



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agric@tubitak.gov.tr

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The Pollen Collection Activity and Preference of Honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) in the Natural Habitat of Antalya and Some Morphological and Quality Properties of Different Pollen Types

Hasan BAYDAR Süleyman Demirel Üniversitesi Ziraat Fakültesi Tarla Bitkileri Bölümü, Isparta-TÜRKİYE Fehmi GÜREL Akdeniz Üniversitesi Ziraat Fakültesi Zootekni Bölümü, Antalya-TÜRKİYE Abstract: Every week over a 1-year period, pollen samples obtained from traps fitted on 4 hives were analysed microscopically in order to identify pollen sources and to determine how these sources varied during the year in the natural habitat of Antalya in 1994- 95 seasons. Also, pollen of the some important species were analysed for protein, fat, fatty acids and minerals. A total of 40 plant taxa from 16 families were identified, which provided the pollen requirements of honey bee colonies all year round. Species from Asteraceae and Fabaceae families were mostly preferred by honey bees. The major pollen sources identified were *Euphorbia characias*, *Taraxacum* sp., *Daphne sericea*, *Asphodelus fistulosus*, *Sinapsis arvensis*, *Raphanus raphanistrum*, *Calicotome villosa*, *Cistus creticus*, *C. salviifolius*, *Crepis* sp., *Acacia cyanophylla*, *Papaver rhoeas*, *Rubus sanctus*, *Myrtus communis* ve *Vitis agnus-jastus*, *Inula viscosa*, *Urgenia maritima*, *Cerotonia siliqua* and *Eucalyptus* sp. The seasonal pollen production by honey bee hives revealed the presence of two distinct pollen seasons; the "natural pollen flow season" (March-June) is characterized by over the 25 pollen plants, and the "dearth season" (July-October) is characterized by the presence of a few pollen sources. It was found that nutritional quality of Fabaceae type pollen were excellent.

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