

Sustaining the Bee Keeping Program at Namasagali College in Kamuli, Uganda

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Introduction

Beekeeping, in the Kamuli district of Uganda, is used as an agricultural practice so that the people of Kamuli can be supported by not only the monetary value that honey as an entrepreneurial product gives but also the sustainable practice in which consuming honey provides great nutritional and medicinal benefits.

- The apiary is located within the secondary school of Namasagali College where the entrepreneurship club has direct access to be able to practice hands-on learning skills concerning agriculture, the ecosystem, and business management
- Encourages a diverse, functional habitat for native organisms



Photo 1). Harvesting honey with the top bar hives

Objectives

- Meet with local community members
- Reconstruct present hives to be more sustainable for bee colonization
- Ensure safe accessibility of hives while still protecting them from outside pressures
- Increase pupils interest in entrepreneurial programs
- Increase number of bee colonies populating hives



Photo 2). Supported top bar hive



Photo 3). Supported log hive

Methods

- Bated unoccupied hives with cow dung
- Created a pulley system for the hives
- Contacted local farmers
- Trained members of the entrepreneurial club for effective habitat maintenance
- Implemented sunflower plots
- Identified surrounding plant species
- Cleared invasive and unwanted brush
- Created a log book for pupils
- Ensured a program advisor to oversee pupils



Photo 4). Smoking the top bar hives

Results

- Reestablished original hives according to cultural and educational influencers
- Established a log book for pupils to ensure productivity
- Trained pupils to ensure effective habitat maintenance
- Manipulated surrounding habitat to be more attractive for colonies
- Relocated hives to cover a wider range of space at Namasagali College near plant species conducive for colonization

Conclusions

- Beekeeping provides essential ecosystem benefits for other organisms and the community
- Honey is an agricultural product that provides reliable income
- Education is necessary for innovation



Photo 5). Meeting with pupils

Recommendations

- Continue (and update as needed) log book for pupils to instill a sustaining sense of direction
- Create an outreach program with local farmers to spread knowledge of the benefits from beekeeping for the community and ecosystem

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