



TUNZA NYUKI

NEWS

Dec 2022

ISSUE III

A publication of Tunza Nyuki Beekeeping Hub



Honey Quality Standards: A Consumer's Guide

Small Hive Beetles: Behavior and Control

Bikes for Bees: Tunza Nyuki's Need for Motorcycles



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CHAIRMAN'S *Message*

Nurturing Nature, Empowering Communities



Welcome to the 2022 edition of our publication, a celebration of the dynamic spirit defining beekeeping in Bomet, Narok, Nyamira and Kisii Counties. As Chairman, I take pride in the innovation, tradition, and sustainability that characterize our community's endeavors.

I am honored to showcase the transformative endeavors of our youth who, through economic empowerment, technology adoption, and environmental stewardship, are shaping a future where tradition harmonizes with progress. Our guide on honey quality standards ensures a commitment to excellence, offering insights to empower your choices. The call for motorbikes for our extension teams reflects our dedication to safeguarding bee colonies efficiently. Delve into the intricacies of hive dynamics and the art of attracting bees, recognizing the challenges faced by our colonies and our commitment to sustainable practices. Tunza Nyuki's advocacy for natural beekeeping aligns with our region's ethos, promoting simplicity and wisdom in our beekeeping practices. Explore the art of handling bees safely, reflecting our dedication to fostering a positive relationship between beekeepers and these essential pollinators. Together, let's resonate with the promise of a harmonious and prosperous future for beekeeping in Bomet County.

Warm regards,

Brian Kipkirui Ngetich

ROLE OF YOUTH *In Beekeeping*

The Youth are Transforming Beekeeping in Bomet County

1



Bomet County, nestled in the picturesque landscapes of Kenya, is witnessing a transformative wave in its agricultural sector, with the dynamic involvement of youth in the age-old practice of beekeeping. As these enthusiastic individuals actively participate in apiculture, their role becomes increasingly pivotal in shaping the future of this vital industry.

Economic Empowerment

The youth in Bomet County are leveraging beekeeping as a pathway to economic empowerment. By embracing apiculture as a viable business venture, they are not only securing sustainable livelihoods for themselves but also contributing to the economic growth of the region. The production of honey, beeswax, and other hive products serves as a lucrative source of income for these enterprising young beekeepers.

Technology Adoption

Harnessing the power of technology, the youth are adopting Tunza Nyuki's innovative technology to modernize beekeeping in Bomet County. From the implementation of hive monitoring systems to the utilization of digital platforms for marketing honey products, these tech-savvy beekeepers are steering apiculture toward a more efficient and connected future.

Environmental Stewardship:

The youth are at the forefront of environmental conservation efforts in Bomet County. Recognizing the integral role of bees in pollination and ecosystem health, young beekeepers are championing sustainable beekeeping practices. They actively engage in the cultivation of pollinator-friendly plants, contributing to biodiversity conservation and the overall well-being of local ecosystems.

Community Education and Awareness:

Armed with passion and a commitment to community development, young beekeepers are becoming ambassadors for apiculture awareness. They organize workshops, seminars, and outreach programs to educate fellow youth and the wider community about the importance of bees, sustainable beekeeping practices, and the potential benefits of apiculture for Bomet County.

Preservation of Cultural Heritage:

In Bomet County, where beekeeping has deep cultural roots, the youth are playing a vital role in preserving and celebrating this heritage. Through their endeavors, they contribute to the continuity of traditional beekeeping practices while infusing a contemporary spirit that resonates with the younger generation.

As the youth actively engage in beekeeping endeavors, Bomet County is witnessing a transformation that transcends traditional practices. Their energy, innovation, and commitment to sustainability are injecting new life into apiculture, projecting a vibrant future for beekeeping in the region. With the youth at the helm, Bomet County is poised to become a beacon of success and resilience in the realm of beekeeping, balancing tradition with progress and ensuring the continued prosperity of this essential industry.

HONEY AND NUTRITION

Importance of Honey in Nutrition

2

Honey stands out as a natural sweetener, adding a delightful taste to various foods and drinks. Beyond its sweetness, honey brings nutritional benefits to our diet. Rich in vitamins and minerals, it provides essential nutrients that contribute to overall well-being. The natural sugars in honey offer a quick energy boost, making it a wholesome alternative to processed sugars in our daily meals.

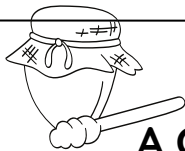
In addition to its nutritional content, honey contains antioxidants that help protect the body from harmful elements. These antioxidants act like a shield, supporting our immune system and aiding in the prevention of illnesses. As a result, incorporating honey into our diet serves not only as a delicious addition but also as a means of fortifying our bodies against potential health risks.

Honey's role in digestion is noteworthy, as it possesses soothing properties for the stomach. When consumed, honey can contribute to a comfortable and gentle digestion process. Furthermore, it serves as a natural remedy for coughs, offering relief in a tasty and comforting way. This dual functionality makes honey a versatile ingredient that enhances our overall digestive well-being.

Beyond its application as a sweetener, honey proves to be a versatile culinary ingredient. It can be incorporated into various recipes, from cooking and baking to dressings and marinades. Its unique flavor profile adds depth to savory and sweet dishes alike, making it a valuable and flavorful addition to our culinary repertoire.

In essence, honey is more than just a sugary delight – it is a nutritional powerhouse that brings sweetness, flavor, and health benefits to our meals. Whether drizzled over breakfast, stirred into a warm beverage, or used in cooking, honey's versatility makes it a valuable component of a balanced and delicious diet.





HONEY QUALITY STANDARDS

A Consumer's Guide to Assessing Honey Quality in Kenya

The golden elixir of honey is not just a sweet treat but a treasure trove of nature's goodness. However, the market is flooded with honey of varying quality, and getting pure, high-quality honey can be challenging. This guide aims to empower consumers, especially those in Kenya, with insights into honey quality standards using simple tests that don't require a laboratory but guarantee the best for your recipes and health.

1 The Thumb Test: Assessing Stickiness

Procedure

Place a single drop of honey on your thumb. Observe if the honey spreads or remains in a droplet form.

Interpretation

Spread: Indicates lower honey quality with higher moisture content.

Remains in Droplet Form: Suggests pure honey with lower moisture content.

Note: While the thumb test is a good starting point, additional tests provide a more comprehensive evaluation.

2 The Dissolving Test: Gauging Thickness

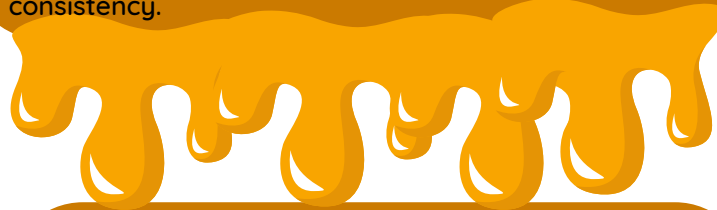
Procedure

Add a tablespoon of honey to a cup of water. Observe if the honey dissolves or settles at the bottom.

Interpretation

Dissolves: Indicates impure syrup with added moisture.

Settles at the Bottom: Suggests pure honey with denser consistency.



3 The Scent Check: Aroma Assessment

Procedure

Smell the honey.

Note the presence of floral scents.

Interpretation

Floral Scents: Suggests pure honey with minimal processing.

No Smell or Artificial Scent: Indicates impure honey with added flavorings.

4 The Bread Test: Testing Consistency

Procedure

Spread a spoonful of honey onto a slice of bread.

Wait for three minutes.

Check if the bread remains solid or becomes wet.

Interpretation

Solid Consistency: Suggests pure honey.

Moist or Wet Bread: Indicates impure honey.

5 The Flame Test: Assessing Purity Through Heat

Procedure

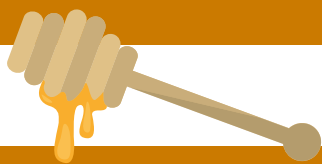
Dip a matchstick into honey.

Attempt to light the matchstick.

Interpretation

Matchstick Lights Immediately: Suggests pure honey.

Delayed Lighting: Indicates impurities affecting flammability.



Ensuring the quality of honey doesn't require advanced equipment; simple tests can be conducted at home or in a business setting. By incorporating these tests into your honey assessment, you can make informed choices, supporting the demand for high-quality, pure honey. As consumers become more adept at identifying genuine honey, the industry is encouraged to uphold and adhere to stringent honey quality standards, ultimately benefiting both producers and consumers alike.

THINGS YOU CAN GET FROM YOUR BEEHIVE

4

Beyond Honey: Other Hive Products

Honey is delightful, but did you know that bees create a variety of remarkable substances in their hives? These unique products, collectively known as hive products, go beyond the sweetness of honey. Let's delve into the fascinating world of these creations from the hive.

Firstly, there's beeswax, a versatile substance that bees use to construct their hives. Sturdy and pliable, beeswax finds diverse applications among humans. Crafters use it for candles, beauty enthusiasts incorporate it into skincare products, and it serves as a natural wood polish.

Moving on, there's propolis, often referred to as bee glue. Bees concoct propolis from tree sap, utilizing it to seal and fortify their hive. Humans have recognized the potential of propolis, and it is utilized in various health-related products, with some attributing it to potential health benefits.

Now, let's talk about royal jelly, the special food reserved for baby bees. This unique substance plays a crucial role in the development of future queens. People find royal jelly intriguing and sometimes incorporate it into their routines as a nutritional supplement, believing it offers health advantages.

Bee pollen is another hive product worth mentioning. Collected by bees from flowers, it is packed with vitamins and nutrients. Some individuals consume bee pollen as a natural dietary supplement, recognizing its potential health benefits.

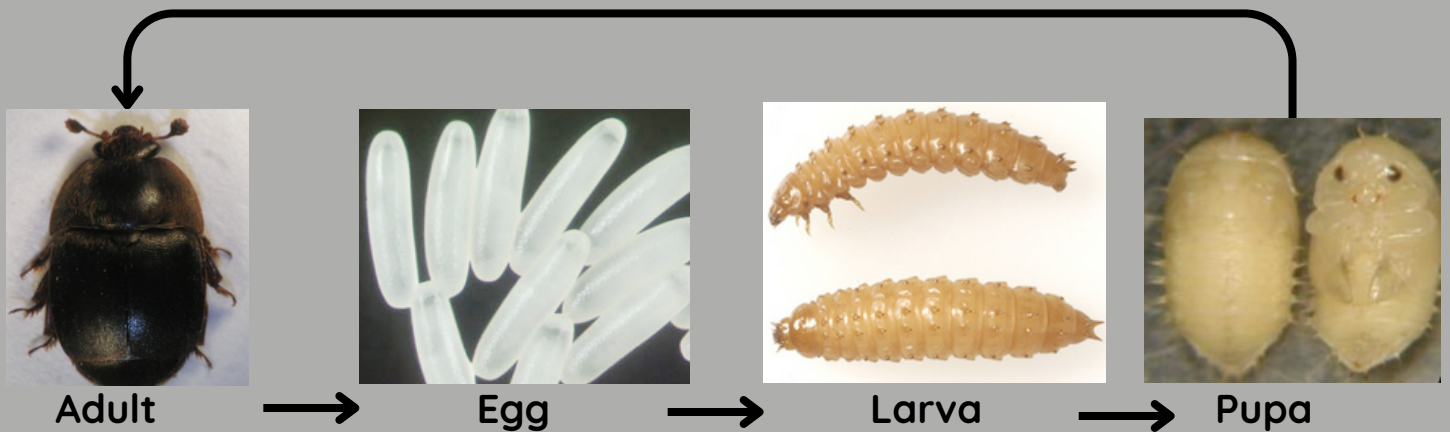
And there's more - bee venom. While a bee sting can be a bit painful, some people are interested in bee venom for its potential health properties. It's used in apitherapy, a practice believed by some to have positive effects on various health conditions.

Beyond honey, these hive products showcase the incredible ingenuity of bees. Beekeepers, while caring for the bees, harvest these valuable substances, creating a harmonious connection between nature's creations and potential health enhancements. So, the next time you think about bees, remember it's not just about the honey - their hive is a treasure trove of beneficial products waiting to be explored.

**BEE WAX****PROPOLIS****BEE POLLEN****ROYAL JELLY**

SMALL HIVE Beetles

Exploring the Behavior and Control of Small Hive Beetles



Native to Sub-Saharan Africa, small hive beetles (SHB) pose a significant threat, especially to already weakened honey bee colonies.

Identification and Behavior:

Adult small hive beetles are oval-shaped, dark brown to black insects, approximately one-third the size of an adult bee, with distinctive club-like antennae. Although they can survive outside the hive, feeding on rotting fruit, they show a strong preference for the rewards found within a honey bee colony. Their attraction to the hive's smells, including pollen, nectar, and alarm pheromones, often leads them to infiltrate bee colonies.

Hive Interaction:

Honey bees exhibit a behavior known as "confinement" to trap adult beetles in the hive's cracks and crevices, preventing them from freely moving and laying eggs. Confined beetles induce trophallaxis, which is where they stimulate the mouth parts of worker bees with their antennae, similar to drones begging for food, and are able to trick their guards into feeding them. Within these confined spaces, female beetles lay clutches of eggs, which hatch into larvae within 3 to 5 days.

Lifecycle and Impact:

SHB larvae, creamy white with legs and spines, tunnel through the hive, consuming pollen, nectar, and brood, leading to fermentation of hive products and characteristic equipment sliming. After 10-14 days, the larvae migrate out of the hive, burrow into the soil, and pupate. Adult beetles emerge 21-35 days later, seeking new colonies to perpetuate the cycle. Populations often peak in mid to late summer and decrease during the winter.

Spread and Control:

Small hive beetles are particularly problematic for struggling colonies. Maintaining strong, healthy colonies in sunny locations with well-kept equipment remains the best preventive measure against SHB infestations. Proper apiary cleanliness is crucial, as old equipment and dead-outs attract beetles. Integrated pest management (IPM) strategies are recommended for SHB control, incorporating mechanical, biological, and chemical methods. Mechanical controls include sunny, well-ventilated hive placement and reusable SHB traps.

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BIKES FOR BEES

The Need for Motorbikes for Tunza Nyuki Beekeeping Extension Team

Tunza Nyuki is on a mission to protect and preserve bees advocating for sustainable practices and bee-friendly environments. The tireless field teams are the backbone of this movement, working diligently to safeguard the precious bee colonies that play a crucial role in our ecosystem. As the team passionately tends to their vital work, a challenge has buzzed into focus: the need for reliable motorbikes.

The Challenge: Distance and Accessibility

As the field teams navigate the landscapes of Bomet, Nyamira, Kisii and Narok Counties, the challenge becomes apparent - reaching distant beekeeping sites efficiently. With these locations often nestled in remote areas, the need for reliable and nimble transportation is evident. Walking long distances can be time-consuming and energy-draining, posing a hurdle to the team's ability to monitor and support beekeeping activities effectively.

The Solution: Two Motorbikes for Mobility

To overcome this challenge, Tunza Nyuki envisions adding two motorbikes to its fleet. These motorbikes will act as wings for the field teams, enabling swift movement between beekeeping sites. The efficiency gained will translate to more effective monitoring, timely interventions, and overall, a seamless orchestration of beekeeping activities.



Tunza Nyuki Field Team Preparing to Harvest Honey



Boxer BM 150UG

Ksh 190,000 per Bike



Why Motorbikes Matter: The Impact on Beekeeping

- 1. Timely Hive Monitoring:** Motorbikes empower the teams to reach even the most remote hives swiftly. This means more timely monitoring to ensure the well-being of the bee colonies.
- 2. Rapid Response to Bee Attacks:** In the event of a bee attack, motorbikes enable a swift response. The teams can reach the site promptly, ensuring the safety of both humans and bees.
- 3. Timely Hive Monitoring:** Motorbikes facilitate reaching even the most remote hives swiftly. This means more timely monitoring to ensure the well-being of the bee colonies.
- 4. Coverage Expansion:** With motorbikes, the reach of Tunza Nyuki expands. More beekeeping sites can be included in the scope, contributing to a more comprehensive conservation effort.
- 5. Efficient Resource Management:** Walking consumes time and energy that could be better utilized in direct beekeeping activities. Motorbikes optimize resource use, allowing the teams to focus on what they do best.

As Tunza Nyuki calls for support in acquiring these two essential motorbikes, it's an invitation to join the ride toward a sustainable and bee-friendly future. Every contribution brings us a step closer to ensuring that the bees in Bomet, Nyamira, Kisii and Narok Counties thrive under the guardianship of a mobile and efficient field team.

THE PROBLEM OF ABSCONDING

An Exploration of Why Bees Leave Your Hive and How to Avoid

In the intricate world of beekeeping, a common challenge beekeepers face is the phenomenon of absconding - when bees decide to leave their hive altogether. While bees are generally known for their loyalty to their homes, several factors can trigger this unexpected departure.

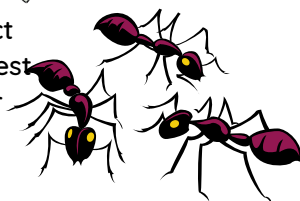
Difference Between Swarming and Absconding

Unlike swarming, where one part of the colony leaves while the other stays, absconding involves the entire bee population—workers, drones, and the queen—leaving the hive altogether. The departing bees then seek a new, more suitable location for nesting, which can be on tree branches or underground.



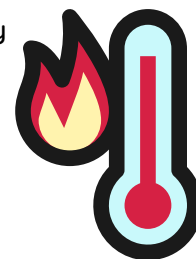
Common Triggers for Absconding:

Disease, predators and Pests: Bees are quite savvy when it comes to sensing threats. If they detect a high level of diseases or pest infestations in the hive, they might choose to leave to protect the rest of the colony. Mites, wax moths, ants, and diseases like foulbrood can prompt absconding. Regular hive inspections, proper medication, and disease management are essential preventive measures.



Poor Ventilation:

Inadequate hive ventilation can lead to extreme weather conditions, affecting bee comfort. Properly designed ventilation holes and systems are essential for maintaining favorable hive conditions.

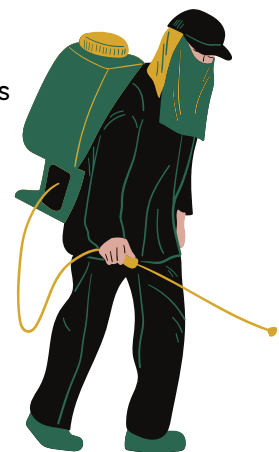


High Humidity and Poor Drainage:

Excess humidity and poor hive drainage can create moist conditions that are harmful to bees. Minimizing hive openings in winter and ensuring proper hive positioning for drainage are preventive measures.

Frequent Disturbances:

Bees dislike disturbances, whether from strong winds, regular maintenance, noisy equipment, or animals. Minimizing disruptions through careful hive management and environmental considerations is crucial.



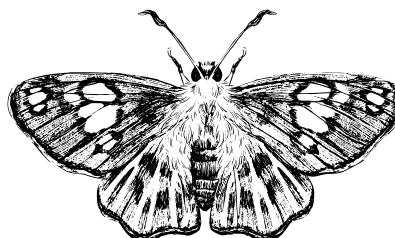
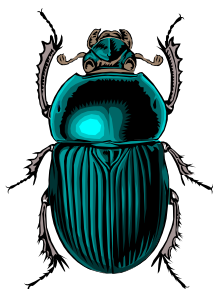
Agrochemical Exposure:

Pesticides and harmful chemicals near the apiary can lead to bee departure. Using environmentally friendly alternatives and ensuring safe chemical use in nearby farms are crucial for hive health.

Limited Hive Space:

Overcrowded or congested hives with insufficient space for honey storage and brood raising can trigger absconding. Installing supers and excluders provides additional space and prevents overcrowding.

Beekeepers can adopt a holistic approach to prevent bee absconding by addressing the multitude of factors influencing hive stability. Through careful hive management, environmental considerations, and proactive measures, the likelihood of absconding can be significantly reduced.



NATURAL BEEKEEPING

Tunza Nyuki is an Advocate of Natural Beekeeping Practices in Bomet County

In Bomet County, Tunza Nyuki is on a campaign to advocate for Natural Beekeeping Practices. . This approach sees bee colonies not just as groups of insects but as complete living organisms, respecting the bees' natural processes with minimal intervention.



1. Complete Organism Approach:

Imagine a beehive as a close-knit community where every bee plays a vital role. In natural beekeeping, beekeepers should treat the entire colony as a living organism, considering the well-being of every bee. It's like nurturing a big, buzzing family.

2. Respect for Natural Processes:

Bees are nature's experts, so beekeepers let them do their thing. Natural beekeeping respects the bees' natural instincts. Beekeepers watch and understand how bees naturally behave, working with their rhythms rather than disrupting them.

3. Natural Food Sources:

Bees, like us, thrive on good food. Natural beekeeping ensures bees have access to a diverse, natural diet. No artificial supplements—just wholesome, natural goodness. It's like giving them a buffet of healthy options.

4. Minimum Intervention:

In natural beekeeping, beekeepers believe in doing less to achieve more. They only step in when needed, letting the bees manage their affairs independently. It's a hands-off approach that reduces stress on the bees, allowing them to be self-sufficient.

5. Harmony with Nature:

Natural beekeeping is about working with nature, not against it. Beekeepers align their practices with the bees and the environment, creating a balanced ecosystem. It's a way of ensuring bees and nature live together in harmony.

6. Simplicity and Wisdom:

Natural beekeeping is all about keeping things simple and wise. It taps into the ancient understanding that bees have thrived for millions of years without much human interference. By respecting their intelligence and nature's wisdom, natural beekeeping stands as a symbol of sustainable beekeeping.



Tunza Nyuki's push for natural beekeeping in Bomet County envisions a future where bees and beekeepers coexist seamlessly with nature. By embracing the simplicity and wisdom of natural practices, Bomet County is set to witness not just honey harvests but the flourishing of a resilient ecosystem, guided by the gentle hum of bees living in harmony with their surroundings.

HOW TO HANDLE BEES SAFELY

The African Bee is Extremely Dangerous, Be Cautious When Handling it

Working with honey bees is a fulfilling endeavor, intricately tied to the delicate balance of respecting these crucial pollinators while ensuring personal safety. Bees, equipped with stingers as their primary defense, necessitate a cautious and thoughtful approach from beekeepers. Here, we explore a comprehensive guide to handling bees safely, promoting a symbiotic relationship between beekeepers and their industrious colonies.

Bee stings, while a natural part of a bee's defense mechanism, can pose risks to humans, either through allergic reactions or overwhelming quantities of stings. Yet, by adopting a calm, gentle, and careful handling approach, beekeepers can effectively manage their colonies without compromising safety.

Preparation before visiting the hive is crucial. Beekeepers should maintain cleanliness, avoiding strong odors of sweat, alcohol, or potent food. Unscented soaps and non-woolly, light-colored clothing are advisable. Apart from this, the beekeeper should wear protective gear including a beesuit and smoker. It's beneficial to have another person accompany visits to the apiary for added safety.

Timing plays a crucial role in beekeeping, with evenings or early mornings recommended, particularly in hot climates. Experienced beekeepers assess environmental conditions, avoiding hive openings during extreme weather. The ideal temperature for beekeeping ranges from 20-25°C.

Quick and gentle handling is key to minimizing disturbances. Beekeepers should avoid knocking or banging hives, opting for a quiet approach. Standing directly in front of the hive entrance is discouraged. Quick, jerky movements can be perceived as an attack, leading to stinging. The use of ample smoke during hive openings helps mask alarm pheromones.

Sting management is a skill every beekeeper should master. If stung, covering the area with smoke and promptly scraping away the sting conceals the alarm smell, preventing further stinging. Avoiding the crushing of bees is equally important to prevent the spread of alarm pheromones and diseases.

Maintaining a clean and clear apiary enhances efficiency and minimizes disturbance during hive work. Care should be exercised with smoke, as excessive use may prompt bees to abscond.

Exiting the apiary requires a strategic approach. Beekeepers should refrain from going directly home or near people until all bees have returned to the hive. Taking a longer route through natural elements like trees or tall grasses is advisable. Smoking each person leaving the apiary ensures bees are not agitated.

In conclusion, beekeeping, when approached with respect, care, and a thorough understanding of safety measures, can be a pleasurable and enriching experience. Fostering a positive relationship with honey bees ensures the well-being of both beekeepers and their essential pollinators, contributing to the sustainability of this vital ecosystem.



Tunza Nyuki field team during hive inspection at night in Kamureito, Bomet County



ATTRACTING BEES TO A BEEHIVE

How to Trap a Colony of Bees

Beekeeping in Kenya, rich with diverse climates and vegetation, offers the opportunity for multiple swarming seasons each year. Understanding how to attract swarms to your beehive is crucial for successful beekeeping. This article focuses on the the key steps to preparing a hive and effectively bait it to entice swarms, with a focus on the primary swarm—the most desirable for your beekeeping endeavors.

In Kenya, where the climate and vegetation vary, bees may swarm at different times of the year. The hallmark of swarming is the simultaneous blooming of numerous flowers, signaling a time when bees feel the need to expand their hive. During this season, the hive produces a new queen, triggering a swarming impulse among the crowded bees. The primary swarm, comprising up to half of the colony, is the most sought-after. Issuing forth with the old queen, this swarm is the largest and most likely to choose your hive as its new residence. Missing out on primary swarms puts beekeepers at a disadvantage, underscoring the importance of strategic hive placement and effective baiting.

Baiting Your Hive

Baiting your hive is a crucial step in attracting swarms, and the timing is key. Place your well-baited hives just before the high fly time, at the onset of the swarming season. This is a period characterized by an abundance of blooming flowers, creating an environment conducive to swarming.

Baiting Techniques for Different Hives:

Log Hive:

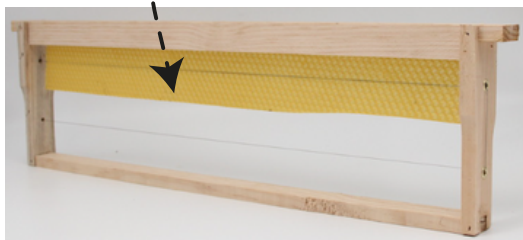
Apply a thin layer of wax to the inside top of the hive.

Top Bar Hive:

Brush wax sparingly on the inner sides of the hive. Place starter strips of wax in the grooves of the bars.

Langstroth Hive:

Brush wax sparingly on the inner sides of the hive. Attach starter strips to the top of the frames.



Attracting bees to your beehive in Kenya involves a careful understanding of the swarming season, hive placement, and effective baiting techniques. The primary swarm is the beekeeper's prized acquisition, and a well-prepared hive, strategically placed and appropriately baited, significantly increases the chances of attracting and retaining these essential pollinators. By following these guidelines, beekeepers can create a hospitable environment that encourages thriving colonies and successful beekeeping ventures.



Hive in Trapping Position at the banks of Kipsonoi River



Hive in Trapping Position at Manaret, Bomet County

TUNZA NYUKI *Editorial Team*

The Team that Makes Communication Possible



Cyrine Kipkoech

Editor-in-Chief

Cyrine brings a wealth of experience to our team as an accomplished beekeeper. His hands-on knowledge of beekeeping practices has significantly contributed to the informative content in this publication.

Cyrine is hands-on, ensuring the day-to-day production aligns seamlessly with the magazine's policies. With a passion for storytelling and a dedication to quality, Cyrine is a driving force behind the compelling narratives that grace our pages.

ABOUT *Tunza Nyuki Beekeeping Hub*

Mission, Vision, Objectives, Membership, Core Activities, Future Plans, and Organizational Structure

What is Tunza Nyuki Beekeeping Hub

Tunza Nyuki is swahili word that means “Take Care of the Bees.” The Tunza Nyuki Beekeeping Hub is an organization that seeks to help people build better lives and take care of the environment through beekeeping.



Vision

Empowering beekeepers for sustainable livelihoods and environmental stewardship, contributing to the development of climate-resilient landscapes.

Core Activities

1. Providing training and workshops on beekeeping best practices.
2. Facilitating market linkages for beekeepers.
3. Promoting environmental conservation initiatives, including forest restoration projects.
4. Empowering women and youth in beekeeping entrepreneurship.
5. Developing and implementing technology solutions for beekeeping and environmental monitoring.

Mission

To empower beekeepers with the knowledge, resources, and support needed to thrive economically while promoting environmental conservation through sustainable beekeeping practices.



Organizational Structure

The organization operates in a decentralized manner to remain fast, agile, and adaptable. The board of directors rotates every two years to ensure fresh perspectives and effective governance. The management team consists of dedicated individuals with expertise in beekeeping, environmental conservation, marketing, and technology.

Main Objective

1. Provide training and capacity-building for beekeepers.
2. Facilitate access to markets and resources for beekeeping.
3. Foster environmental awareness and conservation efforts, including reforestation and habitat restoration.
4. Empower women and youth in beekeeping entrepreneurship.
5. Promote the integration of technology for enhanced productivity, traceability, and environmental monitoring in the beekeeping value chain.

Future Plans

Tunza Nyuki Beekeeping Hub aims to further integrate sustainable practices into beekeeping activities to mitigate environmental impact and promote biodiversity conservation.

Membership

Tunza Nyuki Beekeeping Hub welcomes members who are passionate beekeepers dedicated to sustainable practices. Membership requires an annual fee of Ksh. 1000. Members come from various counties including Bomet, Nyamira, Kisii, Kericho, and Narok.