



North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR), Dept. of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India

Success Story of Honey Mission



NECTAR Bee Keeping and Honey Mission Project

NECTAR has launched a Honey Mission mode project upon successful pilot implementation. Honey Bee rearing activity during the winter season of 2022-23 i.e., November-March 2023 was initiated where in the large scale Bee Colonies were established to rear on migration basis. Mostly Bee foraging area covered over Mustard cultivated zones in various parts of NER. More than 2000 bee colonies were implemented in clusters during the season in few potential districts of North East India. About 3 tons of Honey were produced in the process from these colonies during the season. Training and sensitisation program on scientific bee keeping were provided to 200 local aspirants.



Prior to the mission mode interventions on Bee keeping NECTAR has supported more than 3875 innovative movable and fixed bee boxes to 300 honey growers in Nagaland with training and Skill development programs for scientific Honey Bee Keeping in the state. Nagaland Beekeeping and Honey Mission with the support of NECTAR has established the honey testing laboratory having been inaugurated by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar on 27th June 2022. NECTAR has conducted desktop studies on scope of Bee keeping and Honey production in NER and especially from mustard as the crop is practiced in huge acreages in NER. Also, NECTAR conducted a pilot project in Sonitpur district of Assam and Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh, which produced significant yield of Honey from Mustard floras during November to February; Sesame, Lichi, Maize and Mango etc. from March to June. Many willing and interested groups and community people have come forward to practice bee keeping, it encourages NECTAR to implement bee keeping project in larger level for the benefit of the communities in the regions.





To ensure the smooth operation of the project, NECTAR has empanelled Implementing Agencies and the sites are being taken care by skilled and semi skilled Bee Keepers. For regular monitoring and reporting, a mobile application has been adopted by NECTAR where real time information is being gathered from time to time.



About Implementation sites:

Rearing of 300 Nos of bee colonies in cluster mode at Rowta Village in Udalguri district of Assam yielded about 45 quintals of Honey during the winter mustard season. The extracted honey was of satisfactory quality and found to be of multiflora due to presence of other wild variety floras in and around the site.



Rearing of 300 Nos of bee colonies at Gorukhuti Village in Darrang districts of Assam with good quantity of honey production from the site. The site is favourable with a good floral count and about 15 quintals of Honey was extracted from these colonies during the winter season till February 2023.

Rearing of 250 Nos of bee Colonies in six villages of Dhemaji and 50 Nos in two villages of Lakhimpur districts of Assam, were implemented for sensitisation of village community on benefits of Bee Keeping. Approximately 2-3 kg of honey was extracted per box during first 15 days. Overall 12 quintals of Honey was produced in the season from these village level clusters.



89 Bee colonies in six villages in Dibrugarh district of Assam were distributed at house hold level to harness honey from floras of neighbourhood agriculture and horticulture crops including wild floras. Good quantity of Honey was harvested at individual prospective Bee Keepers in the area.

135 Bee Colonies were implemented in three villages in Baksa District of Assam over large mustard cultivation zones with available of more than adequate floras in the region. The cluster yielded 10 quintals of Honey in the season of 95 days.



Rearing of 150 bee colonies in two villages of Golaghat district of Assam foraging mustard flora regions in the nearby locations. The cluster also reported good amount of yield in the season.

210 Bee colonies in one cluster at village No 2 Nam Bakalia in KarbiAnglong district of Assam was implemented. About 25 quintals of Honey was extracted from the cluster as reported by Bee Keeper.



120 Bee colonies in two villages of Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh were implemented for sensitisation and awareness to local community with Honey production from neighbourhood forest, agriculture & horticulture floras in and around the village clusters. Good yield of Honey from wild flora was reported.

150 Bee colonies in the village Thetsumiof Phek district of Nagaland were distributed to implement at own farm level for Bee Keeping Practice and experience under the guidance support of professional Beekeepers in the region.



100 Nos of bee colonies have been successfully installed at Marngar, Ri Bhoidistrict of Meghalaya. The cluster is set up to explore wild floras from neighbourhood forest areas and the site anticipates that the honey production and extraction would also yield favourable results.





Training & skill development and sensitisation activity:

About 200 beneficiaries in 10 batches were given training on scientific bee keeping in various locations. Awareness and sensitisation program involving local communities and remote village population were conducted through visit of nearest clusters and the benefits of Beekeeping for sustainable livelihood was made as outreach activity under the mission mode project of NECTAR.



Livelihood Generation from the project:

Each Clusters of NECTAR implementation site has given opportunity to full time involve of 2-3 local people with a Bee keepers available in district level supervised and monitoring bee keeping during the season. NECTAR further given opportunity to enhance the skill of bee keeping of those villages people in the area by engaging suitable training programs through experts. About 30 prospective beekeepers.



Future Plan of Interventions by NECTAR

- Plan to implement 50000 Bee Colonies in all parts of North East states in the next two to three years.
- Create Honey Ecosystem in North East Region by establishing most required infrastructures for sustainable bee keeping in the region.

- In the coming season more numbers of Bee colonies shall be implemented with creation of Honey storage, processing, testing facilities and Establishing bee breeding Centers, bee equipment manufacturing units, integrated Beekeeping & Development Centers (IBDCs) etc. simultaneously, in potential parts of NER through NBHM Schemes for sustainability of the sector in the region.
- More numbers of training on scientific bee keeping and skill development programs for extraction of Bee Hive products such as beeswax, propolis, flower pollen, bee pollen, and royal jelly etc. shall be thrust areas of NECTAR under the Mission Mode Project.

