

BEHAVIOR OF THE WILD BEE (Apis mellifica)

IN THE PRODUCTION OF HONEY

EXPOSED TO THE EFFECTS OF HOMA THERAPY AND AGNIHOTRA

(Translated from the original document in Spanish)

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Duration of the study: 3 years covering the period 1999-2001

Bees - Europeanised local -Apis mellifica

I. Introduction

The beekeeping activity in the Peruvian Amazon, especially in the Ucayali Region, is developing poorly, with average yields in production in the order of 15 to 20 kilos of Honey per beehive per extraction.

The composition of honey coming from bees positioned near areas where conventional agriculture using agrochemicals is carried out contains from 33 to 66% toxic residues. The areas of high risk of contamination of the beehives are those near plantations of oil palms, where herbicides and chemical pesticides are used.

The European type bees do not adapt easily to tropical or subtropical forest of the Amazon and, from the beginning, are attacked by ants and in other cases, by very voracious and insect eating birds. When these bees adapt, they begin to produce honey only after a year of being installed. Even so, when there is production, pathogenic agents that proliferate in the environment, like fungus, bacteria, insects among others, make honey quality poor. Finally the bees leave the beehives, looking for more favorable places to live, such as virgin forests.

Within the agricultural area where Homa Therapy or Homa Organic Farming is applied, it is observed that plenty of food availability is generated due to the continuous flowering of crops, with high content of nectar and propolis achieved. This makes the Homa area a highly mellifluous place; that is to say, natural permanent flowering behavior is present the whole year round, in summer as well as in winter. Add to this the availability of clean water and overall vitality of nature generated by the practice of Homa Therapy. The daily applications involved in Homa Organic Farming clean up and maintain the agricultural ecosystems keeping them in balance. This of course creates favorable conditions for the bees.

Three Year Study

During three consecutive years, it was possible to observe the behavior of the wild bees, managed with and without Homa Therapy.

The area

The areas where apiaries were observed, were those belonging to beekeepers located in the district of Campo Verde and Nueva Requena of the Coronel Portillo province, Ucayali Region.

Contaminated conditions

It is necessary to point out that the area where apiaries were being managed applying Homa Technology, was a very polluted area, with extremely toxic soils due to the indiscriminate use of agrochemicals on coca leaf crops. This contamination was further exacerbated by air fumigations for coca leaf eradication. However with Homa Therapy it was possible to heal the whole ecosystem.

Comparatively: the observed apiaries where Homa Therapy was not applied, had better conditions in the beginning with favourable agricultural facilities, such as permanent cultivations of citrus, plants which produce high quantities of nectar.

Despite this unfair advantage at the outset, at the end of the technical evaluation, it was the beehives managed with Homa Therapy that presented higher levels of honey production and better quality of honey.

II. EVALUATION TECHNIQUES

The evaluations for honey production were biweekly in the summer season and monthly during the rainy time. The evaluated parameters were: Location, Sanitation and honey yield per beehive.

Likewise, technical specifications on how the apiaries were maintained were considered: Crops installed, forest with presence of mellifluous plants, smooth slopes, natural drinking troughs, availability of technically trained apiarists and personnel, among others. The apiaries managed with Homa technology, receive the nutritionalised and vitalised atmosphere daily through the twice daily practice of Agnihotra and complimentary Homas, as well as introduction of Agnihotra ash applications to the frames at each evaluation time.

III. RESULTS

- Honey content kept increasing with each production due to effects of Homa Therapy and Agnihotra ash.
- For apiaries managed with Homa Therapy average honey content over 3 productions was 33 to 35 kilos of honey per hive.
- Comparatively, on those apiaries managed without Homa Therapy average yields were 20 kilos of honey per production hive.

The Homa beehives were filled with honey, and also semi liquid and small concentrations of a substance like butter bread.


IV. CONCLUSIONS.

- The honey obtained in a Homa Therapy environment, presents a very pleasant flavor. It maintains the exquisite aroma of the flowers. It shows uniform color with a natural aspect. The syrup like consistency of the honey is at its best. This high quality is also observed in the other bee products such as royal jelly, propolis and wax.
- Because of Homa Therapy effect and supplementing the feeding of the bees with Agnihotra ash, these bees produce a honey that has a very pleasant and unique flavor. This happens independently of the plant species from which the nectar was extracted.
- Similarly, the color of the honey obtained from beehives managed with Homa Therapy, acquire a uniform color that goes from a yellow orange to almost brown. It is transparent and it does not present residues. One of the outstanding characteristics of the honey obtained with Homa Therapy is that *it* leaves a pleasant sensation on the tongue after it has been eaten.
- The color of the honey obtained with Homa Therapy is due to the effect of Homa Atmosphere and Agnihotra ash and is not a function of the type of plant from which bees obtained their food.
- It is observed that the foundations are built quickly and become full of honey in a very short time, in almost three weeks. During the period of this rapid abundant production, many bees are to be observed flying in and out of the beehive.
- Because of Homa Therapy effect, there is also honey production where it usually does not take place in the frames where brood is deposited.
- A magnificent honey is obtained with Homa Therapy. It is highly medicinal and a high quality food.
- The whole ecosystem healed with Homa Therapy, becomes a very good habitat for bees. Permanent flowering due to the effect of Homa Therapy is very favorable for them.
- The Apiaries managed with Homa Therapy developed within a pure and vital atmosphere. All the bee products were obtained in a sustainable and ecological way.
- The honey produced within Homa Therapy atmosphere has special characteristics, besides being obtained in an organic and ecological way, without the use of any chemical substances.
- The area where the apiaries managed with Homa Therapy were installed did not have the advantages of flowering cultivations such as citrus, papaya and others. The other areas where apiaries without Homa Therapy were managed, almost in all cases, had plantations that were a favorable food source for the bees.
- In spite of having been an ex coca producing area, extremely polluted because of the indiscriminate use of agrochemicals and having received air fumigations from coca leaf eradicators, the whole ecosystem was healed by the effect of Homa Therapy and the application of Agnihotra ash. There were 3 productions with the highest production level of honey of the Ucayali Region.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Having seen the excellent results obtained so far, we recommend continuing with application of Homa Technology for apiary handling and we recommend teaching Homa Therapy to those places where it is not being applied.
- In areas where apiaries are managed with Homa Therapy, it is necessary to install permanent and half permanent crops with good nectar behavior to assure food availability for bees.
- Where Homa Therapy is applied to manage apiaries, we recommend installing an integral agro-forestry type system of cultivations, including forest, medicinal trees, nectar producing trees, trees with germicidal and biocidal qualities and fruit-bearing trees among others. That will ensure a rich source of food for the bees.
- The presence of the trees will also act as a good wind shield to protect the beehives from strong winds characteristic of the area. They will also give more protection to the cabins where the healing fires of Homa Therapy are conducted..

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