

**PP-509 [Beekeeping for Rural Development]
Beekeeping Entrepreneurship, Training, Honey Processing and Marketing**

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Bee9 and Farmers Beekeeping Academy and Training Centre a passionate initiative nestled in the heart of Mysore with a mandate to provide next generation environmental stewards-our future beekeepers!. It was established in 2013 mainly to produce beekeeping entrepreneurs through training and education and providing comprehensive training programmes for farmers, youth, women and children. These programs equip them with modern and scientific beekeeping techniques, artificial queen rearing methods and imparting the importance of pollination for sustainable agriculture, horticulture productivity and increase in forest produce.

Organising training programmes to spread awareness and advocating the importance of beekeeping and its crucial role in ecosystem service to students of schools, colleges including Agriculture and Horticulture Universities of India. Through building beekeeping skills and the confidence gained in our programs foster a hands-on learning environment, allowing young individuals to develop practical beekeeping skills and gain the confidence to become future beekeeping leaders. Further, by fostering a love for bees in young minds we can aim to create a ripple effect of positive change for our planet and we strongly believe that, by equipping them with the knowledge and skills we can inspire a generation dedicated to protecting these vital pollinators and promoting sustainable beekeeping practices.

Created a state-of-the-facility for branding, processing of honey based on the floral source mono-floral, bi-floral and multi-floral honey and other value added products such as royal jelly, beeswax candles, soaps creams, bee pollen and bee propolis. Created a good market niche for our products in the name of Mack Bee9 Nutraceuticals, Bee9 Elegance for Honey, spices and dry fruits, Bee9 cool joint and expanding the units of Bee9 in Malaysia and other countries. The details will be discussed.