Western Silk Road Limited

Web info for www.asaliwamoyohoney.com

1. Who we are

Inspired by the rich and transformative history of the ancient Silk Road, we created this family owned trading company to not only bring fiscal gains but a socioeconomic transformation to the individuals, companies and communities that we are privileged to work with. We envision a company whose trade is based on fostering strong and enduring mutually beneficial relationships with the people and communities we work with. Our beekeeping venture is a perfect example of this. Bringing all natural pure honey and other honey bee derived wellness products to our consumers while uplifting the farmers we work with and leaving the environment better than we found it. At Western Silk Road, we believe that everybody deserves a chance to live life well. That is why, in everything we do, we strive to bring some goodness to the people and communities we work with.

1. What we do

We are invested in the entire beekeeping value chain from practicing beekeeping, to processing and packaging of primary bee hive products and finally marketing of value added products. We also offer technical beekeeping advisory and consultancy services and supply all beekeeping equipment. Though this elaborate investment, we have built a resilient network of individual beekeepers, beekeeping groups and community based organizations with a focus on youth, women and other vulnerable groups.

Our Mission as company is to cause *socioeconomic transformation among rural households through beekeeping*.

What we are into;

* Nourishment and Food security
* Beauty and wellness
* Economic empowerment
* Social transformation
* Environmental conservation and biodiversity
  1. Nourishment and Food security

Honey is packed full of natural goodness for your wholesome nourishment.

Because honey production has low requirements in inputs and honey can keep for many years it contributes to food security.

From our own apiaries and those of beekeepers we directly work with, we bring to you pure natural honey and a variety of spice and herb infused honeys.

* 1. Beauty and Wellness

Our line of beeswax, propolis and bee venom based beauty products will make you feel and look good. Packed with nature’s own antioxidant, antibiotic and antiviral agents, our propolis tinctures and bee venom and herb infused honey will keep you healthy and boost your immunity to fight colds, coughs and a host of other common ailments.

Keep your skin moisturized and glowing with our beeswax based lotions and scrubs and use our beeswax scented candles to set the mood and create a relaxing romantic atmosphere

* 1. Economic Empowerment

We skill, equip, enable and support individuals, groups, institutions and companies to start out in bee keeping as a business. Our hives and equipment credit facilities help to include individuals especially youth and women who would have otherwise been left out of agribusiness for lack of capital. Additionally, we guarantee market at fair prices for our beekeepers.

In so doing we are recruiting more farmers into bee keeping and helping the existing ones transcend from rudimentary traditional methods to more modern, highly productive beekeeping methods and equipment.

This enables our farmers to earn a living from beekeeping and gain a measure of economic empowerment.

* 1. Social transformation

We uplift communities by getting them to work together, develop group apiaries, do group sourcing of shared equipment and group marketing of harvested products for better pricing.

In so doing we bring about social transformation by increasing household incomes, improving livelihoods and building cohesion within communities.

* 1. Environmental Conservation and Biodiversity

All beekeepers are environmentalists by default. They see value in all types of flora, for that is where the bees derive the pollen, nectar and resins to make honey, wax, and propolis. They also recognize the invaluable role of honey bees in pollination and improving crop yields.

Indeed our modal is to plant at least 20 bee friendly plants for every hive we install.

So, by investing in and promoting beekeeping we are also promoting environmental conservation and improving biodiversity. Our bare minimum is to make the environment better than we found it.

* 1. What we believe in:
* Quality
* Consistency
* Reliability
* Innovation

1. Products
   1. Pure Honey

Pure Honey varies greatly in taste, color and flavor depending largely on its floral source. That is why we have made the effort to work with farmers across the country from whom we source our honey then package and label it according to geographical region it was produced and/or floral source it was derived from.

For example, honey from Buganda is light amber color and smoothly sweet. If harvested during the coffee or banana bloom, it will have a distinct flavor that everyone just must try for themselves.

Our Honey from Bunyoro and Tooro regions tends to be thick, amber in color with a smooth sweet taste and citrus flavor.

In comparison, Honey from West Nile region tends to have a dark brown color, sweet taste with a slightly bitter finish. It’s mainly derived from a variety of flowers from the forests and wilderness of West Nile. As such its believed to have somewhat higher medical value than other regions.

Look out for our other honey from the Mountainous Elgon region, the Sheanut Plantations of Northern Uganda, the plains of Teso region and even from Karamoja (produced by the enchanting Ik tribe).

And so it goes that each region gives us a distinct type of honey that you simply must sample for yourself. After all, as they say…*variety is the spice of life*.

* 1. Enhanced Honey
     1. Comb honey

Do you like things natural, the way nature made them? Then this one is for you. This comb honey is simply cut and packed straight out of the hive. As such, it comes fully loaded with all the undisturbed natural goodness, the way the bees love it.

* + 1. Infused Honey

The honey was already good enough but we put our innovative minds to work and managed to make it even better. By infusing our already delectable pure natural honey with a variety of herbs and spices, we have enhanced its nutritive and medicinal value as well as its culinary appeal. Check out our honey infused with cardamom, cinnamon, cloves, garlic, ginger, or rosemary for a delightful experience

* + 1. Creamed Honey

It’s our pure natural honey but delicately made into a smooth and spreadable creamy form. It’s as smooth as silk and will simply melt in your mouth. Being spreadable makes it perfect for your breads and other confectionaries.

* + 1. Chocolate honey

Do you love chocolate? Do you love honey? (Of course the answer to both questions is YES). Well then, we made this chocolate honey especially for you. A delicately crafted blend of creamed honey and fine dark chocolate gives you this pure magical product that not only teases your palate but offers all the nutritive and medicinal benefits of both ingredients.

* + 1. Honey with Peanut Butter

A perfect blend of creamed honey with creamy peanut butter. A recipe that will send you back to those fond childhood memories. This is an especially delightful treat for the young ones

* + 1. Honey with Macadamia

This combo of Creamed Honey and Macadamia grown in the fertile Rwenzori mountain area gives you a delectable butter like flavor with a creamy texture that is also rich in antioxidants, vitamins and essential minerals.

* + 1. Venom Honey

Honey, propolis and bee venom, all in one. This is an elixir for many ailments and will boost your immunity and general wellbeing.

* 1. Propolis

Propolis aka bee glue is a resinous mixture of beeswax, exudates from tree buds, plant sap and other botanical sources. It is made by the bees for sanitizing the hive & plugging holes/leaks in the beehive among other uses. Propolis has antiviral, antifungal, antibacterial, antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties that accord it its high medicinal value.

Propolis formulations have strong anti-oxidant and anti-inflammatory properties that help to boost immunity and general wellbeing. They also have antiviral, anti-fungal and antibiotic properties making it’s a useful component of treatment of may common infections, wounds and sores caused by viruses, fungi and bacteria. Propolis tinctures, mouthwash and toothpaste help with maintaining good oral hygiene and health. They reduce the formation of plaque, bleeding from gums, treats gingivitis, eliminates bad breath and alleviates sensitivity of teeth & toothaches. The Oil Based Propolis preparations and salve help in dealing with skin diseases including acne, eczema and many forms of dermatitis Propolis is a component of most cosmetics giving them skin protective value, promoting skin healing and nourishment and helping to reduce signs of ageing. Historically, the use of Propolis in medicinal formulations dates back as far as 350 BC in the times of Aristotle. The medicinal use of Propolis is also well documented in Assyrian, Greek & Egyptian heritage.

* 1. Cosmetics
     1. Shampoo
     2. Body wash
     3. Body butter
     4. Lotion
     5. Lip Balm
     6. Soap
  2. Wax
     1. Wax block
     2. Candles
  3. Pollen

1. Services
   1. Training

We do comprehensive training in all aspects of beekeeping form how to set up and manage your apiary, to harvesting, processing and value addition of all bee hive products. We do trainings for individuals, groups or even institutions such as schools. Training workshops can be organized at the clients’ site or at our apiary or partner farmer nearest to the client.

* 1. Apiary set up and management

We help clients to set up or even manage their apiary. We shall guide you on the suitability of your site for beekeeping and where to locate the apiary. We shall help with baiting of the hives and their transfer to the apiary.

* 1. Colonization

Are you having challenges with getting your hives colonized at you site? Then we have a perfect solution to you. Bring you uncolonized hives to our site for baiting. We typically have at least 80% colonisation rate within two months. A few weeks later you can shif the hive to your site with a colony of strong, happy and highly productive bees.

* 1. Pollination service

Do you have a plantation of fruit trees or field crops that are typically insect pollinated but feel that there may not be enough insects in your area to effectively do the job. Then you better take advantage of our pollination service. We offer pollination services where we bring several hives with strong bee colonies to your plantation during the flowering phase. The bees then get to work the plants effectively pollinating them. After the flowering phase when the bees have accomplished their mission, we take the hives away as you await your bountiful harvest. \*\*\*-Einstein quote

* 1. Consultancy

Do you have any specific challenges you are facing with your beekeeping venture? DO you need advice on how to solve particular problems on you farm? Come and draw from the knowledge and expertise we have accumulated in the field of beekeeping over the past several years. We shall be delighted to support you to the best of our ability.

1. Events
   1. Honey Tasting

Every year we hold a honey tasting event at which we show case all our products and allow the visitors to taste and experiment with them. At this event we also unveil our new products and services.

Check our gallery of previous events and get a glimpse of the fun that we had. Due to the COVID19 Pandemic we have postpoined the 2020 Honey tasting event till further notice.

P.S. we were the first company to ever hold a honey tasting event in Uganda.

Follow us here or any of our social media platforms for news on our next Honey Tasting and other events

* 1. Mandela Week

In honour and memory of the great African Leader Nelson Mandela, every year we have a drive where we gift part of our revenue to support a vulnerable group or to support a charitable cause inn Uganda. This is also partly in gratitude to the Mandela Young African Leadership Fellowship Program of the USA government from which we have benefitted as a company.

1. Exhibitions

WE participate in a number of agricultural and trade shows where we exhibit and market our prodcuts

TUNADO Honey Week

PEWOSA

BUBU

UMA trade show

We invite you to visit our booth and we talk about bees and more…

1. Donations

Send-a-Hive Campaign

Join our send a hive campaign to help improve the livelihood of a rural Household

Check our gift packages below and donate today

Perhaps you would like to support an existing beekeeper or beekeeping group. You can help to boost the productivity of an existing bee keeper or beekeeping group by donating beekeeping equipment, or giving seed capital to a Community Based Organization(CBO) or Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA)

1. Community work

We work with a network of up to 600 framers across the country. We support the farmer groups in in several ways including but not limited to; beekeeping training, supply of beekeeping equipment and necessary inputs at affordable prices, buying of their harvest ant fair market prices, organisation and formal registration of groups into Community Based organizations, Village Loans and Savings groups or Savings and Credit Cooerpative Organizations as deemed appropriate.

But we also go beyond beekeeping and engage in some cimmunity projects e.g. training of young girls and women on making reusable sanitary pads.

Or partners

Kaduku 1 Beekeeping Group, Bukomanisimbi Group

Gulu Group

Agre-evelove Agricuture

Bees Abroad.

Sioux Bee

University of IOWA

Mandela YALI Fellowship Prgram

Join or community work today and help to transform rural households in Uganda