

The SOUTH AFRICAN  
BEEKEEPING FORAGE CALENDAR

(DRAFT 2)  
16 Feb 2020

Northern Cape

“Beekeepers need to know when to best move their hives to take advantage of a particular forage source depending on whether they wish to focus on honey production or strengthening their colonies. “

- Dr. Tlou Samuel Masehela

This calender is not ready for usage. If you find any shortcomming or mis-information, kindly do send your input to forage@beekeeper.co.za.				Downloaded from www.beekeeper.co.za											
				Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
FORAGE SOURCE				SUMMER	SUMMER	AUTUMN	AUTUMN	AUTUMN	WINTER	WINTER	WINTER	SPRING	SPRING	SPRING	SUMMER
Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Black ironbark gum														
Eucalyptus camaldulensis *	River red gum														
Eucalyptus melliodora	Yellow box gum														
Allium cepa	Onion														
Cucurbita sp.	Pumpkin														
Helianthus annuus	Sunflower														
Medicago sativa	Lusern/Lucerne														
	Brazillian pepper														
	Suburban gardens														
Hypochaeris radicata	False dandelion														
Prosopis spp. *	Prosopis spp.														
Acacia / Senegalia mellifera ^	Hook thorn														
Acacia caffra / Senegalia caffra ^	Common hook thorn														
Acacia karroo / Vachellia karroo ^	Sweet thorn														
Acacia tortilis / Vachellia tortilis ^	Umbrella thorn														
Aloe grandidentata	Kanniedood														
Aloe marlothii	Mountain aloe														
Olea europaea subsp. cuspidata	Wild olive														
Searsia lancea	Karee														
Senecio apiifolius	Winter weed														
Ziziphus mucronata	Buffalo thorn														
Zygophyllum spp.															
Namaqualand & Renosterveld (vegetation units)															
Karoo (vegetation units)															

Meeting the Legal Requirements as a Beekeeper?

The Agricultural Pests Act, 1983 (Act No. 36 of 1983) and Control Measures R1511 of 22 November 2019 relating to Honeybees. Any person who keeps, owns, or is in charge of a colony of honey-bees, whether for commercial, hobbyist or as a bee removal service provider is legally required to register Every 24 months with the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) as a Beekeeper. There is no cost involved.



agriculture, forestry & fisheries  
Department: Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Get your Beekeeper Registration form from:

Rofhiwa Nethanani: 012 309 8739 RofhiwaN@daff.gov.za / Mavis Matsho: 012 309 8763 MavisMAT@daff.gov.za

Beekeeping Support Group



Struggling to Solve a Beekeeping related problem?  
Join the South African Beekeeping Support Group on Whatsapp.  
Email to supportgroup@beekeeper.co.za

Notes/Tips for Northern Cape Beekeepers :

General: Indigenous forage are mostly used for colony maintanance and swarm trapping

- 1) To optimise honey production, feed bees 6 weeks before Spring flow with 15% real pollen mix
- 2) Emergency Winter Feed: Feed with 2.5% pollen (to avoid brood production stimulation).
- 3) Formulation for protien patties for bees: soy + pollen (4:1) \* results in highest brood production @ lowest price
- 4) Spring Syrup will stimulate comb & brood production (1 sugar to 1 water)
- 5) Winter Syrup will be stored as supplies (2 sugar to 1 water)
- 6) Citrus / Conola – no pollination required, famer might ask for honey compensation
- 7) GM Sunflower does not produce nectar

More tips/notes missing & needs correction? Please email forage@beekeeper.co.za

Northern Cape Bee Industry Directory

Beekeeping Associations/ Groups/Clubs:

(add your info here)

Beekeeper Supplies (Hives, Tools, etc):

(add your info here)

Beekeeping Training Providers:

(add your info here)

Other Industry Supply Chain Services:

(add your info here)