

## What is Beekeeping



The science and art of managing honey bees called apiculture or beekeeping is a centuries-old tradition. Beekeeping is the practice of intentional maintenance of honeybee hives by humans. A beekeeper may keep bees in order to collect honey and beeswax, or for the purpose of pollinating crops, or to produce bees for sale to other beekeepers. A location where bees are kept is called an apiary. Usually in Fiji, The Langstroth designs of beehives are used by Beekeepers. In a Langstroth hive, the bees build honeycomb into frames, which can be moved with ease. The frames are designed to prevent bees from attaching honeycombs where they would either connect adjacent frames, or connect frames to the walls of the hive.

## How to get started with Beekeeping in Fiji

1. Join an experienced Beekeeper for hands on practical training for 2-3 months prior to the registration with the Ministry of Agriculture.
2. Register at the nearest Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) Office for attending training on “Basics of Beekeeping, Apiary and Colony Management” (Show Expression of Interest).
3. The training is conducted on the basis of availability of government funds or if some groups have their own funding to cater for the training.
4. The training is for 2 days. Day 1 is on Theory and indoor demonstrations while Day 2 is mostly on practical, working with live bees in the field. Guest speakers are

also invited from Biosecurity Authority of Fiji to speak on Pest and Diseases and current regulations with some stakeholders if available, after which the session ends with General discussions.

5. Finally, the participants graduate with a Certificate of Participation.

## Syllabus covered in two days program

1. Introduction with Industry Overview, Background and Origin of Bees in Fiji
2. Business Prospective
3. What is Beekeeping?
4. Species of Honey Bees and Races of *Apis mellifera*
5. Life Cycle and Caste Development of Honey Bees
6. Members of Bee Colony and its Characteristics
7. Comparison between brooding cells
8. Mating process of Queen Bees
9. Activity and Behavior of Bees
10. Basic Bee Keeping Equipment
11. Site Selection
12. How to start and Ways of Acquiring Bees
13. Hive and Hive Fittings
14. Products and By—Products of Bee Hive
15. Mechanics of Bee Stings and Coping with Bee Stings
16. Approaching a Bee Hive
17. Working a Bee Hive
18. Turning Frames Technique
19. Colony Management
20. Hive Management
21. Queen Management
22. Apiary Management
23. Harvesting of Honey
24. Packaging and Labeling
25. Pest and Diseases—Wax Moth, Varroa Mite and American Foul Brood

## Contact Details of Bees and Beekeeping Equipment Suppliers

### Viti Levu

- Hives and Queens – Herald Neal Ram of Vutuni, Ba, Ph: 9238320.
- Queens and Bees – Nilesh Kumar, Ba, Ph: 9246314
- Queens - Imraz Ali, Ba, Ph: 994-2083

- Hives, Bees and Equipment - Koro Apiaries, Sekove Koro, Rakiraki, Ph: 8066690
- Hives, Bees and Equipment - Siraz Rasheed, Rakiraki, Ph: 9954186
- Hives and Bees - Mohammed Shafiq, Gold Town Honey, Nadi, Ph: 9914050
- Hives, Bees and Equipment - Commercial Honey Supplies, Satish and Malti, Nausori, Ph: 8332736/9953561/3478291 email: Ranjana.malti@yahoo.com.au
- Bee hives, Bees - Mustaq Khan, Ba, Ph: 9968560
- Beekeeping Equipment - Dr. Riyaz Dean, Ba, Ph: 9968795

### Vanua Levu

- Hives and Equipment – A. Hussain, Imran, Labasa, Ph: 9927973
- Hives and Equipment - Azaad Construction, Mohammed Sameer, Labasa, Ph: 881-3699
- Hives - Kumar's Unique General Building Contractors, Anil, Labasa, Ph: 9262851
- Bees and Queens - Paradise and Produce, Saimone, Bulileka, Labasa, Ph: 9536191
- Hives - Rama, Labasa, Ph: 8691643
- Hives and bees - Simon, Labasa, Ph: 875-9788
- Hives - Junior, Qeledamu, Labasa, Ph: 944-0221
- Bee suits, hives and bees - Ram Naresh, Coqeloa, Labasa, Ph: 8221822





## Taveuni

- Bee hives, Hive parts and Bees - Ian Simpson, Rogorua, Taveuni, Ph: 9994187
- Bee hives, Bees, Wild Bee removals - Mohammed Azam, Burotu, Taveuni, Ph: 8727619

## Hive inspection conditions

Before any movement of bees, it has to be inspected first by the Biosecurity Authority of Fiji (BAF) for Pest and Diseases clearance. Consult your nearest BAF office for more details. Inspection of the colony quality, hive and hive parts quality needs to be inspected by the Ministry of Agriculture before delivery and after delivery. This is to ensure that there is fair deal amongst the farmers and the suppliers so that the complaints are minimized.



Ministry of Agriculture



# Basic Information on How to get started with Beekeeping in Fiji



For more information contact: Ministry of Agriculture, Private Mail, Raiwaqa.  
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Facebook: Ministry of Agriculture Fiji Twitter: Fiji Agriculture  
Email: [agrihelp@govnet.gov.fj](mailto:agrihelp@govnet.gov.fj)

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