manage their finances responsibly, incentivising our beekeepers to meet regularly – enabling us to better support them, but it is also providing credit for small-scale entrepreneurial activity.

Parallel to savings training, we make our beekeepers aware of their natural abilities to trade. On the day of the first entrepreneurship class, our facilitator asks how much money is needed to start a business. Various answers from ZAR2,000 (US\$140; €120) to ZAR60,000 (US\$4,270; €3,630) are forthcoming. The facilitator then holds up two ZAR20 (US\$1.4; €1.2) notes and asks how they can turn these into ZAR80 (US\$5.7; €4.8). They then go as a group to the closest shop and buy bread, ham, tomatoes, bread spread and sandwich bags. They make eight sandwiches and sell them for ZAR10 (US\$0.7; €0.6) each, returning to the training venue by 1300 hours with ZAR80 (US\$5.7; €4.8). Each beekeeper is asked to start a similar business that is then evaluated, and a business plan is drawn up to help them understand the major principles of business.

Another reason for beekeeper fallout has been despondency. Because beekeeping may generate income only once a year, a new beekeeper can wait up to two years to harvest their first honey. We therefore looked at enterprises for beekeeper families to generate additional income, or to reduce living costs. I considered activities that would provide the families with more balanced diets, (currently limited to maize meal), so children could develop mentally and physically, improving the chances of breaking out of the poverty



*Veils can be made from t-shirts, hats, wire and kitchen curtains.*

cycle. Beekeeping provides income annually, so I encourage other farming to generate income all year round, and planting of good quality fruit trees, that will provide bees with food, and be a long-term investment. Many of our beekeepers in Zululand grow *Eucalyptus* trees: problems with cash flow like paying school fees in January, force these families to harvest their timber at four years. Beekeeping and the other income generating activities reduce the necessity of harvesting the trees at four years, enabling them to grow to an optimal seven years, and yielding 40% greater return.



*Excellent smokers are made from old tins*

Each of these topics is broad enough to have a thesis written about it. At *African Honey Bee*, we are constantly evolving, and learning. Each of the topics written about in this article have been necessary attributes, part of our holistic approach. We have learned that beekeeping on its own is not enough: it needs to be part of a greater solution. Beekeeping, like walking on coals, releases inhabitants, enabling people to see their inner strength, that enables them to transform their lives.

Recently I attended the Apimondia Congress in Turkey (see page 3). I visited some beekeepers close to Istanbul. I was excited to visit a country that had been on a similar level to South Africa 20 years ago, and is now the second biggest honey producer in the world. Turkey reached this level by the beekeeping industry receiving tremendous amounts of constructive support from their government. I wished that our government had participated, and taken a few lessons home. Imagine what could happen to the South African beekeeping industry with the right kind of government support behind it?

*Taking the honey home*



*Home made smoker, veil and hive tool*



*Hives can be placed in many places including on the roof*



*And there is a good harvest*



# Honey Week in Uganda

Sarah Mugoya

The 8th Uganda National Honey Week is an annual event organised by The Uganda National Apiculture Development Organisation (TUNADO), took place in August at the Forest Mall, Lugogo.

In the past decade Uganda has endeavored to modernise agriculture through increased use of improved agronomic practices, seeds and agrochemicals. One would expect this to translate into increased crop productivity per acreage, however, the reverse is true. While the majority attribute this to climate change and associated emergence of new pests and diseases, unreliable rainfall and soil exhaustion, the role of pollinators should not be overlooked.

The main objective of this year's *Honey Week* was to raise the profile of *bee friendly farming* among the public and stakeholders. This was the first nationally co-ordinated event in which Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) gave TUNADO land to plant a bee friendly garden as a way of conserving plants for bees.

In his remarks, Allon Bomujuni of TUNADO, (2016 Commonwealth Fellow with **Bees for Development**) and the initiator of the bee friendly garden (he learnt of this idea in the UK during his Fellowship) noted that the honey bee population is going down especially in the Central Region, yet bees are an important input for agriculture as crop pollinators. As a way of sensitising the masses and contributing towards the increase in honey bee populations, TUNADO partnered with KCCA to have the bee friendly garden planted in Kampala and that this initiative would later be popularised in other districts.

In Uganda, bees provide pollination services to many crops including sunflower, fruits and vegetables and to pastures. With declining pollinator diversity, there is



*TUNADO members marched to the area where the Bee Friendly Garden was planted.*

need for BEE FRIENDLY FARMING.

In conclusion the Honey Week raised awareness of:

- The economic value of bees as pollinators
- How to integrate bees in farming systems
- Popularising bee friendly agricultural practices
- Creating a business platform for honey value chain actors to showcase, network and market their products and services.



*Planting in the Bee Friendly Garden*



*Bee plants are best!*

# Bees versus Elephants

Report from Robert Goodier, Engineering for Change, USA

**From Chad to South Africa beehive fences deter African elephants from crops: African farmers seek methods to turn back elephants on midnight crop raids. Guns, firecrackers, spears, rocks and dogs join the fight. The farmers dig trenches, grow thorny hedges and, if they can afford them, install electric fences. The methods have varying degrees of success. Electric fences and all-night patrols seem to be among the most effective, but the costs, in money or time, take a toll. Then along came hive fences developed by the *Elephant and Bees Project*.**

“Our studies show that farms with hive fences experience fewer crop raids and consequently have higher productivity than those farm areas which are unprotected”, Dr Lucy King, who heads the Human Elephant Coexistence Programme at Save the Elephants and leads the Elephants and Bees Project, told Engineering for Change (E4C). “Thus, showing that the hive fence is considerably more effective as a barrier than the traditional thorn-bush fences that most farmers use to keep out wildlife”.

Farmers found that lines of hives could deter most elephant raids, while honey sales added a new income stream. From as far north as Chad in Central Africa down to South Africa, Dr King and her colleagues have conducted and compiled research on hive fences. In dozens of studies throughout Africa and Asia, the researchers have tested hive styles, fence configurations,

*Turkana women building hive fences to protect their farms against elephants in Ngare Mara, Isiolo beekeepers use top-bar hives which can be made from local materials and suspended from trees or wires*



Photos © Elephants and Bees Project



*A bee fence on Granston Farm*

and other variables to test whether hive fences are a successful elephant deterrent.

“The conflict can be quite violent, and injuries and deaths of elephants and farmers are not unheard of. The positive change in attitude to elephants that we have seen within the communities we are working has been encouraging”. Dr King says.

The farmers' struggle often goes unnoticed in news of conflict between people and elephants. Poachers, on the other hand, grab the headlines, and for good reason. Elephant populations have declined by 34% from 2007 to 2014, according to the most extensive count of African savannah elephants to date, the Great Elephant Census. The census found 352,271 savanna elephants in 18 countries surveyed, down from nearly half a million in 2007.

Poachers led the charge, pushing the losses to 8% per year without sign of slowing. Four countries have managed to enforce their laws and fend off poachers well enough to allow their elephant population to increase slightly in that period: Kenya, Malawi, South Africa and Uganda.

The less conspicuous battle between farmers and elephants simmers on in a moral grey area. Human development has fragmented the elephants' habitat and scattered their food sources, while farmers on the edges of wildlife reserves struggle to protect their livelihoods against opportunistic herds raiding their crops. Bees may be a solution that farmers can afford without harming the elephants. “Using bees has the potential to alleviate impending human-elephant conflict by peaceful means,” Dr King says.

### **Hive fences in East Africa: a controlled study**

In more than a dozen studies, Dr King and her colleagues have experimented with hive fences on East African farms, finding that the region's indigenous bee, *Apis mellifera scutellata*, can turn elephants away. A notable long-term trial on farms outside the Tsavo East National Park found that hive fences deterred 80% of elephant raiders compared to unfenced plots used as a control group.

Tsavo is one of Kenya's popular safari destinations, and its protected elephants know where to find concentrated



*A family of elephants fleeing from a bee fence*

sources of food in the bordering farmlands. To test the hives, Dr King and her colleagues placed hives around 10 plots of land, each 0.4 hectares in size. The researchers spaced hives by 10 m, alternating dummy hives between real ones to reduce the cost.

Throughout the 3½ year trial, from 2012 to 2015, the farmers and researchers placed 131 hives that produced 228 kg of honey. There were 253 elephants that entered the farming community during the trial, and the 20% that managed to break through a hive fence were in smaller groups than those that commonly raided farms in the area, causing less damage. The researchers published their findings in 2017 in *Conservation Biology* with a free-to-read copy (PDF) at [www.elephantsandbees.com](http://www.elephantsandbees.com).

### **Bees and forest elephants in Central Africa**

The Great Elephant Census did not count forest elephants for a logistical reason: it is hard to spot elephants in the woods from the air. An analysis of 80 surveys carried out on foot, the largest set of census data on forest elephants to date, found that their numbers had declined by 62% from 2002 to 2011. The causes listed include hunting and the encroachment of roads and other infrastructure into the elephants' habitat.

A debate once ensued over the classification of African elephants. The argument turned on whether the forest and savanna elephants were subspecies or different species altogether. New research has found strong evidence that they are, in fact, different species. A comparison of the DNA of elephant living and extinct species has found that the forest and savanna elephants are as genetically different from one another as Asian elephants are from extinct woolly mammoths.

Fortunately for farmers, the bee and elephant feud extends across species. Forest elephants *Loxodonta cyclotis* in central Africa appear to be as anxious about encounters with the central African honey bee subspecies *Apis mellifera adansonii* as their savanna-roaming cousins *Loxodonta africana* are about East African bees *Apis mellifera scutellata*.

A team led by Dr Steeve Ngama, from the Institute of Agricultural and Forestry Research in Libreville, Gabon studied how bee hives affect forest elephants around Gamba, a fishing town between two national parks in Gabon.



Throughout the three-year trial, the farmers and researchers placed 131 hives that produced 228 kg of honey

The researchers singled out ten mango trees, a fruit popular with elephants, and they hung two hives from each of seven of the trees. They left the remaining three trees as controls. Motion-activated cameras captured photos and videos of both the elephants and the bees. For nearly a year and a half the team recorded the spectacle, gathered honey, and maintained the hives to keep them free from predators such as ants.

Broadly the findings were like those of the savanna elephant studies, that hives deter elephants, but not perfectly. The forest elephants tended to shy away even from empty hives, but active hives were the best deterrent. The more active the bees in the hive,

the greater the deterrent, the researchers found. But there is a trade-off between deterrence and honey production. Highly active bees produced less honey.

### How to build a hive fence

As a service to farmers, Dr King wrote a how-to guide (now in its third edition), the *Beehive Fence Construction Manual*: see [www.elephantsandbees.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Beehive-Fence-Construction-Manual-2014-ss.pdf](http://www.elephantsandbees.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Beehive-Fence-Construction-Manual-2014-ss.pdf)

The Manual guides fence-building using three popular hive designs.

One is a log hive with closed ends and a hole in the centre for harvesting honey.

Next is the frame hive: with rectangular boxes – supers as used in conventional apiculture world-wide.

The third is the top-bar hive, a horizontal hive containing slats from which bees hang their honeycombs.

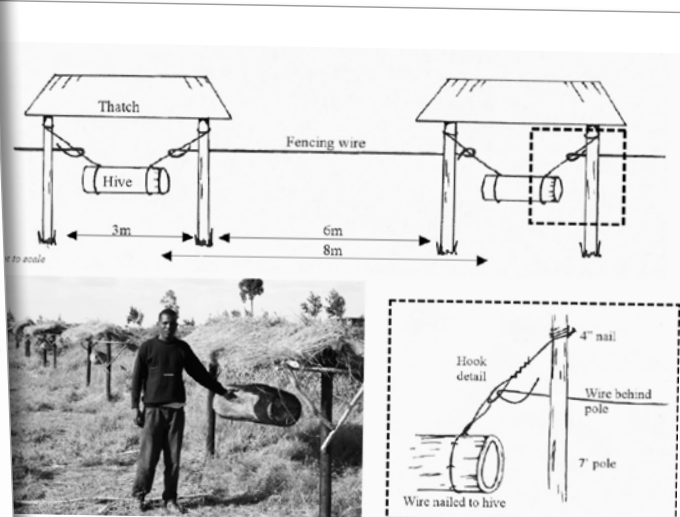
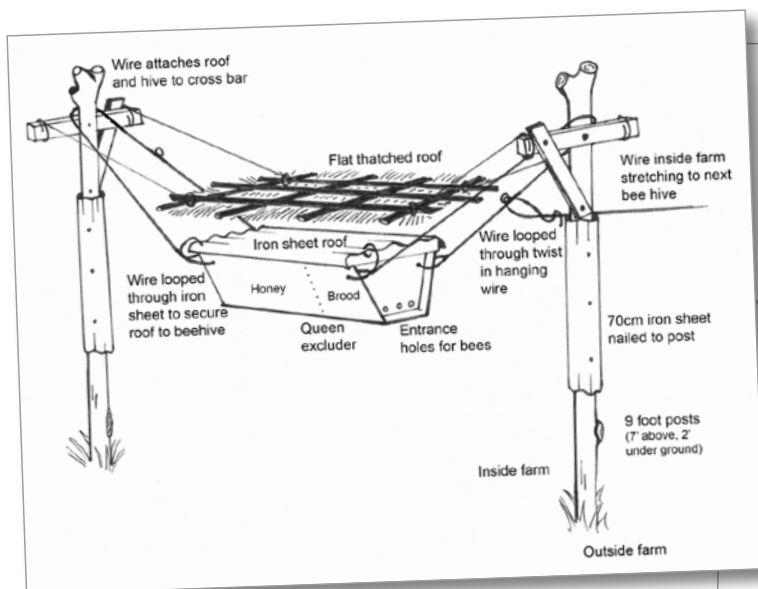
Fence styles vary, too. The construction guide covers traditional fence posts and biofences of living tree cuttings.

The Manual has been crucial for promoting hive fences in Africa. Dr King says (and her team’s surveys suggest that the idea is catching on): “The project is providing a sense of empowerment to these farmers and some of the older farmers are enjoying the hobby of being a beekeeper, too. They tell us in our surveys that they are happy with being involved in the project, and with having bees, and this is a very important social attitude to support those of us trying to help people live better with elephants.”

For more information contact Dr Lucy King, *Elephants and Bees Project Leader*: [www.elephantsandbees.com/](http://www.elephantsandbees.com/)

We thank *Appropriate Technology* for their kind permission to reproduce this article first published in *Appropriate Technology* September 2017

Also see *Guardian Bees* (2002) *Bees for Development Journal* 65: 12



Illustrations of how the bee fences are built from the construction guide

# LOOK AHEAD

## AUSTRALIA

### 3rd Australian Bee Congress

27-30 June 2018, Gold Coast, Queensland

Further details [www.australianbeecongress.com.au](http://www.australianbeecongress.com.au)

## BELGIUM

### 8th EurBee Congress of Apidology

18-20 September 2018, Ghent

Further details [www.eurbee2018.org](http://www.eurbee2018.org)

## BULGARIA

### Second Propolis Conference - Propolis in human and bee health

28-29 September 2018, Sofia

Further details [www.propolisconference2018.cim.bg](http://www.propolisconference2018.cim.bg)

## CANADA

### APIMONDIA: 46th International Apicultural Congress

8-12 September 2019, Montreal

Further details [www.apimondia2019mtl.com](http://www.apimondia2019mtl.com)

## EGYPT

### 10th International Conference – Arab Beekeepers Union

### 9th International Forum – Mediterranean Beekeepers Federation

13-15 December 2017, Sharm el Sheikh

Further details [www.arabbeesunion.com](http://www.arabbeesunion.com)

## FINLAND

### SICAMM Conference (International Association for the Protection of the European Dark Bee)

12-18 July 2018, Mustiala

Further details [www.sicamm.org](http://www.sicamm.org)

## FRANCE

### 9th International Meeting of Young Beekeepers

2-6 July 2018, Nérac

Further details [www.icyb.cz](http://www.icyb.cz)

## GERMANY

### 5th ApiBio Symposium

2018

Further details will appear here

## KENYA

### Certificate course

### Entrepreneurship in apiculture in East Africa

Baraka Agricultural College, Molo

Further details [www.sustainableagri.org](http://www.sustainableagri.org)

## NETHERLANDS

### Learning from the bees

31 August – 2 September 2018, Dorn

Further details

[www.naturalbeekeepingtrust.org/conference](http://www.naturalbeekeepingtrust.org/conference)

## NIGERIA

### 6th ApiExpo Africa

2018, Abuja

Further details [www.apitradeafrica.org](http://www.apitradeafrica.org)

## TANZANIA

### BSc Beekeeping Science & Technology

University of Dar es Salaam

Further details [www.coasft.udsm.ac.tz](http://www.coasft.udsm.ac.tz)

## UGANDA

### 9th Uganda National Honey Week

August 2018, Kampala

Further details [www.tunadobees.org](http://www.tunadobees.org)

## UK

### British Beekeepers Spring Convention

13-15 April 2018, Harper Adams University

Further details [www.bbka.org.uk](http://www.bbka.org.uk)

### 87th National Honey Show

25-27 October 2018, Sandown Racecourse

Further details [www.honeyshow.co.uk](http://www.honeyshow.co.uk)

## WORLD BEE AWARENESS DAY

20 May 2018

Further details

[www.worldbeeday.org/en/](http://www.worldbeeday.org/en/)



## BEES FOR DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

### Straw skep making

27 January 2018

The Yew Tree Inn, Peterstow, Ross-on-Wye

### Wicker skep making

10 February 2018

The Yew Tree Inn, Peterstow, Ross-on-Wye

### Symposium on Research in Beekeeping and Sustainable Development

28-29 March 2018

University of Reading

See page 16

### Bees for Development Sustainable Beekeeping Course

7-8 April and 8-9 September 2018

Ragman's Lane Farm, GL17 9PA

Further details [www.beesfordevelopment.org](http://www.beesfordevelopment.org)

If you want notice of your conference, workshop or meeting to be included here and on our website, send details to **Bees for Development**.

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## BOOKSHELF

### The beeswax workshop

Chris Dalziel (2017) 298 pages softcover

This excellent new book provides a huge range of recipes for beeswax not easily found elsewhere. The first chapter describes the marvellous product that is beeswax. The second chapter is devoted to candles of all types. The third and fourth concentrate on recipes for personal care: balms and creams, soap and hair care – even including beard balm! Chapter five covers beeswax in the apothecary with special healing recipes. Chapters six to nine provide all sorts of other products from beeswax food wrap, through swarm lure to a recipe for surfboard wax. Beeswax really is an amazing product!



### Bees-at-law

Nöel Sweeney (2017) 345 pages, softcover

Nöel Sweeney is a practising British barrister specialising in criminal law and human rights, as well as animal law. This new text considers the role of bees gauged according to the duty and responsibility of beekeepers. Nöel Sweeney cites legal cases from many countries to explain the possible rights and wrongs involved in bees' relations with humans and other animals. In so many legal cases, judges have held bees in high esteem because of what they mean to our society. This is a fabulously interesting book: the final chapter considers neonicotinoids and concludes that law is the only moral system that can now save bees. Highly recommended for anyone who cares for bees and the future.

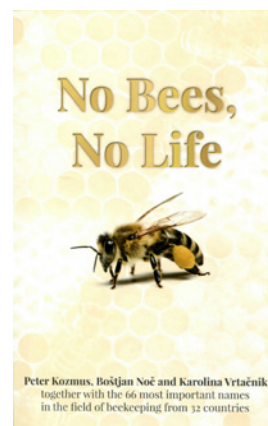


### No bees, No life

Peter Kozmus, Boštjan Noč and Karolina Vrtačnik 2017 352 pages Hardback

The three Slovenian authors contacted beekeeping experts world-wide to contribute to this book emphasising the tremendous importance of bees. Full of interesting anecdotes and wonderful pictures, these build a compelling profile of the current status of bees and beekeepers world-wide.

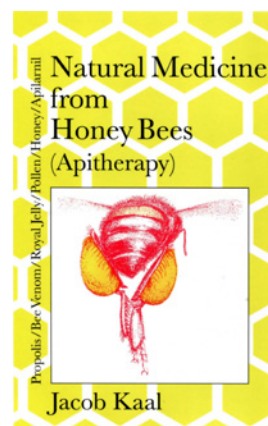
Slovenia has a reasonable claim to be the nation most aware of importance of bees, and indeed has taken the initiative for 20 May 2018 to be the first day on which we together celebrate World Bee Day (see page 13).



### Natural medicine from honey bees (apitherapy)

Jacob Kaal (2017 reprint) 87 pages softcover

Northern Bee Books have reprinted this book that considers the use of bee products as medicine. While living in Tanzania, Jacob Kaal saw that apitherapy was used as actual medicine in Africa, not just an alternative to conventional medicine. After returning to the Netherlands, Kaal became part of a European apitherapy network and established his own bee product centre. Here he developed a range of recipes in his home laboratory, experimenting with drying, grinding and mixing substances to create a wide selection of treatments. A very useful text.



### Backyard bees of North America Poster

This impressive poster displays 130 bee species of North America (still only 3% of all the bee species there). Each bee is shown at five times actual size, with their common name and genus too. A very beautiful and informative poster! We need them for all world regions.

### WAYS TO PAY

- **Secure order and payment** at [www.beesfordevelopment.org/shop](http://www.beesfordevelopment.org/shop)
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# NOTICE BOARD

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

**The Rome 1% Fund** offers grants of up to US\$ 5,000 (€4,500) for small-scale beekeeping projects, and is making a call for proposals from community groups in the following regions: the Caribbean, Latin America, and south-west Pacific. *Applications can be made online at <http://one-percent-fund.net>*

## FUNDING FROM FAO

**TeleFood Special Fund** Beekeepers' groups and associations may apply for project funding of up to US\$10,000. Request documents should include a brief description of project objectives, proposed food production or income-generating activities, work plan, number of participants, detailed list of inputs with cost estimates and reporting arrangements. See <http://fao.org>

## TRAINING GRANT

**Conservation Workshop Grants** fund organisations to train communities, stakeholders, park guards, and others on local and regional conservation issues. These grants support training workshops with hands-on learning components that will build capacity for people living in WWF priority places in select countries in Africa, Asia, and Central and South America. Organisations must meet all the eligibility criteria to be considered for a grant of up to US\$7,500. See <http://worldwildlife.org/projects/conservation-workshop-grants>

## HOTSPOT

**Eastern Afromontane Biodiversity Hotspot Call** Small grants (maximum US\$10,000) in Burundi, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe - **applications only accepted upon invitation.** To discuss your project idea with one of our team members *first write* to [cepf-eam-rit@birdlife.org](mailto:cepf-eam-rit@birdlife.org)

## AWARD

**A professional development programme** that strengthens the research and leadership skills of African women in agricultural science, empowering them to contribute more effectively to poverty alleviation and food security in sub-Saharan Africa. See <http://awardfellowships.org>

## AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

**The oldest English language** beekeeping publication in the world. See a digital copy and *subscribe* at <http://americanbeejournal.com>

## BEE CRAFT

**UK Beekeeping Journal** for beginners and seasoned apiarists. View a digital copy and *subscribe* at <http://bee-craft.com>

## BEE CULTURE

**The magazine of American beekeeping.** 140 years' experience. Today's techniques. Tomorrow's ideas. US\$15 for a digital subscription. See <http://BeeCulture.com>



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Symposium on

# RESEARCH IN BEEKEEPING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

28-29 March 2018  
University of Reading  
RG6 6AR UK

**Bees for Development** and the **School of Agriculture, Policy and Development, University of Reading** are jointly organising this Scientific Symposium that will provide a unique forum for presentations and discussions around the topic of beekeeping and sustainable development, and for generating new relationships among those in this field.

The purpose of the Symposium is to advance understanding about the intersection of beekeeping science and international development. It is increasingly recognised that beekeeping has a role to play in poverty alleviation interventions for small-scale farmers; many international development organisations deliver beekeeping projects to address the goals of poverty reduction and biodiversity maintenance. There are an increasing number of researchers studying beekeeping in development. This scientific forum will bring together stakeholders to share evidence-based learning about how to effectively advance beekeeping to alleviate poverty.

*More information* [www.beesfordevelopment.org/events-calendar](http://www.beesfordevelopment.org/events-calendar)

## SUPPORT FOR TRAINING

**BfD Training Booklets and Training Cards** are for use by beekeeper trainers in Africa

Each booklet provides one day of training on one topic. The cards provide pictures and plans illustrating techniques discussed in the booklets. These are included in our Resource Boxes for training events and workshops.

Projects and associations in developing countries are welcome to apply for a Sponsored Resource Box by filling out an application form on our website, or request the form by email.

Projects in other areas can purchase Resource Boxes through our website store.



## Bees for development JOURNAL



### SUBSCRIPTIONS AVAILABLE

This *Journal* is available for resource-poor beekeepers, projects, schools and groups in developing countries

Supported with funds raised by **Bees for Development Trust**

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