PP-493 [Beekeeping for Rural Development]

RURAL DEVELOPMENT
TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE IN BEEKEEPING: LESSONS FROM INDIGENOUS SPECIES - A CASE STUDY AT TWIFO PRASO, CENTRAL REGION, GHANA, WEST AFRICA.

RAYMOND KARIKARI

About 80% of honey produced in Ghana is by wild honey and traditional hunters, the other 20% from modern beekeeping

BACKGROUND/PURPOSE

Wild honey hunting

A result of wild honey hunting

Tensions between human and wildlife

The tragic outcome of human-elephant conflict

Lighting of torches

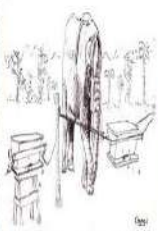
Burnt beehive

Bush fires

METHODODLOGY

Shareholders met to discuss modern beekeeping methods

Beehaving, baseline before interventions



Using beekeeping to solve human-elephant conflict

Beehive fence naturally deters elephants

Most people formed small beekeeping groups

Establishment of an apiary

Empowering women through hands-on beekeeping

PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

Snakes are also a threat to beekeepers

Wax moth and black beetle, pests that threaten hives

Absconding, causing colony losses in traditional processes

RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

Beekeeping creating jobs and income

Tricycle supporting beekeeping transport needs

Beekeeping Center at Twifo Praso, Ghana

PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS

Beekeeping and Honey Centre, Bimponso, Ghana

Community members showcasing honey, beeswax and tools gained through beekeeping prectises

Practical application of beekeeping skills with active harvest and community engagement

PP-493 [Beekeeping for Rural Development]

Traditional knowledge in beekeeping: lessons from indigenous species. a case study at twifo praso, central region, ghana, west africa

Raymond Karikari
Association of Beekeepers

In the rural areas of Twifo Praso, traditional beekeeping practices are primarily focused on harvesting wild honey, often leading to bush burning that destroys crops and exacerbates environmental degradation. Simultaneously, the region experiences ongoing human-elephant conflicts, as elephants raid food crops, causing significant economic and food security challenges for local residents. A sustainable solution has been proposed that integrates beekeeping into conservation efforts, both to mitigate the destruction of crops by elephants and to enhance local livelihoods through modern beekeeping techniques. This approach aims to leverage the natural deterrent of bees, which elephants avoid, to protect crops from raids. Furthermore, the introduction of modern beekeeping practices will improve honey production, increase local income, and reduce the need for bush burning, promoting environmental conservation. The initiative also includes community involvement, where local residents are trained and empowered to adopt modern beekeeping methods. This model not only addresses the human-elephant conflict but also fosters sustainable agricultural practices and community-driven conservation efforts. Through collaboration with local farmers and conservationists, the project envisions a harmonious coexistence between people, wildlife, and the environment in Twifo Praso.