Honey has an inflammatory action ,which reduces the swelling around the wound.
The high sugar content of honey draws lymph out of the wound which lifts dirt out of the wound.

Honey rapidly clears infection from wounds ,it is fully effective even with antibiotic resistant strains of bacteria.

Burns

Apply freely over burns. it cools, removes pain and aids fast healing without scarring ,apart from being and antibiotic , bacteria cannot live in honey.

Apiculture at Rwebitaba ZARDI

Busy as a bee

The importance of a worker bee
There are three castes of bees found in hives ,this includes the queen , drones and workers .The workers are busy female bees that we can thank for producing the honey that we love so much!.

The workers are the smallest size of the three bee castes found in a hive. Although they may be female , they lack the reproductive abilities that the Queen has. One hive can have 2,000 to as many as 60,000 worker bees! They work both out side and inside the hive .

From the time of hatching they have specific jobs depending on age. The youngest worker clean cells and keep brood warm. After a few days the workers change jobs to attending to the growing larva and feeding the queen..

After the workers are nearly two weeks , they spend time building the honey comb and guarding, they will also clean and mend broken edges of combs using propolis. They also cool the hive when its is too hot by beating their wings to cool the hive.

The oldest workers spend their time foraging for pollen ,nectar, propolis and water, then they bring it to the hive for processing, storage and use .

Inside the hive, the workers ripen the honey by evaporating water from it ,digest sucrose from the nectar into glucose and fructose, this changes nectar in to honey.
The honey is stored in many 7mm across cells in the honey comb, the bees eat honey and pollen like we do.

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NARO

HIVE INSPECTION IS VITAL



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HIVE INSPECTION AND RECORD KEEPING:

Its is vital to keep records of each hive as timely inspections are on going to monitor your colony at least every after 15days,

Why inspect?

To under stand when the hive got colonized.
Checking comb construction and number of combs.

See if any pests, predators or disease.

Check bee population increment or reduction.
For numbers of brood, honey, or pollen combs in a hive and also presence of the queen .
Estimates of the number of drones and drone combs.
The queen prolific and the brood pattern of the queen in laying eggs.
Observe if there are indicators of swarming in your colonies .etc



Inspecting a Hive

PRECAUTIONS TO FOLLOW DURING INSPECTION OF KTB HIVE;

Work steadily without causing serious vibration and do not use strong perfumes.
Never stand in the flight paths of bees to avoid collusion do not bump the hive .
Approach the hive from behind, then sides then smoke the entrance lightly to call the guard bees off duty.
Continue smoking stopping in an interval one to two minutes until observations are that the hive is calm.
Remove the weights if any from the top cover ,these prevent the cover from being carried away by strong wind, it might be a block, stone or piece of wood.
Use a hive tool to lift one side of the top cover ,apply smoke.
Remove the hive top cover off the hive directed away from you in case of any thing you remain safe put this on ground or any table around..
Continue smoking the hive all around and lightly at the entrance as you observe bee response and movements of bees , too much smoke may make bees aggressive or spoil the honey quality.
Detect the sound to determine where comb construction is by knocking lightly beginning from the back of the hive crack open properly

Separate the top bars using a hive tool.
Lift the loosened top bar up wards at right angle to avoid breakage of combs, carry with two hands if possible.

Observe both sides of the comb while maintaining grip at right angle ,depending on what you're inspecting for, continue smoking.
Loosen the next top bar with a hive tool ,remove at right angles and inspect as in the previous top bars until all are done accordingly.
Put back all the top bars in their good order as in the beginning, try to scrap all the propolis if possible it will create un necessary gaps between top bars.
Replace the top cover of the hive, put back the weights on top of the cover, smoke the hive and you self off bees and walk away.



Medicinal uses of honey;

Wound and cuts

The viscosity of honey provides protective barrier to prevent wounds from becoming infected by germs

Honey stimulates the re-growth of tissue involved in the healing process

Honey doesn't stick on the underlying wound tissue so there is no tearing away of the newly growing tissue.