



TANZANIA WILDLIFE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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REPORTY OF HONEY BEE APIARY INSPECTION AND ASSESSMENT AT MIKINDANI- MTWARA 17 AUG 2024

INTRODUCTION

Mikindani Widows Honey Group is the groups of widow's lives in Mikindani Mtwara Municipal organized themselves and form a group with eight (8) members of the group. The main purpose of the forming a group to keep honeybees, increase production and group income through selling honey bee products. The group has 24 Tanzania top hives categorized into two way colonized 13 bee hive and uncolonized 11 bee hive. Twenty three (23) Stingless bees hive and seven (7) bee hives has been colonized with the bee colonies, the group has full package of protective gears and equipment for the beekeeping operations.



The following are the Presence Criteria revealed at Mikindani Widow Honey Group Bee Apiary assessment at Mikindani.

1. Presence of source of water

One of the best thing to be considered in your establishment of honey bee apiary water should be the most to be available at the area and this takes atleast 5 minutes for human being reach when walking from the bee hives sitting which help honey bees to reduce a great work and play as a great role in the hive to reduce temperature and making honey.



Photo 1: Shows a dam as source of water at the Mikindani Widow Honey Group Apiary

2. Presence of plant species provides nectar and pollen

The area has different species natural and artificial species which provides source of food for the bees also has shrubs plants species, short and long tree species and planted tree species like pear ,mango, orange, papaya, coconut tree species all these natural and planted trees provides a great range of pollen and Necta



Photo 2: Shows shrubs plants, planted and natural trees preferable as a source of food for the bees

3. Presence of colonized bee hive at the apiary

The apiary has 24 bee hives which has 13 hive with the colonies within and have 11 un colonized bee hives which provide a great improvement for the group and shows that the apiary is potential for the bees.



Photo 3: Shows colonized bee hives at the apiary sited

4. The apiary has shade for the bee colonies

Presence of shade at the apiary provides a great chance for the bees to concentrate collect pollen and nectar for making honey other than collecting water for cooling or reducing temperature

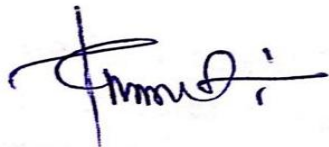


Photo 4: shows bee hive sited under shade

RECOMMENDATIONS

- i. Regular inspection is needed for good management of the apiary.
- ii. General cleaning is needed around the apiary to control pests like ants.
- iii. Extension education is needed to educate the member of the group about beekeeping environmental conservation.
- iv. To provide bee space in the hive to allow bee work effectively and efficiently in to hive.
- v. To consider bee hive size according to the availability of bee resources of the area.
- vi. To feed the colonies with sugar syrup to control lose of bee colonies during death period
- vii. To take precaution of fighting and control bee enemy and honey hunters

Best Regards



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