PP-295 [Beekeeping Technology and Quality]
Capturing the larvae of the Small Hive Beetle (SHB) using a modified beehive stand as a tool for apiary bee pests management -The case of adopting an innovative multi-functional beehive stand

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BACKGROUND:
Beehive stands keep the hive off the grounds and prevent pests like ant from entering to disrupt the bees and to cause absconding. Considering the fact that the larvae of the Small Hive Beetles (SHB) crawl out of the hive to pupate in the soil, a capture mechanism is being developed within the beehive stand to capture as many of the larval

Problem Description
SHB and beeswax moth are indigenous to Africa and they cause a lot of losses to the beekeepers. To do commercial beekeeping in Africa these pests must be controlled as for many recycled extracted combs sent to the hive it is only one which is protected and worked on by the bees at a time whilst the rest are left at the mercy of these pest to build. As the larvae of SHB escape it is the weak link in their developmental stages which is an advantage to be captured as a least control measure cost

OBJECTIVE: To modified the beehive stand to additionally capture the SHB larvae to reduce SHB pest infestation in the apiary

Materials and METHODS: Metal beehive stand of dimension 200 x 200 x 30cm with extension for shade formation.
A bag of soil.
A deep tray to capture SHB larval-
Ant guard-

Methods Trays are filled with moist soil and inserted under the beehive stand location to capture any escaping SHB larvae. The edge of the tray is such that the larvae upon dropping on the tray with sand cannot craw out of the tray.

Results and CONCLUSION: Escaping SHB larvae are captured into the tray with sand which are later spread for household fowls to feed on. The tray with soil acted like a trap to capture the SHB Larvae to reduce their prominence in the apiary area hence reduce their infestation level of the hives.