



# BEE KEEPING - APIARY



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# BEES

- Bees
  - Insects that live in colony
  - Feed on nectar and aid pollination
  - Wild and are now domesticated in bee farms
  - Produce honey
  - Honey is widely used in homes and industrially

# Basics in Bee Keeping

- Hives must not be sited in residential area because of the lizards which are their main predators.
- Open smoke scares the bees away
- The site must not be close to an area of environmental pollution
- Insecticides and pesticides should not be used in the hive environment

# Bee Keeping Related Terms

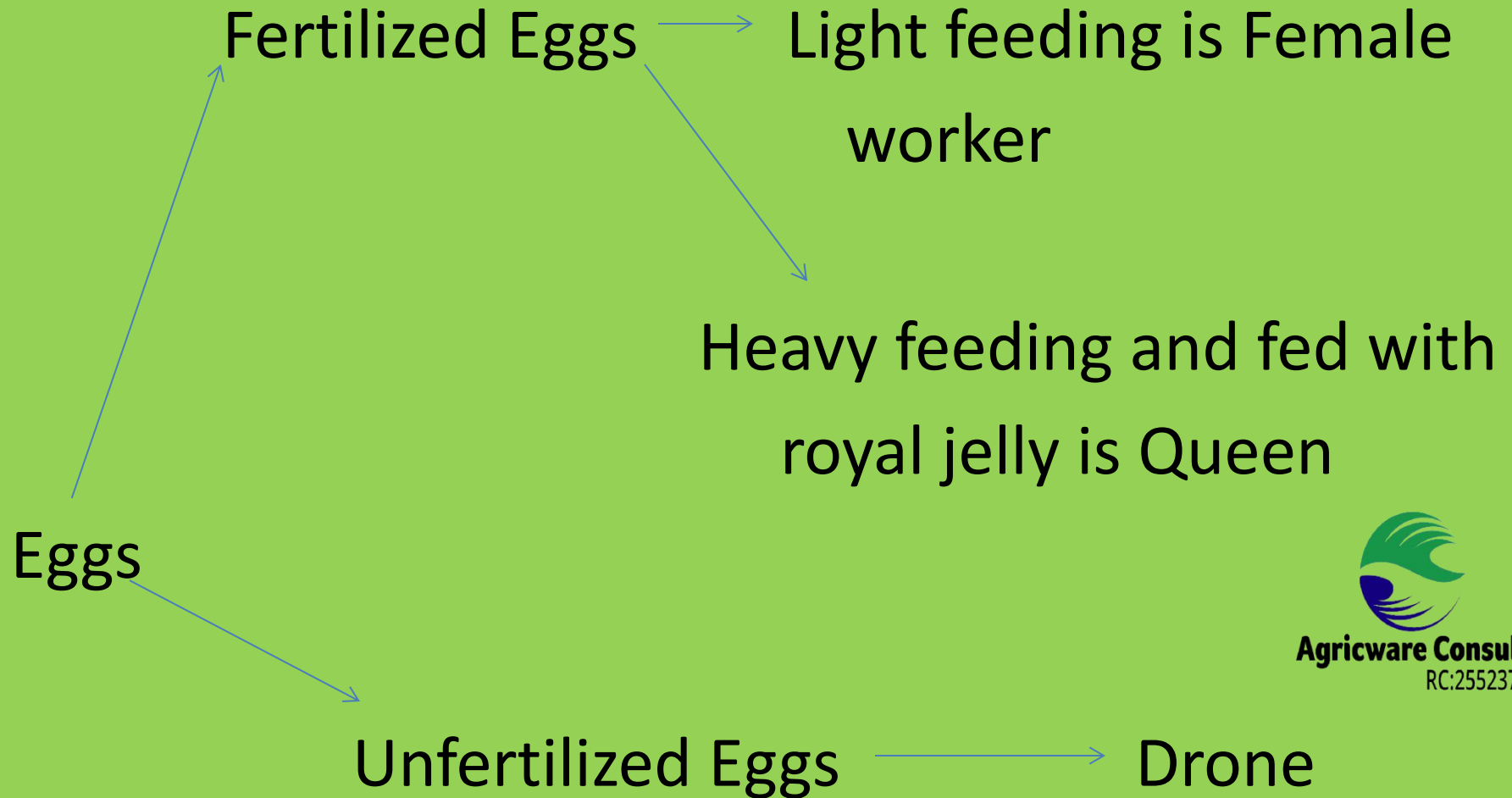
- Field bees gather pollen, nectar and water while house bees take the food to the right location in the comb.
- Scouting is the movement of colony from one location to the other
- Robbing is the process of taking food
- Propolis is produced by bees to seal up holes and cracks on the hive



# Colony Life and Social Organization of Bees

- Queen – fertile and lay eggs in thousands  
eggs takes 15days to reach maturity
- Worker – bring food and build the comb,  
eggs takes 21days to reach maturity
- Drone – protect the hive, drone eggs  
require 24days to reach maturity

# To Identify the Queen



# Bee Keeping Equipment

1. Apiary equipment
2. Processing equipment



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# Apiary Equipment

1. Bee hives
  - i. Earthen ware
  - ii. Bamboo frame
  - iii. Modern bee hive – a. Langstroth hive  
b. Kenya tob bar
2. Frame
3. Brush
4. Brush
5. Bee suit (gloves, glove holder)
6. Knife
7. Swam catcher
8. Smoker



# Processing Equipment

1. Honey press
2. Honey extraction
3. Bee wax extractor
4. Filtration equipment
5. Moisture reduction equipment
6. Honey comb equipment
7. Processing tank



# How to Setup a Bee Hive

1. Clear about 1m around the hive site
2. Erect one or four metal stand(s) that will be able to carry the hive
3. Use metal tin(s) filled with engine oil as the base of each stand of the metal stand to keep insects away
4. Place the entrance of the hive northeast because bees fly in this direction
5. Place the bottom board, then the brood chamber
6. Place the baiting materials e.g. locust bean, mixture of fruits, honey, perfume, bee wax melted over fire
7. Arrange the frames after baiting
8. Put the inner cover then the main cover

# Feeding the Bees



Bees can be fed with

1. cassava flour
2. sugar syrup: sugar mixed with water  
at ratio 1 : 1

However, these foods must be offered to bees within 24hours before they ferment

## **Cautions in Bees Management**

- Any work that should be done must be conducted early before sunrise or in the evening
- Flowering season must be considered for the bees to get pollen and nectar.



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