

# Cattiva gestione api 2019

19/05/2019

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*"cattiva gestione degli alveari"* ... stiamo imparando ...

Comunque sono stati venduti i primi barattoli! ([\*Il miele è sempre più caro\*](#))

honey harvestor inready in their protective gears

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**"bad management of hives"** ... we are learning ... However, the first cans were sold!

our green house workers and the technician from beekeepers ready with the smoker

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... this morning we received the technician from the African beekeepers. he was quite knowledgeable. he identified many poor management related issues.

**1. the main problem** was the Wax moths which is very common butterfly like small flying insect. it is very common in obbitu more so in the green house. because of water. the insect found entry through the same hole used by the bees it eats the wax and start to lay eggs in the beehives the eggs hatch into the larvae which is very active and moves disturbing the bees. the bees being disturbed sacked all the honey and migrated out. in the hives we found the larvae and thread like substances produced by the wax moths. many eggs and adult wax moths. we lost 2 of the colonies.

**2. the second problem** was the siting. - according to the technician, where the stand was constructed was bushy. the bees does not want any slightest disturbs even the branches can swing due to wind and scratch the beehives. the animals, insect can come along the twigs of trees and enter the beehives. also water runoffs from the leaves can get access through the holes. this also likely to have happened in our case.

**3. arranging the hives-** in our case 2 of the beehives was wrongly arranged in that the small hives was at the bottom while the bigger one was on top. it should have been the opposite that the smaller one on top and the bigger one housing the bees and making the honey on the upper compartment.

**4. poor cleaning of the hives.** in our case after setting the hives it was not checked. in actual step should have been checking after every 2 weeks and repeating the cleaning if the bees have not entered the hives. we did not do this part. so the hives were very unattractive to the bees.

**5. the beehives from the hives company was not properly constructed** for ease of movement of bees from one compartment to the other

## lesson learnt

1. identifying proper site , calm ,undisturbed, open free from trees
2. placing the bee hives on a firm stand -
3. cleaning of bee hives with heat and smoke
4. frequent inspection and monitoring of the beehives

## action taken

1. siting the bee hives behind the pan 1 on a level ground at least 2 m apart
2. cleaning we were in demonstration of cleaning and fixing the wax on the rack lines
3. arranged the beehives in order- the small compartment was now on top and it will be when the harvesting will be done in future
4. attraction of the bees. the set beehives were placed on the raised ground to expose the aroma of the smoked wax to the bees in environment. the scent will reach far and wide- it was placed on the roof of pan 1. [caption id="attachment\_13368" align="alignleft" width="300"] Trapping Zone for bees[/caption]

? is Beehives placed in a strategic places called Trap zone. two being on roof top of the Dams ? it is called trapping zone after the colonies move in it will be transferred to the stands behind the pan 1. we are more optimistic on the success of the beekeeping project.

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honey comb  
technician displayin honey comb on the rack  
technician removing the top wax from the honeycomb  
honey extracted from the comb  
honey comb ready for sextracting honey  
honey flowing into the seive and sufuria  
seiving the honey into a sufuri

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... we are exited over the bee project. **we have acquired adequate knowledge and skills to manage the bees keeping project.** we have been taken we have been taken through the harvesting the honey to processing and bottling. we had 3.3kg of pure honey from 10 racks. 1 beehive. 2 of the beehives were not harvested because the honey was only in the lower compartment. saw we only harvested 1 beehive. w the knowledge will go along way to make the beekeeping a successful project. we are very grateful to earnest and the company we bought bottles from earnest and was deliver by the technician sent from the African beekeepers. the bottles were of 1 dozen of 300mg, and 1dozen 500mg bottles. we bottled 11 of the 300mg bottles and were **priced at 300 shillings per bottle and sold all the honey and made 3,300/= shillings.** we have not made any monitoring and followup request from Earnest but i will request fro support and follow up with our progress update i will forward you the bottles in next pictures but receive the harvesting and processing pictures.

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*Thank you, Gufu.*

*I can see a number of critical issues, which we need to read in light of the fact that we are on a learning process with beekeeping practices. So, from a distance, my general feeling is that you received good guidance on how to improve. As you pointed out, we now need to learn the lesson and embed the advise into actions. I will be looking forward to your email concerning harvesting. Did you already agreed on for a follow-up visit from Ernest's team? If not, kindly consider doing so and let us keep on implementing beekeeping thoroughly for 2019-2020.*

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