Honeybees, beekeeping and bee products in our daily lives

Bee products: providing nutrition and generating income -

In collaboration with TECA Kenya

By Florence Egal, Food Security and Nutrition expert, Italy

Dear Members,

“Has come to an end and we would like to thank you all for your interest and participation.

Thank you everyone who has taken part in this lively and wide-ranging discussion about bees and beekeeping.

The importance of bees cannot be understated. In addition to providing honey, these animals play a vital role in pollination and ecosystems, serving as an essential source of income for rural communities and environmental conservation.

We have heard from a number of countries about the range of uses for bee products, including the use of honey in brewing, in medicine, for medicinal foods, in cosmetics, and in the production of bee pollen. The valuable contribution of honeybees to biodiversity and ecosystem services is well documented, and the loss of honeybees can result in a decline of the environment in many areas.

In national programmes, the role of honeybees in rural livelihoods is often viewed both as an asset for income generation and as a way to ensure food security. Honey products play an important role in the economy of a number of countries, and the production of honey and bee pollen can be an important source of income for rural communities.

However, there are still a number of countries that do not actively support beekeeping, and the general decline and costs of beekeeping has raised the price of honey in some countries.

The importance of bees cannot be understated. In addition to providing honey, their value lies in pollination and ecosystem services, economic value as a source of income, and cultural and religious significance.

We hope to follow up on this discussion in the future. We will be seeking to identify ways to support the development of better policies and practices in this area.

Thank you again for your participation, and we look forward to continuing this discussion on best practices and technologies in the agroforestry sector.

Food Security and Nutrition in APEC Economies. Sharing lessons and learning into the future – What’s being done and to what effect?

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Polyrhum Shokubaike, "Land of Plenty Agriculture Distribution" Ltd, India

In India, honey is used as a medical tool as well as a dietary product. However, honey production is not kept in line with the need for its production, and this includes the use of honey in brewing and traditional medicines.

In Ghana, honey is used for medical as well as dietary purposes. However, Solomon informs us that the use of honey in the country has increased, but the quality of honey produced is not consistent.

In this digest we share with you a closing note by this facilitator of the discussion, James Edge, Food Security and Nutrition expert, Italy.

Thank you everyone who has taken part in this lively and wide-ranging discussion about bees and beekeeping. In the meantime, please do join the FSN Forum team to continue the discussion on best practices and technologies in the agricultural sector.

Your FSN Forum team