



**APIMONDIA International
Symposium 2018,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

November 30 –December 04, 2018

‘The Role of Bees in Food Production’



A honeybee colony in a natural forest in Ethiopia

The title of the symposium is

‘The Role of Bees in Food Production’

with the theme:

‘Significance of Bees’ Pollination for Improved Food Production’.

The Symposium is organized by APIMONDIA and the Ethiopian Apiculture Board (EAB) in Collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Resources of Ethiopia.

Your participation is highly appreciated.

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APIMONDIA Symposium 2018 – Ethiopia

The Ethiopian Apiculture Board (EAB) in collaboration with the APIMONDIA and other apiculture sector stakeholders will organize the APIMONDIA Symposium 2018 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The symposium is the 2nd in its kind for Africa and the first in Ethiopia.



Honeybee in action

The objective of the Symposium is to facilitate exchange of information and discussions between beekeepers, scientists, honey-traders, development practitioners, policy makers, NGOs, bilateral agencies and regional organizations on pollination role of bees, bee health, environmental service and transformation of the beekeeping sector.

The title of the symposium is **‘The Role of Bees in Food Production’** with the theme: **‘Significance of Bees’ Pollination for Improved Food Production’.** This is meant to highlight the less understood and underexploited role of bees in crop pollination in Africa. Their role in ecosystem services and poverty reduction will also be given due attention.

Why holding the Apimondia Symposium in Ethiopia?

Ethiopia is an api-country. The country has got over 10 million honeybee colonies and about 2 million smallholder beekeepers with over 7,000 melliferous plants for foraging activities of bees.

But productivity of beekeepers and understanding of all development actors on pollination & other development role of bees is, at its lowest level. However, with such poor performance, reports indicate that Ethiopia stood first covering 25-30% of honey production in Africa.

Therefore, any meaningful intervention in the apiculture sector of Ethiopia can have huge impact in the socio-economic development agenda of the country and possibility for reasonable diffusion of lessons towards the other African countries.

Furthermore, it is good to bear in mind that Ethiopia is expected to be origin of human kind, origin of Coffee Arabica and much more.

The Symposium

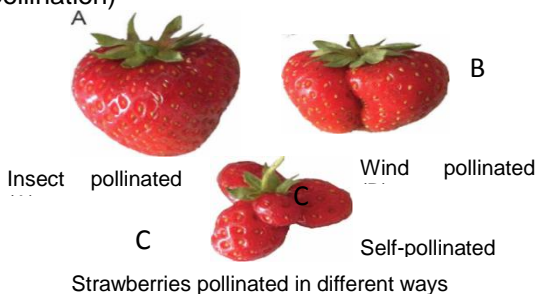
The world keeps bees for their pollination service. Through this invaluable service, bees contribute about 200 billion US\$ per annum to the global economy. But this golden service of bees is not recognized in Ethiopia and in most parts of Africa.

The APIMONDIA symposium is designed to introduce and popularize the nexus of beekeeping – pollination - crop productivity – biodiversity improvement - and food security of the smallholder farm households. This is done because this crucial service of bees is not understood and exploited in Africa.

The Symposium will dwell on the following topics and subtopics:

Topic 1: Pollination and Food Production

- Addressing the food supply gap through better pollination of crops (including model calculations of how food security can be improved by better pollination)



- Potential of beekeeping and insect pollination for food production & food security: global impact of pollinators on food security

Topic 2: Threats to Pollinators or to their Performance

- Threats to pollinators and food security by anthropogenic disturbances: environment, chemicals, GMOs, diseases & parasites.
- Environmental health, bee health, pollination and food security.

Topic 3: Environmental Services and Climate Change

- Insect pollinators for Ecosystem Services: the challenges
- The role of beekeeping in natural resource conservation and sustainable development

Topic 4: Commercialization and Transformation of Beekeeping

- Contributions of beekeeping in poverty reduction
- Intensification and diversification of hive products for better income and livelihood
- Technology transfer and apiary management
- Beekeeping for youth employment and economic empowerment of women.
- Social & institutional factors for apiculture value chain promotion



Venue and date

The APIMONDIA Symposium will be held from 30 November to 03 December 2018, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Symposium will be held at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) conference center in Addis Ababa. The UNECA Conference Centre is located next to the historic Africa Hall and the offices of the UNECA and other UN specialized agencies.

The exhibition part of the symposium is planned to be held at Ghion Green Park which is located at walking distance from the UNECA. About 300 actors from Ethiopia and abroad are expected to display their products.

Invitation

The National APIMONDIA Symposium Organizing Committee (NASOC) and the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia - represented by H.E. Prof Fekadu Beyene, State Minister for Livestock Resources – wholeheartedly invites you to participate in the Symposium and at the same time visit historic and momentous landmarks in human history.

For more information and registration, please visit the symposium web page, www.apisymposium2018.org and use registration@apisymposium2018.org

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