

BEEKEEPING WEEKLY REPORT: From March 1 to 5

FLOWERING SEASON

Now it's flowering season at our area of Ololosokwan village therefore our honeybee colonies are very busy to find and collecting food (nectar and pollen) as well as searching resin (propolis) for sealing all unwanted holes around their nests (beehives) to ensuring maximum security of their foods and bee broods.

Honeybees feed their all broods (queens, workers and drones) with **royal jelly** at egg stage that means first three days of their life. Then after three days only broods of queens are continuing feeding royal jelly up the day they come out (emerging from their comb cells) but for workers and drones broods their food is changing from royal jelly to mixture of **pollen and honey**.

Our schedules of last week were heavily because it had a lots of activities we planned to do.

On Monday, March 1 as normal it was the day of meeting for all stuffs and two leaders of the namelock group, for discussing failures and succeeded of the last schedules before planned the new one. So after discussed on that we were started to planned activities that week as follows:-

On Tuesday 02 March, we were planned to go to Mairowa B apiary for cleaning and removing all grasses, shrubs, herbs and climbers around the bee cage, these activities went well as we planned because we succeeded to finish cleaned all bee cage and this work was done by one beekeeper called Zombe, two mamas from the namelock group known as Nooloswash and Nolotet with good cooperation from our guard (askari) Mr. Ngututi.

On Wednesday 03 March, we also went to Mairowa B apiary to return all colonized beehives which were on tree branches as well as internal inspections and management. We succeeded to return back inside the bee cage 6 beehives and moved out two empty beehives from the bee cage. Apart of doing that also we added honey supers for the 10 beehives, and we united two week colonies to made one strong one. All activities was done by Zombe and Francis (beekeepers) and Nooloswash and Nolotet women with askari Mr. Ngututi.

On Thursday 04 March, we went at Mairowa A apiary for cleaning and removing all grasses, shrubs, herbs and climbers around the bee cage, this activities went well as we planned because we succeeded to finish cleaned all bee cage also we cuts some of tree branches which were covered the bee cage entrance. Members who did those activities were Zombe and Francis (beekeepers) and Nashiluni and Nookisaruni from the womens group.

On Friday 05 March, we had two schedules on two different apiaries, first schedule was at Sero apiary and the activity of cleaned, re-baited and sited again all 18 empty beehives in order to catch new swarms, and this activity was successful done, and the members who did it were Mzee James (beekeeper) and for the. Mamas - Nalari and Nasarisaro. Another work was planned at Mairowa A apiary, went there for returned back 8 beehives which colonies inside the bee cage and moved one empty beehive which its colony was absconded out the bee cage.

Therefore after doing internal inspections at two apiaries of Mairowa A and B, we notified that the following week we must starting harvesting of honey for some of beehives. And our operation will starting with Mairowa B apiary, then Mairowa A, as well as Ololosokwan apiary and finally at Sero apiary.