

MAKERERE



UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATION SCIENCES

BSE 4100: DATA COLLECTION TOOL

PROJECT TITLE: A Honey Production System(HPS) for Beekeepers in Uganda

GROUP BSE 24-8

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Interview Questions for Beekeepers

Good morning/afternoon Sir/Madam

We are students from Makerere University College of Computing and Information Sciences in our final year under the AdEMNEA project. We are conducting a study to assess the currently used method and any technologies adopted in beekeeping today. We seek to find out any challenges faced, the efficiency and management of bee hives. Therefore, we would like to ask for a few minutes of your time to answer a few questions that we curated for this purpose.

We shall not use, publish, transfer, sell, or otherwise disclose any confidential information regardless of form, including originals, images, and reproductions obtained from this interview for any purpose that is not directly connected with the purpose and justification of the to-be-developed honey productivity system.

Interviewee Information:

Name: _____

Contact: _____

Date of Interview: _____

PREREQUISITES:

- Do you have any questions before we begin this interview?
- May I begin the interview now?
- Is it fine with you if we record this interview?

1. Introduction and Background:

- How long have you been involved in beekeeping?
- How many hives do you currently manage?
- How many are colonized?

2. Daily Management and Challenges:

- What are the challenges you encounter in beekeeping?

3. Use of Technology:

- What types of technology, if any, do you use or have you ever used in managing your hives?

☐ Weighing scales

☐ Thermometers

☐ Mobile apps

☐ None

☐ Others (Specify):

- What is your experience with this technology if applicable?

☐ Good

☐ Average

☐ Bad

○ Can you describe how technology has changed the way you manage your hives?

○ Why did you stop using this technology? (Only if applicable)

4. Understanding of Hive Conditions:

○ Which methods do you use to check the following conditions in your hives: temperature, pollution levels, humidity, and bee activity? (Please specify for each condition: Visual Inspection, Manual Measurement, Digital Devices, Not Monitored)

○ Temperature

☐ Visual Inspection

☐ Manual Measurement

☐ Digital Devices

☐ Not Monitored

☐ Others (Specify):

○ Humidity

☐ Visual Inspection

☐ Manual Measurement

☐ Digital Devices

☐ Not Monitored

☐ Others (Specify):

○ Pollution Levels

☐ Visual Inspection

☐ Manual Measurement

☐ Digital Devices

☐ Not Monitored

☐ Others (Specify):

○ Hive Weight

☐ Visual Inspection

☐ Manual Measurement

☐ Digital Devices

☐ Not Monitored

☐ Others (Specify):

○ Bees Activity

☐ Visual Inspection

☐ Digital Devices

☐ Not Monitored

☐ Others (Specify):

5. How do you currently determine the best time to harvest honey? (Please choose: Calendar Dates, Bee Activity, Flowering Patterns, Hive Weight, Other - specify)

- ☐ Calendar Dates/Seasons(Specify):
- ☐ Hive Weight(Specify Weight):.....
- ☐ Bee Activity
- ☐ Flowering patterns
- ☐ Other(Specify):

6. Feeding Practices:

- How often do you find it necessary to feed your bees supplementary food?
 - ☐ Monthly
 - ☐ Seasonally(Specify):
 - ☐ Never
- What indicators do you use to decide when to start supplementary feeding?
(Please choose: Bee Behavior, Weather Conditions, Hive Productivity, Other - specify)
 - ☐ Bee behavior
 - ☐ Weather Conditions
 - ☐ Hive Productivity
 - ☐ Other - Specify:.....

7. Record Keeping:

- What kind of records do you maintain for your beekeeping activities?
 - ☐ Production records
 - ☐ Feeding records
 - ☐ Health/ Mortality
 - ☐ Harvest Dates
 - ☐ None
 - ☐ Other - Specify:.....
- How do you use this information in your beekeeping practice?

8. Colony Health and Behavior:

- Have you been affected by colony absconding before?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
- If yes, what signs did you notice before these events occurred?

9. Community Interaction:

- Do you discuss beekeeping methods with other beekeepers?
 - ☐ Frequently
 - ☐ Occasionally
 - ☐ Rarely
 - ☐ Never
- What are the most common topics you discuss with them? (Options: Bee Health, Harvesting Techniques, Market Prices, Equipment Use, Other - specify)
 - ☐ Bee Health

- ☐ Harvesting Techniques
- ☐ Market Prices
- ☐ Equipment use
- ☐ Other - Specify:.....

10. Security Concerns:

- Have you experienced hive theft before?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
- Have you taken any steps to protect your hives from theft or vandalism?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
- If yes, what measures have you implemented?

11. Quality Assurance:

- What methods do you use to ensure the quality of your honey?
 - ☐ Regular Hive Checks
 - ☐ Quality Testing
 - ☐ Controlled Harvesting
 - ☐ Keeping Recommended Distance from areas where pesticides are applied
 - ☐ Other - Specify:.....

12. Have you encountered problems with agrochemical contamination in your hives or honey products?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

13. Feedback on Proposed HPS Features:

- Please rank the necessity of the following proposed HPS features
- Remote Hive Monitoring (Temperature, Humidity, Pollution Levels, Hive weightBee Activity):
 - ☐ Very Necessary
 - ☐ Averagely Necessary
 - ☐ Unnecessary
- Harvest Timing Recommendations:
 - ☐ Very Necessary
 - ☐ Averagely Necessary
 - ☐ Unnecessary
- Supplementary Feeding Alerts:
 - ☐ Very Necessary
 - ☐ Averagely Necessary
 - ☐ Unnecessary
- Record Keeping and Data Analysis:

- ☐ Very Necessary
 - ☐ Averagely Necessary
 - ☐ Unnecessary
 - Farmer Communication Platform:
 - ☐ Very Necessary
 - ☐ Averagely Necessary
 - ☐ Unnecessary
 - Apiary Surveillance (Theft Prevention):
 - ☐ Very Necessary
 - ☐ Averagely Necessary
 - ☐ Unnecessary
 - Agrochemical Detection in Hives:
 - ☐ Very Necessary
 - ☐ Averagely Necessary
 - ☐ Unnecessary
14. Closing and Additional Insights:
- Are there any features not mentioned that you would like to see in a honey productivity system, please mention them.
15. What would encourage you to use the HPS often?

Thank you for your time and valuable insights. Your input will be instrumental in our research for the AdEMNEA project. If you have any additional comments or suggestions, please feel free to share them. Your responses will remain confidential and only be used for the purpose of the to-be-developed honey productivity system.