6) Wasp



Wasps build clay nests inside bee hives and discourage bees from colonizing the hives. They attack and eat worker bees.

Management

Seal any openings and reduce hive entrances. Destroy clay nests manually.

7) Rats:



Rats nest in the hive, produce bad smell and make bees abscond

Management



Placing a heavy stone on hive to prevent access by rats, mongoose, honey burgers, etc.

Bee keepers are free to report/inquire any information concerning pests from any part of Uganda to the organizations below

Abi ZARDI **RIDF**

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APICULTURE PROGRAMME AT NATIONAL LIVESTOCK RESOURCES RESEARCH INSITITUTE (NaLIRRI) - NARO

Honey bee pest management

There are a wide range of pest that attack honey bee thereby reducing their productivity and full potential. A bee keeper must be knowledgeable about these pests and their management in order to go over the productivity challenges brought by these pests. Below are some of the common honey bee pests from Mid-Northern Zone and their intervention methods upon which researched has bee carried out.

1) Hive beetles



α) **Large hive beetles: (*Oplotomus fulingineus*)**

Cause damage on combs and wax



***b)* Small hive beetle** (*Aethina tumida.*): damage combs, destroy capping, defile honey with feces



Management

- *Regular smoking reduces hive beetles and wax moth infestation*
- Maintain apiary hygiene



2) Bee hornets *(Vespa spp)*



Capture bees, suck the haemolymph and grind the carcass into a fine paste to feed its larvae. Their body morphology looks similar to that of the bees

Management

- Destroy bee hornets nests manually



Swatting to reduce the number of attacking hornets

3) Wax moth: (Greater and lesser wax moth)



Wax moth larvae eat! Honey, beeswax, pollen, shell casing and bee brood. Adults also feed on the combs leaving a soft cob web into and around the combs

Management



Improvised trap with vinegar and water for wax moth control. Avoid littering combs in the apiary.



Burning old and infested combs to destroy immature stages of wax moth

4) Weaver ants:



Raid bee hives for honey and force colonies to abscond

Management (of weaver ants)



Control by smearing burnt oil on the hive stands

5) Termites:



Termites destroy the hives and hive stands

Management

- Also smear bunt oil (used engine oil) on the hive stands
- Suspend hives on wires
- Destroy termite mounds