



Pathway to Emirati (Abu Dhabi)-bred honeybees



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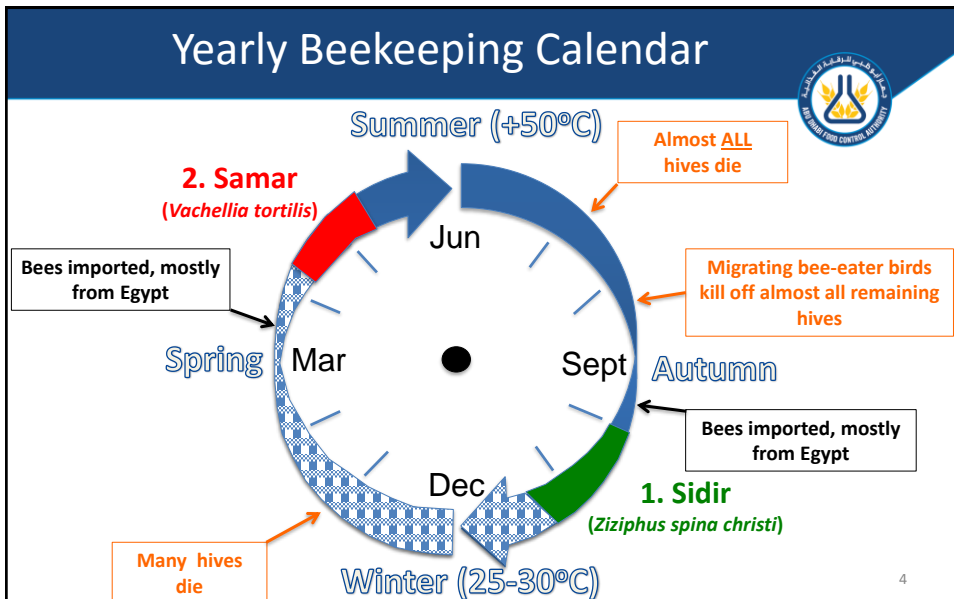
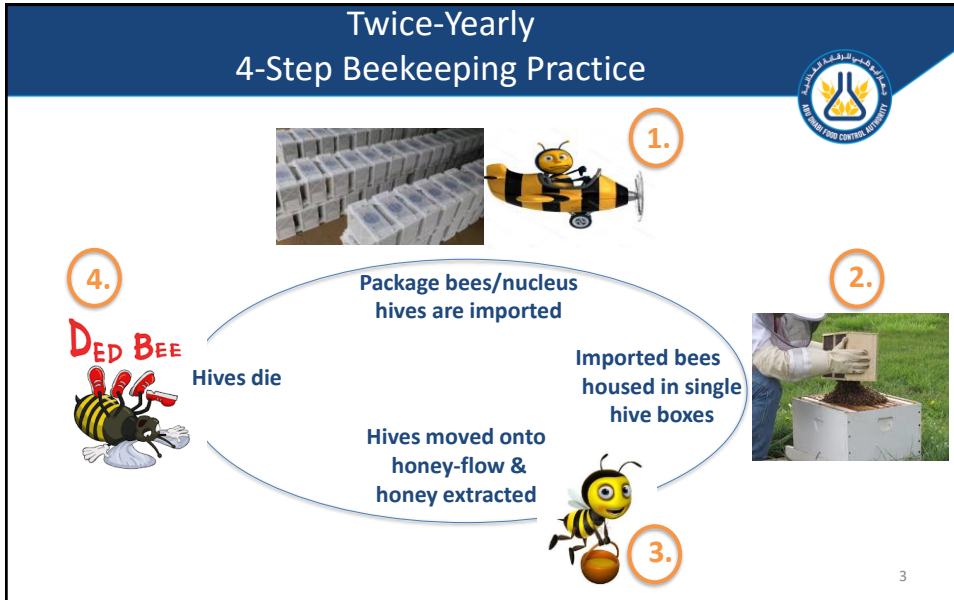
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Backdrop for beekeeping in Abu Dhabi



- Honeybees are not native
- Extreme climate (in a harsh desert environment)
- Very little 'natural' bee forage
- Very strong competition between beekeepers for sites
- Unique assortment of pests for bees to cope with

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مؤتمر الجمعية العربية لتربية النحل الأول
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Step 1



MAKE BEEKEEPING SUSTAINABLE

*Ensure honeybees can survive throughout the year
and from year-to-year*



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Achieving Sustainability



A suite of technologies developed to overcome:

- 1. Pests and Diseases**
- 2. Poor nutrition**
- 3. Extreme summer conditions**
- 4. Predation by bee-eater birds**

These technologies keep bees alive throughout the year and from year-to-year

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3 Key Components Underpinning Hive Survival



1. Only large strong bee colonies survive the severe UAE summers



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2. Queen bees rarely survive for more than 1 year



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3. Bee hives must be sheltered below 50°C during the heat of summer



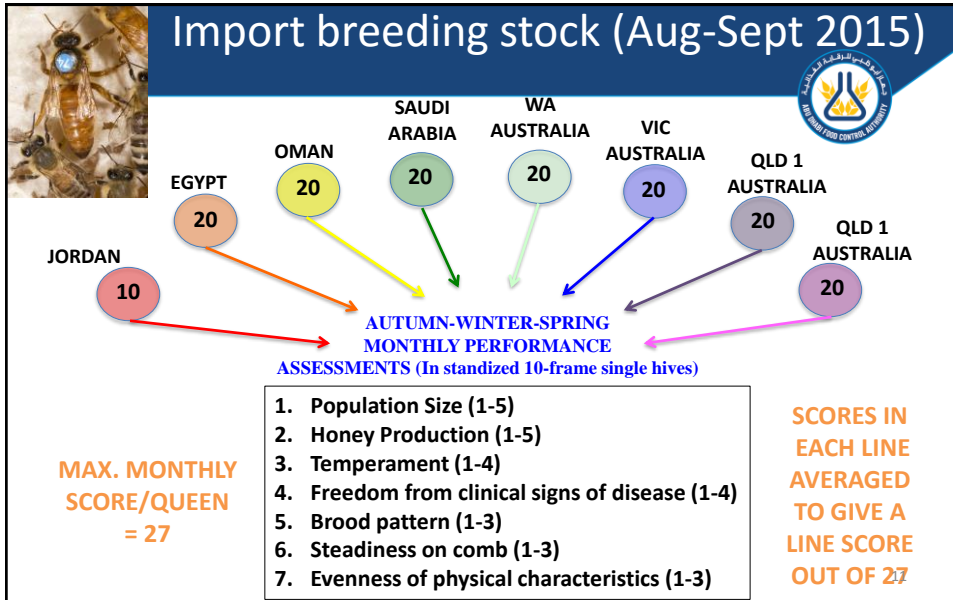
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Step 2



PRODUCE ABU DHABI-BRED HONEYBEES *Suited to the harsh local conditions*

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QUEEN-LINE (Origin)	No. of Queens Assessed	'Final Rating' of QUEEN-LINE	Best Rated Queens in QUEEN-LINE
Oman (O)	18	12.09	O6
Saudi Arabia (S)	18	17.10	S6, S10, S14, S17
Jordan (J)	7	13.30	J6
Egypt (E)	10	14.31	E10
Australia (AD)	5	16.10	AD8
Australia (ADBE)	10	14.59	ADBE11
Australia (AJ)	12	17.69	AJ4, AJ7
Australia (AWA)	17	14.29	AWA18

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Further assessment of Saudi Arabia & Australian stock (over summer, June to September)



AUSTRALIAN
QUEENS

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SAUDI ARABIA
QUEENS

MONTHLY SUMMER PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS (standardized 10-frame hives)

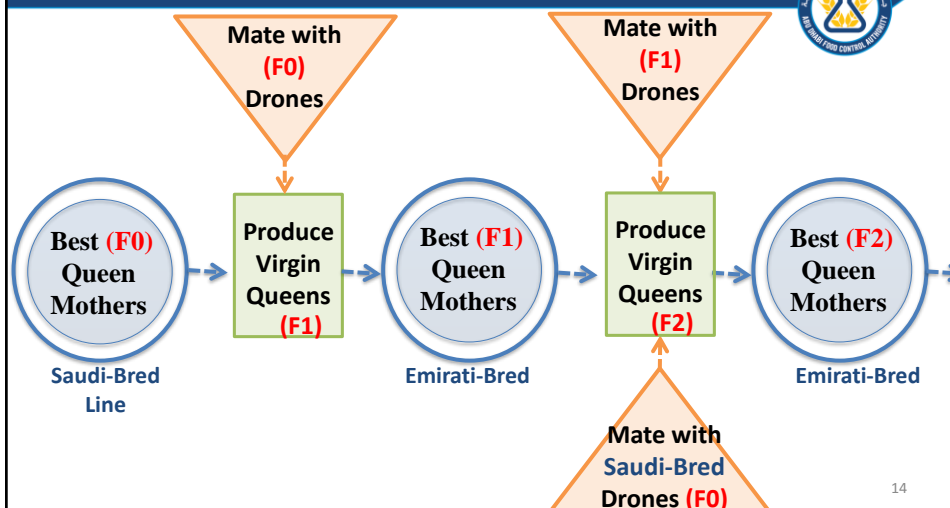
1. Honey Production (1-5)
2. Survival over summer (1-5)
3. Colony recovery after summer (1-5)
4. Rate of population buildup after summer (1-5)

MAX. MONTHLY
SCORE/QUEEN
= 20

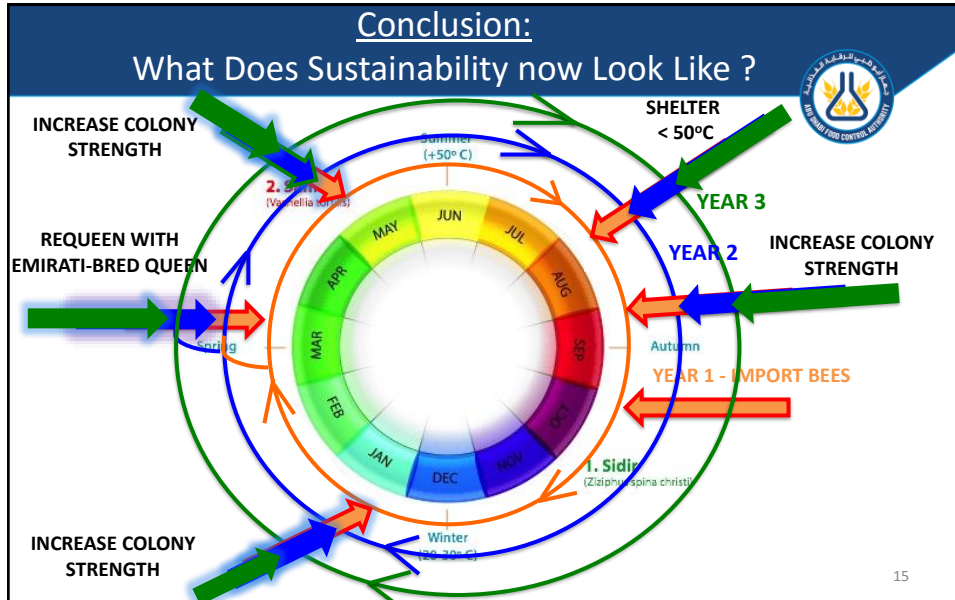
Saudi Arabia = 15.6
Australian = 6.4

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System of Producing Abu Dhabi-Bred Queens



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Conclusion:
Looking Forward

Big Ticket Items

- Technology transfer (change the mindset !!)
- Improve beekeeping methods & research facilities
- Continue development of Emirati-bred bees

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Thank you



Acknowledgements:

- Ministry of Presidency Affairs
- ADFCA
- Abu Dhabi Farmer Services Centre
- Beekeepers

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