
International Course on Beekeeping

16th May - 16th August 1978



STATE OF ISRAEL

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

DIVISION FOR

EXTENSION SERVICE

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

FOREIGN TRAINING DEPARTMENT

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BACKGROUND

The antiquity of bee-rearing in Israel is evidenced by the several times that it is mentioned in the Bible. Honey was always considered to be a valuable factor in the diet - contributing greatly to health and strength!

The modern system of bee rearing goes back half a century, when early settlers used wooden hives; since then, techniques have developed into the advanced practices of today. The most common bee reared today, in Israel, is the Italian bee - *Apis mellifera* L. var. *Ligustica*. There are, at present, some 50,000 hives kept by 500 beekeepers, spread all over the country. The excellent yield of honey, its quality and the development of other new uses of the colonies, like pollination services on crops have been the result of a coordinated effort between the various bodies - governmental and private - in the field of research, extension, marketing and promotion of the branch. A special improvement and experimental station has been set up, where advanced techniques of artificial insemination are being developed, to improve the genetic qualities of the colonies. Research and extension of original mechanised tools to rationalize the production methods, are also in full swing.

Besides the experience acquired in beekeeping, Israel has been training generations of newcomers in agriculture, and thus may contribute its share in training methods developed to transfer and disseminate agricultural know-how to farmers.

Israel is willing to share its experience in these fields with other nations, as a part of the International Cooperation Programme, and offers an International Course on Beekeeping and Extension Methods. This Course is sponsored by the International Cooperation Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and organized by the Ministry of Agriculture through two of its units: the Beekeeping Division and the Foreign Training Department.

Since 1960, the latter has trained over 10,000 people in various subjects related to Agriculture, through individual programmes and 400 study courses held in Israel and abroad.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this course is to train the participant in modern methods of beekeeping, and in ways to improve production through proper management, sanitation and production methods. Moreover, the participant will learn about effective methods for disseminating know-how to farmers.

PROGRAMME OF STUDIES

The Bee Colony: Developmental Biology
Reproduction Biology
The Adult Bee Worker
Elements of Behaviour
Communication in the Colony

Nutrition

Methods of Production: Migration
Honey Extraction
Honey Processing
Use of By-products

Sanitation: Pests
Diseases and their Prevention

Equipment : Types of Hives
Protective Equipment
Processing Equipment

Organization
and management: Economy of Production
Apiary Management
Marketing

Introduction to Methods of Research

Extension
Methods : Principles of Extension
The Lecture
Visual Aids
Group Demonstrations

METHODS OF STUDY

Lectures, discussions, exercises, laboratory work and field trips. Approximately one month is devoted to practical training. During this period, the participants will live in cooperative settlements and take an active part in all aspects of beekeeping, and work as members of the local team. The course will also include the preparation of a final exercise.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND SIGHTSEEING

Organized excursions to Holy Places, as well as to sites of general and historical interest will be arranged. Social and cultural activities will be provided for.

LOCATION, DURATION, LANGUAGE

The Course will run for three months at the Ruppin Institute of Agriculture, near Netanya, Israel. The language of instruction is English.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

Animal husbandry technicians or Extension Agents, with at least a secondary education, a background in beekeeping, and three years of practical experience in the field.

A good command of written and spoken English is required.

COST, APPLICATIONS

The monthly fee is U.S. \$750. This covers tuition, board, lodging and study visits in Israel. This does not include travel costs to and from the home countries, and incidental expenses.

Application forms and further information may be obtained from the Israel Diplomatic or Consular Representative, or by writing directly to:

The Ministry of Agriculture
Foreign Training Department
Extension Service
P.O. Box 7054
Tel Aviv, Israel