APIMONDIA SCANDINAVIA 2025
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PP-474 [Beekeeping Economy]

APIMONDIA SCANDINAVIA 2025 23-27 SEPTEMBER

COMAPIS APICULTURA

COPENHAGEN

Production and marketing experience of honey and pollen in the high tropics with seven beneficiaries and apiaries with average heights of 3,500 MSL in the municipalities of Aquitania, Sogamoso and Tota, Boyacá Colombia

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Colombia has 3 departments (Boyacá, Cundinamarca and Santander) that produce pollen. Having productions during 33 weeks of the year, hives that produce up to 55Kg of pollen/hive/year.

Colombia may be the largest producer and exporter of pollen in the world.

They are apiaries installed in places far from urban centers, crops and roads. COMAPIS developed and executed a project financed by AICCA in the Boyacá region for the restoration of the upper basin of the Lake Tota ring

Height, **3500 MSL**
36 hives.
Lake Tota ring, one of the highest lakes in the world.
Daily and indiscriminate use of insecticides is the greatest impact along with the reduction of forests to plant onions in the region.
The main challenge was to locate the apiaries, with the experience of COMAPIS it was determined: to reduce impact by insecticides, little wind, low humidity and high solar radiation; 2 apiaries were located in Sogamoso, two in Aquitania and three in Tota, Boyacá

Pollen

6 month
Sep 2021 – Mar 2022

257Kg collected

Fresh pollen price
US$4,62/Kg
COP$20.000/Kg

Today

1.254Kg collected pollen

Honey

6 month
Sep 2021 – Mar 2022

127Kg collected honey

Seal of designation of origin
US$16/Kg

Today

+750Kg collected honey
9 apiaries

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Production and marketing experience of honey and pollen in the high tropics with seven beneficiaries and apiaries with average heights of 3,500 above sea level in the municipalities of Aquitania, Sogamoso and Tota, Boyacá, Colombia

Mario Fernando Parrado Molano
COMAPIS APICULTURA General manager

Colombia has 3 departments (Boyacá, Cundinamarca and Santander) that produce pollen. Having productions during 33 weeks of the year, hives that produce up to 55Kg of pollen/hive/year. They are apiaries installed in places far from urban centers, crops and roads. COMAPIS developed and executed a project financed by AICCA in the Boyacá region for the restoration of the upper basin of the Lake Tota ring, one of the highest lakes in the world, and Colombia's onion larder, with a height of 3,500 meters above sea level, but the daily and indiscriminate use of insecticides is the greatest impact along with the reduction of forests to plant onions in the region. The main challenge was to locate the apiaries, with the experience of COMAPIS it was determined: to reduce impact by insecticides, little wind, low humidity and high solar radiation; 2 apiaries were located in Sogamoso, two in Aquitania and three in Tota, Boyacá, 36 hives were installed from four-frame nuclei with young, fertilized and marked queen, they were supplemented with syrup in top feeders designed by COMAPIS, facilitating feeding and reducing heat loss; Training and assistance were carried out every 15 days at each apiary. For the entire project, in 6 months of execution we obtained several pollen harvests, a total of 257Kg of pollen collected; four harvests of honey totaling 127Kg, a seal was developed with the region's designation of origin for beekeeping products, the sales price per Kg of honey was $69,000 (US$16.51). To date there are nine apiaries and they have harvested more than 750kg of honey and 1,254kg of pollen. Pending challenge, create the association.