BEEKEEPING ECONOMY

[Abstract:0024]

Measurement of Consumer Perception with Regard to the Relationship between Bee Products-Healthy Life: A Case Study of Canakkale Province

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Beekeeping activity is an important branch of manufacturing that provides both an advantageous source of income for farmers with low input amount and capital requirement as well as important food products that are required by consumers for healthy living. The best known bee products can be listed as honey, pollen, propolis and royal jelly. Bee products have been known and consumed for a long time with their properties of preventing or treating diseases. Honey is a product that is known mostly with its positive effects on health among bee products. Many scientific publications have been made on the positive contributions of other bee products of pollen, propolis and royal jelly on the immune system. The fact that the media has taken up interest in the relationship between bee products-health has increased the demand for and the consumption of these products. In addition, it is expected that the perception of consumers regarding bee products will change as a result of the recent issues of artificial honey.

The objective of this study is to measure the perceptions of consumers living at the Canakkale city center with regard to the relationship between bee products and healthy life. Face to face surveys carried out with consumers comprise the main material of this study. The number of surveys was determined as 175 via proportional sampling method. A 7-point Likert type scale was used in the study to measure perceptions. Primary data obtained from the surveys were analyzed via multi-variate statistical analysis methods in addition to basic statistical methods. The results were evaluated with regard to issues such as whether consumers establish a relationship between bee products and health, on which bee products this relationship focuses, socio-economic factors that affect the perception related with the relationship between bee products and health and the problems of the consumer related with this issue.

[Abstract:0030]

The Economic and Social Dimensions of Apiculture in Gümüşhane Province

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With its territory of 6437 square kilometers, 50,7 % of the total population lives in rural areas in Gümüşhane Province. Agricultural activities are mainly performed by small family businesses in the province. Considering land structure, climate, vegatation, diversity of flora and the life styles, apiculture comes forward as one of the most convenient sectors for economic activity. In Gümüşhane, the number local residents engaged in apiculture is rather low. Capital acumilations of domestic farmer families are insufficient; yet their ability for taking advantage of state subsidies efficiently are complicated by buraucratic mechanisms. With harsh conditions during winters, the places suitable for wintering the bee colonies are very rare. Relatively convenient areas for wintering have been recently included in urban residental areas. In this context, the migratory beekeepers from Ordu, Trabzon, Giresun and Rize, who comes to the province after spring, obtain the main income from the beekeeping in Gümüşhane. Therefore, in face of the province's problems such as depleting of the population and poverty, the potential of the beekeeping to bring solutions has not been utilized. The number of producers engaged in beekeeping is slightly over 500 in Gumushane. 480 of them are registered in the province's beekeepers association and produce 1360 tons of honey per year with 60000 bee colonies. Other producers keeping hives, continue the activities to operate at a level that meets the family needs. In this context, beekeeping does not reach beyond to be a supporting factor after the other economic activities for the subsistence of households.

[Abstract:0073]

The Economic Evaluation Queen Bee Enterprises

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The main subject of this study is the economic evaluation of queen bee enterprises that one of the biggest problems of beekeeping in our country. Questionnaire study was carried out in total 28 enterprises in 10 provinces and current situation of 101 breeder queen bee and 4 queen bee production enterprises were examined. Despite the need for 3.5-4 million queen bees per year in our country, enterprises can meet 10% of their needs. Queen bee production is an busy activity of beekeeping and is a very important field that requires knowledge and skill. Because of the colonies are below 200 of queen bee enterprises in our country, production capacity is low. Queen bee enterprises must have at least 10,000 to 15,000 queen bee production capacities. When the education status of queen bee producers are examined, it is determined that 28% is primary school graduate, 14% is middle school graduate, 39% is high school and 5% is university graduate. Queen bee producers are more educated than beekeepers. Queen bee enterprises do not only produce queen bees, but also they are producing bee and honey to maximize their income. It is very important that a profitable queen bee enterprises are not only sell queen bees but also sell live bees in the early spring, and they are producing honey to increase the efficiency of their enterprises. When we look at total income, income from live bee and honey production is equal to income from queen bee production. It can not make too much income by only producing queen bee.