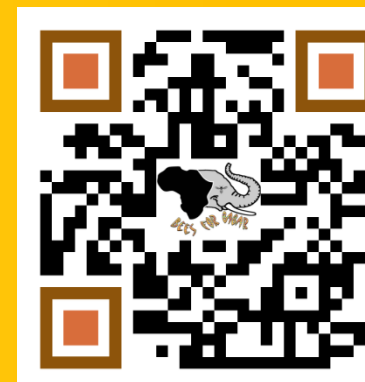


COLLECTING HONEY

simple steps for better honey



1 bee prepared

Always get your tools & clothing ready before opening the hive.

DON'T work bees if you are not prepared or if you are rough—you will get stung more

2 smoke is protection

Keep your smoker burning. Use smoke on yourself & the hive to calm the bees.

DON'T let your smoker get too empty—you need smoke for protection

3 use clean buckets

If harvesting, use clean buckets with tight lids so bees cannot enter.

DON'T use dirty buckets or buckets with holes—bees will start robbing and stinging

4 check hives regularly

Look at your hives every 2–3 weeks in honey season.

DON'T harvest from hives with less than five large brood combs—weak hives may leave

5 work bees when cool

Work hives in early morning or at night when bees are calm.

DON'T work hives when it is hot—hot bees are angry and sting more

6 hive switch

Move the hive you want to work on to a shady area and leave an empty hive in its place—when done, move the hive back.

DON'T work a hive that is too angry. Close it and come back later—angry bees sting more

7 work behind hive

Stand behind the hive so bees can fly freely.

DON'T stand at the hive entrance—guard bees will attack you

8 brush bees

Before removing comb, gently brush the bees back into the hive with leaves or grass

DON'T crush or shake bees roughly—this will make them sting

9 re-hive brood comb quickly

Put brood comb back fast. Do not harvest brood.

DON'T harvest combs with larvae or capped brood—leave the baby bees to grow

10 harvest ripe honey only

When harvesting, take only honeycomb that is mostly capped with white wax—this means the honey is ready.

DON'T harvest combs with many open cells—unripe honey will spoil

11 bucket honey quickly

Cut the comb from the top-bar and place it in the bucket. Close the lid immediately and put the top-bar back on the hive.

DON'T leave buckets uncovered or too full—bees will get in and start robbing

12 leave colony some honey

Leave 1 comb of honey for every 2 combs of brood so the bees don't leave.

DON'T take too much honey before the dry season—the bees will get hungry and leave

13 bury leftover smoker fuel

Bury hot smoker fuel or take it home to prevent fires

DON'T dump hot embers on the ground—this can cause fires

14 keep wax & honey covered scraps

Take wax bits home to prevent bees from fighting and leaving.

DON'T leave honey-covered scraps in the apiary—bees will fight and leave

Support for harvest can be requested from the local Community Beekeeping Trainer or

Mohammed Ali Ibrahim
Beekeeping Enterprise
Tamale, Ghana
Whatsapp +233 244897347

Abdulai Abdul Rashid
Destiny Honey Farms
Tamale, Ghana
Whatsapp + 233 245333857