

20. Winter Management of Honey bees

Type: Improvised/New

Year of development: 2008-2009

Patent: NA

Description of Technology

- Winter Packing for Apis mellifera is a necessary management practice to overcome in harsh winter months. There is considerable damage to bee which occurs during whole season especially in winter. Chill is one of the threats to apiculture industry in this region which affects the health and strength of the managed bees.
- Various packing materials combinations were evaluated as winter packings

Packing materials used

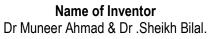
Paper+ Rice straw + Gunny Bags

Paper+ Thermocool + Rice straw

Gunny bags+ Rice straw+Thermocool

Paper+ Gunny Bags

Thermocool + Dry Leaves + Gunny Bags





Impact

All packing used show good results as for survival rate is concerned No absconding, disease incidence and robbing were recorded in the colonies Lead to less consumption of honey Reduced winter mortality Early spring brood rearing Can bear-12 °C temperature

Commercial applicability

The technique can be successfully adopted across Kashmir by all bee keepers for tiding over the deletenous effects of winter chill.