



Current Perspective on Optimising Economics of Beekeeping in Punjab

Amandeep Singh, Narider Deep Singh^{1*} and Satwinder Kaur Sohal²

Department of Zoology, Guru Nanak Dev University Amritsar-143 005, India

¹Department of Agriculture, Khalsa College Garhdiwala, Hoshiarpur-144 207, India

²Department of Agriculture, Khalsa College, Amritsar-143 002, India

*E-mail: ndsingh74@gmail.com

Abstract: The present study represents the effort aiming at optimizing the economics of beekeeping for honey, pollen and colony production based on quantitative data. Survey data from beekeepers scattered across 14 districts revealed that the influence of specific management practices and other confounding factors over productivity and income indicators. Specifically, study highlight the importance of floral availability, beekeeping experience, migration, number of colonies, educational status, requeening, on the productivity of *Apis mellifera* Linneaus colonies and also revealed the significant destructive impact of pesticides on honey production. In overall pool data, age distribution, educational status, family members, migration status, colonies damage due to various, factors, an abundance of flora, honey production, source of beekeeping information, diversification in beekeeping etc. are described to evaluate the present scenario of Punjab beekeeping. The average honey production per colony of *Apis mellifera* ranged between 15.67 and 33.12. The average family size of beekeepers within districts was ranging from 3.67 to 7.38 and the minimum family size was in district Firozpur. Majority of beekeepers families have the micro type with average family members 4.40. Large portion of beekeepers has used group migration and a small portion adopted single migration. Colony damage by pesticide and mite was the top most common problems for beekeepers, 79.17 per cent beekeepers were affected by this problem. The per cent fell to less than 20 kg honey production per hive was 41.67 and 20 to 40 kg was 57.29.

Keywords: Beekeeping, Economics, Honey, Floral diversity, *Apis mellifera*
