

**COURSE OUTLINE**

Beekeeping Training

A practical course that takes you from how a colony works, through day-to-day apiary management, to turning hive products into a business.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Practical beekeeping, taught simply

Most hive losses start with a knowledge gap. Colonies abscond, pests take hold and harvests fall short when the basics are missed. This course closes that gap. Lessons are short and practical, taught by beekeepers who run working apiaries in Kenya, and every topic ends with something you can apply at your own hives.

THE COURSE AT A GLANCE

Three modules

MODULE 1**Bee biology and the colony**

How honeybees live, grow and work together, and what they need to thrive.

MODULE 2**Apiary and colony management**

Setting up, inspecting and caring for colonies through every season.

MODULE 3**Hive products, markets and branding**

Harvesting to buyer standards, then pricing, packaging and selling what you produce.

WHO IT IS FOR**No experience needed**

- New beekeepers and anyone planning a first apiary
- Beekeepers who want stronger colonies and better yields
- Farmers adding beekeeping to crops or livestock
- Groups, cooperatives, schools and organisations
- Anyone planning to sell honey or other hive products

BY THE END YOU WILL**What you will be able to do**

- Explain how a colony works and read what it needs
- Set up an apiary and inspect colonies safely
- Prevent and manage common pests and diseases
- Harvest and handle products to the quality buyers expect
- Price, package and brand your products for market

Course content

MODULE 1 Bee biology and the colony

Understand the bees first. Every good management decision starts here.

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|---|--|
| 01 African honeybees
Local bee races, their behaviour and why they differ from other bees | 02 The colony and its members
Queen, workers and drones, and the role of each |
| 03 Life cycle of the bee
Egg, larva, pupa and adult, and how long each stage takes | 04 How bees communicate
Pheromones, the bee dances and colony defence |
| 05 Forage and bee plants
Nectar, pollen, water, and plants that support your bees | 06 The colony through the year
Build-up, swarming, honey flow and dearth periods |

Outcome: you can open a hive and understand what you are seeing, and why the colony behaves as it does.

MODULE 2 Apiary and colony management

Hands-on skills to keep colonies strong, healthy and productive.

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|---|---|
| 01 Choosing a site and setting up
Location, shade, water, security and hive spacing | 02 Hives, tools and protective gear
Langstroth, Kenya Top Bar and log hives; smoker and hive tool |
| 03 Safe colony inspections
When and how to inspect, what to check, and keeping records | 04 Colonising and baiting hives
Attracting swarms, catcher boxes and transferring colonies |
| 05 Pests, diseases and prevention
Varroa, wax moth, small hive beetle, ants and honey badgers | 06 Seasonal management
Feeding, swarm control, splitting colonies and preventing absconding |
| 07 Queen management
Spotting queen problems, requeening and queen rearing basics | 08 Apiary records and planning
Simple records that show what each hive produces |

Outcome: you can run an apiary through the year and act before small problems cost you colonies.

MODULE 3 Hive products, markets and branding

Turn what your bees produce into income, at the quality buyers pay for.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 01 Harvesting honey well
When to harvest, extraction and hygienic handling | 02 Honey quality and standards
Moisture, purity, storage and what buyers test for |
| 03 Products beyond honey
Beeswax, propolis, pollen and an introduction to bee venom | 04 Packaging and labelling
Containers, labels and the information buyers expect |
| 05 Costs and pricing
Working out your costs and setting prices that pay | 06 Markets and buyers
Local, institutional and export markets, and reaching them |
| 07 Branding your products
Name, story and look that make your products stand out | 08 Marketing and selling
Social media, WhatsApp, repeat customers and partnerships |

Outcome: you can bring clean, well-packaged products to market and sell them under your own brand.

Training options and fees

Choose the format that suits you. Many learners start online and add a practical session when they are ready.

Online training

Live classes on your phone or computer

USD 15

per learner, full course

- **3 sessions on 3 separate days**, one module per day
- Live teaching with time for your questions
- Notes to keep and revisit after each session
- Certificate of completion

KSh 1,950
Kenya

TSh 39,500
Tanzania

US\$ 59,000
Uganda

Br 2,450
Ethiopia

€13
Euro

Approximate amounts. Local prices follow the exchange rate on the day of payment.

Practical sessions

At our office and apiary in Nyeri, or on your farm

KSh 2,500

per person (individuals)

- Hands-on time at the hive with experienced beekeepers
- Hive inspection, handling and safe practice
- Harvesting and processing demonstrations
- Protective gear provided during the session
- **Groups:** charges agreed according to group size and location
- **Farm visits:** transport outside Nyeri agreed in advance

Groups and institutions

Community groups, cooperatives, schools, NGOs and county programmes

Charges agreed

based on your programme

- Content matched to your group's goals and experience
- Delivered online, at our office, or on site
- Can combine all three modules with practical sessions
- Follow-up support after training
- Progress reporting for sponsors and partners on request

Payment terms

- Payment is made **after the classes are completed**, or as otherwise agreed with us.
- We accept M-Pesa and bank transfer. Payment details are shared when your booking is confirmed.
- Group and institutional fees, schedules and payment plans are agreed in writing before training starts.

GETTING STARTED

How to book

1

Tell us about you

Send an enquiry with your experience and how you want to learn.

2

Agree a schedule

We confirm your format, dates and times.

3

Take the classes

Join online, at our office, or we come to your farm.

4

Put it into practice

Apply each lesson at your hives, with our team on hand.

BEFORE A PRACTICAL SESSION

What to bring

- Closed shoes or gumboots
- Long trousers and a long-sleeved top, in light colours
- A notebook and pen
- Avoid perfume or strong scents on the day
- Tell us in advance about any bee sting allergy

COMMON QUESTIONS

Good to know

- **Experience:** none needed; we start from the basics.
- **Own hives:** not required to start; we can advise on setting one up.
- **Language:** lessons in English, with Kiswahili support.
- **Online needs:** a phone or computer with internet.
- **After the course:** our team remains available for questions.

CONTACT US

Book your training

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VISIT

Along Outspan Hospital
Kamakwa, Nyeri, Kenya

Book online at horizonbeeafrica.com/training

Course content, schedules and fees may be updated. The website and your booking confirmation show current details. Exchange rates as of 30 September 2026.